# HARF HUMANITARIAN ACTION QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

	LEVEL INDICATORS	KNOWLEDGE THEORETICAL & FACTUAL	SKILLS COGNITIVE & PRACTICAL	<b>RESPONSIBILITY &amp; AUTONOMY</b>
1	Has basic general knowledge, is able to communicate with team members and completes simple supervised tasks.	→ Basic, general knowledge useful for the action area.	→ Basic interpersonal, communication and organ- isational skills to carry out simple tasks.	<ul> <li>→ Completes simple tasks. → Works reliably under direct supervision in humanitarian contexts.</li> <li>→ Works ethically and is self-disciplined.</li> </ul>
2	Has basic knowledge of the humanitarian sector, basic problem-solving skills and can use these skills under supervision.	→ Basic knowledge of the humanitarian sector and the needs of crisis-affected people.	→ Ability to use information and resources in order to carry out tasks using simple rules and tools.	→ Works under supervision with some scope for adjusting simple procedures to achieve goals in accordance with the humanitarian principles.
3	Has basic knowledge of the humanitarian principles and procedures, completes al- located tasks and provides general sup- port in humanitarian action.	→ Basic knowledge of humanitarian principles and standards. → Knowledge of the purpose and methods used in a humanitarian action area including personal safety guidelines and team procedures.	<ul> <li>→ Ability to provide general support for humani- tarian work. → Ability to accomplish tasks by selecting and applying safe practice, basic meth- ods, tools, materials and information in crisis re- sponse. → Ability to identify personal risks.</li> </ul>	→ Takes responsibility for completion of allocated tasks and operates autonomously within that mandate. → Adapts own behaviour to respond to changing circumstances in the field. → Guides other support workers in humanitarian work.
4	Has up-to-date, general knowledge of the humanitarian action sector and its context, and works in general and tech- nical roles in teams delivering aid in rela- tively predictable humanitarian contexts. Works safely in stressful situations and recognises potentially dangerous situa- tions.	<ul> <li>→ General, up-to-date knowledge of the humanitarian sector, working principles and standards.</li> <li>→ Broad understanding of the political, socioeconomic and cultural context of humanitarian response. → Knowledge of security and safety issues and regulations for mitigating risk in humanitarian action.</li> </ul>	→ Active listening and communication skills and ability to get messages across clearly. → Ability to identify needs and concerns of crisis-affected people. → Ability to report needs accurately and appropriately to relevant stakeholders. → Ability to organise own work by determining goals that reflect priorities and are in accordance with as- signed tasks. → Skills to recognise potentially dangerous situations for personal and team's well-being and select an appropriate coping method.	<ul> <li>→ Carries out routine activities in accordance with humanitarian principles and standards in relatively predictable humanitarian contexts.</li> <li>→ Organises work under supervision following organisation's objectives and management guidelines in accordance with organisational, social and moral values. → Supervises routine work of others and acts as a representative for the team.</li> <li>→ Works effectively in multicultural environments and develops good working relationships with colleagues and stakeholders. → Works in stressful situations and exercises self-control.</li> </ul>
5	Has specialised expertise of the humani- tarian sector and its challenges for per- forming high-grade technical roles with some managerial duties and is able to organise creative, high impact solutions for common humanitarian aid problems together with relevant stakeholders.	<ul> <li>→ Up-to-date, specialised knowledge of the humanitarian sector, its principles and standards.</li> <li>→ Specialised knowledge and understanding of the challenges in humanitarian aid provision, including security issues and risks. → Understanding of the experiences, needs and capacities of crisis-affected people in order to provide high impact solutions. → Theoretical and practical knowledge of team dynamics and effective collaboration in organisations.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>→ Ability to communicate clearly while adapting the language to the other party's position, inter- ests and needs. → Ability to structure data into information useful for humanitarian challenges.</li> <li>→ Ability to develop creative, high impact solu- tions to typical humanitarian aid problems and review their effect. → Ability to judge security situations, reassess priority of objectives and adjust procedures to safety needs. → Ability to create and sustain networks with relevant actors and stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>→ Applies humanitarian principles and standards, and promotes ways of adhering to them in uncer- tain and unpredictable humanitarian contexts.</li> <li>→ Identifies the extent and impact of one's tasks and the need for support without needing inten- sive supervision. → Coordinates activities with stakeholders to ensure that common objectives are achieved in multicultural environments and unpredictable contexts. → Identifies own and others' stress levels, and detects or asks assis- tance in detecting their causes.</li> </ul>

#### LEVEL INDICATORS

6

7

8

### KNOWLEDGE THEORETICAL & FACTUAL

→ Advanced knowledge and critical understand-

ing of humanitarian practice, its principles and

standards, guidelines, methods and security poli-

cies. -> Advanced knowledge and critical under-

standing of needs of crisis-affected people and

humanitarian operations. -> Advanced knowledge

and critical understanding of the different roles

and dynamics in teams and among stakeholders.

