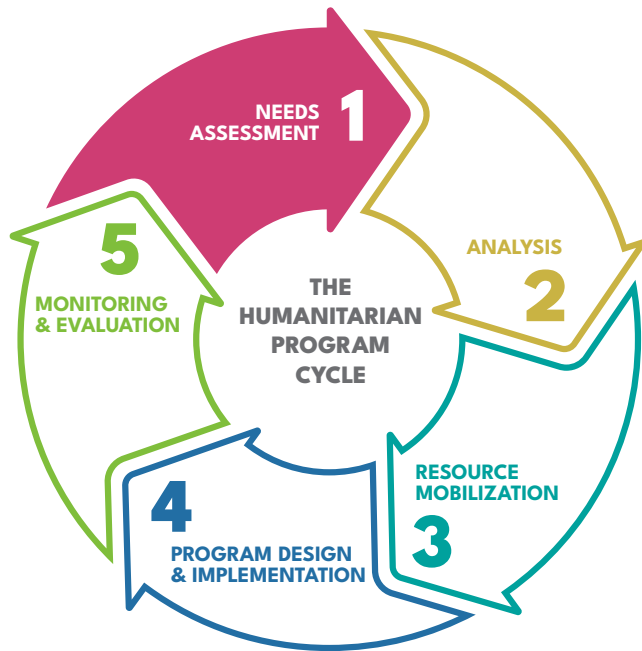




HOW-TO: A PRACTITIONER-FRIENDLY GUIDE ON HOW TO INTEGRATE GBV RISK MITIGATION INTO ASSESSMENTS



Assessments tell us if women, girls, and other vulnerable groups feel safe accessing and using our services and if they don't, why not.

The following brief is part of a series of sequenced step-by-step briefs on how to integrate GBV risk mitigation across different elements of the Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC). The first in this series, this brief covers integrating GBV risk mitigation into assessments.

WHY WE NEED TO ASSESS GBV RISKS IN PROGRAMMING

Understanding WHO is at risk of GBV and WHY they are at risk (or what makes them especially vulnerable to a risk) is critical to being able to understand how to design and implement programming that can MITIGATE those risks.

All sectors should develop and integrate methodologies for **ASSESSING GBV RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH AND/OR WHICH COULD BE MITIGATED BY THEIR PROGRAMMING**, from the very outset of a response. All sectors, including **NON-GBV SPECIALIZED SECTORS, CAN AND SHOULD INTEGRATE A GBV LENS INTO THEIR OWN ASSESSMENTS**. Such an assessment does NOT look at GBV incidents or prevalence, but rather helps us to understand if/how the most vulnerable or marginalized participants are able to safely access, use and/or participate in the sector's services.

Conducting sector-specific assessments that include questions aimed at identifying GBV risks can make programming safer and more accessible.

HOW TO INTEGRATE GBV RISK IDENTIFICATION INTO ASSESSMENTS

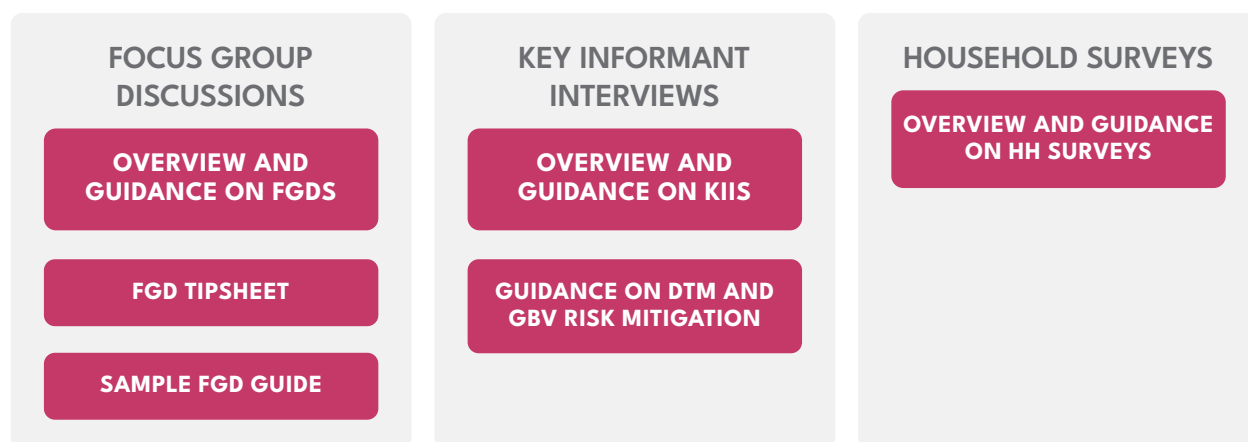
There are a range of simple tools & methodologies for assessing GBV risks in sector programming.



