

## **Report Learning Event – Same Disaster – different Effects – different Strategies: Gender issues and the Position of Women in Climate and Disaster Resilience, Restaurant Dählhölzli, Bern, Switzerland, 24 & 25 November 2021**

**Organized by the SDC Networks for DRR and Gender and  
Swiss NGO DRR Platform**



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## **DAY 1., 24 November 2021.**

The Learning Event was opened by **Barbara Dätwyler**, head of Multilateral Affairs Division of SDC, and **Nicole Stolz**, head of DevCo Swissaid and founding member of the Swiss NGO DRR Platform.

In a world of increasing inequalities depending on race, caste, class, poverty, gender and age, we still see that disasters are not the same for women and men: gender makes a difference; but on the other hand women show power and knowledge that is not well seen yet. There are more and more local champions. Mainstreaming gender is not a new task, and we should be careful not just to tick the box. Keep it high on the agenda.

Enhancing leadership and changing mindsets is important; and a holistic approach – in which Leave No-One Behind (LNOB) is central - adds value and effect to the DRR and Climate Resilience work.

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The facilitator of the meeting, **Christine Lottje** from FAKT, leads the audience through the programme and underlines that the event aims at understanding the gender dimensions in 'natural' disasters, working with Gender and DRR approaches and tools. The goals of the workshop are to jointly address the following questions:

- Why and how are genders affected differently by disasters linked to natural hazards?
- How can the different impacts be overcome through the implementation of gender-responsive DRM? How can a disaster event offer a window of opportunity to overcome gender inequalities?
- How do we integrate gender and DRM into project planning, implementation and monitoring?

Several issues were raised when participants were asked what they would like to learn, including the importance of a systemic approach, of understanding cultural differences, LNOB, concepts and practices (incl. cases), opportunities of the intersection, and 'gender is more than gender-disaggregated data'.

**UNDERSTANDING:** Setting the Scene – Understanding gender dimensions of disaster risk (management).

**Setting the scene – Eye opener on the interface of gender and DRM, by Irene Dankelman, IRDANA**

After showing a short video called 'Sahena', that is part of the series *Sisters on the Planet*, of Oxfam-GB, participants were asked to tell in keywords what they saw:

- ➔ Increasing pressure of weather-related disasters in the communities in Bangladesh and particularly women; increased flooding;
- ➔ The difference that one woman can make;
- ➔ Her knowledge (incl. geographical!) and experience on which she builds;
- ➔ Her braveness – she resisted oppression;
- ➔ But she was determined;
- ➔ Also how she shares with, and inspires other women (in the DRR committee) and her own children; she is proud of that;
- ➔ And finally she got respect, even from other women and her own husband, and is now able to make decisions herself, and to move freely.
- ➔ The video also showed the importance of early warning systems, and of being locally prepared for disasters.

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- See: Oxfam-GB, 2008. Sisters on the Planet: Sahena (Bangladesh).  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqYgDGy8Z4M&t=145s> [6:57] –  
Also, other relevant videos mention on the Background Documents file.

In this section DRR/CC Concepts and Analysis are introduced by **Jacqueline Schmid** (SDC), **Judith Macchi** (HEKS), and **Patrick Sieber** (SDC) - and participants raise some questions.

Issues that are presented and discussed include: kind of hazards/events; increase in number of loss events; occurrence of disaster types (2020 compared to 2000-2019 annual average); number of deaths per disaster (ibid.); number of affected (ibid.); losses vs. GDP (Nepal earthquake, vs. Japan tsunami); the poor are twice as likely to (a) work in sectors highly susceptible to extreme weather events (e.g. agriculture), and (b) live in fragile housing in vulnerable areas; risk = hazard x vulnerability x exposure; coping capacity. Also, the Risk Management Cycle and DRM Stair Case are introduced.

And for climate change, including policies: warming/mean temperature increase projections; climate scenarios for CH; adaptation and mitigation are both needed; CC is a risk multiplier.