→ Highly specialised knowledge and critical

understanding of humanitarian concepts, theo-

ries and current trends.  $\rightarrow$  Highly specialised

knowledge and conceptualised understanding

of the needs and rights of crisis-affected people.

→ Highly specialised interdisciplinary, innovative

expertise concerning specific aspects of humani-

tarian action. -> Critical and interdisciplinary un-

derstanding of the possible impact of humanitar-

ian action in respect of the interests of different

actors.

## SKILLS COGNITIVE & PRACTICAL

→ Advanced communication skills and capacity to assess key sources and recipients of sensitive information. -> Advanced skills to analyse complex problems in an unpredictable context and produce innovative humanitarian solutions. → Ability to link current actions to established humanitarian objectives and prioritise short term and medium term objectives. → Ability to mobilise resources using the skills and capacities of crisis-affected people in own activities.

→ Specialised problem-solving skills using research for developing actions to promote effective responses. -> Specialised skills for conceptualising, interpreting and critically analysing data, information and experience in order to develop new interdisciplinary knowledge and procedures for humanitarian action.  $\rightarrow$  A range of coaching and management skills in order to facilitate the acceptance of strategic decisions.

→ Advanced and specialised skills and techniques required to recognise and solve critical and strategic problems, extending and redefining existing knowledge or professional practice. → Ability to critically evaluate and systematically review the organisational culture and functioning. → Ability to link the individual work to the collective mission and to develop strategic coalitions and communication networks in support of that collective mission. -> Most advanced and specialised skills and techniques for methodologies in research, quality management and quality control processes in humanitarian action.  $\rightarrow$  Ability to conceptualise new knowledge, processes and methodologies in order to improve humanitarian action in the long term.

### **RESPONSIBILITY & AUTONOMY**

→ Takes responsibility for the assessment of operations in uncertain, complex contexts and manages autonomously the consequences for the application of humanitarian principles and standards. → Promotes effective collaborative relationships among team members and stakeholders in insecure, multicultural, complex contexts. → Prioritises security information based on the context and takes practical steps to reduce the vulnerability of the team and beneficiaries.

→ Takes responsibility for specifying clear ethical standards.  $\rightarrow$  Operates strategically and innovatively in the application of the humanitarian principles and standards in complex and insecure contexts. → Engages and motivates people to work in different levels of decision-making. → Promotes the development of people in order to improve the strategic performance of the group. -> Shows firm decision-making during insecure situations on advice by security sources and other stakeholders.

→ Demonstrates and supports substantial innovation and sustained commitment to the longterm benefits for crisis-affected people. -> Demonstrates scholarly and professional integrity to further development of the humanitarian principles and standards.  $\rightarrow$  Provides leadership at the highest level taking into account the complex interests of beneficiaries, the organisation and actors in the wider context.  $\rightarrow$  Adapts strategies to fundamentally new situations and carefully leads the change in long-term mission and vision by providing well-defined objectives and obtaining people's support and commitment.

Has a critical understanding of the humanitarian sector, manages teams in professional management positions, and as a knowledge-based professional takes the responsibility for analysing and innovatively solving complex service problems together with crisis-affected people.

Has a highly specialised understanding of humanitarian action and its impact and the ability to develop new interdisciplinary knowledge and procedures as a senior professional or expert. As a senior manager, provides tactical and strategic leadership in insecure situations.

Has the capacity to use a range of highlevel strategic approaches to optimising performance of humanitarian action, to design, carry out and use cutting-edge humanitarian research projects and provide top-level leadership in humanitarian action.

→ Most advanced, specialised knowledge of the humanitarian sector, its principles and standards. and a critical understanding of cutting edge issues at the interface with related disciplines. → Cutting-edge knowledge of contextual developments, needs, rights, trends and related challenges in the humanitarian field. -> Interdisciplinary knowledge at the most advanced frontier concerning quality management, quality control processes and methodologies in humanitarian operations.

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Learning





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