KEY TOOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION: CONSULTATIONS, THE AAAQ FRAMEWORK, SAFETY AUDITS

■ CONSULTATIONS

Consultations with women and girls 1). seek to understand the risks and barriers that they face and 2). assess if GBV risk mitigation measures are reducing barriers to services and helping women and girls feel safer. Consultations can take multiple modalities. Click on the links below to access core resources for each modality.



Regardless of modality, all consultations should follow basic principles to ensure they are safe and ethical. Click on the resources below for more guidance.



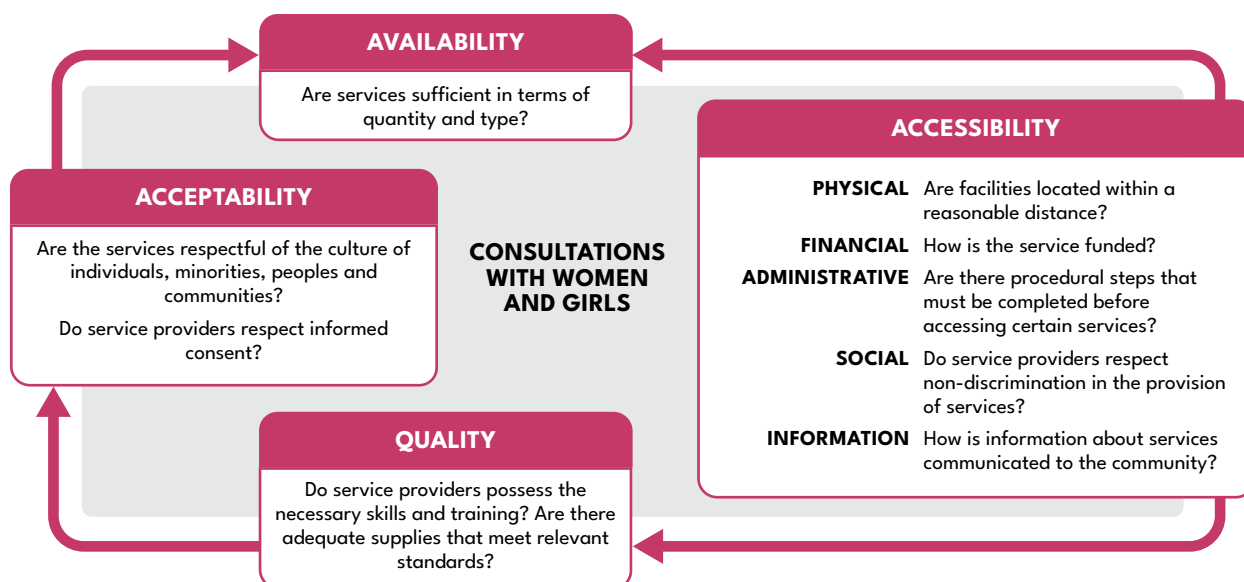
FOUR COMPONENTS OF SAFE CONSULTATIONS

Safe Space	Targeting and Participation	Safe and ethical questions and discussion	Disclosures and Referrals
Find a safe location where privacy and confidentiality can be assured	Ensure meaningful participation of women and girls	Ask relevant, ethical, safe, straightforward questions	Ensure facilitators are trained in how to safely respond to a disclosure

In addition to consultations, there are several other assessment tools that non-GBV specialized sectors can use to gain an understanding of relevant risks.

THE AVAILABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY, ACCEPTABILITY, QUALITY FRAMEWORK

The **AVAILABILITY, ACCESSIBILITY, ACCEPTABILITY, QUALITY FRAMEWORK (AAAQ)** is a tool to identify the range of possible barriers that vulnerable and marginalized populations might face when trying to access services. It offers a series of questions across a variety of categories that, when answered, can provide good insight into what types of barriers exist within a particular programming environment, and therefore where action to address barriers to services is most needed.

