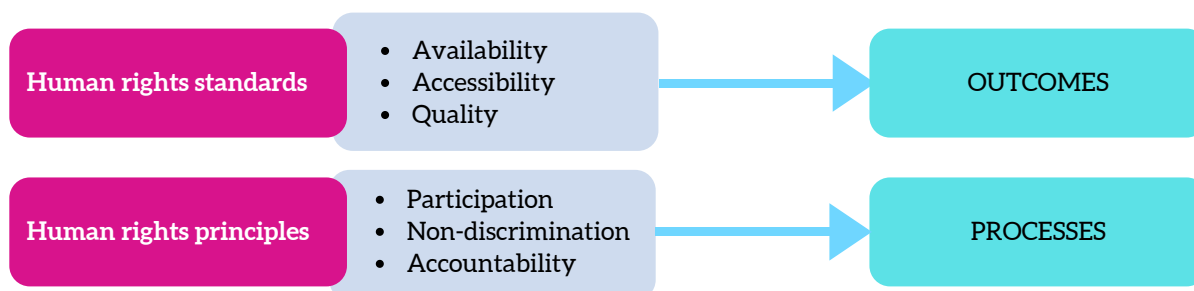# MAINSTREAMING HUMAN RIGHTS INTO POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

Human rights as being universal, interdependent and inalienable should inform the outcome and the process of policies and programmes. **Human rights standards** are particularly useful for guiding the formulation of desired outcomes, while **human rights principles** can especially guide the processes of policy and programme design and implementation.

Human rights standards	• Availability • Accessibility • Quality	→	OUTCOMES
Human rights principles	• Participation • Non-discrimination • Accountability	→	PROCESSES

Some of the guiding generic questions to ensure that 'human rights' are being mainstreamed in developing policies and/or undertaking programmes include:

HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES

Non-discrimination & Equality*
- Is relevant statistical data disaggregated beyond sex, population, race, colour, ethnicity, age, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, etc.? If not, are capacities being developed to do so?

Participation & Inclusion*
- Is there an enabling environment of laws, processes and mechanisms that ensures access to information, freedom of expression and of association and the right to participation of everyone?
- How is it ensured that everyone is heard, and are involved actively and meaningfully in the design, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them?

Accountability & Rule of Law
- Which roles and responsibilities does the applicable administrative or legal framework give to the relevant institutions?
- Are the effects of policies and programmes being monitored?

HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS (ESP., ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS)

Availability**
- Are facilities, goods and services in the sector available continuously in sufficient quantity?

Accessibility**
- Physical: Are facilities, goods and services of the relevant sector accessible within safe reach for all?
- Economic: Are facilities, goods and services affordable for all?

Quality, including Acceptability**
- Is the quality of facilities, goods and services of the relevant sector ensured and are quality standards set?
- Are different cultural values, user patterns and needs considered, particularly groups that have been identified as marginalized?

For more information see: http://hrbaportal.org/wp-content/files/English_Web_draft6b1.pdf