

Nepal Earthquake Response  
Inter-Cluster Gender Task Force  
Sixth Meeting

18th May 2015, UN Conference Room, UN House Kathmandu

Participating:

Nutan Sharma (UN RCO), Cat Cowley (Caritas), Loulou Shah (Mercy Corps), Lise Anne Piece (Shekter Cluster), Theo Sinkovits (IOM), Masako Ueda (IOM), Yoko Kimura (IOM), Shudarson Subedi (NFDN), Kate Tong (Plan International), Meenu Hada (WFP), Manju Tuladhan (USAID), Rekha Shrestha (WOREC), Luma Singh Bishowkarma (UNHCR), Jasveen Ahluwalia (Care), Indu Pant (Care), Tanya Castle (Care), Cat Cowley (Caritas), Rhea Bhardwaj (Helpage), Katja Vauhyonen (UNDP), Sandhya Shrestha (OXFAM), Kenza Aqertit (NDI), John Lovdal (NDI), Manju Tuladhar (USAID), Bibendra Pradhan (NASCIF), Chiara Saccardi (ACF), Jess Letch (Red Cross), Lise Anne Pierce (Shelter), Sudha Pant (UNFPA), Anjali S. Pradhan (UNICEF), Gitanjali Singh (UN Women), Marie Sophie Pettersson (UN Women), Ellie Vanbaaren (UN Women), Anu Pillay (GenCap Adviser)

---

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Orientation of Gender Focal Points

- Anu Pillay (GenCap Adviser) emphasized the need to clarify and strengthen the role of Cluster Gender Focal Points, including the issue raised in the last meeting that not all Gender Focal Points have gender expertise. Anu offered to deliver orientation/capacity building for Cluster Gender Focal Points and help identify strategies and guidelines on gender mainstreaming. **It was agreed to hold this as a two-hour orientation on Monday (time and venue tbc) and Anu will be in communication with all Cluster Gender Focal Points.**
- Rhea Bhardwaj (Helpage) suggested to combine this orientation with an age-sensitivity orientation.
- Upon requests from several Gender Task Force members, **it was agreed to also open up this orientation to others beyond the Gender Focal Points later.** It was further **agreed that this orientation will help the development of the support package kit for Cluster Gender Focal Points** in terms of deciding what tools and resources are most useful in the current context.
- **Jasveen Ahluwalia (Care) mentioned they have a draft training manual which they will share with Anu for reference.**
- IOM mentioned that IOM is planning a training on counter-trafficking and requested to what extent counter-trafficking will be a part of the Gender Focal Point orientation. Gitanjali Singh (UN Women) mentioned that counter-trafficking issues are being raised in GBV sub cluster and suggested for IOM to first connect with the GBV sub-cluster and if needed this can then also be included in the Gender Focal Point orientation. WOREC mentioned that the MoWCSW has been linking with UNICEF on trafficking prevention work. **WOREC mentioned that they are also themselves doing work on trafficking prevention which they will share updates on in the next Gender Task Force meeting.**

3. PDNA update – gender chapter and gender mainstreaming

- Gitanjali Singh (UN Women) mentioned that the ToR (dated 16<sup>th</sup> May) and brochure for the PDNA has been disseminated and that briefing on the process for the gender equality chapter and gender mainstreaming took place in the last Gender Task Force meeting. She once again stressed the need to ensure that gender is mainstreamed into all chapters of the PDNA. The training for the GoN coordinated by UNDP is taking place today and tomorrow. Cecilia Aipira, Specialist in the incorporation of gender and disability issues into the PDNA, is arriving today to support the PDNA effort. Gitanjali Singh stressed that the PDNA core group (led by the NPC) is strict on participation and that it is a requirement to attend all PDNA briefings and field visits. The Draft Assessment Report needs to be ready by 10<sup>th</sup> June and Gitanjali mentioned this should hopefully be shared with CSO/DPs for inputs. UN Women will ensure to share the draft Gender Equality chapter will be shared with Gender Task Force members.

4. Field Presence in the Sub Hubs (Gorkha, Sindupalchowk)

- Once again **requesting all Gender Task Force members to provide information on their deployment of gender focal persons and modalities in the sub hubs in Gorkha and Sindhupalchowk** - have only received information from Care so far.
- UNFPA has deployed gender staff in the sub-hubs and Sudha Pant will share information on this. UN Women is recruiting Gender Coordinators in the sub-hubs. UNDP has deployed Early Recovery Cluster Coordinators in Gorkha and they will be provided with gender materials. The Shelter Cluster has field coordinator in both sub-hubs but no gender focal points – they are recruiting a Gender Adviser at the national level. IOM informed that they have no field-level gender focal points.
- Gitanjali Singh stressed that we **need to determine process of managing the flow of gender-specific information from the field to the national level.**

