



Webinar Report

DISAGGREGATED DATA FOR RESILIENCE BUILDING

Background

Bangladesh is about to embark on developing its 8th five-year plan, as well as implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. There is a significant and growing need for disaggregated data to be available and used in evidence-based policymaking.

Combined with optional reporting on climate change mitigation to international organizations, there is little information on how climate change and disasters impact men, women, girls and boys differently, as well as people with disability and people in different age groups. In fact, women and children are 40% more likely to perish and be injured than men during disasters in Bangladesh.

There is lack of guidance on producing disaggregated data related to climate change and disasters. Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) along with support from UN Women, through its EmPower project- a regional programme on climate change,

and National Resilience Programme (NRP) joined hands to strengthen overall climate change, disaster and gender-related statistics in Bangladesh.

In this vein, UN Women, in partnership with ICCCAD, organized a virtual webinar session on Sex, Age, and Disability Disaggregated Data entitled “Disaggregated Data For Resilience Building”. This virtual session was organized on 18 January 2021 as one of the events of 7th Annual Global Gobeshona that takes place each year with an objective to create a network among the researchers, policy makers, and development practitioners at local, national, regional, and global level. The webinar focused on:

- bringing the climate change and DRR policy makers and practitioners to discuss on the importance and ways of collecting disaggregated data by age, sex, and disability and demonstrate good practices including Bangladesh’s achievements in this regard.

Highlights of Discussions

Challenges in Collecting SADDD

Ms Jessica Gardner said that the process of data harmonisation was challenging as many stakeholders were involved during data collection.

To share the challenges of conducting the Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) survey during any disaster, Mr. Duke Ivn Amin mentioned many challenges confronting the survey conducting:

1. Testing of the methodology was difficult due to time constraint, for example, in the recent Joint Need Assessment (JNA) more than 68 organizations had participated and their data needs to be processed within a limited timeframe.
2. After providing orientation and training on data collection process most of the time the staff leaves the organization. Therefore, capacity building of the staff has always been a challenge.
3. More gender responsive data is required while collecting the SoS in formation both at district and upazilla level. There is no section for disaggregated data sessions.
4. The period of conducting a JNA is very limited (only 7 days) because after data collection, there is also a process of data correction etc. Therefore, it is also a challenge to get all type of information from the community without providing him a minimum incentive.
5. Questionnaire is long and community people do not have time to concentrate on it for a long time, as it may take between 45 minutes to an hour for it to be completed
6. Lack of female trained staffs for JNA.
7. Limited access to reach women for more accurate/exact information during hazardous situations.



"Data flows up to the central level, and even if it may be published, but people who are involved in collecting that data need some acknowledgement that that information has flowed through to decision makers, i.e., this is what it looks like when aggregated together, and this is how it has been incredibly useful, and that is very motivating when that feedback comes back (to people who have been giving the data)".

Ms. Jessica Gardner
Gender Statistics Expert

Ms. Branwen Millar made reference to the trends in the latest Sendai Disaggregated Data reporting where she said that there is a great variance in the level of data provided by member states. The following challenges are mentioned:

1. Good reporting levels for disaggregated data by Hazard and Geography
2. Limited reporting levels for disaggregated data by Sex and Age
3. Very limited levels for disaggregated data by Income and Disability

She added that these challenges are due to various reasons, for example, unreported data, unavailable resources to collect data, unawareness that there is an existence of data, and also the reluctance of collecting/sharing data.

Ms. Inkar Kadyrzhanova mentioned 3 major challenges across governments, applicable to the Asia and Pacific region which are clearly linked to gender data gaps. These include the following:

1. Weak policy space and legal & financial environment
2. Technical & financial challenges limiting production of gender statistics
3. Lack of access to data and limited capacity to use gender statistics by policy makers to develop and inform policies.



"Importance of feedback mechanism and our approach with governments which is to use best available disaggregated data... it doesn't have to be official government data that has been validated; we have great resources amongst local organisations and civil society networks who have disaggregated data that we should be disaggregating at global level".

