

GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**An intersectional approach to understanding
and addressing gender inequality**

**Practical
ACTION**

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- 4. From analysis to action at systemic/network level (Spotlight on START network).

Our Approach

- We look to make a shift from Gender Unaware, through to Gender Transformative Action.
- Today I'll share 4 examples on how we do this.



Gender
Unaware



Gender
Aware



Gender
Sensitive



Gender
Transformative



Gender Aware

There is acknowledgement that different genders (including gender minorities) are impacted differently or may have different roles, needs, or capacities. There is analysis and assessment of differential needs, preferences and capacities, and of the existence of gendered power imbalances but without proactive systematic adaptations to adapt and improve.



Gender Sensitive

Policies, practices and priorities reflect awareness of differential impacts on and needs of different genders (including gender minorities), and the existence of gendered power imbalances. Plans, priorities and activities are adapted to better meet the needs of marginalized gender groups.



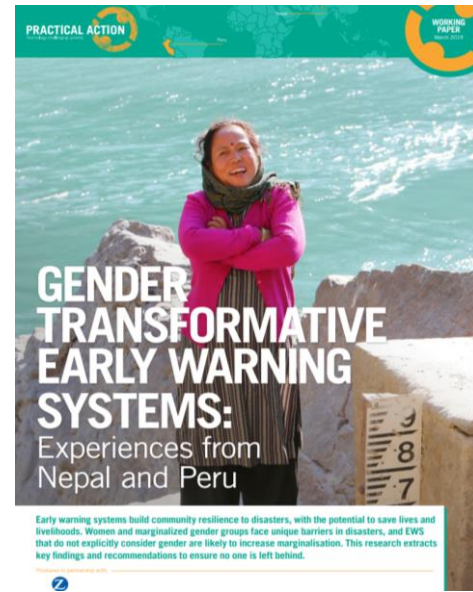
Gender Transformative

Policies and practices reflect awareness of differential impacts on and needs of different genders (including gender minorities), and the existence of gendered power imbalances. Plans, priorities and approaches are proactively (re)designed to meet the needs of all people. There is consideration of harmful gender roles, norms and relations, acknowledgement of how gendered assumptions marginalize different genders, and proactive effort to reduce gender based inequalities.

1. Diverse **EXPERIENCES**

1. Diverse Experiences

- We wanted to undertake a study into whether Practical Action's work on **Flood Early Warning Systems** was **Gender Transformative**.
- While conducting routine data collection on gendered vulnerabilities, it became clear there were **gaps in our data** - groups and perspectives were **missing** from the interviews.
- This led us to ask the question – which groups are we **not hearing from** in our traditional surveying techniques?
- And are there ways to proactively reach out and **listen to** these 'Missing Voices'?



<https://floodresilience.net/>



Target groups

The study targeted:

- teenage girls
- elderly women
- widows
- women with mobility related disabilities
- single mothers
- transgender women
- women who were pregnant or had young babies at the time of flooding
- women with visual impairments



- We aimed to capture in their own words (via translation) the first person experiences
- Interviews focused on open ended questions (related to the broader topic) prioritising listening to the issues the interviewees wanted to talk about



What did they share?

Young disabled woman, Nepal

“At night, most women remained alert for fear of rape and unwanted attention. Especially as a disabled person...if anybody was to behave badly with me, I know I would hesitate to complain...All these things made me feel very vulnerable”

Elderly widow, Far-west Nepal

“I have never attended any meetings. They are mainly attended by men. They don't often ask women to them, and when they do, it is only the educated women. Not women like me. I don't think I would even understand what they're saying, let alone learn anything”

What did they share?

Transgender woman, Western Nepal

“I am used to being jeered at and called derogatory names. But to be treated like this even during such a precarious time made me feel terrible. Nobody thought to offer any help, even though my mother is very old and my nieces and nephews are young. Instead they tried to avoid us”

Teenage girl, Eastern Nepal

When it became clear we would be flooded and we had to leave, I was worried also because I was due my monthly period. In case my brothers decided to seek shelter in the temple grounds, I would not be able to stay with the rest of the family” (due to norms relating to menstrual stigma)

