

# Accountability for Reasonableness (A4R) Ethical Framework and Principles

AFR is a set of ethical guidelines that explain how to make fair decisions about setting priorities (Daniels & Sabin, 2002). It includes five main conditions:



## Empowerment:

People should have a real chance to take part in making decisions. Efforts should be made to reduce power differences so everyone can share their views.

*Consider: How we will communicate with stakeholders on the implications of this decision including criteria used, goals and expected outcomes?*



## Relevance:

Decisions should be based on good reasons, such as facts, values, and clear principles.

*Consider: Are we clear on the criteria we use to make this decision? Which internal and external stakeholders will be most affected?*



## Publicity/ Transparency:

Decisions and the reasons behind them should be open and easy for the public to see.

*Consider: How we will communicate with stakeholders on the implications of this decision including criteria used, goals and expected outcomes?*



## Revisions/Appeals:

There should be a way to review and change decisions if new evidence or better arguments come up. There should also be a clear process to solve disagreements.

*Consider: What will be the mechanism/process to incorporate new information that may impact decision previously agreed upon?*



## Compliance:

There should be ways to make sure these conditions are followed, either through voluntary agreement or public oversight.

*Consider: What mechanisms do we have in place to learn from this experience to improve future iterations and stay accountable to the ethical framework?*