



# GENDER EQUALITY

## UPDATE No. 2

By Inter-Cluster Gender Task Force  
**RESPONSE TO THE NEPAL EARTHQUAKE**  
 (as of 5/6/2015)

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)<sup>1</sup>.
- **1.5 million women and adolescent girls in need of dedicated support** in the 14 most affected districts, including 93,000 pregnant women<sup>2</sup>
- 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**<sup>3</sup>, including in monitoring committees

#### Nutrition

##### Response

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

##### Gaps

- Extensive **damage to health facilities and the households/lives of female community health volunteers** hampering the roll-out of nutrition services<sup>6</sup>

#### 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<sup>7</sup>.
- Ensure that women are given **adequate representation in Camp Management Committees**<sup>8</sup>.

#### Logistics

##### Response

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



Women, older people and people with disabilities prioritised in cash distribution for food assistance in Namtar and Daman VDC WASH<sup>9</sup>

##### 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**<sup>10</sup>
- **Gender-sensitive latrine design guidelines** disseminated

##### Gaps

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

##### Needs

- Sindhupalchowk: Focus group established need to create more **private spaces for women and girls**.<sup>14</sup>
- **Suitable waste management solutions** needed for the safe and **dignified disposal of sanitary items**<sup>15</sup>
- Ensure **women and girls involvement in reconstruction efforts** related to water-source and supply management, building of latrines, bathing and washing sites<sup>16</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Update from NEOC/MOHA as of 12noon 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015

<sup>2</sup> Nepal Earthquake 2015; Press release (as of 25 May 2015) and UNFPA Press Release (13 May 2015) and Reproductive Health Sub-Cluster

<sup>3</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

<sup>4</sup> UN Situation Report No 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

<sup>5</sup> UN Situation Report No 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

<sup>6</sup> UN Situation Report No. 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

<sup>7</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

<sup>8</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

<sup>9</sup> Wash Cluster Gender Focal Point

<sup>10</sup> UN Situation Report No. 18 (as of 25 May 2015)

<sup>11</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

<sup>12</sup> USAID and Save the Children

<sup>13</sup> UN Situation Report No. 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

<sup>14</sup> Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindhupalchowk

<sup>15</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

<sup>16</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

## Food<sup>17</sup>

### Response

- Gender questions included in Food Cluster **needs assessment**
- **Women's organisation** Pourakhi engaged in seed distribution
- **Women, older people and people with disabilities prioritised** in the first cash distribution for food assistance in Namtar VDC and Daman VDC
- Monitoring ongoing to measure **equity in access and women's meaningful participation** in operations<sup>18</sup>

### Gaps

- **53% of female headed households have either poor or borderline food consumption post-earthquake**, approx. 10% lower than male headed households<sup>19</sup>

### Needs

- Sindupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung: Community mobilisers can be used to address **intra-household food distribution gender discrimination**<sup>20</sup>
- Ensure that the **weight and size of food packages** are manageable for women and girls or organise porter services<sup>21</sup>

## Health

### Response

- More than **34 reproductive health (RH) mobile camps** reached 6,500 people in Kavre, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Bhaktapur, Rasuwa, Sindhuli 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<sup>22</sup>
- **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<sup>23</sup>
- 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 Manamaiju and Tundikhel<sup>24</sup>

### Needs

- Lamjung and Dhading: **family planning supplies**, including emergency contraception needed<sup>25</sup>
- 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<sup>26</sup>

## Early Recovery<sup>27</sup>

### 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 Sindupalchowk

### 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.<sup>28</sup> For example, by providing **child-minding services**<sup>29</sup>

## Protection<sup>30</sup>

### 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<sup>31</sup>
- Nuwakot: **young girls reporting feeling** insecure in camps due to risk of violence and lack of privacy<sup>32</sup>. **GBV shelter needed** to refer GBV cases<sup>33</sup>
- Kavre: GBV services and special care needed to mitigate **men's increased alcohol consumption** and a rise in **GBV cases** in temporary shelters<sup>34</sup>

## Education<sup>35</sup>

- 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](mailto:genderTF@gmail.com)

**Link:** <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/nepal>

**Photo Source:** WFP and UN Women Nepal

<sup>17</sup> Food Cluster Gender Focal Point and WFP

<sup>18</sup> WFP Situation Report No.8

<sup>19</sup> Nepal Food Security Cluster Report (May 2015)

<sup>20</sup> Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung

<sup>21</sup> Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindupalchowk

<sup>22</sup> Reproductive Health Cluster Gender Focal Point

<sup>23</sup> UN Situation Report No 20 (as of 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015) and Reproductive Health Sub-Cluster

<sup>24</sup> WOREC

<sup>25</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

<sup>26</sup> Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Dhading, Gorkha and Lamjung

<sup>27</sup> Early Recovery Gender Focal Point and UN Women

<sup>28</sup> Care Rapid Gender Analysis - Nepal

<sup>29</sup> IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

<sup>30</sup> Protection Cluster and UN Situation Report No 18 and 20 (as of 25 May 2015 and 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015)

<sup>31</sup> UN Situation Report No. 18 (as of 25 May 2015)

<sup>32</sup> WOREC

<sup>33</sup> UN Women Nepal

<sup>34</sup> WOREC

<sup>35</sup> Education Cluster Gender Focal Point and UN Situation Report No 20 (as of 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015)