The presentation is finished with basic definitions, policy frameworks (incl. Sendai and its 7 targets by 2030), and four priority areas (they are included in the ppt but were not shown during the presentation).

*See PPT: 1\_Introduction DRR and CC Concepts\_24.11.2021*

Next Gender Concepts and Analysis is introduced by **Corinne Huser** (SDC).

In her presentation Corinne reflects on Gender in SDC; looking into: drivers of poverty & exclusion, incl. sex and gender; relevance for SDC - (a) human right and intrinsic value, (b) development effectiveness (with women 50% of the population, but 70% of the poor). Corinne introduces policy reference documents; definitions (e.g. 'gender' = a power construct); and SDC's vision and commitment: "*gender positive and transformative results, reducing the gender gap*" – avoiding gender negative and gender neutral, being gender-sensitive, and working towards gender positive and – transformative. Gender neutral can work out gender negative.

Next Corinne describes the approach to contribute to Gender Transformative Change (GTC) by:

- (a) Promoting levers of GTC:
  - Women's empowerment and agency;
  - Transforming harmful social norms, roles, imbalances in gender and power relations;
  - Gender positive/responsive policy frameworks and institutions;
  - Engaging with drivers of change.
- (b) Addressing multiple forms of discrimination (gender & LNOB).
- (c) Twin-track approach (Projects with specific Gender Target, and Projects mainstreaming Gender).
- (d) Systemic integration in programming and the institution.

Gender Analysis needs four lenses, and plays a role (before and) after a disaster: "Conflict between gender norms and roles and what men and women do after the disaster can open space for change, but it can also lead to more violence and insecurities."

*See PPT: 2\_Introduction\_Gender in the SDC\_24.11.2021*



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**Dr. Rahel Steinbach** is the DRR and Resilience Programme Specialist of UN Women (based in Geneva). She presents 'Gender Equality and Women's Leadership in DRR and Resilience'.

Rahel asks the participants why this is a relevant theme: women's poverty is increasing (feminization of poverty), access to and control over resources is decreasing; education levels are more limited (incl. illiteracy); women's mobility is more limited (also less access to sustainable transport); GBV is a major concern; and women bear many responsibilities, incl. increasing levels of care work (shadow pandemic of Covid-19).

Data tell a story: reference is made to an extensive study of E. Neumayer and T. Plümper, 2007<sup>1</sup>, that showed that more women died in disasters and at an earlier age. For example the heatwave in France in 2003 showed the same picture. See the map: Global Disasters 2019<sup>2</sup>.

Next Rahel points to the Research Paper: UN Women & UNICEF, 2019. *Gender and Age Inequality of Disaster Risk*, that learned: women are disproportionately affected by disasters, are more likely to die in disasters, and have different and uneven levels of resilience and capacity to recover.

Gender inequality defines vulnerability and capacity, due to discrimination, illiteracy, limited opportunities to access assets and resources, abuse and violence. Hazard exposure, vulnerability, resilience, capacity and potential, all are important determinants, and play a role in gender-responsive building forward better for risk-informed resilience. The Sendai Framework pays attention to gender dimensions, but limited. There is e.g. lack of mandatory sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data (SADDD).

An enabling environment doesn't automatically lead to gender-responsive DRR; conditions are e.g. a gender-responsive early warning system; availability of services, incl. SRHs; finance and insurance; women's businesses; and partnerships.

After lunch the focus is on UN Women's work on DRR, which is divided across the triple mandate of the organization: (a) Targeted action for women's resilience / projects; (b) Policies, strategies, plans and budgets, including gender-responsive coordination mechanisms; (c) An enabling environment, including knowledge and tools, and women's leadership and empowerment.<sup>3</sup>

UN Women's *Women's Resilience to Disasters Programme*, with as Theory of Change: "*The lives and livelihoods of women are resilient to disasters and threats, contributing to sustainable, secure and thriving communities*", aims to enhance: (1) Gender-responsive DRR systems; (2) Targeted action for women's and girls' resilience.

