



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

For gender mainstreaming in the response to the landslides in Gofa zone

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Photo: UN Women/ Tensae Yemane

Introduction

According to the IASC Gender Policy (2024), humanitarian stakeholders are required to follow core principles on mainstreaming gender in humanitarian action and addressing the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys in all their diversities. As humanitarian field practitioners and coordinators, it is our responsibility to make sure that the assistance and protection we provide meets the needs, capacities and priorities of women, girls, men and boys in an equitable and empowering way and that their rights are protected and promoted. In consultation with the national Gender in Humanitarian Action WG chairs and co-chairs, the PSEA IA Coordinator, the AAP Coordinator, this document seeks to highlight actionable gender-related recommendations for humanitarian stakeholders/actors involved in the response to the landslides.

Context

Following the tragic landslides in Gofa Zone (21-22 July 2024), an estimated 14,000 people are affected, including those displaced and those living in at-risk areas requiring evacuation. An emergency response has been launched by the Federal Government in partnership with local communities and humanitarian actors. Women and girls are particularly vulnerable and disproportionately affected by the crisis. They may face gender-related barriers in accessing assistance and their needs may be overlooked if gender is not mainstreamed in the response. Key actionable recommendations can ensure a gender-responsive humanitarian response.

Key recommendations

1. Collect, use and analyze Sex-Age-Disability Disaggregated Data (SADD):

In every phase of the humanitarian response, including the initial assessment, the planning, the response implementation, the monitoring and final evaluation stage, data should systematically be broken down into different categories.

Existing assessments and situation updates do not systematically reflect use of SADD and these challenges targeted assistance for particularly vulnerable groups.

To ensure more transparency, representativeness and trust in the data collection, use and analysis, following steps can be taken:

- Mobilize female enumerators to ensure representativeness and a gender-balanced assessment.
- Use participatory methods by including local women organizations, community-based structures led by women groups such as women associations, women community advocacy groups in the host communities and IDP camps, in the assessment planning, data collection, analysis and results sharing.
- Ensure assessment, monitoring and other data collection tools address issues that are specific to women and girls (e.g. menstrual health needs, pregnancy and lactating related needs, etc.).
- Conduct gender-specific analysis to identify change in gender equality issues due to the crisis.



Key Recommendations

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- Systematically use SADDD, especially in targeting processes, including a gender-balanced consideration of household heads and using SADDD when assessing vulnerability of affected populations.
2. **Mitigate gender-related barriers in accessing assistance and services:**
 - Dedicate funding to use diverse and adapted communication channels and messages to reach different groups, including the most vulnerable, with information on humanitarian assistance.
 - Ensure all community messages are translated to the relevant local languages.
 - Adapt assistance and service provision to women's needs, expectations, attitudes, habits, safety risks etc. (time, location, gender-balanced service providers, etc.)
 3. **Address women and girls' specific needs:**
 - Provide specific spaces for women and girls that are separate, safe, accessible and follow privacy and confidentiality measures.
 - Address needs by taking into consideration intersectional and vulnerability dimensions (sex, age, (dis)ability, ethnic group, education level, marital status, pregnant and lactating, etc.).
 - Ensure assistance and engagement with affected populations is trauma-informed and gender, age, disability-friendly by including targeted mental health support.
 - Mitigate negative coping mechanisms (forced marriage, child marriage, forced sex in exchange of money, etc.) by raising awareness at community level and by engaging men and boys.
 4. **Meaningfully include crisis affected women and girls in the response:**
 - Leverage active women's organizations working at local level to support the identification of needs, existing safe structures, target beneficiaries, etc.
 - Ensure women representatives' participation in decision-making bodies, coordination mechanisms, i.e. camps, distributions, etc.
 5. **Apply PSEA and AAP principles:**
 - Ensure women and girls understand their rights and that all humanitarian assistance is free. PSEA messages, including what constitutes SEA, should be streamlined into all assistance activities.
 - Conduct risk assessments to minimize protection and SEA risks for women and girls related to the response.
 - Ensure community-based complaints mechanisms (CBCMs) are set up, functional, adapted and accessible for women and girls and people with disabilities.
 - If possible, include a female-led feedback system, especially for face-to-face feedback system. Consider setting up help/information desks to achieve this goal.
 - Ensure women and girls are informed and understand how to make a sensitive complaint.
 - Train all involved staff on AAP, gender-responsive programming, PSEA and disability inclusion.
 - Coordinate with the regional and/or national PSEA network to support on community awareness raising activities, reporting and referral mechanisms.

Useful links

- [IASC Gender Handbook](#)
- [IASC Gender with Age Marker](#)
- [IASC Guidelines for Integrating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Action](#)
- [IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action](#)
- [IASC Guidelines on Strengthening Participation, Representation and Leadership of Local and National Actors in IASC Humanitarian Coordination Mechanisms](#)
- [IASC Guidelines on Working with and for Young People in Humanitarian Action](#)
- [Inter-Agency Minimum Standards for GBViE Programming](#)
- [CDAC Message Library — CDAC Network \(multi-sectoral messages for adaptation\)](#)
- [Humanitarian inclusion standards for older people and people with disabilities](#)