Summary of key facts and figures, initiatives, progress, challenges, needs and opportunities related to gender equality and women’s empowerment in the context of the Nepal earthquake emergency response

Facts and Figures

- Approx. 55% of casualties identified as female – (4,803 female; 3,901 male; 2 bodies remain unidentified), while 48% of injured people are identified as female (10,676 female; 11,544 male, 273 remain unidentified)\(^1\).
- 1.5 million women and adolescent girls in need of dedicated support in the 14 most affected districts, including 93,000 pregnant women\(^2\).
- Key information from the Gender Equality Bulletin No 1 was highlighted in the UN Secretary-General’s daily noon briefing on Friday 22 May

Cluster Updates – Response, Gaps and Needs

**Coordination**

**Response**

- 20 members, including Cluster Gender Focal Points, received orientation on Gender Equality in Emergencies
- Key Gender Task Force advocacy messages disseminated
- Gender Equality is being mainstreamed throughout the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment
- The National Women’s Commission developed Gender Monitoring Checklist to track the gender responsiveness of the emergency response. Data collection has been initiated

**Needs**

- Ensure collection of sex and age disaggregated data and use of gender balanced monitoring teams\(^3\), including in monitoring committees

**Nutrition**

**Response**

- More than 1,200 mothers in seven districts received counselling in exclusive breastfeeding and dangers of artificial feeding.\(^4\) Radio messaging on the same topics reached an estimated 380,000 families in 21 affected districts\(^5\)

**Gaps**

- Extensive damage to health facilities and the households/lives of female community health volunteers hampering the roll-out of nutrition services\(^6\)

**Shelter/CCCM**

**Response**

- Gender, Gender Based Violence (GBV) and trafficking indicators integrated into the Displacement Tracking Matrix
- Ensure special provisions to identify and prioritise vulnerable households for shelter materials distributions and/or shelter provision\(^7\).
- Ensure that women are given adequate representation in Camp Management Committees\(^8\).

**Logistics**

**Response**

- Recommendation to include women’s organisations and female porter associations in relief distribution is being addressed by Logistics Cluster.

\(^1\) Update from NECC/MOH\(A\) as of 12noon 4\(^{th}\) June 2015

\(^2\) Nepal Earthquake 2015: Press release (as of 25 May 2015) and UNFPA Press Release (13 May 2015) and Reproductive Health Sub-Cluster

\(^3\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^4\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^5\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^6\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^7\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^8\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^9\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^10\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^11\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^12\) USAID and Save the Children

\(^13\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^14\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^15\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

\(^16\) IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

Women, older people and people with disabilities prioritised in cash distribution for food assistance in Namtar and Daman VDC WASH\(^9\)

Response

- Sex-disaggregated data included in WASH cluster’s 5Ws reporting format
- Gender included in WASH needs assessments, response plan, monitoring and tracking sheets
- 304,000 people targeted with gender-sensitive sanitation facilities\(^10\)
- Gender-sensitive latrine design guidelines disseminated

Gaps

- 91% of displaced camps assessed to not have gender-sensitive toilet/washing facilities\(^11\), this reportedly also affects female staff\(^12\). In Lalitpur this is causing women to avoid consuming food and water\(^13\)

Needs

- Sindhupalchok: Focus group established need to create more private spaces for women and girls.\(^14\)
- Suitable waste management solutions needed for the safe and dignified disposal of sanitary items\(^15\)
- Ensure women and girls involvement in reconstruction efforts related to water-source and supply management, building of latrines, bathing and washing sites\(^16\)
Food
Response
- Gender questions included in Food Cluster needs assessment
- Women’s organisation Pouraki engaged in seed distribution
- Women, older people and people with disabilities prioritised in the first cash distribution for food assistance in Nam Tap VDC and Daman VDC
- Monitoring ongoing to measure equity in access and women’s meaningful participation in operations

Gaps
- 53% of female headed households have either poor or borderline food consumption post-earthquake, approx. 10% lower than male headed households

