



SUMERNET

Human Rights-Based Approach Checklist





SUMERNET

Human Rights-Based Approach Checklist

Financial Supporter:



The Government of Sweden through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Cover photo: SEI/Roengchai

Human Rights-Based Approach Checklist

1. HR as Normative/ analytical framework

- 1.1 Does this research consider water as a human right i.e., individuals and communities have freedom and entitlement to water?
- 1.2 Does this research consider the obligations of government (s) in respecting, protecting and fulfilling the right to water e.g., by looking at policies & practices which positively or negatively affect how water is available, managed & used? (ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK)

2. Non-discrimination

Non-discrimination is a fundamental principle in the international human rights laws/ standards. Thus, the HRBA holds that policies and practices should not discriminate based on the grounds of race, color, sex, age, language, religion, political or other opinions; national or social origin, property, birth physical or mental disability, health status, sexual orientation; civil political, social or other status, which has the intention or effect of nullifying or impairing the equality enjoyment or exercise of human rights, including the right to water. Because certain groups have been historically excluded or discriminated against, HRBA pays special attention to disadvantage groups and individuals.

- 2.1 Is the research addressing discriminatory policies/practices?
- 2.2 Is the research addressing the needs of vulnerable/marginalized individuals/groups?
Although the communities identified may be considered marginalized e.g., poor communities, but there may be specific members of the group who are more vulnerable because of their status (age, sex, health conditions etc).
- 2.3 Who benefit from the project? Who are included and included in the research?

3. Participation & empowerment

HRBA takes the stand that individuals and communities are rights holders who should not be merely “informed” about projects that have to do with their lives. Rather, they should be able to participate meaningfully in the project.

- 3.1 How will the individuals and communities (rights holders) participate in the different stages of the development and implementation of the research?
- 3.2 Will they just being informed about the research and act as informants or will the project engage them in identifying the problem?
- 3.3 What role will they play during and after the research process?
- 3.4 How will they be supported and empowered to articulate their concerns and needs?

4. Accountability & transparency

The accountability and transparency in the HRBA process is concerned with relationship between the researchers and different stakeholders especially the affected communities. It is related to ethical conduct including the principle of 'do not harm' and 'safeguarding' of the research participants. It is also concerned with making information available and accessible for the affected communities.

- 4.1 What procedures/practices are put in place to ensure that research participants/concerned communities are not negatively affected?
- 4.2 What steps will be taken to ensure that the information related to research objectives, process, output/outcomes are shared/accessible to the concerned communities?
- 4.3 Is there a channel for concerned individuals/communities to raise concerns about the project?

Contact

SUMERNET Secretariat

Email: secretariat@sumernet.org

Website: sumernet.org

Address: 10th Floor, Kasem Uttayanin Building
254 Chulalongkorn University
Henri Dunant Road, Pathumwan
Bangkok, 10330 Thailand