Guidance on Gender Mainstreaming in Transition Process

The Inter-Cluster Gender Working Group is supporting the integration of Gender Equality to the ongoing transition process with the view to identifying priorities going into the recovery and reconstruction phase of the response. The Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) guidance committed to by the Government of Nepal, Inter-Agency Standing Committee commitments to mainstream gender in humanitarian action and recommendations on gender equality and social inclusion made in the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (2015) offer the framework for implementing an inclusive approach.

The following are some key considerations suggested by the Inter-Cluster Gender Working Group to ensure gender equality and women empowerment going forward:

1. Develop sex and age disaggregated monitoring indicators to ensure the differential outcomes are tracked and can inform programming,
2. Develop gender analysis tools and guidance across clusters/sectors at the district levels to inform recovery and reconstruction programming,
3. Ensure meaningful participation of both women and men through equal representation in decision making structures, formal and informal, at district levels,
4. Establish a harmonised targeting criteria to support prioritisation based on specific vulnerabilities and risks,
5. Develop cluster specific gender guidance/checklist and capacity strengthening.

The Humanitarian Coordinator reemphasised the above at the Humanitarian Country Team meeting on 14th September 2015.

Update on Response Monitoring Gender Indicators

In the past month of the humanitarian response, 9 out of 11 clusters and sub-clusters have been represented in the Inter-Cluster Gender Working Group and 10 out of 11 clusters and sub-clusters have had gender equality feature in their monthly meetings. In terms of reporting and use of sex and age disaggregated data, 8 out of 9 clusters included mention of gender issues in their monthly Information Management products (Cluster Briefs, Humanitarian Bulletin etc.) in July-August, while so far only 3 clusters have reported SADD against their specific response monitoring framework indicators:

**Early Recovery (15th July – 15th August)**
- 36,475 men and 151,494 women, including 12,743 female headed households, benefitted from debris removal.
- 94,778 men and 109,695 women, including 10,749 female headed households, benefitted from the rehabilitated community infrastructure.
- 3,486 men and 2,450 women were employed on a temporary basis to support debris management.

**Camp Coordination and Camp Management (15th June – 15th July)**
- 30,390 women, 29,043; 10,998 girls and 10,816 boys of displaced population living in a displacement site were captured by the Displacement Tracking Matrix.
- 9,944 women and 50 girls accessed female-friendly spaces.
- 21,200 women received dignity kits.

Based on findings from the Community Feedback Project
Survey Round 12: the majority of men and women of all ages reported not receiving information about relief and services, unequal access to relief services and that their problems were not being addressed. In terms of access to information and services, and having their main problems addressed, more women than men of all ages replied negatively.

**KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM ASSESSMENTS**

**ACTED** multi-sectoral needs assessments (as of 19th August) of Dhading, Dolakha, Sindhupalchok and Solukhumbu districts: Key findings suggest that while access to durable shelter may prevail over other priorities, non-food items needs are also significant, especially for women, particularly for winterisation items in anticipation of cold season.

Women for Human Rights (WHR) has completed the ‘Need Identification’ and ‘Need Assessment’ of 16,000 women at risk due to earthquake from 6 districts (8 VDCs). The first draft for Gorkha has been received and the key needs identified for Gorkha are shelter, clothing and livelihood options.

6th Issue of Open Mic Nepal Bulletin (as of 10th August), capturing anecdotes and perceptions on the ground to eliminate information gaps between the media, humanitarian agencies and local people, included information on the rumours on alleged discrimination in relief distribution and on husbands living with second wives depriving their first wives of relief.

**MONTHLY ASSESSMENT UNIT SITUATION ANALYSIS** (as of 14th August): Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is of particular concern in spontaneous settlement sites, with incidents reported in Nuwakot, Rasuwa, and Dolakha.

**Tata Institute of Social Sciences** are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is of particular concern in spontaneous settlement sites, with incidents reported in Nuwakot, Rasuwa, and Dolakha.

**RESPONSE AND GOOD PRACTICES**

**Coordination**

- Taking further the partnership between the Gender Working Group and the Inter-Agency Communicating with Communities Group, in order to ensure the specific needs and capacities of women are fully captured when feedback from affected people is collected, the round 3 survey questionnaire has been revised to include a question on gender equality and women’s empowerment. Targeted feedback surveys are ongoing with UN Women and UNFPA supported communities in order to further capture aspects of changes in the lives of women and girls after the earthquake.

- The Gender Working Group is supporting the integration of gender equality considerations into the joint assessment on food security, livelihoods and early recovery and promoting the reporting of sex and age disaggregated data by clusters.

- Oxfam and its partners are conducting legal awareness in Thimi, Bhaktapur, with 25 affected women on how to get legal documents, government services and the importance of legal documents.

**EDUCATION**

A key strategy to ensure inclusive and gender-responsive emergency education in the earthquake affected areas has been to scale-up a mechanism used prior to the earthquake in several districts in Nepal: the formation of Girls Education and Gender Equity Networks and appointment of Gender Focal Points at the district level. The Girl’s Education Network is a forum of partners that promotes girls’ education and raises awareness about gender equity.

