Gender Inclusion & Women's Empowerment at the Centre of Resilience Building

Operationalising the 'Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction'

Purpose:

This note provides guidance on essential actions to be taken to ensure the integration of gender and diversity issues specifically in the proposed Two Year Action Plan (2017 – 2018) in the 'Asia Regional Plan for implementation of the Sendai Framework' at local, national and regional levels.

Background and Justification

Disasters affect women, men, girls and boys differently. Gender based differences that are observed in development processes are reflected in all aspects of disasters. Gendered differences are rooted in the unevenness of the economic, social, educational status of women and men, and due to prevailing social and cultural norms. Disaster situations accentuate and showcase these differences. These differences stem from gender based roles in productive, economic, family and social spheres which equip women and men with different skill sets and capabilities, as well as lead to differences in exposure and vulnerabilities to disasters.

Gender based differences related to disaster risk feature in 2 main areas: (1) capacities for risk reduction, preparedness, handling crisis situations and survival in facing adversity; (2) vulnerabilities (susceptibility to risk), including loss of life, shelter and livelihoods, increased gender-based violence, during and in the aftermath of disasters. s.

The meaningful participation of women is a critical ingredient in building disaster resilience. Sendai Framework called for "a gender, age, disability and cultural perspective in all policies and practices; and the promotion of women and youth leadership; in this context, ..." Furthermore, Sendai Framework emphasized that "women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations." (V.36 a i)

WHAT	Priority I – Understanding disaster risk	WHO
	HOW	**WHO**
Understanding disaster risk - Generation and use of sex and age dis-aggregated information	**Local** • Develop methodologies, tools and formats to ensure gender and social inclusion in local level collection of data and analysis of hazard risk vulnerabilty (HRV) • At the institutional level, local governments/DRR committees should identify time bound/annual targets to collect/update sex, age and disability disaggregated data (SADDD) towards HRV analysis • Put in place mechanisms to engage organisations representing women and other diverse groups in data collection and HRV analysis	• Local Administration • Local level DRM Committees • CBOs/ NGOs • Red Cross/ Red Crescent • UN Agencies
	National • Review existing national and local databases for key development sectors to provide the baseline for risk assessment systems to incorporate SADDD • Develop methodologies, tools and formats for SADDD collection & analysis, i.e., demographic data; historical loss & damage data; vulnerability & capacity (economic status, coping mechanisms, access early warning information, migration patterns etc.); • Collect SADDD data for monitoring Sendai Framework targets. • Train relevant personnel on 1) SADDD collection, National Disaster Loss Data, data management and continuous update; 2) gender & diversity analysis, usage and application. • Establish doable targets for the 2 year Asia plan, identifying indicators and accountability mechanisms for SADDD collection, analysis and application, including policies/ regulations; and agreeing on key institutions responsible for consolidating/analyzing the data.	• National statistical organisations • National DM agencies • Women's Ministry/ Focal point • National IT and data platforms • Supported by: Private Sector; NGOs; Red Cross/ Red Crescent National Societies
	Regional • Policy and strategic guidance of the regional inter-governmental organisations (IGO) to include gender & social inclusion, with targets and indicators to monitor progress and ensure accountability • Ensure inclusion of gender and diversity issues in the regional disaster risk assessment guidelines, methodologies and tools. • Share good practices of gender and diversity inlusion with governments, development partners, and organise inter-agency capacity building programmes on gender analysis of risk assessments. • Work with/ build capacity of media to enable wider sharing of gender and diversity inclusion in HRV	• Regional IGOs like SAARC, ASEAN, ECO etc. • Regional offices of UNISDR, UN Women, UNESCAP, etc. and of IFRC • Duryog Nivaran and other Regional NGOs/networks
	Monitoring Progress	
	• Set baseline on availability of disaggregated data, templates, training, plans and policies informed by gender analysis • Identify indicators for women's resilience aligned with the indicators for gender inclusion in all global agreements in the national monitoring system for accountability • Periodic Reporting on progress on gender inclusion, including through Sendai Framework national reporting obligations • Donors commit to fund proposals which include clear processes for inclusion of SADDD and gender and social inclusion considerations in the Logical Frameworks	• National & local governments, UNISDR, Regional bodies • Stakeholder group • IAP • Donors

