

GENDER RESPONSIVE COSTING FOR EARTHQUAKES AND URBAN FLOODING PREPAREDNESS RESPONSE PLAN:

Advocacy Brief for Disaster Risk Management Planners



CONTEXT

Nepal is a landlocked country with diverse geographic and climatic features that expose it to several natural hazards. The country ranks as 20th most multi-hazard-prone country in the world, 11th in the case of earthquake hazard, and 30th in terms of flood hazards ([UNDP/BCPR, 2004](#)). The Government of Nepal (GoN) has thus been undertaking several measures to enhance disaster preparedness and strengthen response capacities across all levels of governance—federal, provincial, municipal. A disaster does not discriminate; however its impact is felt differently by different socio-economic groups. Poverty, gender, age, ability and social status often shape the vulnerabilities of people to disasters and have a direct bearing on their response and resilience capacities. It is, thus, critical for the GoN to take cognizance of the role of socio-economic status, which amplifies the exposure and vulnerability of women, children and disadvantaged groups¹ in Disaster Risk Management (DRM) policies, plans and programmes.

¹ Disadvantaged groups include but are not limited to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transsexual, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ+) communities, children, elderly, Persons with Disability (PwD), Dalits and other ethnic and caste-based minorities.

To guide this process, UN Women (Nepal Country Office) along with UNDP and UNICEF has prepared a “**Scenario-based, gender-responsive costing framework for DRM**”. Developed with funding from ECHO-HIP, under the Strengthening Urban Preparedness, Earthquake Preparedness and Response in Western Regions of Nepal (SUPER Project) being implemented by UNDP, UN Women and UNICEF, this brief is geared to provide guidance on the development of injects for gender responsive services/interventions for earthquakes and urban flood preparedness. By using non-mathematical scenario narratives in story telling mode, the brief describes disaster events, its impact and response through a Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) lens. It reviews the scope of current measures to address these concerns, and supports creative thinking on actions for GEDSI responsive planning and management of future disasters.

This advocacy brief brings together the key conclusions and recommendations of the framework with the aim to highlight GEDSI action required in ensuring impactful DRM.

GEDSI DIMENSIONS OF DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM)

Evidence from Nepal ([PDNA Sector Report, Nepal, 2015](#)) points that women and vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected by disasters. The exposure to hazard remains same, the vulnerabilities and risk are higher due to pre-existing socio-economic and cultural context.

Greater risk of death and injury. The 2015 Gorkha earthquake, for example, saw a larger proportion (55 per cent) of women among the dead. This reiterates findings of past study ([E. Neumayer and T. Pluemper, 2007](#)) which point that women and children are 14 times more likely to die or be injured in a disaster than men. This can be largely attributed to the existing gender inequalities, which mean that they have limited information and access to institutional mechanisms (DRM committees, early warning systems, etc); little or no disaster preparedness and response trainings (e.g., swimming and climbing trees); restricted mobility due to responsibility of children, dependence on men for evacuation and clothing restrictions (like wearing of sarees). PwDs, who are most dependent on families for evacuation, are even more vulnerable.

Augmented deprivation from basic necessities. Skewed inter and intra household social disparities in access to food, water, sanitation, health and education services also result in women, children and disadvantaged groups being more affected. Post the 2015 Gorkha earthquake, inadequate food consumption was highest amongst Dalit households, over a third of whom (33.6 per cent) fell below the acceptable threshold for food consumption ([FAO, et al. 2015](#)). Furthermore, cultural norms such as women and girls needing to eat after other family members have eaten, and the expectation for them to eat less are further detrimental to women; especially pregnant and lactating mothers ([PDNA, Vol](#)

