Hosting Assistance An Important Programme Response Option

Call under the GSC Technical Community of Practice 10 July 2025





Agenda



Min	Item	Speakers
10 min	Introductions and Opening	Pascal Panosetti, Denisse Solis, Gareth Lewis, David Dalgado
15 min	The IFRC Framework on Hosting Assistance	Denisse Solis and David Dalgado
15 min	The Hosting Assistance work of J'accueille, a French NGO	Gareth Lewis
20 min	Q&A and Discussion	



Introduction:

Where Does Hosting Assistance



e Fit In?			DBAL ELTER CLUSTER nitarian Shelter and Settlements
Population group	Settlement scenario	Description	Examples
Displaced people	Hosted arrangement	Host populations provide shelter for displaced popula- tions or individual families.	Houses, apartments, land already occupied or made available by the host population

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENT

Appendix 4			
Assistance options	Host assistance	People who are unable to return to their original homes often stay with	
		family and friends or communities with shared historical, religious or	
3		other ties. Supporting the host to continue to shelter affected people	
•		includes support to expand or adapt an existing host family shelter, or	
		financial and material support for running costs.	

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Introduction:

Why is hosting assistance important?



- 1. Oldest form of humanitarian response & a local coping mechanism.
- 2. More than just shelter for people
- 3. Arguably local actors or those with local networks best able to sustain existing 'hosted arrangements' and facilitate hosting.
- 4. If we do not support hosted arrangements we risk creating a push factor.
- 5. Displaced people can access safer, more dignified and stable accommodation
- 6. Opens accommodation not otherwise available
- Accommodation may be spread throughout the wider host community



- 8. Greater opportunities for interaction between host and displaced population
- 9. Can be used in a range of contexts



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An Introduction to Hosting Assistance Programming					



IFRC Hosting Assistance Framework Introduction

IFRC Framework of Hosting Assistance:



What does hosting assistance involve?







Orientation, training and network support to hosts

Assessment of households, matching, agreements, and placement support



Complementary programming, integration, inclusion and exit support

- You do not need all components for a hosting assistance programme
- To avoid doing harm, hosting programmes should, as a minimum, consider safeguarding risk management and support, such as the vetting of hosts and checks on the habitability and safety of accommodation.



IFRC Framework of Hosting Assistance:

What role can agencies play?

1. Non Implementation

- a. Coordination and/or
- Technical assistance on delivering hosting assistance programming for other organisations

1. Implementation

- a. Comprehensive hosting assistance programme that includes the whole process of hosting (registration, vetting, assessing, matching, case management etc.) or
- b. It could be only contributing one or two components of hosting assistance

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3. Systems preparedness

- a. Advocacy
- b. Preparing hosts
- c. Preparing to deliver hosting assistance



Key Resources Available to Support You Available From:









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J'accueille

Example from Implementing NGO

J'accueille's vision

- Connect refugees with hosts
- Reduce the fear of hosting
- Show how it benefits both parties
- Change how people think about refugees and migration
- Create a more inclusive society

Since 2015, 1 300 people have been hosted





Creating intercultural skills is a key added value

- Host and hostee and always strangers
- French government provide hostee/refugee with money
- The host and hostee need support get along, maximising the length and positive impact of the hosting
- Careful selection and matching
- Hosts take a long time to go from "interested" to "hosting"
- Training and follow-up calls

Outside of France

- Inter-cultural so a local organisation is needed which understand the culture of the host (they are the most tricky)
- Intercultural concepts can be taught (active listening, understanding bias etc).
- The hosting data management system can be shared
- J'accueille is ready to help them do this

Questions and Discussions

When done well, hosting can provide integration opportunities and has many strengths for the wider community

Hosting can only be an *interim* measure to address homelessness and housing exclusion

Hosting, once provided with the necessary wraparound supports for both hosts and guests, is an **excellent "soft landing"** for displaced people as they adjust to their situation.

92% of hosts surveyed say their experience was **"good"** or **"better than expected"**

80% of guests surveyed claimed to be **"satisfied"** or **"very satisfied"** with their experience in pledged accommodation .



Embrace Community-Based Solutions Invest in solutions rooted in the needs and strengths of local communities.

> Maintaining a hospitable civil society space is essential, as acts of solidarity spontaneously arise in emergencies

Hosting is a versatile option to accommodate people who have lost their homes

IFRC Framework of Hosting Assistance: Step-by-Step Guide



How do you design a hosting assistance programme?

CROSS CUTTING As with other programmes, the steps in hosting assistance can be THROUGHOUT considered in relation to the humanitarian programme cycle. EACH STEP: PROTECTION GENDER & INCLUSION. COMMUNITY Figure 1: Programme Cycle Ovevlew ENGAGEMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY **DESIGN & PLAN** . Objectives 2. Selection of components for hosting assistance PREPAREDNESS 3. Programme duration & hosting period (PRE-STEP) 4. Targeting and selection criteria institutional 5. Exit strategies preparedness 6. Process of host and guest 2. External engagement programme engagement and advocacy 7. Registration 3. Host preparedness & verification processes 8. Support for host households CONTEXT ASSESSMENT ANALYSIS 6. Perceptions General context assessment (Incl. stakeholder and and Xenophobia hosting assistance 7. Safeguarding organisation mapping, risk assessment IMPLEMENT migration related legal framework). 8. Exit strategy assessment & MONITOR 2. Host profiles assessment 9. NS capacity assessment 3. Accommodation conditions 10. Community engagement 1. Partnerships and accountability 4. Displaced/guest 2. Information Management assessment profiles assessment 3. Extending or ending 11. Programme risk assessment 5. Host community assessment 4. Programme Monitoring

to build empathy 19. Case management 4 EVALUATE, REPORT & LEARN 1. Report 2. Programme evaluation 3. Case studies

5. Household items support

Psycho-social support

8. Employment support

 Onward accommodation support
Host community support
Host population activities

6. Mental health and

7. Language

14. Agreements

15. Initial placement support

16. Information support

17. Financial Support

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IFRC Framework of Hosting Assistance: **Engagement Path for Hosts and Guests**





Figure 3: Engagement process charts for hosts and guests

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STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR HOSTING ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE AFFECTED **BY CRISIS**

IFRC Framework of Hosting Assistance: Discussion on Case Management





Figure 5: Casework management outline, Irish Red Cross 2024

Matching

Match BoTP with suitable pledged accommodation. Complete all paperwork and move-in procedures.

Extensions

Follow up with endind pledges and manage extensions.

High Needs

Undertake casework for high needs clients and manage complex cases.

Follow up

Follow up with clients and pledgers both matched and unmatched.

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IFRC Framework of Hosting Assistance: Discussion on CVA/Financial Assistance

- 1. How much to transfer?
 - a) Will it damage volunteer spirit? But will you have more 'volunteering' of accommodation which is cheaper than other shelter options?
 - b) Do you just compensate for additional costs of hosting? Or go further as an incentive for hosts to make offers of accommodation?
 - c) Is it sustainable?
 - d) Will it distort rental market?
- 2. Do you transfer to host, guest, both?
- 3. What other financial incentives could you give? E.g. Tax breaks in some situations.
- 4. Could you offer other support such as insurance for damage for example?







IFRC Framework of Hosting Assistance: Discussion on Exit Strategies



Figure 2: Exit strategy visualisation – hosting assistance



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Note that the path is not always linear and the example activities are non-exhaustive



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