WHAT	Priority II: Strengthening Risk Governance	WHO
	HOW	
Strengthen legal/institutional frameworks and plans for DRR across all relevant sectors of development so that they are gender inclusive; increase representation of women and of women in leadership; and establish accountability mechanisms	**Local** • Ensure that the guidelines for integrated implementation of post-2015 frameworks are gender inclusive. • When local government plans are reviewed for Sendai Framework implementation ensure that the revised plan is gender inclusive. • Strengthen mechanisms at the local level to increase representation of the issues of concern and diverse groups such as women's groups, people with disabilities, minorities, etc. also with a view to expand opportunities for women to assume leadership roles. • Review local and community by-laws to for gender responsiveness, including existing legal practices, paying specific attention to disaster contexts.	• Local/District level Committees for DRM • Local Administration/ Local Govts • Local communities • CBOs/ NGOs • Red Cross/ Red Crescent National Societies
	National • Identify targets and provide incentives to ensure increased representation of gender issues as well as the representation of women in planning and decision making positions in development sectors, in multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral platforms. • Review and strengthen legal and institutional frameworks on national and local DRM, laws, policies and strategies for gender inclusion. • Ensure technical capacity for gender analysis and for integration at the national and local development and DRR planning (refer capacity building point under Priority 1). • Increase the status of gender or women's ministries and machineries in government structures.	• National disaster management agencies • National agencies on women • National level women's organisations
	Regional • Develop advocacy/training programmes to increase political will for gender inclusive implementation of the post 2015 frameworks/governance systems. • Ensure that women are more equally represented in fora/workshops, conferences that focuses on DRR and resilience building processes, and in related policy development. • Identify accountability mechanisms, targets and indicators for gender inclusion and women's representation in policies, Forums, training and capacity building programmes.	• Regional IGOs • Regional offices of UN agencies and IFRC • Stakeholder Group, Regional networks
	Monitoring progress	
	• Set specific targets, indicators in local/national DRR plans for: 1) extent to which gender considerations are incorporated in national law, policy and legislation, 2) representation of gender issues and active participation of women in decision making; 3) gender inclusive plans and programmes	• National & local governments, UNISDR, Regional bodies • Stakeholder group • IAP

WHAT	Priority III - Invest in DRR for resilience	WHO
Ensure public and private structural and non-structural investments include gender and social inclusion considerations	**Local** • Identify sustainable alternative livelihoods that empower women; and provide opportunities to develop necessary knowledge and skills, and access required resources; e.g. access to vocational training, credit, and appropriate technologies, infrastructure that support alternative livelihoods. • Enhance women's capabilities to deal with climate risk, utilize women's knowledge and experience in capacity building and training, train agricultural extension workers to provide information and training on climate resilient livelihoods to local men and women.	• Local/District level Committees for DRM • Local Administration/ Local Govts • CBOs/ NGOs • Red Cross/Red Crescent
	National • Explore ways and means, including legal and policy provisions, to improve women's access to productive resources, including land, information, loans/finance at national and local level. • Improve legal literacy to enable women to better access productive resources and services at national and local level. • Invest in capacity building and training for enhancing women's technical and leadership skills through policies and affirmative action. • Ensure allocation for gender budgeting in development investments (such as on health – including reproductive health, on water, education etc.), including allocations for improving women's technical and leadership skills, and risk transfer mechanisms for women	• National disaster management agencies • National agencies on women • National level women's organisations • Private Sector
	Regional • Document and share knowledge from local, national, and regional best practices of women and men, particularly, at risk groups, that assists adaption to climate change and effective response to disasters through websites, trainings, workshops of IGOs. • Develop indicators to measure that public and private investments on development do not further expose diverse vulnerable groups to risks of disasters.	• Regional IGOs • Regional offices of UN agencies and IFRC • Stakeholder Group, Regional networks
	Monitoring progress: • Monitor, analyse and report on public/ donor finances allocated to addressing gender inclusion in DRR. • Develop accountability indicators for inclusion/availability of gender budgeting in development programmes. • Set in place indicators that address resiliency to all forms of disasters that meet the needs of diverse groups. e.g. in Environmental Impact Assessments; national building codes incorporate universal design standards	• National & local governments, UNISDR, Regional bodies • Stakeholder Group