[B, 2015](#)). Destruction of toilets compounded by lack of water and poor living conditions, which do not offer privacy for women and girls, have a serious impact on the personal and menstrual hygiene of women and adolescent girls ([ibid](#)). A study in Bangladesh ([Alston, M, 2015](#)) also highlighted how women and girls are at higher risk of water-borne diseases and skin infections after floods due to increased exposure to standing water while fulfilling domestic responsibilities, especially fetching domestic water. Damage sustained by hospitals and health centres further limit women's access to sexual and reproductive health services. Post the 2017, floods for instance, five health facilities (with associated drugs and equipment) were destroyed and a further 94 were damaged. The loss potential affected access to emergency obstetric care for approximately 6,700 pregnant women in the immediate three months ([UN Women, 2017](#)). Damage to schools after the 2015 Gorkha earthquake had resulted in more than 1.4 million children being out of school post the earthquake ([PDNA, Vol B, 2015](#)). This situation post floods is no different as it also includes loss of teaching materials, text books, furniture, etc. An National Institute for Development and Research NDIR (2022) study reported that more than half of the children could be out of school following a flood. While this leads to loss of education, the likelihood on permanent drop-out from schools increases in case of girls to help with household work.

Higher likelihood of loss of assets and livelihoods. Approximately 79 per cent of the homes of female-headed households were damaged compared to 70 per cent homes of male-headed households, due to poor quality of construction inter-alia linked to financial resources and access to technical know-how ([NDRI, 2016](#)). The loss of homes not only make women vulnerable to violence while living in temporary or transitional shelter, but further constrains their ability to engage in home-based economies and income generation. Women are

more dependent on natural resource-based livelihood and hence face more loss during disasters like droughts, forest fire and floods. Women also own primarily small livestock such as chickens, ducks, goats, which are not only less likely to be rescued but also more prone to be sold for immediate cash in post-disaster context, thereby resulting in loss of limited assets (UN Women, 2017). The impact of disasters also varies due to gender-based segregation within the livelihood sector. For example, in tourism women as homestay owners would incur larger loss, while men would be more affected in the trekking sector and tour operations (PDNA, Vol B, 2015).

Spatial analysis has revealed that the urban poor who tend to live in low lying informal settlements are highly vulnerable to floods and frequent inundation caused by heavy rainfall. It result in loss of livelihood and assets of slum dwellers (Chatterjee, 2010). Self-employed slum dwellers, primarily women, typically do not have warehousing facilities or insurance against their assets. Floods and inundation can easily destroy the physical assets (machines, raw materials, etc) of these businesses as well as homes, leaving residents destitute.

Exacerbated burden of unpaid care and domestic work. Disruption in water supply and electricity also had a disproportionate negative effect on women and girls who are traditionally responsible for 75 per cent of all household water management. For example, post the 2015 Gorkha earthquake, women in Dhadhing, Lamjung, and Gorkha reported spending as much as three hours collecting water, which increased their work load considerably (PDNA, Vol B, 2015). Women in Kavre and Sindhupalchowk, also reported an additional increase in working hours by 4 to 5 hours for salvaging building materials from house rubble (ibid). With reduced food supply immediately after a disaster, poor women are also strained to maintain food security at the

household level. Furthermore, the responsibility of child care increases with closure of schools and condemnation of homes.

The situation is not different during floods. In a study by Home Net South Asia (C. Dharmistha, 2021) in Bangladesh, India and Nepal, 18 per cent of the women reported an increase in domestic work in the previous 3 years due to shifting of household material to safe place and home maintenance during monsoons due to water logging/flooding, while 22 per cent reported increase in time spent on managing food stocks. Another 16 per cent reported an increase in time spent on caring for family members suffering from water and vector borne diseases.

Increased susceptibility to Gender-based violence. Global studies on disasters have also shown that women and girls are likely to face elevated levels of intimate partner violence and gender-based violence (GBV) after disasters. Forced to sleep in insecure homes and emergency shelters without privacy and hygiene facilities women, girls and LGBTIQ+ people are particularly vulnerable to physical and sexual assault. Added disruptions in policing, justice systems and loss of family protection mean that these groups are at heightened risk of violence, abuse and exploitation. A study by UNCT Nepal (2017) shows that 52 per cent women felt increase in tension/risk of violence, 65 per cent women reported feeling “unsafe” while changing clothes, and 81 per cent reported feeling “unsafe” when using toilets. Further the combined factors of poor living conditions, disruptions in economic activities and loss of income also often compel families to adopt negative coping strategies such as child labour, early marriage and human trafficking, which particularly impacts adolescent girls.

