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ABSTRACT	<p>Interpreters and cultural mediators are key allies for humanitarian actors sensitive to the needs of those affected by disaster to receive and share information in their own language. Communication is aid and words build trust. Recognizing these essential principles of a people-centered humanitarian intervention, it is essential to build effective language bridges between people in need and those providing aid and services. Whenever humanitarian responders do not speak or understand the mother tongue of the person they serve, the risk of miscommunication, loss of critical information or misinformation is high, potentially leading to unnecessary suffering or loss of life.</p> <p>Working with interpreters and cultural mediators helps to bridge that gap. We hope this guide will be of use to both the linguists themselves and their humanitarian managers. It covers the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interpreters and cultural mediators; key responsibilities, differences and similarities - Humanitarian interpreting and cultural mediation do's and don'ts - Working with interpreters and cultural mediators - best practice - Humanitarian principles in practice - Frequently asked questions - Resources
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