Insights from Missing Voice interviews

**Entrenched
discrimination impacts
vulnerability pre and
post disaster**

**Multiple
marginalisations
escalate impacts**

**Minority groups feel
invisible,
misunderstood and
ignored**

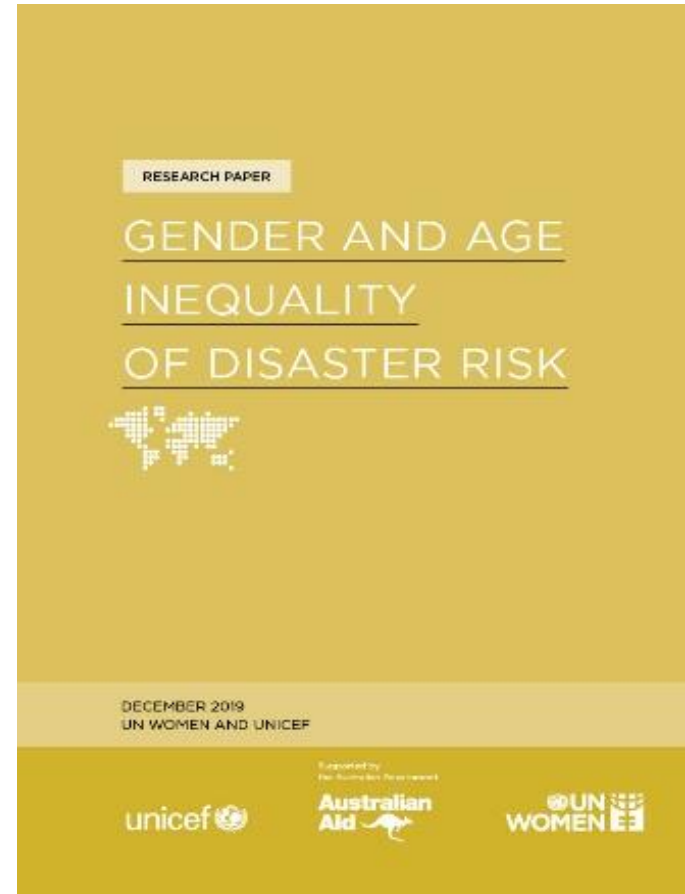
**Data gaps reinforce
exclusion**

Gender based violence

2. Enhancing Analysis of **GENDER AND INEQUALITY**

2. Enhancing Analysis of Gender and Inequality - Spotlight on Data

- We undertook a Global study on Gender and Age Inequality of Disaster Risk
- Research Aim: To understand how different gender and age groups are affected by disasters.