UN Women's *Women's Resilience to Disasters Knowledge Hub* (WRD) – online end December 2021 or beginning 2022 – includes:

- A searchable database of research, guidelines, policies, best practices etc.
- Articles and documents – organized into specific topics related to gender-disasters.
- Toolbox of resources (incl. templates for needs assessments, guidelines, training kits, advocacy material etc).
- Community of Practice to maximize knowledge exchange (e.g. via webinars, blogs).

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<sup>1</sup> Neumayer, E. & T. Plümper, 2007. The gendered nature of natural disasters: the impact of catastrophic events on the gender gap in life expectancy, 1981-2002. In: *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 97:3, 551-566.

<sup>2</sup> Munich Re, 2020, Geo Risks Research, NatCatService, as of Jan.2020

<sup>3</sup> Later, in Irene Dankelman's presentation, a slightly different definition of an 'enabling environment' is used.

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- Expert Roster (gender-DRR experts by geographical & thematic area).

See PPT: *3\_Gender Dimensions of Disasters\_UN Women\_25.11.2021*

To illustrate the situation in the regions **Tonni Ann Brodber**, UN Women's Caribbean Multi-Country Office in Barbados, joins remotely. The Small Island Development states (SIDs) of the Caribbean are on the forefront of the climate crisis – yet resilience is low, economies are exposed, and women are the most vulnerable, according to Brodber in her presentation 'Strengthening gender-responsive disaster and climate resilience in the Caribbean'.

What is needed: Data collection and analysis of SDD; Capacity strengthening; Demonstrating impact.

UN Women Caribbean is increasing collection and use of data. This is illustrated by the EnGenDER project – *Enabling Gender-responsive disaster recovery, climate and environment resilience in the Caribbean*<sup>4</sup>. A nine (9) country Gender Inequality of Risk and Cost of Inaction study and a knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and practices (KABP) part includes:

- Sectoral analyses of the gendered and cultural dimensions of climate and disaster vulnerabilities and their integration in CC / DRR strategies and frameworks.
- Assessment of the differential impact of CC and disasters on women and men: transport, water and food access, safety and security etc.
- Policy analysis and recommendations.

Another aspect is: building capacity and demonstrating impact, through:

- A. *Gender-responsive disaster response and climate adaptation*:
  - Gender Data Analysis training for senior technical officers
  - Developing a behavioral change strategy
  - COVID-19 subventions to women in hard-hit agricultural and tourism industries.
- B. *Strengthening women's resilience in agricultural industries to enhance women's economic empowerment, climate resilience and food security* (UN HSTF):
  - Gender-Responsive review of national agricultural and small business support programmes
  - Capacity-building of women small holder farmers for more resilient and gender inclusive food systems; legal counselling, mentoring, business training.

Priority Actions include:

- Access to transport for women and girls;
- Climate Resilience Training;
- Building business and ICT capacities among women and youth entrepreneurs in key sectors;
- Flagship Status of Women and Men report: intersection of climate change, GBV and women's economic empowerment;
- Gender Equality Fund and innovative financing for resilience-building and social inclusion;
- High-level event on the margins of CSW66: Climate change, DRR and Innovative solutions.

See PPT: *4\_Engendering DRR and Climate Resilience in the Caribbean\_UN Women\_24.11.2021*

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<sup>4</sup> UN Women & IISD, July 2021. *Gender-Responsive Resilience Building in the Caribbean: Understanding the role of knowledge, attitudes, behaviours, and practices in coordination mechanisms for climate change and disaster risk reduction*. UN Women & IISD (authors: Angie Dazé and Cameron Hunter)

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### Group Work on gender responsive risk analysis: CASE STUDIES.

Three different case studies were presented and discussed in groups of participants. The cases covered: Haiti, Ethiopia, and Bangladesh.