The Girls Education Network is a forum of partners that promotes girls’ education and raises awareness about gender equity. The Girls Education Network is a forum of partners that promotes girls’ education and raises awareness about gender equity.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences are conducting a pilot vulnerability assessment survey in Ward 3&4, Bhotsipa VDC, Sindhupalchowk with the local partner Women Development Advocacy Centre.
F

how they became porters. "Our houses
Thamir and Sushila Kami, reflect on
work, two women porters, Sachi Maya
the tourist industry. After a hard day's
and speeding up the reinvigoration of
trekking and community trails are

clear any debris, and ensure that
moving. Workers and porters work
prone Nepal is always in danger of
the risk that the terrain of earthquake-
by the rainy season, has heightened
subsequent landslides, compounded
areas of Nepal. The earthquakes and
in highly remote and mountainous
approach to get food to communities
Operations programme - an innovative
delivering WFP food are women
around 50 percent of the porters

6 For more information contact Education Cluster Coordinator Marian Hodgkin: nepal.edu@humanitarianresponse.info


police office. Recently, a big awareness
program was organised at Megha
Higher Secondary School in which the
Chief District Officer, Superintendent
of the Police, the District Education
Officer participated to convey the
messages on safety and trafficking
to the students. Likewise, the GE
Network has distributed sanitary pads
to girls in the schools and orientation
to the heads of agencies on these
issues. The Bhaktapur network is in
the process of placing suggestion boxes in
all schools aimed at addressing gender
equality related issues. The District
Education Office of Okhaldhunga, has
identified girls who were disabled due
to earthquake and is supporting them
to continue their education through
residential school (Feeder Hostels).
So far 40 girls, including girls with
disabilities, have benefitted from this
initiative continuing their education.
This work highlights the importance
e of gender in addressing protection
concerns and tackling gender
inequalities in the short and long term
as part of the emergency response.
All 14 earthquake-affected districts
now have Gender Focal Points, who
have recently received training from
Cluster partners on key issues to look
out for and strategies to address issues
relating to inequity in education.
The formation of Girls
Education and Gender
Equity Networks and
appointment of Gender
Focal Points at the
district level.

**Food Security**

In Bigu village in Dolakha district around
50 percent of the porters delivering WFP food are
women who work under the Remote Access
Operations programme - an innovative
approach to get food to communities
in highly remote and mountainous
areas of Nepal. The earthquakes and
subsequent landslides, compounded
by the rainy season, has heightened
the risk that the terrain of earthquake-
prone Nepal is always in danger of
moving. Workers and porters work
to clear any debris, and ensure that
trekking and community trails are
opened up, ensuring access to market
and speeding up the reinvigoration of
the tourist industry. After a hard day's
work, two women porters, Sachi Maya
Thamir and Sushila Kami, reflect on
how they became porters. "Our houses
collapsed in the earthquake and for two
days afterwards we had no food".Due
to the fear of moving around in such
fragile conditions, and the lack of safe
access along trails they were cut off
from accessing the remittance agent,
and so could not receive any funds from
their husbands. When the opportunity
came to work on the RAO project Sachi
Maya and Sushila registered with the
Nepal Mountaineering Association, one
of WFP's expert partners in this project.
This opportunity has enabled them to
gain some financial independence and
to continue supporting their children.
When asked how she will spend her
wages Sushila said, 'now that I have
food, I can spend the money on exam
fees and notebooks for school'.

In Bigu village in
Dolakha district around
50 percent of the porters
delivering WFP food are
women who work under
the Remote Access
Operations programme.

In Sindhupalchowk, Oxfam is
working with the WASH cluster to improve
the emergency bathing spaces including
CGI sheets and locks for privacy.
Menstrual Hygiene Management has
been introduced in schools through social
mobilisers and Radio Sindhu to raise
awareness on gender based violence,
trafficking and hygiene practices.
Likewise, Oxfam and its partners have
supported communities to make separate
bathing and latrine units in earthquake
affected areas to ensure women and
girls' privacy and security needs. In
Kathmandu Valley, 43 bathing units have
been established. In co-ordination with
UEMS (Urban environment management
society) awareness program for 27
women survivors from Lalitpur have been
implemented on clean drinking water,
hygiene and sanitation.
Early Recovery

UNDP is providing financial and technical support to rebuild the collapsed Deep Jyoti Women Saving and Credit Cooperative building in Manedanda, Irkhu-1, Sindhupalchowk through the local NGO partner Community Development and Environment Conservation Forum. The Co-operative was established in 2007 and currently holds 262 active women members (161 Janajatis, 13 dalits and 88 others) from all 9 wards of Irkhu VDC. The cooperative conducts various livelihoods, skill development and saving credit activities, including by targeting young girls below age 18.

The IOM ensures gender equality in debris management cash for work (CFW) program according to the clause included in the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Cash for Work within the Early Recovery Programme. The SOP prioritises women in the selection of CFW participants to promote gender balance. Since 26 August IOM is running a CFW Program in Thulo Sirubari VDC in which 21 out of all 50 participants working in debris removal and demolition of buildings are women.

In IOM Cash for Work Program 21 out of all 50 participants are women.

7 Prepared by UN Women Nepal based on inputs by women’s groups. Last updated 4th September 2015.
91 year old Astamay Shrestha and her son, who is living with a disability, in front of the shelter they were provided by Oxfam. Oxfam provided them the shelter recognising her safety risks as a single woman. She also received CGI sheets, hygiene kits, tarpaulin, blankets, utensils for cooking, bedding and rope. From the VDC office her and her son received old age and disability allowance. Photo Credit: Oxfam

**MEDIA MONITORING**


**GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS ON GENDER EQUALITY IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION**

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) has officially released the complete “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030”[^9]. The Sendai Framework was endorsed by the UN General Assembly on 3 June 2015. It is the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda. The Framework was adopted by the UN Member States on 18 March 2015 at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and is made up of seven targets and four priorities for action. The framework includes a key focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment stating the criticality of women’s participation in effectively managing disaster risk that include building their capacity to secure alternate means of livelihood in post-disaster situations.


---

[^9]: 9 http://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeforkdrren.pdf