



Consent and Consciousness

Ethical Guidelines and Code of Conduct (excerpt from the Letter of intent)

Oral/Written Consent:

Make sure that you receive people's consent to participate in the film on camera or through a signed consent form. This applies when people appear often and/or in interviews. You will receive such form before you leave to the field. In many cases, it is better to ask people for their consent by recording it on the camera.

If you did not get oral/written consent from your key people in the film, we will not be able to use the material. Oral/written consent is mandatory!

Please find the written consent form under the E-learning downloads.

Input on Conscious Filmmaking

Conscious Filmmaking includes certain ways of behaving during the filmmaking. Many of them are known to you through your practice as researcher.

1. Consent and Use

- People at a site of research are previously asked for permission before any filming takes places.
- Filming children requires permission of their parents or their legal representative.
- Oral or Written consent is mandatory for any extended scene /interview

2. Managing Resources

- The film team does not leave any trash related to the filming on location.
- The film team will not ask to re-charge batteries in local households.

3. Dignity and Respect

- People living in poor conditions are shown as dignifying as possible. Eyelevel is preferred. People are never asked to show-case their poor living conditions for the camera.
- Handicaps or visual deficiencies shall only be shown if agreed and relevant for the SDG story.
- The camera is kept at a respectful distance of people being filmed.
- People appear as they choose. If they ask to cover their hair or change their clothing for the camera, they shall do so. Sun glasses need to be avoided.
- People speaking to the camera in the framework of an interview or by showing a site appear with their name correctly written on-screen. Make sure to take down all names.
- Filming in houses or other private spaces and objects does not take place before prior consent.

4. Collaboration and Participation

- People are not being asked to artificially stage a scene. However, they may be asked to repeat an action or to demonstrate it, if they are willing to.
- Suggestions for filmmaking coming from the community shall be followed, wherever it makes sense for the SDG story.
- Pressure to present themselves before the camera by other household members shall be avoided through appropriate communication of intentions.
- If people reject to answer a question, it shall be respected.

5. Sensitive Content

- Sensitive content shall be recorded under the guidance of the person at stake.
- Questions on traumatic incidences require an additional consent. E.g. Would it be ok for you to talk about such and such?

- Mentioning other people with their name in the framework of sensitive or polemic content needs to be repeated without mentioning their names. It also should be made sure that a contrary perspective can be included.
- An interview setting is no place for political propaganda. Questions need to be adapted accordingly.

6. Gender Sensitivity

- The filmmaking shall include an equal amount of men and women, if possible in the encountered context.
- It shall be taken into consideration that men and women may require a different approach to speak before a camera.

7. Credit and local talent

- People helping with the film will be duly credited at the end of the film and on the r4d Knowledge Platform. Interview partner appear with their full name unless they wish not to. Make sure to take down their names.

8. Digital Dissemination and Copyright

- The film teams will make sure that there is no dominant radio tune playing in the back of an interview setting to avoid copyright conflict. Although they may be nice for ambiance, they may provide a problem with regards to copyright issues. If possible, ask people to turn them off or change your filming location.

9. Follow-up

- Filmed protagonists are given access to see their inclusion in finished video clips. Research teams make sure that people appearing in the film are given access to the final video clips. Make sure to plan ahead how you are going to send them the finished video clip.