5. Gender Bulletin

- Anu Pillay informed that the first Gender Bulletin is **almost finalised and will be shared with the Gender Task Force once it has gone through the final review.**
- Anu Pillay also informed that as we are now in the process of preparing for the second Gender Bulletin we are requesting Gender Task Force members to provide information on both challenges and needs, but also on progress made in addressing these needs so far. Further, cluster specific information is very useful.
- **Deadline for gender inputs for the next sitrep is Wednesday 6pm.**

6. Orientation on UNGA 69<sup>th</sup> session

- The UNGA 69<sup>th</sup> session resolution was shared with Gender Task Force members as stressed as a significant high-level encouragement. **Gitanjali Singh stressed that both the UNGA resolution and the Common Charter of Women's Demands needs to be shared widely within all clusters for awareness raising and to encourage a collective follow-up.**

7. Gender Agency link

- Anu Pillay stressed that the Gender Agency link she had shared with the Gender Task Force is a useful resource which includes recommendations on how to set up indicators to track progress

on gender mainstreaming in the different clusters – a very concrete and systematic M&E framework on the gender mainstreaming of the humanitarian response.

- It was stressed that overall the **inclusion element has been weak in Gender Task Force documents so far, as well as the Care gender documents, and it was requested to emphasise this further.**
  
- 8. Update from small groups and clusters
  - **Inclusion WG: common vulnerability criteria is being drafted – will invite feedback from Gender Task Force members on this and share it with all clusters.** The National Federation of Disabled and the National Federation of Elderly have joined the WG and provided inputs. WG Work Plan has been finalised. **Suggestion for sub hub level gender focal points to also function as inclusion focal points. Offer to share any resources on inclusion to agencies/clusters upon request.**
    - **UNDP shared that the UN site for maps including GoN statistics, including mapping of disability in Nepal – Katja will share link with the Gender Task Force.**
    - **Issue of disability access within tents/camps has been reported in Dhulikhel- the Inclusion WG will take this up with Theo Sinkovits (CCCM Focal Point).**
  - **Messaging WG:** Key messages have been consolidated and UN Women/GenCap Adviser will help finalise. The Communicating with Communities (CWC) group has request to incorporate WOREC update into messaging and Katja Vauhyonen (UNDP) informed this has already been incorporated. **Anu Pillay suggested to link up and share messaging with the CWC. Rhea Bhardwaj (Helpage) suggested to translate the messages into Nepali.**
  - **Assessment WG:** Cluster assessments are ongoing. **Need to determine how assessment gender findings can feed into the PDNA.**
  - **Shelter:** recruiting National level Gender Adviser by next week. Currently revising the shelter strategy – looking into how to work with local communities rather than setting up standardized shelter models and how to collect data more effectively. Assessment was delayed due to second earthquake but now ongoing. Issues for female headed households have been identified. Will share assessment finding within the next few weeks.
  - **Cash for work guideline is still being finalised and will be shared with the Gender Task Force for further inputs by COB tomorrow.** It was requested to include minimum quotas for women’s participation in cash for work. It was informed that equal pay (cash or assets) for equal work has been included. **It was agreed that Tanya Castle (Care) will attend Cash Coordination group meetings to monitor the implementation of the cash for work guideline going forward.**
  - **CCCM:** Displacement Assessment Matrix, has almost been finalized and currently trying to also incorporate trafficking issues. Trying to finalise information channeling to ensure assessment findings are fed into the relevant clusters. **Gitanjali suggested for Theo Sinkovits (IOM) to link up with the GBV sub-cluster and the protection clusters on this.**
  - **Care raised the issue of missing sex-disaggregated data on trafficking, death, injuries etc due to the earthquake.** It was raised that the GoN is currently not making available sex-disaggregated data and that this is only available for some VDCs/Districts through communication with the VCOs who are tracking this, e.g. Sindhupalchowk. It was informed that following the cluster assessments this data should become available. **It was agreed to raise this issue in the Inter**

**Cluster Coordination meetings and in the Health Cluster meetings to urge the MoHA to make such data available in their database.**

9. BBC Media Action

- Jasveen Ahluwalia (Care) informed that they are hoping to sign the contract with the BBC Media Action tomorrow and are on track to start programming very soon. The purpose of the collaboration with BBC action media is to look at specific gender messages across sectors to be used by social mobilisers tied up with communities. Further a mobile phone application is being developed to use for assessments, including on gender aspects. **Care will share this questionnaire with the Gender Task Force.**

10. AOB

- It was **agreed to decide on the purpose, role and modality of the Gender Task Force Core Group after the Gender Focal Point orientation**
- It was suggestion to deliberate in the next Gender Task Force meeting on the **suggestion to only have Gender Task Force meetings once a week going forward.**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 21 MAY AT 12.30H UN HOUSE**