WHAT	Priority IV - Enhance disaster preparedness for effective response, and to "Build Back Better"	
	HOW	WHO
Gender responsive and equitable preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction	**Local** • Allocate gender-responsive budgets and resources for early warning, preparedness and recovery • Introduce measures that allow equitable access to resources, participation and shared leadership by women and men so that their specific needs and priorities are understood and addressed • In local disaster preparedness, response and recovery plan development and implementation, ensure gender concerns are fully integrated across sectors, including provisions for prevention and response to gender-based violence. • Improve access to micro credit and micro finance to provide more support to women to reduce their personal and community vulnerability to disasters and increase their capacity to reduce their disaster risks.	• Local/District level Committees for DRM • Local Admin/ Local Govts • Local communities • CBOs/ NGOs • Red Cross/ Red Crescent National Societies
	National • Introduce appropriate mechanisms to engage women and other diverse groups, to include their skills in preparation/ update disaster preparedness and contingency plans; in design of early warning systems and emergency communications • Ensure women's concerns and issues in access to early warning, response, evacuation, accessible service and referral mechanisms to promote specific needs of women and other at-risk populations (e.g. women's and girls' safety and security measures such as help lines, links to health services). • Carry out gender-sensitive post-disaster needs assessments, based on a gender-based capacity and vulnerability analysis • In the national training/capacity building programmes include disaster managers, planners, decision makers and the private sector and modules on gender issues of disaster preparedness, response and recovery to ensure humanitarian response and post-disaster recovery take affirmative action to address them.	• National disaster management agencies • National agencies on women • National level women's organisations • Red Cross/Red Crescent
	Regional • Develop and disseminate gender inclusive standards, codes, operational and other instruments through regional networks to ensure better co-ordination in the region. • Build the awareness of response and recovery institutions/officials/planners on inclusion of gendered priorities through existing regional programmes.	• Regional IGOs • Regional offices of UN agencies and IFRC • Stakeholder Group, Regional networks
	Monitoring progress: • Set targets for representation of women and diverse groups and the issues concerning these groups in national and local mechanisms (responsible for developing preparedness, response and recovery decisions). • Monitor humanitarian action and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction programmes that address gender equality and protection issues.	• National & local governments, UNISDR, Regional bodies • Stakeholder group

Resources:

Specific guidelines, checklists to support the Asia Plan need to be developed as indicated in the above Matrix. However, listed here is material that is already available that can support the actions.

Publications (training manuals, good practice/case studies)

- ADB, Gender Checklists and Toolkits in Sector Work: https://www.adb.org/themes/gender/checklists-toolkits

- Duryog Nivaran: Adaptive Livelihood Framework – CD format (2011)

- ERRA Gender Mainstreaming Trainer's Manual: http://www.erra.pk/reports/gender%20equality/guidelines_for_seismic_resistant_design_for_ajk.pdf

- Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction: A training pack: http://policy-practice.oxfam.org.uk/publications/gender-and-disaster-risk-reduction-a-training-pack-136105

- Gender PDNA Checklist (can be downloaded or requested from UNDP/UN Women)

- Gender Post Disaster Needs Assessment Guidelines, Volume B: https://www.gfdrr.org/sites/gfdrr/files/WB_UNDP_PDNA_Gender_SP_FINAL.pdf

- Guidelines on Gender-based Violence Intervention in Humanitarian Action – practical guidelines on how to take action to prevent and mitigate GBV in emergencies: www.gbvguidelines.org

- Hanoi Recommendations for Action on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction: http://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2016/07/ha-noi-recommendations-for-action-on-gender-and-drr

- IFRC and UNDP: The Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction, Pilot version 2015

- IFRC global study 'Unseen Unheard: Gender based violence in disasters:' http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Documents/Secretariat/201511/1297700_GBV_in_Disasters_EN_LR2.pdf

- IFRC Minimum Standard Commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming (Pilot 2015) http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Photos/Secretariat/201505/Gender%20Diversity%20MSCs%20Emergency%20Programming%20HR3.pdf

- ITDG & Duryog Nivaran: Gender Dimensions in Disaster Management: a Guide for South Asia (2003)

- JICA good practice: The Strengthening Community Disaster Risk Management Project in the Pacific Region (Technical Cooperation) " (A case study from the Pacific, but it may be applicable to small islands in Asia)