**Main areas** that were discussed:

A1. Gender-related disaster risks.

A2. And opportunities.

B. How are these addressed?

B1. Project measures organized according to the DRM Cycle and/or

B2. The Risk Staircase

C. And how can the process be assessed/monitored? Data needs and challenges.

#### Case Study Haiti: Women in DRR in Haiti in Prevention and Preparedness.

- Together with her remote colleague in Haiti, the Helvetas Country Director Entela Sula, **Jana Junghardt** from Helvetas, presents the case study to the group of participants.
- She starts with describing the *disaster context*: more than 100 registered disaster events in the past century, including floods, tropical cyclones, landslides, and earthquakes. The country has a National Plan for DRR, 2019-2030.
- Regarding *gender*: The gender context is that women suffer disproportionately from direct and indirect disaster effects; this is amplified by their vulnerable socio-economic status. Only 10-20% of functions on national and local DRR-systems are filled by women; and there is lack of differentiated understanding, and negligence of women as agents of change. It is important not only to tackle economic opportunities, but also social aspects and root causes. There is a need for a step-by-step approach to encourage and institutionalize participation.
- The *project "Gender-responsive risk management"* is still in its inception phase but strongly builds on two existing projects: CEDRIG – PARER (infrastructure and marketing) and CEDRIG – PAGAI (resilient agriculture). The project is anchored nationally and the implementation focusses on the South-East of Haiti. Objective is: Active inclusion of women in formal and informal spaces related to disaster preparation and response in order to strengthen resilience and leadership potential. With as results: (1) women assume major functions in GRD at different levels, representing needs and addressing vulnerabilities and potential (empowerment); (2) Public and other relevant actors institutionalize inclusive governance and build capacity for gender-responsive DRR; (3) Socio-economic and environmental resilience at community level enhanced through normative frameworks and nature-based actions. The project should build on needs and existing expertise, and links with the running projects of Helvetas.

#### Discussion:

- a1. \*Women affected more because of their respective roles and responsibilities.
  - \*Different forms of violence – embedded in society/culture; violence hinders agency.
  - \*Very different hazards: ask for different approaches to tackle.
  - \*Women absent in DRR community.
- a2. \*Ongoing projects in the municipalities to be involved.
  - \*Existing experiences from other projects regarding e.g. agriculture – potential of sharing amongst communities.
  - \*Existing gender analyses (agriculture and water).
  - \*UN Women analysis after the earthquake.

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b1. \*Objective level: focus on preparedness and response; make sure to link with prevention & build back better.

\*Strengthen governance as a precondition for risk reduction.

\*Access to land – possibilities analyzed, looking for directions, to change existing structures.

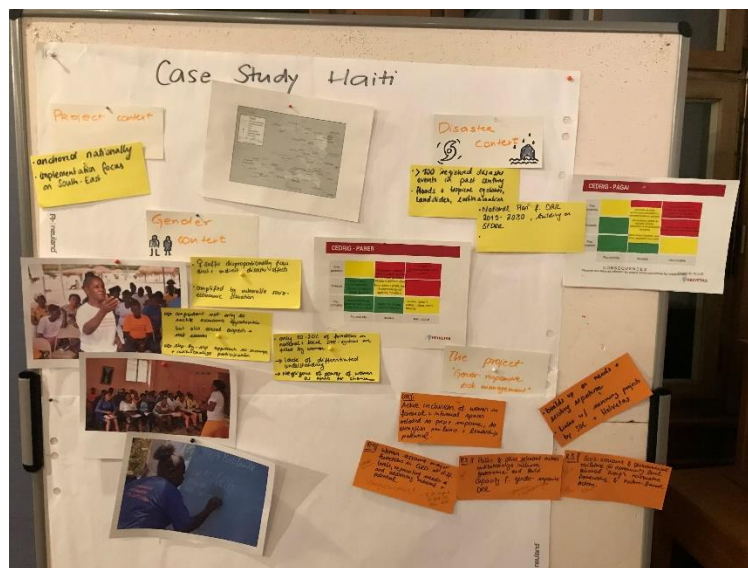
\*Looking for partnerships with schools (education); indirectly- + family focus; to also involve youth.

b2. \*Community-saving schemes; safety nets; seed banks.

