

How to be Transparent

Make sure the method of information sharing actually reaches people. Do not make assumptions about access!

	Shared?	With Who?	How?
Selection Criteria			
Project Goals			
Project Timeframes			
Funding Allocation			

Selection Criteria. The issue most frequently raised by people in recipient societies is their lack of information about why some individuals or groups are selected for assistance and others—often in the same community or nearby—are not.

Project Goals. Many people note that they do not know the activities or objectives of the agencies or the intended impacts of the programs being implemented there. They also say that when recipient communities do not have information, they cannot support assistance activities.

Project Timeframes. People feel strongly that they should have more information about the final stages of any assistance effort and the plans for departure by an agency that has worked in their community. They say that when they are not informed about the timing or conditions of a project's ending, they feel abandoned and unprepared. Information would enable them to plan ahead and handle the departure with less disruption to their lives.

Funding Allocation. People very much want to know more about aid resources. They want to know how much money is involved, where it goes and what is accomplished with it. Without clear information about funding, people often suspect corruption and diversion. When people's expectations exceed what they see as results, questions about the use of funds become even more urgent.

Concepts and text from *Time to Listen: Hearing People on the Receiving End of International Aid* by Anderson, Brown, and Jean (CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, 2012).
<http://www.cdacollaborative.org/media/60478/Time-to-Listen-Book.pdf>