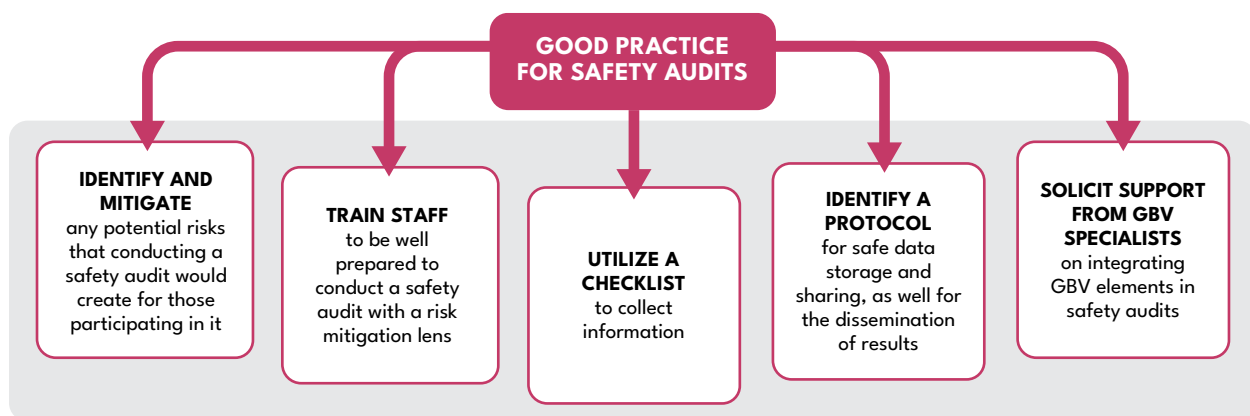


The AAAQ Framework has been adapted for a variety of sectors. For sector-specific frameworks **GO TO YOUR SECTOR PAGE UNDER THE “SECTORS” TAB**.

SAFETY AUDITS

Safety audits are a simple, practical way to collect information related to GBV-related safety risks and can be integrated into regular assessment/monitoring activities to track change over time. There are two general types of safety audits: Observation and Consultation.

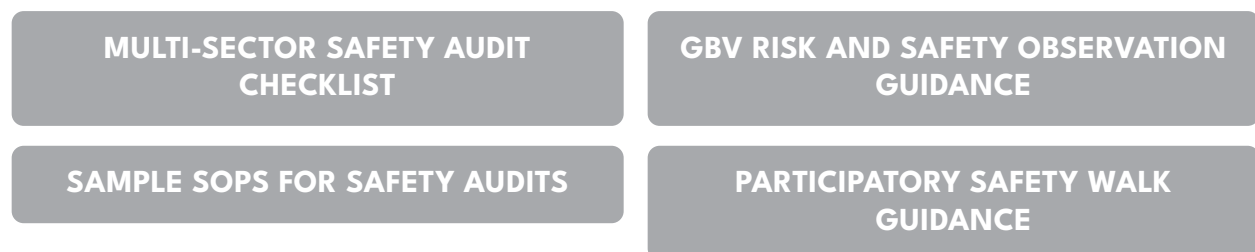
OBSERVATION	CONSULTATION
MANDATORY	RECOMMENDED
Walk around a camp, community, or facility and visually identify potential safety risks.	FGDs and/or KIIs re: access challenges and/or safety concerns



Source: UNICEF HELPDESK, SAFETY AUDITS A HOW TO GUIDE / GBV AoR Helpdesk HOW-TO-GUIDE

HOW TO UNDERTAKE A SAFETY AUDIT

Click below to access different types of safety audit tools



- For more detail on how to conduct a safety audit, here is a [HOW-TO-GUIDE](#) from the UNICEF Helpdesk
- To see additional key safety audit tools click [HERE](#)

BASIC ETHICS RELATED TO GBV AND GBV-RELATED DATA

GBV RISK MITIGATION DATA COLLECTION: DO'S AND DONT'S

DO COLLECT INFO ON:	DON'T COLLECT INFO ON:
Women and girls' feelings of safety accessing services	Individual GBV cases in the community
Social norms	
Barriers to accessing services	GBV incident data
Dignity	

All humanitarian actors conducting assessments must consider **BASIC ETHICS RELATED TO GBV AND GBV-RELATED DATA** collection and sharing to prevent inadvertently increasing stigma, GBV risks, or risk of reprisals during their assessments.

- GBV incident data is never needed for GBV risk mitigation. Only general, non-identifying information on general risks associated with programming and/or in the environment is necessary to be able to make programming safer and more accessible.
- Non-GBV specialists should never attempt to gather GBV prevalence data or ask women and girls directly about their experiences of GBV, as doing so can inadvertently put both program participants and the enumerators at risk. Moreover, prevalence data can be of poor quality due to underreporting incidents of GBV.

[CLICK HERE FOR OVERVIEW AND GUIDANCE ON ASSESSMENTS](#)