\*Work on norms, negative stereotypes: with public actors and with communities, in order to be gender positive/transformative.

\*Access to finance, financial education, insurance, community social banks.

\*Making sure that the project builds on participatory approaches, in which women are actively engaged.



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### Case Study Bangladesh: Protection -Gender-sensitive cyclone shelters on public ground.

Presentation of the Case study by **Jacqueline Schmid**, SDC.

#### Discussion:

a1.\*Southern Bangladesh cyclone-prone and flooding

\*Many women and children passed away;

\*Many landless people

\*Social hierarchy very strong

\*Patriarchy makes women to stay at home

\*Issue= distance to shelters and not reachable for the poor

\*Women do not leave children, elderly or animals at home

\*Women's mobility is limited due to: long hair, clothes, carrying children

\*Women at home did not hear the alarm

\* 700 people in one shelter, with no separate areas

\*At the shelter issues occurred of violence and sickness, notably urinary tract and sexual health due to lack of separate space for hygiene

\*Intersectionality plays an important role, e.g. pregnant women, lactating women: no private space

\*Financial security limited

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- \*Men migrate long distances for work
- \*Psychological vulnerability men after disaster.

a2.\*Shelters and alarm systems in place

b1. \*Accessibility: ramp instead of stairs

\*Rooms separated and space for animals

\*Shelter management committees with men & women

\*Training for alarm system; women and men trained on how to react to alarm...leave the house etc.

In the past years, the enabling environment has improved: Communities must have Disaster Management Committees, including Women; Guidelines state that women and more vulnerable people need to be moved to shelters first; Women learn how to react in case of alarm, how to prepare etc. Problem is still, that women don't have sufficient access to information because they are conditioned to stay in the private sphere.

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#### Case study Ethiopia, Borana: Gender inclusive resilience building in a pastoralist society.

Presented by **Judith Macchi**, HEKS.

The project is a participatory rangeland governance and management project in the Borana Region of Ethiopia. Borana is a Savannah (arid-semi arid) region mainly inhabited by pastoralist society. Main challenges increase of drought events, heavy rainfall, flooding and erosion due to changing climate, conflicts around natural resource use, desert locust, land conversion and degradation. The project has four main components: participatory land use planning, natural resource management, disaster risk management and sustainable livelihood and income. The project will go into a follow up phase in 2022. In the follow up phase the project should have a more explicit gender focus.

In the pastoral areas of Borana, the roles are structured based on gender and age groups. Changes in the pastoral production due to factors like climate change and disaster risk seem to have been transforming the gender roles, so that women's workload, areas of decision making and income earning opportunities have increased.

Discussion:

a. Overall:

- Entry point: How are men's roles affected? Potential for new masculinities?
- Avoid outside push of the gender topic → rather let the community come with it.
- Different level structures: traditional & modern; women and men represented.
- Gradually move towards strategic needs of women and gender transformative projects.
- Understand also the practical needs of women.
- Assess women's economic assets.
- Gender analysis on resources available; how these are at risk.
- Consult with women's groups to get information on their needs.

b2.Risk stair case helps in thinking, planning and keeping focussed.

