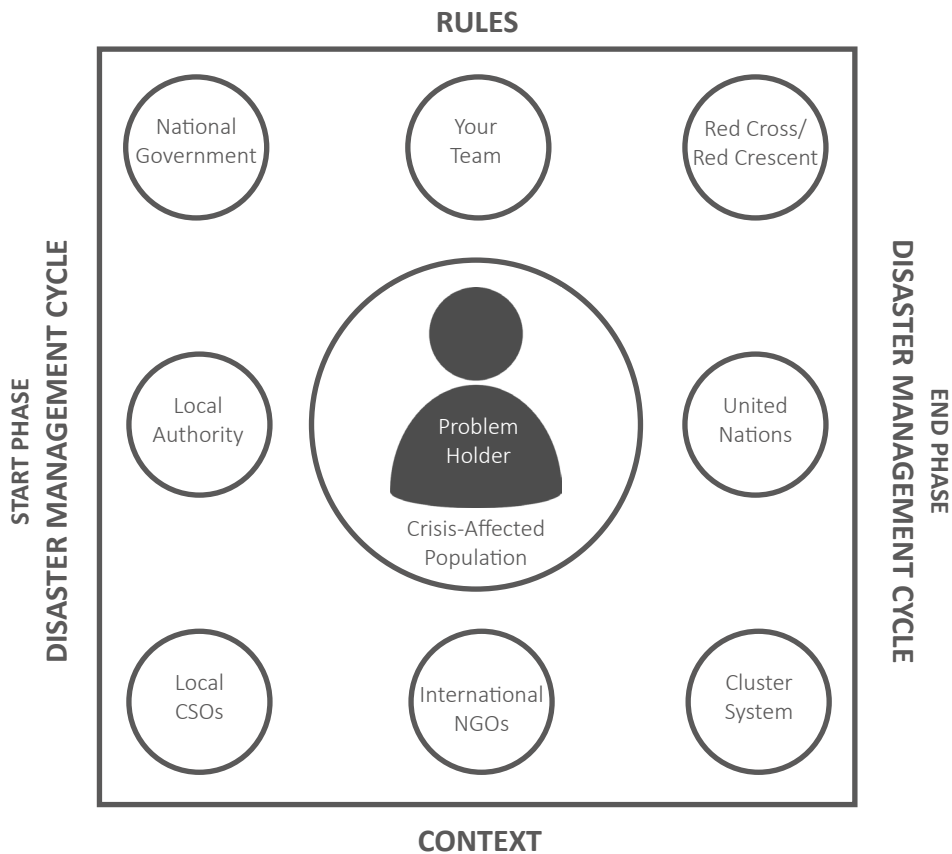


HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX

The humanitarian Parameters Box is a tool designed to help you think through the parameters of a strategy, problem or solution. It places parameters (boundaries) around the focus of your innovation, allowing you to understand the scope of a strategy, problem or solution.

This exercise allows you to focus on what is important within those parameters, e.g. if your strategy is designed for fragile contexts, it allows you to state this, and reflect on the other parameters in relation to that. If it is a solution for a particular problem holder within a community, e.g. people living with a disability, it enables you to clearly identify what humanitarian aspects are of most concern to you across the different parts of the parameters box structure. The structure is laid out in the diagram below, with an explanation of each part.

The following pages contain worksheets with key questions that you need to consider to work through your humanitarian parameters.





HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX

SIDES OF THE BOX

Context

The floor of the box represents the context that you are focusing on. It can be as wide as 'all fragile contexts,' or as narrow as a tightly defined geography, such as a local administrative level. The context however needs to not only be named, but the key characteristics identified, such as ongoing conflict, or prone to natural hazards such as flooding.

Disaster Management Cycle (DMC)

The sides of the box denote the beginning and end of the Disaster Management Cycle that you will focus on, e.g. You may only want to focus on the period from response to early recovery.

Rules

The top of the box represents the rules that are in place regarding the strategy, problem or solution that you will need to adhere to. These can be contextual rules, e.g. local law and regulations, or global rules such as International Law, or specific humanitarian standards and principles, e.g. sphere standards for health action. They may even be internal organisational rules that you will need to abide by.