Ms. Branwen Millar, Programme Management Officer
(Gender Advisor), UNDRR

Approaches/Strategies Employed

"In 2019, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief has updated its Standing Orders on Disasters that also considers SDGs, Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction and other national agreement and charters. In Bangladesh, disaster risk management has been recognised as a 'role model' for the world, in regard to reducing the loss of lives and properties during disasters."

Mr. Md. Mohshin
Secretary
Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
(MoDMR)



Four types of data collection processes were used by the NAWG to conduct a Joint Need Assessment (JNA) during any sort of disaster and emergencies.

NAWG collects the required data within 1 week of any disaster occurring and therefore conducts the field- testing within a very short time. Approximately 68 organizations are collecting the disaggregated data at the field level.

To overcome the challenges of better understanding the disaster risks, addressing gaps, highlighting avenues for intervention, and identifying the marginalised groups, UNDDR has developed the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030 to promote inclusiveness and secure sustainability and implementation of the disaster risk recovery.

UN Women's approach to support the integration of gender statistics, are in enabling environments, data production and data accessibility. As a custodian of SDG 5, UN Women promotes gender equality and women's empowerment across various SDGs which are relevant for climate resilience building and disaster risk reduction.



"Data storage is indeed an important issue but I believe that the problem is that in many governments there is a lack necessary infrastructure to store data i.e., physical infrastructure and management systems...the issue why infrastructure is lacking is because it costs quite a lot of money to ensure a comprehensive, secure, modern technologically upgraded system, and is one of the significant issues that many developing countries are struggling with".

Ms. Inkar Kadyrzhanova
Regional adviser on gender and climate change,
Asia & Pacific Region, UN Women

Achievements So Far

The NAWG has been formed in 3 regional groups in cooperation with local NGOs, which is crucial for the process. Local NGOs are well versed about the community practices, language, and culture. Data is also being collected from people with disability to ensure diversity and inclusiveness.

Mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment across various SDGs and set linkages with gender and every element of the sustainable development framework is very crucial.

Bangladesh is leading the work on gender statistics in the Asia and Pacific region and has advanced quite significantly in last 2-3 years in the understanding of the linkages of climate change and gender and translating this understanding in a practical way by setting up indicators.

Bangladesh has been recognized as a role model for the world in reducing the loss of lives and property in disasters such as cyclones and floods.

The National Plan for Disaster Management (NPDM) for 2021-2025 seeks to build a gender responsive disaster risk reduction approach. Efforts are underway to incorporating disaster risk management in all the national development plans, including the Eighth -Five Year Plan, Delta Plan 2100, and the National Strategic Plans, one of the core development strategies in Bangladesh.

UNDRR has managed to improve the reporting of data, for example NDMOs linking with National Statistics Offices to leverage technical support, leveraging support from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and advocating for best available data for the Sendai Framework.

The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, with the support of UN Women, led the development on the National Protocol Guideline, with the intention of integrating the statistics on Gender and Social Inclusion in Climate Change and Disaster in Bangladesh. The guideline was approved in December 2020 and a Training of Trainers has taken place to launch the mentioned Guideline.

UN Women has successfully engaged and organised regional consultations with inter-agency and expert groups on gender statistics, and collaborated with the relevant organisations at regional level. Data collected from respective countries have been collected and published in the UN Women Data Hub.



“NAWG conducts a dedicated assessment called the ‘rapid gender analysis’ after each disaster to understand the role of girls/boy, men/women and how these roles are changing with time”.

Mr. Duke Ivn Amin
Director
Communication and Resource
Mobilization, JAGO NARI

Recommendations

- To expand and elevate the set of gender and environment statistic beyond Asia and Pacific region
- To further engage with the inter-agency and expert groups on gender statistics
- To organize regional consultations to fine tune gender and environment statistics and work with partner organizations and research institutes in order to benefit further from them
- To increase data collection exercises and engage with other interested countries
- To publish existing data in the UN Women data hub
- To connect further with UN Women thematic programs that are dealing with gender statistics and other thematic priorities