

POLICY BRIEF

GEDSI ANALYSIS POST-CRISIS



INTRODUCTION

This policy brief addresses some of the most important factors to consider when conducting Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) analysis immediately after a crisis occurs in Nepal.

Crisis has differential gender, social, disability and age specific impacts that increase exposure risks and vulnerabilities, and deepen discrimination against women, girls, sexual minorities and other marginalized groups. Social and gender dynamics also affect access to coping mechanisms that support recovery. Experience with crisis – both in Nepal and around the world – has shown that structural inequality makes it especially challenging for vulnerable and excluded groups to cope, and that they are exposed to greater hardship as a result of the adverse social and economic impacts of crisis.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) of Nepal therefore recognizes gender equality, disability and social inclusion as a human rights imperative in crisis response.

It is also mandated by United Nations commitment to the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) approach and the need for accountability to all affected populations. Further, the use of an inter-sectional lens requires consideration of the interaction between gender and diverse forms of social marginalization and exclusion to properly assess the situation of women and girls.

GEDSI analysis should be undertaken immediately after crisis to provide an overview of the differential impacts of the crisis on women, girls and other vulnerable and excluded groups, and identify their specific needs for assistance. It provides essential information on gender roles and responsibilities, and capacities and vulnerabilities of different categories of women and girls and men and boys. GEDSI analysis helps to identify ways to address the gaps in immediate crisis responses, making recommendations to strengthen the response of Government and development partners to meet the needs of vulnerable and excluded groups, particularly women and girls, more comprehensively.



GROUPS TO INCLUDE IN GEDSI ANALYSIS

Post-crisis GEDSI analysis should focus on women and girls (including single, pregnant and lactating women) and other vulnerable and at-risk groups. Examples of these other groups in Nepal are:



Economically weak groups, such as migrants and returnees, informal workers, domestic workers, slum dwellers, the homeless, women or child headed households and poor farmers



Minority groups, such as ethnic, religious, caste-based or sexual minorities (LGBTQ+ communities)



Groups with age-related vulnerabilities such as children and the elderly



Spatially and physically disadvantaged groups, such as people with disabilities and people living with HIV/AIDS



Groups with occupational vulnerabilities, such as sex workers, rag pickers and child labourers



COLLECTING GEDSI INFORMATION

It is important to begin by collecting background information and disaggregated data on what the situation of women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups was before the crisis. A desk review can produce a wealth of information using sources such as Government, United Nations and international/national NGO reports, surveys, and gender and GEDSI profiles.

Next, the new information and disaggregated data that is currently being gathered by the Government and other organizations on the impact of the crisis should be reviewed. Particular attention should be paid to any information that is available from GEDSI coordinating bodies at the provincial and local levels.

Media reports about the experiences of women and members of other vulnerable and at-risk groups in the context of the crisis should also be considered.

Organizations representing women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups should be consulted for their views about the most critical issues emerging from the crisis. Their assistance may also be sought to help conduct key informant interviews (KII) with members of these groups who have been affected by the crisis. As well, KII should be conducted with key actors among the Government and INGOs/NGOs who have responsibilities for responding to the crisis, including at the provincial and local levels.



CONDUCTING GEDSI ANALYSIS

GEDSI analysis should provide the information needed to support recommendations for future action by assessing the differential impacts of the crisis for women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups. GEDSI analysis draws on pre-existing and new information (noted above) to compare the situations of these groups prior to the crisis to their current situations in the context of the crisis.

This involves assessing changes in the needs, capacities, roles and responsibilities of women and members of vulnerable and at-risk groups, as well as changes in relevant social dynamics. Attention should be paid both to pre-existing structural, social and economic vulnerabilities, discrimination and harmful practices, and to new vulnerabilities that are emerging from the crisis.

SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:

- Accessibility, adequacy and safety of basic services such as health facilities, shelters, food and water, relief supplies, fuel, fodder, psychosocial support, education and legal assistance.
- Differential impact of the crisis on food security, livelihoods and income, including changes to women's responsibilities and unpaid care burdens.
- The effect of the crisis on protection concerns and harmful practices, such as domestic violence, sexual assault and other forms of gender-based violence, trafficking, child marriage, child labour and discrimination against returnee migrants and other vulnerable groups.

- Challenges experienced by women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups in accessing information and the media.
- Capacities and coping strategies of women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups in response to the crisis.
- Leadership, decision-making and participation of women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups – as well as the role played by organizations representing them – in crisis responses.



MAKING PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

GEDSI analysis provides the basis of both short-term and longer-term practical recommendations for future action. The report of GEDSI analysis findings and recommendations should be validated through consultation with women's organizations and government and other key stakeholders before it is released.

The recommendations should identify measures to be adopted to deal with the most pressing, immediate needs and concerns of women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups that are emerging from the crisis. Examples of subjects that may need to be addressed include: improvements to the provision of health care and other basic services; additional support to secure livelihoods and incomes; new protection measures to respond to violence, harmful practices and discrimination; and better access to information regarding the crisis.

The recommendations should also address the structures and processes that need to be put in place or adjusted to improve the crisis response. These recommendations may be focused on issues such as: incorporation of GEDSI into plans, programmes, indicators and financing; better coordination for GEDSI; GEDSI capacity building and technical support; strengthening disaggregated data collection; developing stronger partnerships with organizations representing women and other vulnerable and at-risk groups; and enhancing the participation of women and members of other vulnerable and at-risk groups at all levels of decision-making.

POLICY BRIEF

GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (GEDSI) ANALYSIS LINKING
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT (DRRM): MOVING FROM RISK TO RESILIENCE



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