Limited access to DRM services. GEDSI related vulnerabilities further act as barriers across all DRM phases: Mitigation, Preparedness, Relief, Recovery and Rehabilitation. The limited access

to information and decision-making forums means that women and disadvantaged groups are the last to be reached through relief services. Post 2015 earthquake, Dalits faced discrimination and exclusion in the rescue and relief efforts as the services are highly concentrated in mainstream settlements. The presence of earthquake debris created challenges for PwDs to move around limiting access to relief items and essential services. Single women, especially those with polygamous husbands, were found to experience even more difficulty in acquiring citizenship certificate, due to the loss of legal documents such as marriage certificates, citizenship certificate of husband or other family members and so on, which could be prerequisites to getting a citizen certificate ([NDRI, 2016](#)). Many LGBTIQ+ persons lost their rented homes post the earthquake even when it was not damaged as the landlords increased the rent or asked them to leave because of their status. Further, they faced additional barriers in accessing relief due to the lack of identity documents, IDs not matching with gender identity, relief services being targeted as conventional families which most transgender and LGBTIQ+ persons are not living in ([UNCT, Nepal, 2017](#)). Elderly and single women also face problems removal of debris, cleaning and reconstruction of homes post an earthquake or flood. This was in fact one of the key barriers for these groups to benefit from initiatives like owner-driven construction and *Aarma Parmah*

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GEDSI RESPONSIVE ACTION.

Recognising the existence of diversity of vulnerability and risk, there is a need for inclusive planning for DRM. The GoN needs to further integrate GEDSI lens in disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) frameworks, sector-based plans, and monitoring and evaluation frameworks. A system for gender appraisal of all DRR policies and plans needs to be created. A separate GEDSI framework for DRM should be established on a Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) and the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) agenda. It should include defined roles, responsibilities, and mandates of relevant stakeholders to address GEDSI issues in the DRM process and mechanisms for the collection and use of disaster related data disaggregated by sex, age and diversity. The need for collaboration and engagement on DRM planning and implementation with the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, Ministry of Social Development, Women Development Units at provincial and ward levels, women's human rights organizations and organizations working on LGBTIQ+ rights, locally elected women representatives and all other disadvantaged groups is critical.

Disaster Risk Management: Planning, Preparedness, Response (Rescue and Relief).

All DRM actions need to make a provision to ensure equal involvement of women, children and disadvantaged groups with focus on their participation in the planning, decision-making and relief management. Equally important is to invest in GEDSI responsive actions (table 1).

Figure 1 Proposed Activities and Costs for DRM

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR) ²
Cross cutting Institutional Mechanisms in place			
1	GEDSI Focal Point at district and urban municipality level	100% districts and Urban Municipalities	6,00,000 per district
2	Training of Provincial and Municipal Officers on GEDSI aspects in DRM	20% of Staff (approximately 100 persons per municipality)	89,516 per Municipality
3	Training of DMC members on GEDSI aspects in DRM	100% of DMC members (approx. 120 members per municipality)	1,07,419 per municipality
4	Training of women DMC members on DRM	30% of DMC members	32,226 per municipality
5	Mobilization and training of female volunteers and women CBOs/SHGs on DRM	30% of total volunteers (approx. 1000 persons per municipality)	8,95,161 per Municipality
6	Rapid Gender Analysis for rescue and relief planning	100% of affected communities	XXX per Municipality
7	GEDSI Post Disaster Need Assessment	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	XXX per Municipality
Earthquakes			
1	Facilitating women's engagement in DRM planning (including mock drills)	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	4,91,290 per Municipality
2	Risk and communication targeted awareness building for women on preparedness	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	1,80,645 per Municipality

² For breakup of costs across all sectors please refer the guidance note on Scenario-based, Gender-responsive Costing Framework for DRM, UN Women, 2023.

