

4. CASH

- Ensure women's equal access to and benefit from the use of cash-based programming



- **Equally consult with women, girls, boys and men about risks, appropriateness and accessibility of cash interventions.** This should be at all stages. For example, cash feasibility studies should include analysis that considers the opportunities and risks of cash on different groups within a community

- **Ensure equitable involvement and access for women in cash interventions** This should be both in the collection and distribution of cash, and in follow up, to ascertain the level of women's decision making and control over the cash received.

Women affected by Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 in the Philippines received training and cash assistance to start and manage businesses as part of the Haiyan Recovery Program implemented by the Red Cross in collaboration with IFRC. The program was important to help families recover faster by meeting their daily needs. Plan International's Cash for Work Programme following the Nepal earthquake in 2015 specifically targeted women to become 'master masons' and equip them with skills in safe and disaster-resistant construction techniques.



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- **Mitigate risks and negative impacts on women from cash programming.** Full consultations can uncover risks of cash programmes, including increased work burdens, gender-based violence and inequalities around access, control and ownership of resources.

During Tropical Cyclone Winston in 2016, the Fiji Safety and Protection clusters led by the Ministry for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and co-led by UN Women and UNICEF supported an inter-agency rapid protection assessment as the only cluster-led assessment for the response. It included questions related to gender equality and gender-based violence as well as overall protection needs and concerns of different groups. The assessment findings were used to inform cash programming in affected areas through the Cash Coordination Working Group.

Developed on behalf of the Asia Pacific Regional IASC Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GiHA).

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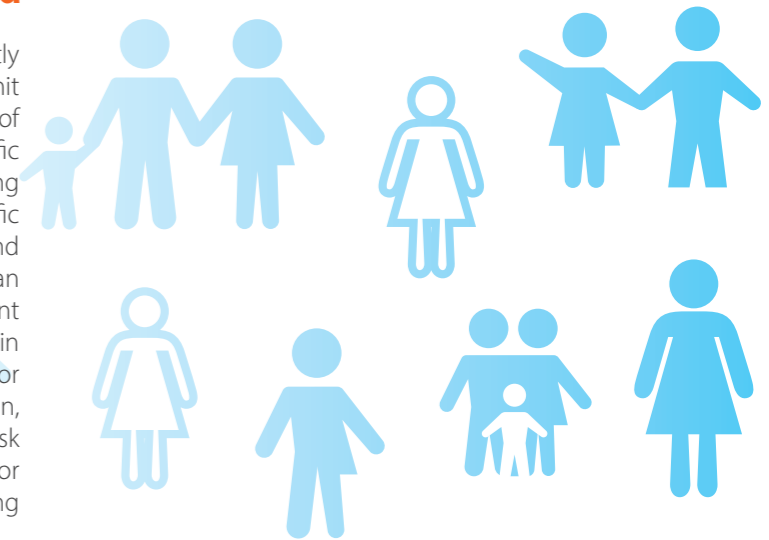
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Asia Pacific Working Group on Gender in Humanitarian Action

INVESTING IN GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT FOR EFFECTIVE HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Advocacy brief for Asia Pacific Regional Dialogue for the Grand Bargain, 28th February 2017, Bangkok, Thailand

The majority of the Grand Bargain partners have explicitly committed to promoting the World Humanitarian Summit commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women as central to humanitarian action¹. The Asia-Pacific Regional IASC Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GiHA) supports these efforts in Asia and the Pacific and puts forward the following recommendations and regional examples for how Grand Bargain commitments can better integrate gender equality and women's empowerment in their implementation. These recommendations are also in line with the IASC Gender Policy Statement, Agenda for Humanity, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Delhi Declaration (Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction), Sustainable Development Goals, Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and Beijing Platform for Action.



¹ Women And Girls: Catalyzing Action To Achieve Gender Equality, High-Level Leaders' Roundtable, World Humanitarian Summit 2016

Priorities for integrating gender equality and women's empowerment in Grand Bargain commitments:

1. PARTICIPATION REVOLUTION

- Promote women's leadership and decision making.



- **Create new or strengthen existing institutional mechanisms to enhance the participation of women and girls who are at most risk of and affected by disasters.** This may be through the formation of gender working groups (inclusive grassroots organisations), within coordination structures or the appointment of women's groups or representatives as members of disaster management committees.

In Bangladesh, women's participation and leadership in local-level disaster management committees (DMCs) is promoted by appointing women in leadership roles in the DMCs and as disaster volunteers working in disaster-prone areas including through UN Women's technical support. In Pakistan, the Government, in cooperation with UNFPA, pilot-tested the integration of DRR in reproductive health interventions at the community level by organising women and youth reproductive health DRR (RHDRR) committees to support innovative, evidence-based, village-driven emergency planning, including hazard mapping, community-based DRR (CBDRR) trainings and village preparedness planning.

- **Establish community monitoring and feedback mechanisms that are accessible to all affected, particularly women and girls.** Ensure that they are able to participate, share and inform response actions and that mechanisms are responsive to their needs and preferences and protect their rights.