INSIDE THE BOX

Problem Holder

For humanitarian innovation, and some humanitarian strategies you will need to identify who the problem holder (or target group) is. This will keep you focused on a specific issue or 'right' that you want to address. This person is represented in the centre of the box.

Crisis-Affected Community

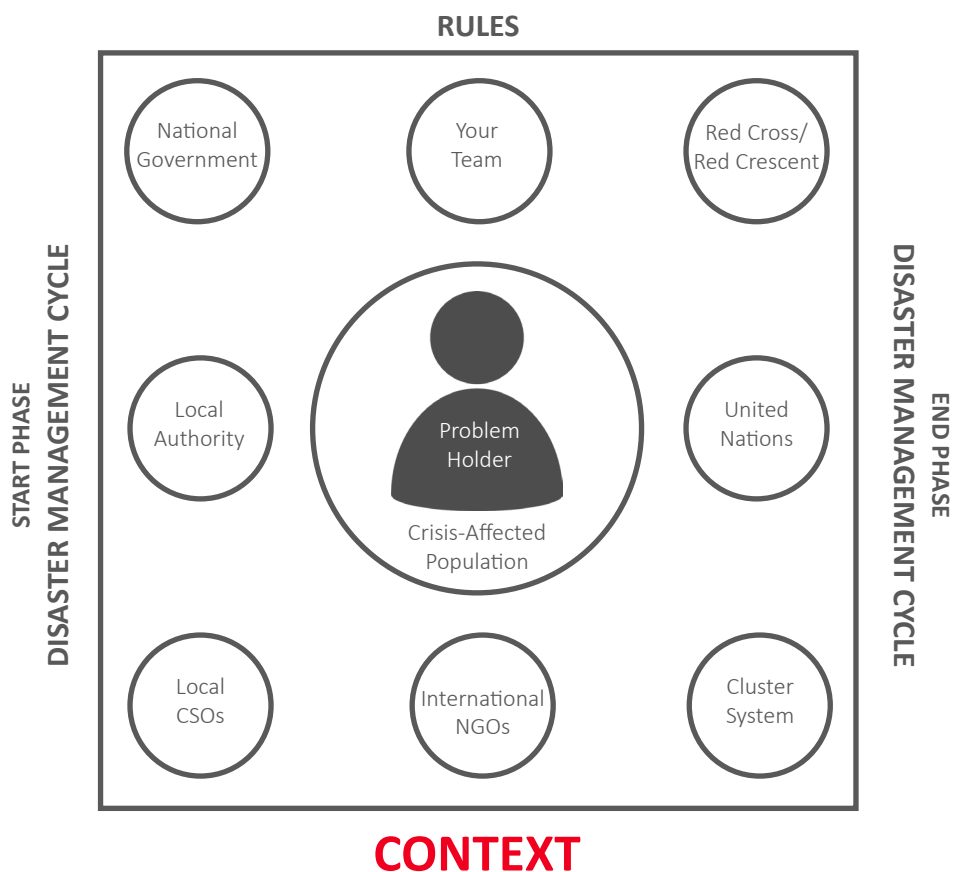
The problem holder sits within a wider crisis affected community. You will therefore need to consider them in any strategy or innovation work. If they are not part of your target group, how can they support or potentially block what you are trying to achieve? How can you ensure that you 'do not harm' to this group?

Humanitarian Architecture

Finally, the other shapes within the box represent the humanitarian actors and mechanisms that make up the humanitarian architecture. How are these actors and mechanisms involved in the area that you are seeking to address with your strategy or innovation? Which parts of this system do you need to engage with?

HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX CONTEXT

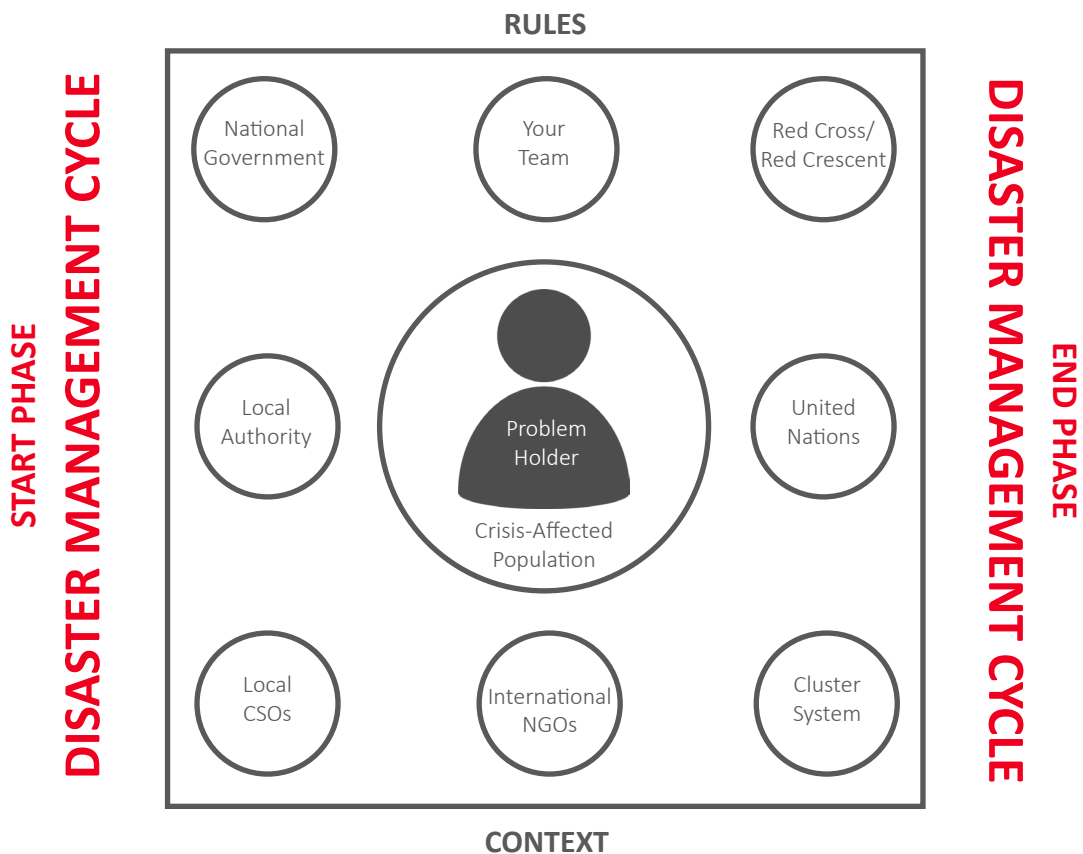
1. What is the geography/geographies that you are focusing on?
2. What are the key characteristics of that context?
3. How volatile is the context (how likely is it to change substantially in the foreseeable future)?



HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX

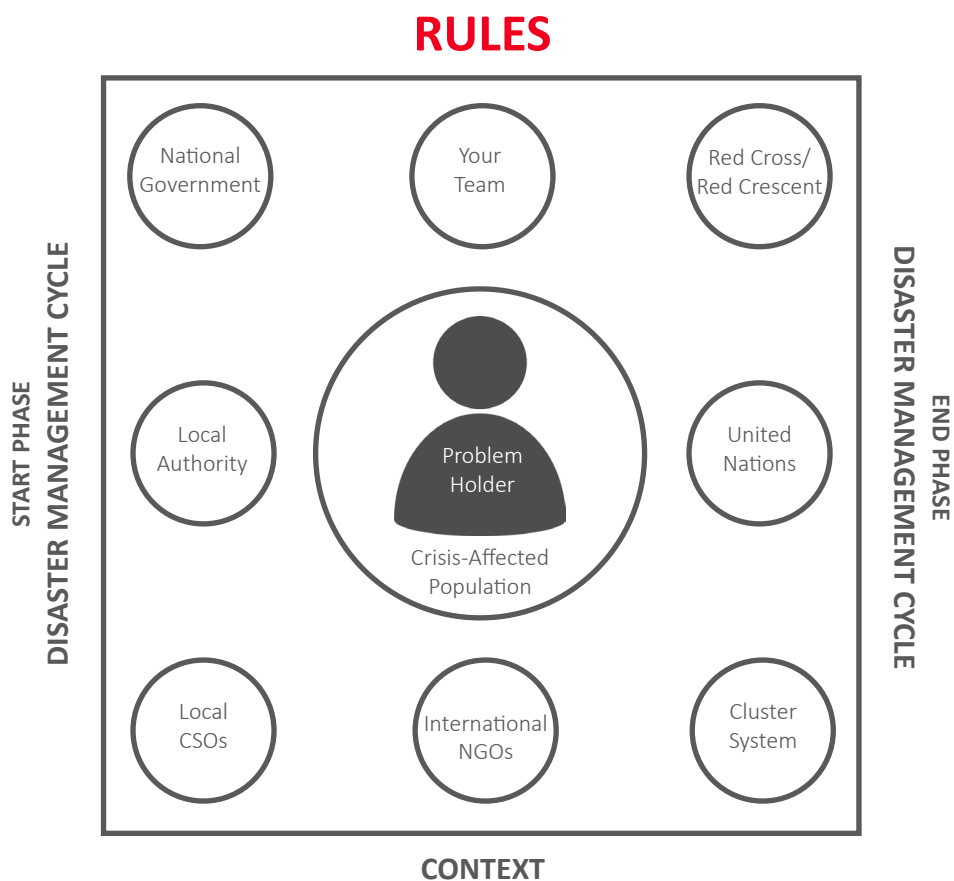
DISASTER MANAGEMENT CYCLE

1. At what point of the disaster management cycle does your focus begin?
2. At what stage of the disaster management cycle does you focus end?
3. Are there any other parts of the disaster management cycle that are relevant to the strategy/problem/solution that you are looking at?
4. If yes, how are they relevant?



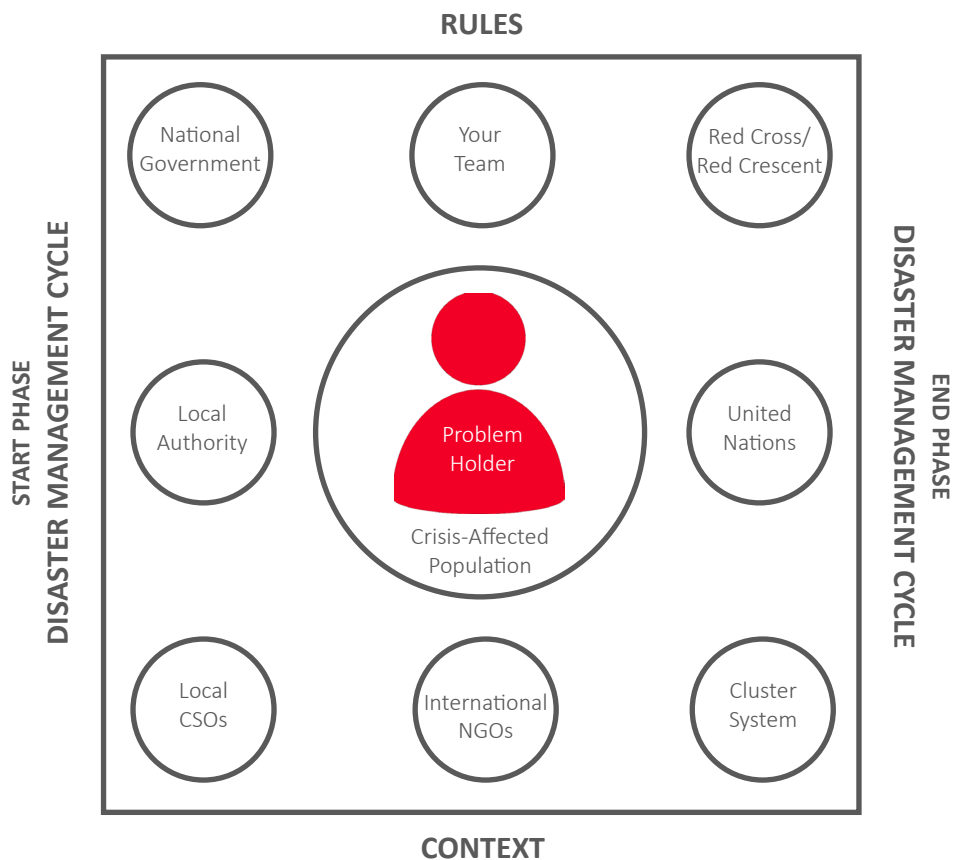
HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX RULES

1. What are the international rules and implications?
2. What are the local rules and implications?
3. What are the humanitarian rules and implications?
4. What are the organisational rules and implications?



HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX PROBLEM HOLDER (OR TARGET GROUP)

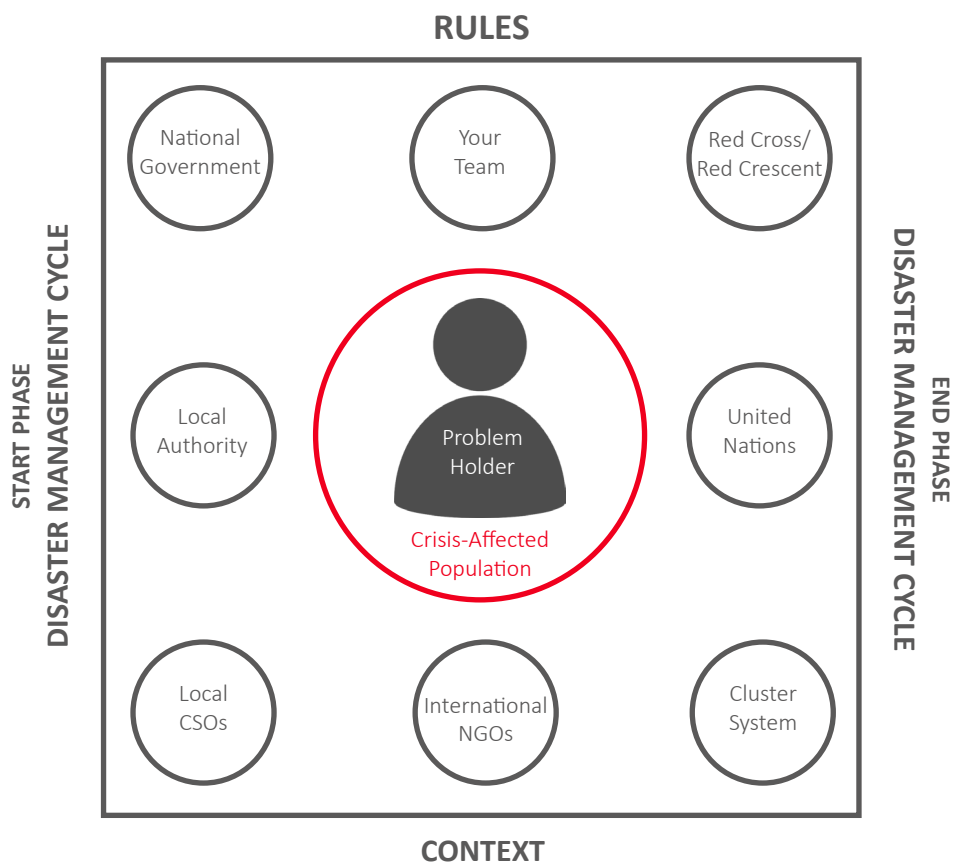
1. Name of type of problem holder or target group
2. Key Characteristics
3. Problem they are facing
4. Key aspects of their experience of this problem (e.g. time, place etc)



HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX

CRISIS-AFFECTED POPULATION

1. Who are the crisis-affected population?
2. What particular vulnerable groups are there within the population?
3. Are there specific vulnerabilities for the group beyond those stated above?
4. What capacities and capabilities does the group have?



HUMANITARIAN PARAMETERS BOX

HUMANITARIAN ARCHITECTURE

1. Does our focus problem/innovation link to a Cluster or a particular sector? If yes, have we engaged with them?
2. Is there a Government department responsible for this problem? If yes, have we engaged with them?
3. Are there any local CSOs/NGOs or FBOs we should be linking with?
4. Are there any UN, INGO or Red Cross/Crescent offices that we should be engaging with on this problem/innovation?