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3	Targeted awareness building and communication to women on relief measures	At least 5 radio PSA	54,000 per PSA
Flooding			
1	Gender integrated risk assessments	100% of Urban Municipalities	5,80,644 per Municipality
2	Facilitating women's engagement in flood risk and vulnerability assessment	100% of Urban Municipalities	97,742 per Municipality
3	Targeted awareness building and communication to women flood resilience planning and preparation	100% of Urban Municipalities	1,80,645 per Municipality
4	Facilitating women's engagement in monsoon action plan development	100% of Urban Municipalities	3,96,774 per Municipality
5	Supporting NGOs for GEDSI resilience building of low-income communities	100% of Urban Municipalities	6,41,000 for 10 slum Community
6	Multi-stakeholder workshop for pre-monsoon action plan development with women, PLWDs, NGOs, Academics and Municipal Officials	100% of Urban Municipalities	1,00,000 per Municipality
7	Targeted awareness building and communication to women early warning systems (EWS)	100% of Urban Municipalities	1,80,645 per Municipality
8	GEDSI customization of EWS	100% of Urban Municipalities	XXX per Municipality

It is important to put in place internal mechanisms like GEDSI Focal Points (GFPs) at district administrative offices (DAOs) and municipalities. The GFPs shall facilitate institutional representation of women and disadvantaged groups in Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) and District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC). The capacity building of the DMC members, both men and women, to mitigate, prepare for, and respond to disasters of all types, with an inclusive LNOB approach is essential. Targeted risk communication, awareness building measures, trainings and workshops, on disaster preparedness, rescue and relief activities for women and disadvantaged groups will need to be undertaken. Early warning Systems (EWS) should not rely on only one form of communication such as SMS messages, but ensure that warnings are shared in easily accessible and understood ways for all sections of the community. It is necessary to also empower women and disadvantaged groups to participate in early warning responses, disseminating information, becoming first responders; and to train women volunteers in response and implementation of evacuation plans. It must be ensured that the evacuation shelters and relief camps are GEDSI responsive with additional privacy, security and accessibility measures. Mechanisms for the collection, analysis, use and dissemination of disaster related data disaggregated by sex, age and diversity need to be established, along with creating a mandate and mechanisms for rapid gender analysis in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Provinces need to ensure that risk assessments and plans take into consideration multiple forms of discrimination and recognize

specific needs, capacities and priorities of different gender and social groups. Mechanisms also need to be put in place to ensure that post-disaster needs assessments (PDNAs) consult with women and men of all ages and include the gender differentiated impacts, particularly GBV and time poverty, that are exacerbated after a disaster.

Health Cluster. Reproductive and child health (RCH) activities need specific focus as part of immediate relief activities (table 2). This would include preparedness measures like having a cadre of trained birth attendants at community level. DMCs also need to include pre-fabricated materials for makeshift birthing centres in their warehouses. There should also be specific provision for neo-natal and infant care especially continuation of immunization services. Trauma faced by children who have lost families, people who have become disabled because of the disaster, would be very high. Connecting them with counselling services is essential. The health cluster should focus on training of healthcare providers for providing this psycho-social counselling support.

Food Security and Nutrition Cluster. Food support for vulnerable families, especially providing nutrition supplements to pregnant and lactating women, needs to be planned and budgeted for (table 3). Most importantly relief distribution channels need to include women volunteers and also ensure special protection arrangement for targeting women, children, elderly and disabled. Systems for monitoring of children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) at the evacuation camps and shelters needs to be ensured.

Figure 2 Proposed Activities and Costs for Health Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
1	Mobilization and training of birth attendants	20 Community Health workers per ward (pprox.. 200 persons)	1,79,000 per Municipality
2	Makeshift birthing centres for pregnant women (prefabricated structures)	One centre each in 100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	39,64,912 per centre
3	Provision for quality new born, child, maternal, sexual and reproductive health services	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	66,710 per Municipality
4	Phone-based Psychosocial Counselling	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	3,50,000 per province

Figure 3 Proposed Activities and Costs for Food Security and Nutrition Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
1	Extended Food Support for Vulnerable families	12% of affected population	1624 per HH
2	Special nutrition supplements for pregnant and lactating women	4% of female population in reproductive age-group	524 per person

