



Information Management

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Coherence may be influenced by existing information management challenges within the humanitarian and development communities. Within the humanitarian community, in forced migration responses, UNHCR typically plays the primary role for information management, whereas in the broader humanitarian (disaster relief) realm, OCHA fulfills this role.

Generally, within the humanitarian community, information flows from operations up to strategic levels with little transparency as to its use. Frequently, data producers (field staff) are not the data users. This circumstance can lead to reticence to information sharing, with negative consequences for coherence itself and detection, through data, of its

implementation. Our approach, particularly the development of both strategic and operational metrics, takes into account challenges at the intersection of coherence and its underlying basis in information sharing and information flows. The issue of upward flows of information, both within and between organizations, particularly sub-contractors to their donors, conflicts with efforts for greater decentralization to foster coherence. We address this challenge by investigating both strategic and operational metrics, investigating high level metrics of coherence where they exist as well as defining new metrics designed to identify coherence potential.

This latter element draws on scholarship aiming to predict outbreaks of forced migration. At the same time, our operational metrics are derived from coherence collaborations, informed by knowledge of multi-level governance through which humanitarian information flows. Both efforts to identify metrics are informed by policy analyses of coherence plans by national governments, donors, UN agencies and other coherence actors.