

Measuring Gender-Based Violence Risk Mitigation in Humanitarian Settings



THE CHALLENGE

Ensuring humanitarian **programming is safe and accessible for women and girls**, as they are often overlooked and/or marginalized in humanitarian response.



BACKGROUND

As a result of pre-existing gender inequalities, **women and girls experience many of the worst effects of humanitarian crises**. In conflict, natural disasters and public health emergencies, they are exposed to gender-based violence (GBV) and other threats to their safety and well-being. In addition, women and girls face multiple barriers – visible and invisible – in accessing humanitarian aid and services. And yet, they are often overlooked by or excluded from the structures and processes that shape humanitarian response.

Since 2015, UNICEF has led the global rollout of the **IASC Guidelines for Integrating Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action**. This resource supports practitioners working in **all sectors** to proactively identify and mitigate GBV-related risks, making humanitarian programming safer and more accessible for women and girls. Some examples of GBV risk mitigation strategies include ensuring gender balance among programme staff, conducting regular consultations with women and girls, and ensuring colleagues working directly with the affected community are trained on how to respond to a GBV disclosure.

While substantial progress has been made to integrate GBV risk mitigation practices within programming, **some key knowledge gaps remain**. In particular, there is limited understanding of how to effectively monitor and evaluate GBV risk mitigation activities across the different sectors.





THE PROJECT

UNICEF and the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) are working together to **improve the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of GBV risk mitigation actions in humanitarian settings**. The project goals are to:

- Create resources to help practitioners in non-GBV sectors to strengthen GBV risk mitigation M&E;
- Undertake original research on the effectiveness of select GBV risk mitigation interventions;
- Disseminate research findings, best practices and guidance to help make humanitarian programming safer and more responsive to the needs of women and girls.



THE AUDIENCE

The key target audience for this project is **humanitarian practitioners working in non-GBV sectors**. The measurement resources developed through this research are first being piloted in one sector – Nutrition – to ensure the content is as relevant as possible for the day-to-day work of practitioners and to allow for more focused conversations during the field-testing. However, the goal is to expand to other sectors as well.



PROJECT OUTPUTS & PROGRESS-TO-DATE

This multi-year project is ongoing. Thus far, a number of resources aimed at supporting humanitarian practitioners have been developed through a consultative process. These include:

- A systematic **desk review** presenting the current state of knowledge on M&E of GBV risk mitigation, and evidence gaps;
- A **compendium of good practices** for M&E of GBV risk mitigation interventions;
- A series of **case examples** to illustrate real-world application of good practices;
- A **guidance note** and accompanying **menu of measures** to facilitate the implementation of M&E of GBV risk mitigation interventions;
- A short video to build awareness of the project (www.gbvguidelines.org/effectiveness.com) among key stakeholders and practitioners.



LOOKING FORWARD

This project will **continue to field-test and refine the guidance note and menu of measures-resources for field practitioners seeking to incorporate GBV risk mitigation measurement into their activities**. This work will also build towards an evaluation assessing how GBV risk mitigation can improve both sector-specific and safety outcomes. As the methodology, tools and guidance are field-tested and refined, lessons will be disseminated widely across the humanitarian system, enabling uptake and adaptation for different sectors.

HOW
TO LEARN
MORE

Visit www.gbvguidelines.org/effectiveness to learn more about the project and see a short introductory video.

The project thanks the US State Department Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration for their support.

