

Open Forum
Friday 18th November 2005
15:30 – 17:15

Open forum consisted of Q&A sessions with the trainers, as well as some intense discussions among the participants.

Q. What is the major change in humanitarian operations?

- Accountability
- Education in risk management
- Formalization of risk assessment = very important! (to analyze the possible dangers, to increase the level of security etc.)

Q. Selection of national staff → how, and what are the policies?

- Include them in your planning, give them training, be transparent, try to win them over (include them in your organizations activities)
- Don't put the national staff at risk
- Don't make any promises

Q. Nowadays with the problem with the “terrorism”, though the “acceptance” level is high with the locals, that itself does not protect the NGO staff from the terrorist attacks, due to the non-local terrorists → how do you deal with it?

- bring the level of “protection” and “deterrence” higher

- Discussion on the “internet” or “satellite TV” being *necessity* or *luxury*??
 - ❖ Depends on the duration of operations
 - ❖ Necessary to consider the staff's mental health
- Code of conduct (by UNHCR): suggestion by Leigh
- Review the results of the group exercise done in the morning (Acceptable vs. Not Acceptable)