



GENDER EQUALITY

UPDATE No. 2

By Inter-Cluster Gender Task Force
RESPONSE TO THE
NEPAL EARTHQUAKE
(as of 12/6/2015)

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)¹.
- **1.5 million women and adolescent girls in need of dedicated support** in the 14 most affected districts, including 93,000 pregnant women²
- 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 districts⁵

Gaps

- Extensive **damage to health facilities and the households/lives of female community health volunteers** hampering the roll-out of nutrition services⁶

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 provision⁷.
- 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.



Women, older people and people with disabilities prioritised in cash distribution for food assistance in Namtar and Daman VDC

WASH⁹

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 staff¹². In Lalitpur this is causing women to avoid consuming food and water¹³

Needs

- Sindhupalchowk: 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 sites¹⁶

¹ Update from NEOC/MOHA as of 12noon 4th 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 UN Situation Report No. 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

⁵ UN Situation Report No. 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

⁶ UN Situation Report No. 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

⁷ IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

⁸ IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

⁹ Wash Cluster Gender Focal Point

¹⁰ UN Situation Report No. 18 (as of 25 May 2015)

¹¹ IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

¹² USAID and Save the Children

¹³ UN Situation Report No. 17 (as of 21 May 2015)

¹⁴ Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindhupalchowk

¹⁵ IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

¹⁶ IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

Food¹⁷

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 operations¹⁸

Gaps

- **53% of female headed households have either poor or borderline food consumption post-earthquake**, approx. 10% lower than male headed households¹⁹

Needs

- Sindupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung: Community mobilisers can be used to address **intra-household food distribution gender discrimination**²⁰
- Ensure that the **weight and size of food packages** are manageable for women and girls or organise porter services²¹

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 distribution²²
- **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 districts²³
- 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 Tundikhel²⁴

Needs

- Lamjung and Dhading: **family planning supplies**, including emergency contraception needed²⁵
- 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 programming²⁶

Early Recovery²⁷

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.²⁸ For example, by providing **child-minding services**²⁹

Protection³⁰

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 documentation³¹
- Nuwakot: **young girls reporting feeling** insecure in camps due to risk of violence and lack of privacy³². **GBV shelter needed** to refer GBV cases³³
- Kavre: GBV services and special care needed to mitigate **men's increased alcohol consumption** and a rise in **GBV cases** in temporary shelters³⁴

Education³⁵

Response

- **Messages and guidance on education-in-emergencies**, school safety and psychosocial support have been shared on local FM in 14 districts and in teachers' activity books and special editions of educational newspapers have been distributed

Gaps:

- Existing **Gender Focal Points** in the District Education Offices have not been activated.
- Focus on the **inclusion of girls and female teachers in "back to school campaign"**, including the provision of **female toilets**

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

¹⁹ Nepal Food Security Cluster Report (May 2015)

²⁰ Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindupalchowk, Gorkha and Lamjung

²¹ Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Sindupalchowk

²² Reproductive Health Cluster Gender Focal Point

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

²⁴ WOREC

²⁵ IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

²⁶ Care Rapid Gender Analysis – Dhading, Gorkha and Lamjung

²⁷ Early Recovery Gender Focal Point and UN Women

²⁸ Care Rapid Gender Analysis - Nepal

²⁹ IASC Nepal Gender Alert (18 May 2015)

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

³¹ UN Situation Report No. 18 (as of 25 May 2015)

³² WOREC

³³ UN Women Nepal

³⁴ WOREC

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

