Mainstreaming Gender in Disaster Risk Reduction

From presentation of:
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Context – Why gender in DRR?

- Disasters affect men and women differently, but more on women

- Current effort spent on disaster response and recovery rather than on risk reduction despite growing acceptance of DRR

- Few governments considered gender perspectives in their national reports on DRR - Gender issues have not yet been integrated into DRR

- Both DRR and gender are cross-cutting developmental issues, which need to be addressed through a holistic approach and concerted actions in political, technical, social, developmental and humanitarian processes.

- At WCDR, 168 governments adopted the HFA - gender
Policy rationale

• Governments’ commitments to:
  • Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
  • Beijing Platform for Action
  • Hyogo Framework Action

• Gender-sensitive DRR is crucial for achieving the goal of gender equality and equity underlined in BPA/MDGs and HFA.
Goal and objectives

Goal:
The goal is to build resilience of women and men to disasters for achieving sustainable development.

Objectives:

- To increase understanding of gender concerns and needs in DRR.
- To develop capacity of governments to address gender issues in DRR.
- To encourage governments to take action to integrate gender perspectives in DRR related policies, legislation and programmes.
Definition of gender mainstreaming

“…the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in any area and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, such that inequality between men and women is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.” (ECOSOC resolution, 1997)
Targets

• National Platforms
• Politicians and Legislators
• Governments at all levels
Approaches

- Gender and Development Approach, but special attention will be required for women at the early stage
- Participatory approach in gender-sensitive disaster risk analysis for policy making and programme formulation
- Multi-stakeholder approach
- Human right approach
Priority areas for action (2008-2015)

• Review national policies, strategies and plans on DRR and management, and take actions to integrate gender perspectives

• Promote women’s participation in DRR policy-making process

• Establish gender focal points in national DRR platforms for technical support in gender mainstreaming

• Conduct gender-based vulnerability and risk assessments

• Enhance women’s understanding of and access to early warning systems
• Conduct DRR capacity building, giving special attention to women

• Integrate DRR into poverty reduction, climate change adaptation and environmental protection from gender perspectives at all levels

• Conduct gender-needs analysis and make disaster preparedness and disaster response gender-sensitive and gender-inclusive

• Documenting and disseminating good practices to promote women as agents for change
Monitoring and reporting

1. Establish baseline information on women’s and men’s participation in DRR, at least a national level

2. Monitor and update the process of promoting gender perspectives at national level

3. Request national government reports on the progress made in mainstreaming gender, as requested in the Global Report guidelines
Implementation mechanisms

- National Platforms
- National and local Government
- Ministries/institutions responsible for gender and DRR
- UN country-based gender advisors and DRR advisors
- ISDR regional offices
- Partners….
Annex 1 – Terminology

- Gender
- Gender analysis
- Gender mainstreaming
- Disaster risk reduction
- Disaster risk management
- National platform for DRR
Annex 2 – Gender analysis framework

Existing tools for gender analysis:

- social assessment
- a development research
- sustainable livelihoods
- disaster assessment
- ...

Annex 3 – WID and GAD

- Women in Development
- Gender and Development
Annex 4 – Disaster Risk Reduction

A Framework for Disaster Reduction

Sustainable development context

The focus of disaster risk reduction

Awareness raising for change in behavior

Knowledge development
- Information
- Education & training
- Research

Policy

Risks

Vulnerability
- Social
- Economic
- Physical
- Environmental

Hazards
- Geological
- Hydrometeorological
- Biological
- Technological
- Environmental

Risk factors

The impact of disaster risk reduction

Early warning

Preparedness

Emergency management

Recovery

Application of risk reduction measures
- Environmental management
- Social and economic development practices (including poverty alleviation, livelihoods, financial mechanisms, health, agriculture, etc.)
- Physical and technical measures
- Land-use/urban planning
- Protection of critical facilities
- Networking and partnerships

Economic

Environmental

Socio-cultural
Annex 5 – Disaster risk management approach

1. Establish Context… *What are we trying to do?*
2. Identify risks……..*What can happen?*
3. Analyse Risks…….*What effects will they have?*
4. Evaluate risks……*Which are most important?*
5. Accept risk…….*Should we spend resources on this problem?*
6. Treat risk…….*What can we do about this problem?*
7. Monitor/Review…..*Has it worked, is it still best solution?*
8. Communicate and consult…*Has everyone been involved?*
Annex – a check list

• A set of questions
• A set of gender-sensitive indicators
Thank you
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