

# GENDER-RESPONSIVE HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND EARLY RECOVERY

Photo: UN Women

## KEY ACTIONS:

### UN Women Country Offices and partners should ensure the following steps:

- **Maintain close coordination with and participate** in the Humanitarian Country Team meetings during normal and crisis times and contribute GESI lens across clusters.
- **Identify gender working groups, local women's rights groups, networks, and social collectives** including informal networks of women, youth, elderly, people with disabilities, and sexual orientation; and support their participation in the humanitarian program cycle.

FIGURE 1

Five Phases of the Humanitarian Programme Cycle



- **Ensure that gender is mainstreamed across the five phases** of the Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC) (see Figure 1).
- **Participate and facilitate the participation of the Ministry of Women/Social Affairs** and relevant ministries, WROs, women groups, and human rights organizations in the coordinated assessments such as [Multisector Initial Rapid Assessment \(MIRA\)](#) gender analysis, and **Sex, age, and disability disaggregated data (SADDD)** collection and analysis.
- **Provide technical support for gender analysis** following the steps and tools in the [Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action](#). The handbook can be used with the online platform [www.gihahandbook.org](http://www.gihahandbook.org) where additional resources, as well as training courses on gender equality in humanitarian action, are available.
- **Provide technical and coordination support to the HCT** to develop gender-responsive Humanitarian Response Plans or Strategic Response Plans and Humanitarian Needs Overview based on the gender analysis and SADDD.
- **During the last step, coordinate with 11 sectors/clusters** to ensure that gender is adequately addressed in the Humanitarian Needs Overview, Humanitarian Response Plan, and budgets. PART C of [Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action](#) provides specific guidance and checklists for 11 sectors: cash-based programming; camp coordination and camp man-

agement; early recovery; education; food security; health; livelihoods; nutrition; protection; shelter; and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH).

- **UN Women Country Offices (CO) should also ensure that the gender and needs of women and girls are adequately highlighted** and addressed across **clusters** (and recovery coordination mechanisms) during the development of contingency, preparedness, humanitarian response and recovery plans for disasters.

## Resources:

[IASC Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action \(2018\)](#)

[IASC Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Inter-ventions in Humanitarian Action \(2020\)](#)

[Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence in Emergencies \(2015\)](#)

Gender markers are mandatory and should also be applied at the design phase (see section B of [Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action](#), pages 48-51 for more information). The IASC Gender Marker is required for all coordinated humanitarian appeals and funding mechanisms by the HCT and sectors. The DG ECHO Gender-Age Marker is required for all humanitarian actions submitted to or funded by DG ECHO. Each agency dictates the use of agency markers. The Gender Marker helps donors identify and fund gender, age, and disability sensitized programmes that help ensure that all segments of the affected population have access to an equal quality of services. A gender code is assigned based on three critical components:

- i. *gender analysis in the needs assessment that provides relevant sex, age and disability disaggregated data, and gives insights into local gender issues;*
- ii. *needs assessment used to identify activities; and*
- iii. *gender-related outcomes.*

[Tool - Scaling up DRR in Humanitarian Action](#): Pages 18-22 How can a human rights-based and gender responsive approach inform integration of DRR in humanitarian response?

[Guidelines for gender sensitive disaster management: Practical steps to ensure women's needs are met and women's human rights are protected during disasters](#): The purpose of these guidelines is to assist governments, the non-governmental sector and civil society dealing with women in post-disaster situations. They are divided into immediate, mid-term and long-term responses.

[UN Women \(2020\) How to promote gender-responsive localisation in humanitarian action. Guidance Note](#)



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East and Southern Africa Regional Office  
UN Gigiri Complex, UN Avenue;  
Block M, Ground Floor  
P.O. Box 30218- 00100 Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: +254 20 762 4778

[africa.unwomen.org](http://africa.unwomen.org)

Email: [esaro.publications@unwomen.org](mailto:esaro.publications@unwomen.org)

 [unwomenafrica](https://www.facebook.com/unwomenafrica)

 [unwomenafric](https://twitter.com/unwomenafric)

 [unwomen](https://www.youtube.com/unwomen)

 [unwomenafric](https://www.linkedin.com/company/unwomenafric)