



Humanitarian
Leadership
Academy

A quick guide to

Conflict Sensitivity

Negative Effects

When our interventions or partnerships contribute to conferring power to illegitimate actors, authorities, or structures, especially in a context of pre-existing tensions, it can result in undermined social cohesion and reduced acceptance of our presence.

Aid diversion, including fraud, corruption, bribery, theft, financing of armed groups, money laundering and other misuse of funds, not only has negative consequences for the aid outcomes and recipients intended, but can also contribute to fuelling war efforts.



Supplying goods and services from outside can destabilise existing markets and impact negatively on prices, wages, and profits for local businesses.



In certain situations, providing goods or services that can normally be provided by the government, local organisations or local businesses may hinder the capacity and ownership of local actors and sustain aid dependence.

When the behaviour of our staff or partners delivering aid causes direct harm or is perceived as socially and culturally inappropriate in the local context, it can increase mistrust and lead to reduced acceptance of our presence.

When working with us, our partners are also exposed to different types of risks including, among others, safety and security, financial and reputational risks.



Each context is different, and the same intervention can lead to different consequences depending on the political, economic, and sociocultural implementation environment.

A risk-based approach and solid feedback mechanisms can help us identifying potential and reported negative effects that could result from our interventions.

The **Do No Harm** principle, implies that our risk management processes should not only analyse risks from our organisational perspective, but also integrate a systematic identification of the risks that our interventions pose for:

Our local staff

Our local partners

The communities

When we practice Do No Harm, we are partially conflict sensitive, as Do No Harm is a first step in the continuum that leads to conflict sensitivity.

Being conflict sensitive means not only **avoiding creating or exacerbating conflicts but also contributing to alleviate tensions** by supporting local actors in strengthening drivers of social cohesion.



You can find more information about Conflict Sensitivity by visiting **kayaconnect.org**

For more information on the Humanitarian Leadership Academy:

humanitarianleadershipacademy.org