

UKSF: localisation through faith-based groups

- increasing recognition of value as local partners
 - knowledge of and longer term links to communities
 - first responders in times of crisis
 - can provide physical, emotional and spiritual support
- difficulty relating to humanitarian system
 - bureaucratic and inaccessible
 - lack of understanding of humanitarian framework
- scepticism around motivations and implementation
 - assumption of proselytism or ulterior motives
 - risk of discrimination/preferential treatment
 - lack of adherence to humanitarian principles



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humanity | neutrality | impartiality | independence

the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief

article 2: Aid is given regardless of the race, creed or nationality of the recipients and without adverse distinction of any kind. Aid priorities are calculated on the basis of need alone

article 3: Aid will not be used to further a particular political or religious standpoint

Humanitarian aid will be given according to the need of individuals, families and communities. Notwithstanding the right of NGHAs to espouse particular political or religious opinions, we affirm that assistance will not be dependent on the adherence of the recipients to those opinions. We will not tie the promise, delivery or distribution of assistance to the embracing or acceptance of a particular political or religious creed.



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- lebanon case study [evangelical churches providing food aid as local partners]
 - hospitality and parity
 - motives, priorities and agency
 - interfaith and social relations
 - more dignity...yet limitations on power
- questioning assumptions
 - religious vs political doctrines
 - power dynamics and acceptability
 - donor proselytism and dignity
 - spectrum of approaches and attitudes
- opportunities
 - increase access and beneficiary identification
 - increase humanitarian literacy
 - critical reflection



relevant resources

- LWF & IRW guidance (2018) [A faith-sensitive approach in humanitarian response](#)
- Episcopal Relief (2014) [Pastors and Disasters course](#)
- Journal articles
 - Wilkinson, O. (2017) [‘Faith can come in, but not religion’: secularity and its effects on the disaster response to Typhoon Haiyan](#)
 - Lynch, C. & Schwarz, T.B. (2016) [Humanitarianism’s Proselytism Problem](#)
 - Kraft, K. (2015) [Faith and impartiality in humanitarian response: Lessons from Lebanese evangelical churches providing food aid](#)
 - Woolf Institute (2009) [Keeping faith in development](#)
- Islamic Relief Faith Literacy research and policy:
 - [Human-Development-in-Islam](#)
 - [Gender-Religion-and-Refugees](#)
 - [A Faith Based Toolkit for Islamic Relief](#)

