

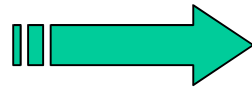
Evaluation: A Tool For Accountability



**A presentation to the
Workshop
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Evaluation
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Humanitarian
Accountability
Project



**Humanitarian
Accountability
Partnership
International**

HAP
International

HAP in a Snapshot slide....



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Accountability – HAP definition involves 2 sets of principles and mechanisms

1-Those principles and mechanisms by which individuals, organizations, and states account for their actions and are held responsible for them

e.g. evaluations, reporting, audit, systems, regulations....

Accountability – 2nd set of principles

2-Those by which individuals, organizations, and states may safely and legitimately report concerns, complaints, and abuses, and get redress where appropriate

e.g. evaluations, staff associations, organisational or sector ombuds offices...

HAP Operational Framework 1/2

- Who is accountable? Duty bearers
- To whom? Stakeholders
- For what? Meeting commitments as defined by standards, policies, contractual agreements etc.

HAP Operational Framework 2/2

- How? Standard and benchmark setting, informing, monitoring, responding, reporting, and by identifying duty-holders
- For which outcomes? Changes in policy, changes in programmes, redress, sanctions, awards.

Evaluation - Definitions

« The process of determining the merit, worth or value of something or the product of that process »

Evaluation of humanitarian action

A systematic and impartial examination of humanitarian action intended to draw lessons to improve policy and practice and enhance accountability (ALNAP 2002)

Evaluations, yes, but....

Evaluations are a necessary but NOT sufficient tool for achieving accountability.

Why?



If a tool for accountability, then **the evaluation has to...**

- Determine obligations and responsibilities and whether they have been met, both by organisation and individual
- Include beneficiaries in the evaluation process in a useful manner
- Study the quality of the relationship between aid provider and beneficiary
- Report back on findings to all stakeholders
- Ensure its recommendations are implemented, including providing redress



Provided the evaluation gives this then it allows you to...

- Evaluate the quality of assistance, the quality of the impact and the quality of the relations

Do evaluations today provide a basis for accountability?

- Given the previous points, if the quality of evaluations are viewed in the light of accountability, then very few of them provide *sufficient* basis for accountability today.

HAP research recommends...

- Increased rigour of all evaluations and studies from the start (ToR)
- Strong self-regulatory system to be set up by NGOs themselves (or else...)
- Individuals to be agents of accountability

**The creation of the
Humanitarian Accountability
Partnership International**

=

**Commitment to
self-regulation within and
among agencies**