

Do's



and

Don'ts



in Working on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings

DO

Don't



COORDINATE WITH THE OTHER WORKERS

WORK IN ISOLATION



COLLECT AND ANALYSE INFORMATION

ACCEPT DATA WITHOUT EXAMINING IT



TAILOR ASSESSMENT TOOLS TO THE LOCAL CONTEXT

USE ASSESSMENT TOOLS NOT VALIDATED IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT



RECOGNISE THAT PEOPLE ARE AFFECTED BY EMERGENCIES IN DIFFERENT WAYS

ASSUME THAT EVERYONE IN AN EMERGENCY IS TRAUMATISED



USE THE LOCAL LANGUAGE AND RESPECT CONFIDENTIALITY

ASK VERY DISTRESSING QUESTIONS WITHOUT PROVIDING FOLLOW-UP SUPPORT



PAY ATTENTION TO GENDER DIFFERENCES

ASSUME THAT MEN AND WOMEN ARE AFFECTED IN THE SAME WAY



TRAININGS AND PROVIDE FOLLOW-UP SUPERVISION AND MONITORING

USE ONE-TIME, STAND-ALONE TRAINING WITHOUT FOLLOW-UP



FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMMES

TREAT PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY MAINLY AS RECIPIENTS OF SERVICES



USE MEDIA TO PROVIDE ACCURATE INFO

USE HARMFUL PHOTOS



LEARN AND USE THE LOCAL CULTURE

ASSUME THAT ALL LOCAL CULTURAL PRACTICES ARE HELPFULL



Prepared by Felicia Nica for Child Protection Hub for South East Europe.

Source: IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings