



# Perspectives on Protection

Comic Relief and safeguarding children and  
vulnerable adults

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# What we believe



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Comic Relief believes that everyone has the right to live free from abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to keep children and vulnerable adults safe. We are committed to work in a way that protects them to the best of our ability.



# What we know

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- the welfare of children and vulnerable adults is paramount;
- a child is any young person under the age of 18 and a vulnerable adult is any person aged 18 years or older who is, or may be in need of assistance due to age, illness or a mental or physical disability or unable to take care of themselves, or unable to protect themselves against harm or exploitation
- all people, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation, culture or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse;
- some children and adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues;
- working in partnership with children and vulnerable adults, parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting children and vulnerable adults' welfare.

# 'Do No Harm' approach to programming



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- **Avoid exposing people to further harm as a result of you actions**  
(Principle 1 of Min Standards for CP in Humanitarian Action)
  - Ensure Safeguarding is applied to all areas of programme work – particularly programmes working with children & vulnerable adults. This includes putting measures in place to prevent any negative consequences of your actions/ activities throughout the programme cycle e.g. consultation; programme design; implementation; MEL etc
  - HOW? Ensure that continuous risk assessments are undertaken at each stage of the programme cycle taking into account the current context. Stop or adjust activities accordingly to limit/mitigate any inadvertent harm that could be caused by any activity.

# Donor safeguarding group



The group:

- Children in Need
- **Comic Relief**
- Esmee Fairbairn Foundation
- Paul Hamlyn Foundation
- City Bridge Trust
- Oak Foundation
- **Big Lottery**
- **Porticus**



## Donor safeguarding group

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- The aim is to exchange best practice; to understand the gaps in our knowledge and collaboratively seek to address them and to share within and beyond the group what we have learnt.
  
- Our top two priorities at the moment are assessor training and better understanding the country context.

# Questions?





# Discussion

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- How do you ensure that your broadcast lives your policy and how do you ensure your ‘interview’ technique or portrayal of a person protects their emotional wellbeing?
- How informed is ‘informed’ consent and how do you get it?
- Use of social media with children and vulnerable adults. How do you protect them as much as possible when the content is online?