

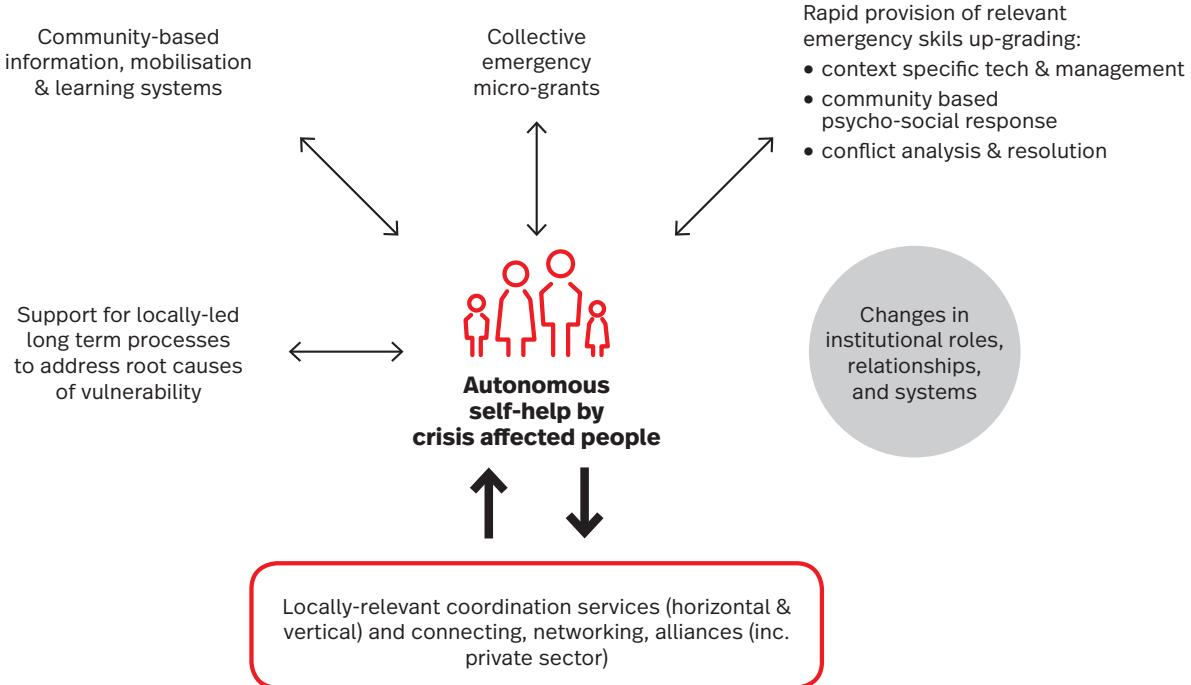
Annex 1

Background: What does survivor and community-led crisis responses look like?

On-going practical learning in Palestine, Sudan, Philippines in conjunction with the multi-country research and practise oriented Linking Preparedness, Response and

Resilience (LPRR) initiative¹⁵ have identified a set of core elements and principles guiding a locally-led response. These elements are outlined in figure 1:

Figure 1. “Community-based information, mobilisation and learning systems” is used as short-hand to describe a community-owned process of rapid situation analysis, appreciative inquiry, information-management, mobilisation, gap-analysis and learning that prioritises building on existing capacities to strengthen opportunities for self-help. This process is also referred to as Participatory Action Learning in Crises (PALC).



In addition, experiences with sclr approaches so far, have highlighted the following basic **guiding principles** underpinning the approach:

- i. A recognition that crisis-affected communities are always first-responders - and that often they are involved with more significant local and immediate “humanitarian” interventions than those led or supported by external aid actors. The emerging sclr approaches focus on trying to maximise the potential of that autonomous local response - not only to help it better address immediate needs but also to strengthen longer term resilience.
- ii. In developing sclr approaches, we are not seeking rigid tools or blueprints, but rather adaptive methodologies that will keep changing according to context and our own cumulative experiences.
- iii. These sclr approaches are not being promoted as some new ‘silver-bullet’ to replace all externally-led humanitarian aid interventions. The aim is to promote a more balanced overall response that recognises the primary importance of local agency and of supporting

it, while still having externals ready to fill gaps as needed.

- iv. In developing sclr approaches, we talk of “crisis” rather than “humanitarian” response because we continually find that communities will prioritise a much broader range of interventions (based both on need and on opportunities) than those typically covered by conventional humanitarian programming. Initiatives focusing on livelihoods, education, peace building, psycho-social well-being, exclusion, root causes, advocacy, even governance are often seen alongside more typical relief activities.
- v. Finally, the term “locally-led” is used as a generic term that recognises populations in crisis are made up of multiple communities each one of which is heterogeneous, generating multiple ‘leadership’ opportunities by multiple self-help groups, CBOs and active household members. This is not a hierarchical leadership model but rather a network with many leaders at different nodes.