Nepal
2015 earthquake



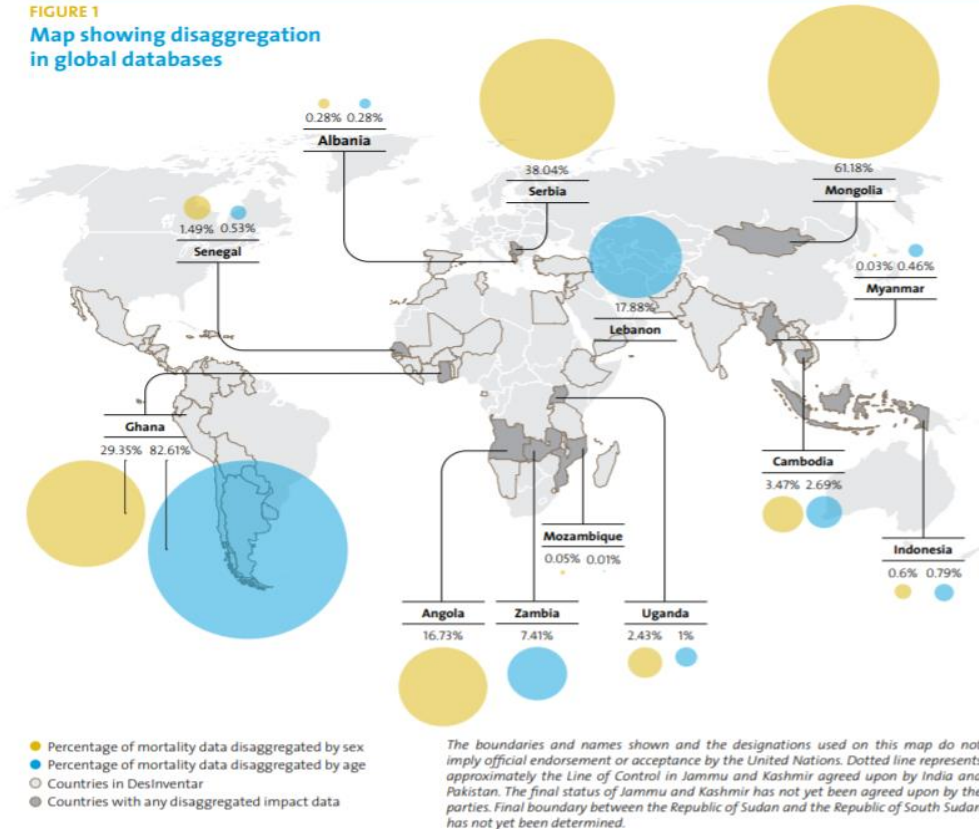
Dominica
2017 hurricane



Malawi
Drought, 2015
flood 2019 cyclone

- At global, national & sectoral levels, gendered data gaps were substantial

FIGURE 1
Map showing disaggregation
in global databases



- Out of the 85 countries in DesInventar, only 15% (13 countries) disaggregate data by gender or age

A 6-step Guide to Gender and Age Inequality Informed Data

STEP 1

DISAGGREGATED QUANTITATIVE DATA

TYPE OF DATA

Collate available quantitative data on disaster impacts disaggregated by age and gender. Can include estimates of the affected population drawn from census data.



WHAT CAN IT TELL US?

Scale of potential impact of the disaster on vulnerable groups.

STEP 2

QUALITATIVE DATA

Review qualitative information of disaster impacts on specific gender and age groups. Include insights from survey, focus group discussions, key informant interviews.



Understanding of impacts on vulnerable groups, why these impact occurred, differential challenges and needs. Provides understanding of the majority experiences of (presumed) homogenous groups. (e.g. women, men, children, elderly)

STEP 3

INEQUALITY DATA

Consider existing information on inequality within a given context. Consider the groups and areas (e.g. maternal health of indigenous women) where there is existing inequality.



Provides insights into underlying drivers of vulnerability, and areas of existing inequality that can be exacerbated during a disaster.

STEP 4 CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Question stereotyping, sexism, heteronormativity or cisnormativity within existing analysis of differential impacts. Identify which groups and sub-groups are particularly vulnerable, in-numerous, or socially marginalized, who are excluded from existing analysis.



Identification of assumptions, gaps and avenues for further exploration. Identification of who is missing.

STEP 5 INTERMEDIARY OUTREACH

Partner with individuals and organisations experienced at supporting minority groups. Trust is important.



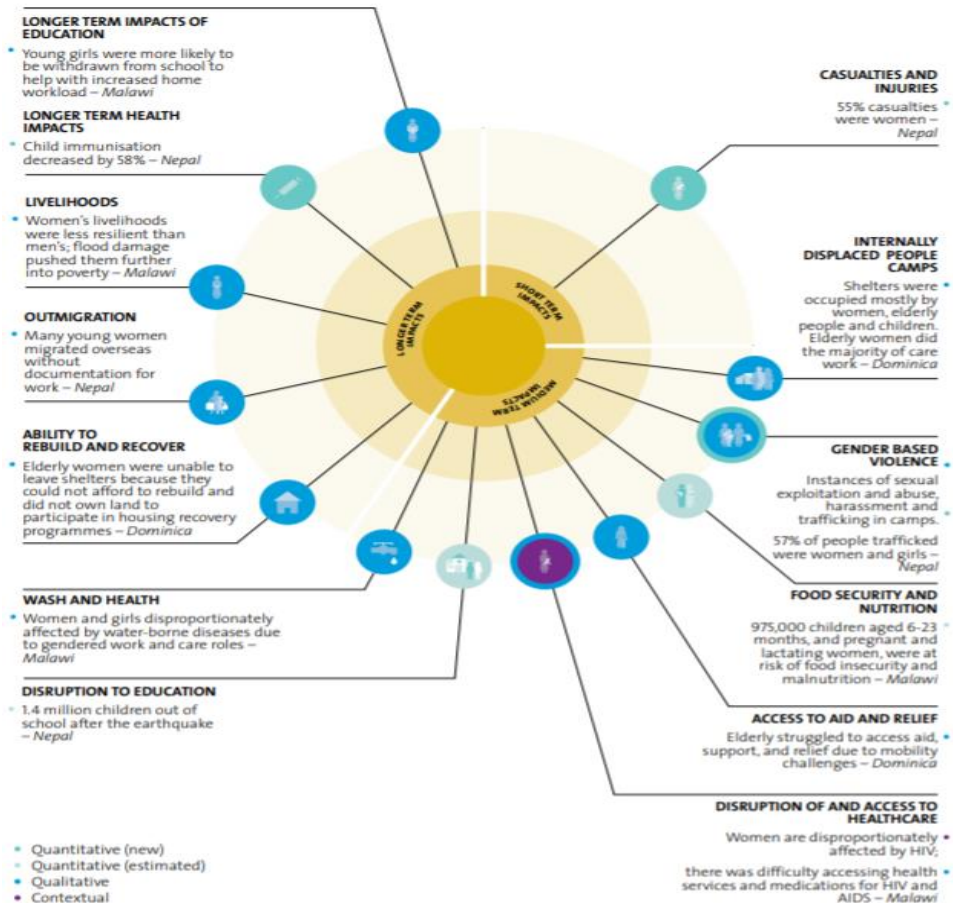
Insights into how minority groups are affected, and support connecting with potential Missing Voices interviewees.