- JICA: Policies and Actions for gender and diversity in Disaster Risk Reduction

- UNISDR: Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive Policy and Practical Guidelines (2009)

Web links

- G&D page: https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/gender-and-diversity

- G&D resource library: https://sites.google.com/site/drrtoolsinsoutheastasia/gender-and-diversity/gender-and-diversity-for-resilience-toolkit

- GDN knowledge base - http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_keyresources.php

- Hanoi conference site: http://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/events/2016/02/regional-asia-pacific-conference-on-gender-and-disaster-risk-reduction

- IFRC online library platform - gender and diversity resource library and links to recent trainings with all materials, references publications from the RCRC Movement & good practice external documents, specific case studies from National Societies in Southeast Asia.

- International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Online Resilience Library: http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/

- With specific reference to the Gender and Diversity page resource pages : http://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/gender-and-diversity-2/

Training available & where

- JICA – Training for government officials and Civil Society Organizations' staffs on Gender and DRR e.g. JICA training : "Gender and Diversity in Disaster Risk Reduction", "Promotion of Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction", "Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction" https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/tech/acceptance/training/about/lineup.html

- IFRC - Two day gender and diversity training: '7 moves to gender and diversity in emergency programming' (in line with the Red Cross Red Crescent seven fundamental principles) and based on the guidance outlined in the 'IFRC Minimum Standard Commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming'. Focused training material on SGBV is being developed http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Photos/Secretariat/201505/Gender%20Diversity%20MSCs%20Emergency%20Programming%20HR3.pdf

- NIDM India, and other similar training programmes at the national level

- E-learning:
  - IASC Gender in Humanitarian Action: https://www.interaction.org/iasc-gender-elearning
  - Gender-based Violence in Emergencies: https://extranet.unfpa.org/Apps/GBVinEmergencies/index.html

Resource persons and organisation – who to go to

IAP Stakeholder Group - Individuals and Organizations Concerned with Gender issues who will get you in touch with the most appropriate resource people. Some suggestions:

- DN for gender in governance; build back better; overall issues in gender risk management aspects

- GBV Global Area of Responsibility for GBV in emergencies, represented by Interagency Regional Emergency GBV Advisors

- GDN for overall issues in gender risk management

- IFRC has Gender & Diversity Advisors in Asia Pacific, who focus on preparedness, response and GBV as well as Red Cross Red Crescent National Society Gender and Diversity Focal Points

- UN Women for gender aspects in PDNA

- UNDP for PDNAs

Key Messages

- Systematically collect and update sex, age and disability disaggregated data followed by gender and diversity analysis to fully understand the diverse capacities, vulnerabilities, exposure to disaster risk, needs and priorities of women and men in diverse groups as a basis to inform DRM policies, plans, programmes and progress monitoring at local and national levels.

- Secure the increased and meaningful representation, participation and leadership of women and persons from all minority, marginalized and diverse groups in every aspect of disaster risk reduction.

- National and local disaster risk reduction legislation, policies, strategies, guidelines and plans should create the foundation for effectively addressing gaps in addressing gender issues in disaster risk reduction, DRM action.

- Allocate gender responsive disaster risk reduction budgets and ensure that resilience building investments strengthen gender and social inclusion through targeted provision of access to resources, information, skills and social protection of the most vulnerable.

- Disaster preparedness and response, recovery and reconstruction should be based on build-back better principles, with adequate provision for gender and social inclusion for addressing the root causes of vulnerability to ensure equitable economic, social, health and cultural resilience of all women, girls, men and boys.

This guidance note was developed by the ISDR Asia Partnership's Stakeholder Group of Organisations and Individuals concerned with Gender and Women's Issues. The Stakeholder Group coordinated by Duryog Nivaran includes representation of national governments, bilateral agencies, UN agencies, the regional IASC working group on Gender in Humanitarian Action, civil society organisations and individuals in the region prioritizing gender responsive implementation in DRR This Guidance Note has been developed through a process of consultation since the Sendai conference in March 2015.

Prepared by: IAP Stakeholder Group - Individuals and Organizations Concerned with Gender and Women's issues
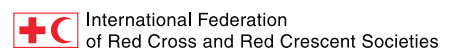
Organisations contributing to the consultations

IASC GIHA

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