Needs
- Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung: Community mobilisers can be addressed to use intra-household food distribution gender discrimination
- Ensure that the weight and size of food packages are manageable for women and girls or organise porter services

Health
Response
- More than 34 reproductive health (RH) mobile camps reached 6,500 people in Kavre, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Rasuwa, Sindhu and Makwanpur. Services provided include: RH check-ups, natal care, GBV orientation, psychosocial counseling, family planning counseling, dignity kits, blanket, school dress and bed-net distribution
- 15 transition homes have been established to house pregnant women, lactating mothers and their newborns. Services have resumed at most of the health facilities in the 14 most affected districts
- Gender inputs included in mental health cluster’s psycho-social referral tool and reporting format

Gaps
- Kathmandu: Reported increase in women’s psychological problems and alcohol consumption in both Manamaju and Tundikhe

Needs
- Lamjung and Dhading: family planning supplies, including emergency contraception needed
- Dhading, Gorkha and Lamjung: the constraints on skilled birth attendants due to damage/destruction of health facilities needs to be considered in sexual and reproductive health programming

Early Recovery
Response
- Gender inputs included in Cash for Work guideline
- Joint proposal submitted for women to be engaged in debris management as cash for work
- Micro-Enterprise Development Programme includes Gender Equality and Social Inclusion strategies in the planned project Rapid Enterprise Recovery Project to provide rapid support to the affected Micro Enterprises in order to restart their business and initiate new ones.
- Gender orientation conducted with debris management engineers in Sindhupalchowk

Needs
- Ensure that women are provided with livelihoods and income generating opportunities, including access to land and credit, that they are tailored to women’s needs, circumstances and capacities, and that they do not cause harm. For example, by providing child-minding services

Protection
Response
- More than 40,000 flyers with information on family separation and human trafficking distributed in the 14 districts. Inter-agency anti-trafficking task force strengthened presence at the border
- 26 psycho-social counsellors deployed to the 14 districts
- At least 500 women’s groups have been mobilised to raise awareness and advocate on GBV issues in 14 districts
- Protection officers were deployed to 13 affected districts to provide technical support to the District Women and Children offices
- Distribution of the GBV service directory to provide a practical guide for referring GBV survivors to access relevant services.
- The Cluster is working with the Nepal police to strengthen the trafficking response and specific concerns related to children and women, such as violence, exploitation and abuse.
- Radio messages regarding stress management, psycho-social support and family reunification reached around 70 per cent of the affected people
- Approx. 17,200 dignity kits distributed in 14 districts; blankets to pregnant and lactating mothers and Menstrual Hygiene Management guides also being distributed. GBV orientation provided simultaneously.
- 55 female-friendly spaces have been set up
- Women and children officers in the 14 districts received support to enable them to be expand the outreach to remote affected areas.

Gaps
- Reports of disparities in relief distributions due to gender, caste and religion and loss of official documentation
- Nuwakot: young girls reporting feeling insecure in camps due to risk of violence and lack of privacy
- GBV shelter needed to refer GBV cases distributed in the 14 districts
- Kavre: GBV services and special care needed to mitigate men’s increased alcohol consumption and a rise in GBV cases in temporary shelters

Education
- Focus on the inclusion of girls and female teachers in “back to school campaign”, including the provision of female toilets. Guidance on school safety and psychosocial support shared on local FM in 14 districts and in teacher activity books.

Useful links and contacts
Contact: genderTF@gmail.com
Link: https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nepal
Photo Source: WFP and UN Women Nepal

17 Food Cluster Gender Focal Point and WFP
18 WFP Situation Report No.8
20 Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung
21 Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung
22 Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindhupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung
23 Early Recovery Gender Focal Point and UN Women
24 Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Nepal
25 IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)
26 Protection Cluster and UN Situation Report No 18 and 20 (as of 25 May 2015 and 3rd June 2015)
27 UN Women Nepal
28 IASC Nepal Gender Alert (16 May 2015)
29 Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Dhading, Gorkha and Lamjung
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40 UN Women Nepal
41 Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Dhading, Gorkha and Lamjung