STEP 6 MISSING VOICES

Partner with individuals and organisations experienced at supporting minority groups. Trust is important.



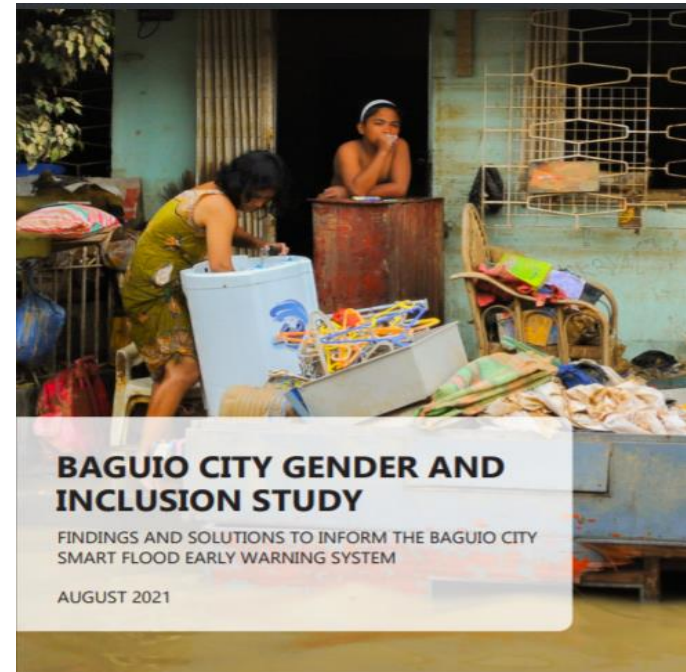
Understand the experiences of marginalised individuals, including those marginalised in multiple intersecting ways.



3. From Analysis to **ACTION**

3. From Analysis to Action

- Mayor of Baguio City in the Philippines asked us to bring our Missing Voices approach to their Cities' Gender Transformative Flood Early Warning System (under ADB Smart Cities)
- We produced an in depth Gender and Inclusion analysis of gendered aspects of Flood Risk and Early Warning in the city.



ASEAN
AUSTRALIA
SMART CITIES
TRUST FUND
Asian Development Bank


Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Policy and Practice Recommendations for a Gender Transformative Flood Early Warning System in Baguio City



AASCTF POLICY BRIEF

Policy and Practice Recommendations : Towards a Gender Transformative Flood Early Warning System in Baguio City

SUMMARY

- This policy brief provides targeted policy and practice recommendations for the **Flood Early Warning System**, in Baguio City, Western Philippines.
- Building on the findings of the *Baguio City Gender and Inclusion Study*, these recommendations will ensure that the flood early warning system integrates Gender Transformative approaches, providing a system that **works effectively for all, with no-one left behind**.
- Part one of this document provides a brief **Background** to this initiative on Gender Transformative Early Warning.
- Part two summarises the **Key Findings** of the Mixed Methods Gender and Inclusion Study.
- Part three provides **Recommendations** for the design and operation of Baguio's Flood Early Warning System.
- The final section describes the next steps in moving from **Recommendations into Actions**.
- This policy brief is recommended reading for stakeholders engaged in implementing different components of the Baguio Flood Early Warning System, with wider relevance for those wishing to learn from Baguio's investment in **Gender Transformative Flood Early Warning**.

RAMBOLL

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SCAN FOR
DIGITAL VERSION
N/A/3C8M88

8 Areas of Recommendations

1

Gender and Inequality Informed EWS

2

Improve Understanding of Risk

3

Preparedness for Safe Evacuation

4

Development of Forecasts, Alerts and Warnings

5

Dissemination (of forecasts, alerts and evacuation instructions)

6

Communication (of forecasts, alerts and evacuation instructions)

7

Person-centred Evacuation

8

Safety and Dignity in Temporary Shelter

8 Areas of Recommendations

1

Gender and Inequality Informed EWS

- **Raise awareness** about the importance of **specific and targeted action** to reach an ambition of “no-one left behind” , especially with those in key positions in the design and management of the EWS.
- Within ongoing **data collection activities, consider how to learn from minority experiences**, including from those with multiple axes of marginalisation. This can include assessment and improvement of existing tools, a review to take stock of groups omitted from existing data collection approaches, and enhancement of the data collection system to hear from those otherwise excluded, including the incorporation of **robust qualitative data alongside enhanced quantitative data**.
- Develop **multiple options for safe and appropriate feedback loops** to listen to and be held accountable to those with minority experiences or poor trust in authorities.
- Ensure that **listening to minority as well as average experiences** is built into post flood After Action Reviews.

8 Areas of Recommendations

7

Person-centred Evacuation

- Identify individuals or groups whose **evacuation timelines¹ differ** from the majority².
- Stakeholders in the EWS need to **understand the priorities, challenges and motivations that influence evacuation timelines**. This understanding will come from **active listening** to diverse and minority perspectives.
- When discussing **thresholds to trigger alerts or evacuations**, consider the evacuation timelines that suit the majority, as well as evacuation timelines that suit those outside of the majority.
- When deciding on a **preferred lead time**, recognize that one standard evacuation timeline will not be optimal for all individuals.
- For groups or individuals poorly served by the majority evacuation timeline, **co-develop bespoke solutions**, shaped and determined by people in that situation.
- Actions can be taken to **reduce the risks** of activities highlighted in the Gender Inclusion Study including **double evacuations**. This can target either reducing the need for return trips, or increasing the lead time so that return trips can be made before the risk reaches dangerous levels, depending on what is contextually appropriate. **Provide clearer information on evacuation sequencing and key windows for receiving help** so that people can take **informed decisions**.

Recommendations to Actions: Putting gender transformative policy into practice

- Co-design actions and responsibilities with key stakeholders across the City
 - CDRMMO
 - Shelter Coordinators
 - Social Services
 - FEWS Centre
 - Rescue Teams
- Integrate into FEWS Standard Operating Procedures so that the gender and inclusion elements are ingrained within the Flood Early Warning System

4. From Analysis to Action

**NETWORK /
SYSTEMIC**

4. From Analysis to Action Network / Systemic

- Worked with the START network (network of humanitarian agencies working towards anticipatory action) to integrate Gender across the Network's Disaster Risk Financing.
- Included pilot support to CARE International on Missing Voices approach to gender informed analysis





RISK ANALYTICS:

Hazard related risks, vulnerabilities and impacts have gendered dimensions. A gendered approach to risk analytics ensures the inclusion of different perspectives on risk thresholds and triggers, including experiences of past impacts, knowledge of key risk indicators e.g. due to differing patterns of daily activity, as well as gendered risk tolerance. Within a DRF system, a one-size fits all threshold and trigger system is going to leave the most vulnerable at risk of heightened impact. This can inform the need for multiple trigger thresholds, based on a range of different, softer indicators depending on the hazard and the context.



CONTINGENCY PLANNING:

Gender and intersecting vulnerabilities greatly influence the early actions that marginalised people need to take in advance of a hazard event. Contingency planning must acknowledge that vulnerable people may require extra time, as well as particular material and knowledge support, to know what they can do and to be able to take those actions.



FINANCING:

Gendered dimensions of the financial component include: the need to develop gender inclusive parameters and thresholds for triggering payouts; considering costs for gendered emergency needs as a basic requirement (such as provision of safe and secure temporary shelter, evacuation facilities, sanitary products, maternal and neonatal health care, livelihood support for marginalised gender groups); and ensuring financing not only targets the most vulnerable and marginalised groups but also actively involves these groups and their representative organisation in planning, implementation and evaluation processes.

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**Thank
YOU**