Figure 4 Proposed Activities and Costs for Education and Child Care Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
1	Community-based Child Care programme	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	5,500 per child
2	Tracking of child attendance in schools (sex and age disaggregated database)	TBD	XXX per district

Figure 5 Proposed Activities and Costs for WASH Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
1	Dignity kits/ CVA	100% of women, adolescent girls and trans persons	1,043 per kit
2	Portable Toilets and Bathing Facilities at Shelters	100% of transit shelters	107,500 per toilet box
3	Lock and Lighting facilities at Shelters	100% of shelters	XXX per shelter
4	Menstrual Hygiene Measures at Shelters	100% of shelters	XXX per shelter
5	Ramps and Disability friendly toilets at shelters	100% of shelters	XXX per shelter

Figure 6 Proposed Activities and Costs for Early Recovery Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
1	Recovery kits for female headed households and PLWDs	28% of affected population	500 per household
2	NFI Kit/CVA for pregnant women and those with infants	4% of female population in reproductive age-group	500 per household
3	NFI Kit/CVA for women with disabilities	2% of affected population	1000 per person
4	Fuel (wood) for most poor	5% of affected households	500 per household

Education Cluster. The education cluster should be more pro-actively involved in disaster preparedness. For example, trainings of flood preparedness should include focus on securing educational materials (books, school furniture, etc). Teachers and child care workers should be trained in restoration of education and child-care programmes on a priority basis after a disaster. DMCs should have a plan and materials for making temporary arrangements to restore classes and community-based child care as soon as possible. The cluster should also facilitate camps for provision of social protection and child-care support especially to temporary guardians of children who have lost their parents. Provinces also need to create a sex and age disaggregated database for tracking of child attendance in schools post a disaster to prevent drop-outs (table 4).

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster. The evacuation shelters and relief camps should have provisions for women, in particular for pregnant and lactating women, women with disabilities, adolescent girls, as well as gender minorities. Locks, lighting, accessibility, and sex-segregation must be integral to their design. They should provide for additional privacy and security measures in shelters, including during menstruation. Address specific needs related with sexual and reproductive health- for instance hygiene and sanitary items required during menstruation, and postpartum period including

items such as toilet chair, wheel chair, urine bag etc. Ramps and disability friendly toilets need to be ensured at all shelters (Table 5).

Early Recovery Cluster. While general recovery measures continue, Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) to most vulnerable households is important to reduce the pressure on them to resort to negative coping mechanisms. Social support to unaccompanied children, disabled and elderly who have lost their supporting family members should also be part of the immediate relief operations. Provide temporary top-up benefits in social assistance allowances for senior citizens, single women, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), etc. Most important is the establishment of integrated mobile teams in the most affected areas to ensure that people who have lost their social benefit documents are able to obtain new ones and not be deprived of benefits due to document loss. It is also imperative to create flexible delivery mechanisms for channelling cash to women and disadvantaged groups, including necessary accompaniment support like registration facilities, alternatives to lack or loss of identity documents and opening of bank account (table 6).

Housing Cluster. Design and reconstruction of homes and shelters should be consultative and need to take into account of the accessibility needs of People with disabilities, elderly and women. Housing reconstruction programmes

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should be based on National Shelter policy, which requires the state to provide land and housing to economically weaker population. Rebuilding support should include top-up support/provisions for those who may not have the labour support to repair or reconstruct their houses (table 7). A targeted programme for mason and carpentry skill trainings for women especially earthquake and flood resistant designs should be implemented in each province.

Livelihood Cluster. It is most important to focus on provision of livelihood options to reduce the risk of forced migration and human trafficking for women and parents who are desperate to find livelihood alternative opportunities. Livelihood programmes such cash for work as well as reconstruction programmes should target women and vulnerable groups. Special packages for women workers (farmers, home-stay owners, home-based workers need to be promoted (table 8).