During the Nepal earthquake response in 2015, the Inter-Cluster Gender Working Group, led by UN Women and OCHA, and the Gender-Based Violence Sub-Cluster, led by the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare and UNFPA partnered with the inter-agency Common Feedback Project to establish outreach and feedback mechanisms for women and girls. Questions on gender equality and GBV issues were integrated into collection mechanisms, enumerators trained, and disaggregated feedback was collected through multi-purpose women centers led by local women's groups through UN Women's support, as well as in reproductive health camps and female friendly spaces. The analysis was shared with relevant clusters to inform and improve gender-responsive service delivery. Cross-cutting gender equality indicators were also incorporated into the response monitoring framework.



- **Establish information distribution mechanisms that are accessible to women and girls.** This includes timely access to services for preparedness, response, relief and recovery. *During Typhoon Haiyan in 2013, UNFPA supported the Government of Philippines to establish information desks at all community service points, including transport hubs, to provide information on where to get help as well as basic case management and referral for most vulnerable individuals. Desk staff were trained in risk identification, including anti-trafficking. During Tropical Cyclone Winston in Fiji in 2016 temporary market spaces were established by UN Women to give women market vendors opportunities to continue selling their produce, support each other and access information.*

Develop gender checklists and standard operating guidelines for humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction. Resources, including the IASC Gender in Humanitarian Action Handbook², coupled with compliance mechanisms, support the implementation of gender inclusive and responsive programs. *The Philippines Commission on Women (PCW) and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) in collaboration with OCHA, OXFAM, other UN agencies and INGOs has developed a DRR Gender Checklist as part of the Philippines Harmonized Gender Guidelines. The checklist is a simple tool being used by a diverse group of stakeholders to standardize and ensure DRR and humanitarian programs are gender-responsive. It guides stakeholders on how to integrate gender analysis and ensure that programs and activities are gender responsive pre-, during and post disaster. PCW and NEDA monitors and reports on its use and ensures that all government agencies, local government units and government owned and controlled corporations and academic institutions use the checklist for any related programs, projects and activities.*

² <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/Gender%20Handbook.pdf> – currently being updated in 2017.



2. LOCALISATION

- Engage and prioritise funding and capacity development support to national gender equality machinery, local women's groups and other local networks and civil society groups as first responders and community resilience builders.



- **Invest in capacity development of women's organizations, and national and sub-national gender equality machineries.** This is in order to strengthen their advocacy efforts and meaningful participation and leadership in coordination structures. *In Vanuatu, CARE supported women first responders during Cyclone Pam in 2015 which lead to increased representation of women in community leadership roles, including as chairpersons of community disaster committees. In Bangladesh, the Government and UNFPA have established a pool of trained midwives for immediate deployment to hard-to-reach areas to provide life-saving sexual and reproductive health services. The UN Women Fiji Multi Country Office is working in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Samoa and Fiji to provide capacity development for women's CSOs, local networks and the gender machinery on disaster risk reduction and preparedness.*

- **Ensure adequate representation of national and sub-national gender equality machinery, groups and other local networks in national coordination structures.** *In Pakistan, national and provincial disaster management committees (DMCs) have established women's cells to ensure the specific protection needs and rights of women are fulfilled with technical support from UN Women and other partners.*

- **Ensure that the IASC Gender Marker³ and Gender Responsive Budgeting Principles are integrated in the application of the IASC 'localisation' marker.** This marker measures direct and indirect funding to national gender equality machinery, local women's groups and other local networks and civil society groups supporting women and girls.

³ <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/topics/gender/page/iasc-gender-marker>

3. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Collect, report and use sex/gender, age and disability disaggregated data (SADD) and gender analysis to inform DRR and humanitarian policy and programming efforts.



- **Clusters/sectors and any humanitarian partners should systematically collect, report and use SADD data to inform equitable investment that targets the most vulnerable.** SADD data should be a mandatory minimum requirement for all assessments and reporting either through inter-agency platforms (situation reports, response plans and monitoring frameworks etc.) as well as for donor and agency reporting. *In Nepal, national and district gender profiles were developed post-earthquake by the Inter-Cluster Gender Working Group. The profiles support humanitarian and DRR stakeholders in decision-making including contingency planning. It serves as secondary data reference for assessments and analysis. CARE's Rapid Gender Analysis Reports in the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Vanuatu and in Nepal analyse how crises affect gender roles, relations and identify different needs. It is a critical step in informing programmatic decisions.*

- **Integrate gender equality and ethical gender-based violence questions into all cluster-specific and cross-cluster joint assessments.** *With technical support from UN Women, the Government of Sri Lanka and the Government of Nepal utilized a dual approach in their respective Post Disaster Needs Assessments by including a separate Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) section in addition to examining gender equality as a cross-cutting theme. This prompted the development of gender-sensitive recovery strategies and preventive measures for future disasters, such as gender-responsive budgeting, providing psycho-social and counselling services, targeted distribution of relief items and programmes for special protection to prevent gender-based violence.*

- **Data collectors and sampling methods reflect the target population, and data collectors have the skills and information they need to serve people at risk.** Ensure recruitment of a balanced number of women and men as data collectors, and that diversity within the target population is reflected in staff composition as well as in participatory methodology. Provide training to all data collectors on gender-sensitive data collection methodology including skills to observe increased vulnerabilities and constraints. In addition, ensure that data collectors have information on available services for referral of survivors of gender-based violence. *In Myanmar, advocacy efforts led to the inclusion of national female staff in the joint field assessment teams which were deployed to Northern Rakhine to assess the situation, especially pertaining to gender-based violence.*