Figure 7 Proposed Activities and Costs for Housing Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
Earthquake Recovery and Rehabilitation			
1	Facilitating women's engagement in recovery planning (including needs assessment and participatory habitat designing)	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	3,96,774 per Municipality
2	Targeted awareness building and communication to women on recovery measures	At least 12 radio PSA	54,000 per PSA
3	Door to Door Information campaigns	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	9,67,742 per Municipality
4	Technical counselling and legal aid services	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	21,00,000 per Municipality
5	Mason and carpentry skill trainings for women	30% of masons trained to be women	3,91,935 per Municipality
6	Vulnerability top-up support for female headed households and PLWDs for home reconstruction/repair	28% of affected population	50,000 per Household
7	Soft loans for female headed households and PwDs for home reconstruction/repair	28% of affected population	50% Interest rebate
8	Rent support in urban areas for female headed households and PwDs whose homes have been completely destroyed	28% of homes destroyed in urban areas	XXX per month for 18 months
Flood Preparedness and Planning			
1	Technical capacity building of women (including training on small construction design and maintenance)	100% of Urban Municipalities	3,91,935 per Municipality
2	Pre-monsoon house renovation (creation of temporary embankment) for female headed households and those with PwDs	28% of affected population	5,000 per household

Figure 8 Proposed Activities and Costs for Livelihood Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
1	Special agriculture package for women farmers (land owners and female headed households who depend on farming)	36% of affected population	8,12,903 per municipality
2	Seed Capital Grant Women Construction Workers Cooperative	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	5,00,000 per cooperative
3	Loans for female entrepreneurs especially home-stay owners	80% of total home stay owners	XXX per entrepreneur
4	Extended Multipurpose Cash Value (MCV) for female home-based workers	TBD	13,500 per month per HH
5	Insurance assessment services for female headed households and PLWDs	28% of affected population	XXX per household

Protection Cluster. While the trauma of the disaster is high, providing a safe and secure environment free from GBV should be a key action area of disaster plans. Focusing on community awareness and sensitisation through messages on risks associated with child and early marriage, internal migration, forced migration and human trafficking through the media and mobilisation of parents, teachers, community leaders is necessary. Capacity development and training to the police and the judiciary and mobilisation of community

and engagement of men and boys on gender sensitivity to treat GBV cases seriously should be a part of preparedness. Provinces also need to strengthen referral systems to support women and girls who are victims of violence. Provision of information '*listening posts*' and establishment of alert systems, confidential counselling and community safety nets, paying most particular attention to children and women who are at risk of trafficking, violence, abuse and exploitation should be included.

Figure 9 Proposed Activities and Costs for Protection Cluster

Sr. No.	Description of Activity	Target	Costs (in NPR)
Institutional Mechanisms			
1	Child Protection Taskforce with emergency child protection funds	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	10,00,000 per Municipality
2	Female staff and volunteers for spots checks on SGBVs in shelters	100% of Urban Municipalities	XXX per Municipality
3	Women Police Patrol in shelters	100% of Urban Municipalities	XXX per Municipality
Training and Awareness Building			
1	Training and awareness building on SGBV and Protection issues (including trafficking and clinical management of rape)	100% of DMC Members and 20% of Health workers and Police (approx. 1000 persons per municipality)	8,95,161 per Municipality

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2	Training and awareness building for prevention of Child Trafficking and Child Marriage	100% of Community DMC Members and 20% of NGO workers and Police (approx. 1000 persons per municipality)	8,95,161 per Municipality
3	Targeted awareness building and communication to women on SGBV and Protection Measures	At least 5 radio PSA	54,000 per PSA
4	Phone messages to community leaders on GBV	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	10,00,000 per province
Counselling and Safe spaces			
1	Counselling and legal aid services (including for shelter support)	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	21,00,000 per province
2	Safe Spaces for women	100% of Rural and Urban Municipalities	4,83,871 per district

CONCLUSION

Strengthening a GEDSI lens within DRM requires initiatives across all aspects of situational analysis, planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. However, not all actions are stand-alone arrangements. Local governments thus

need to recognise the need for GEDSI integration and include the above recommendations within the existing DRM planning and implementation frameworks. The need of the day is a high level of intent with enforceable mandates and mechanisms for implementation.

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