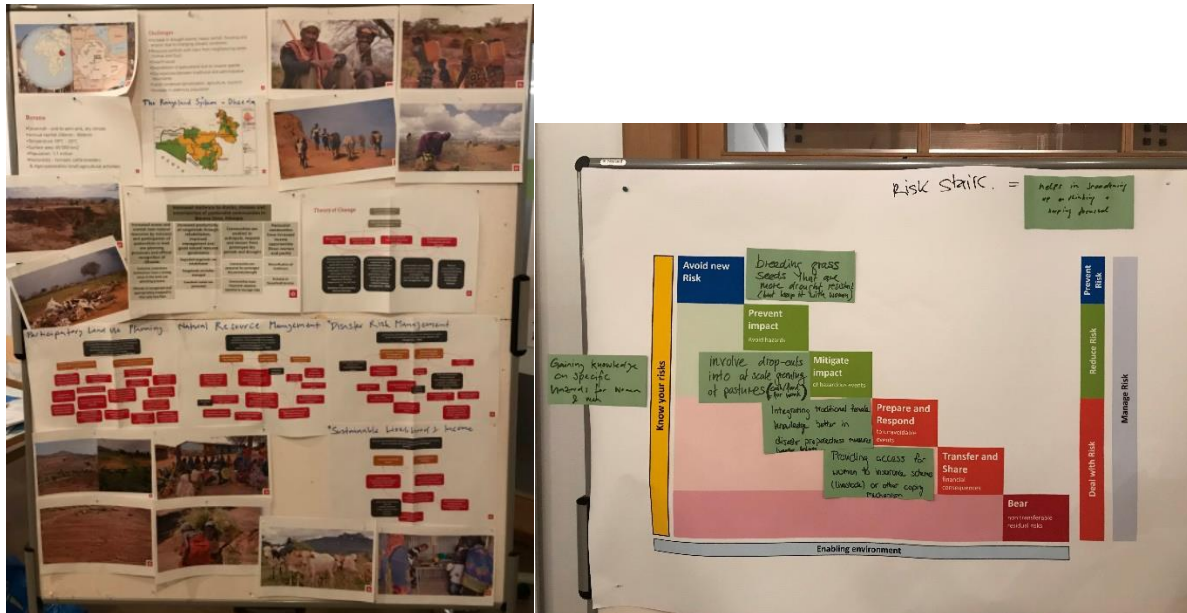
Overall: growing knowledge on specific hazards for women and men.

\*Avoid new risk: breeding grass seeds that are more drought resistant (but keep it with the women).



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- \*Mitigate impact: involve drop-outs into at scale greening of pastures (cash/food for work).
- \*Prepare and respond: integrating traditional female knowledge (e.g. on weather) better in disaster preparedness measures.
- \*Transfer and share: Providing access for women to insurance schemes (livestock) or other coping mechanisms.



**Nadine Plachta**, University of Toronto, who lived in Nepal from 2014-2019, presents 'After the 2015 Earthquake: Building Back Better in Nepal'.

On 25 April 2015 a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck the country, followed by a long period of strong aftershocks. Devastation was enormous: 9,000 people died, 24,000 were injured; more than 500,000 buildings collapsed or were damaged; and an estimated 2.8 million people were rendered homeless, many of which in hard-to-reach and isolated areas.

Although Disaster Preparedness was developed, implementation and enforcement often lagged behind – also due to the political and social contexts. Relief and recovery efforts took place in 2015, e.g. in August 2015 PDNA. Nadine studied the *Rural Housing Reconstruction Program* in Charikot (Dolkha district). This program followed an owner-driven approach that placed households (HHs) at the centre. But: What is a HH?

For accessing the reconstruction grants of the program, citizenship, landownership and marriage documents, in addition to valid bank accounts, are needed. Many citizens in rural Nepal, and most of all women, never made these documents! So their access to these grants was limited. Also during disasters women got disadvantaged (e.g. not allowed to climb trees).

In conclusion Nadine warns that climate change and extreme weather events are likely to increase the occurrence of disasters for people in the Himalayan region (e.g. 2019 flash floods washed the reconstructed houses away). And Nepal and surrounding countries face the threat of much stronger earthquakes in future. It seems that an increasing level of competing disasters is the 'new normal'.

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Intersectional identities and experiences of vulnerabilities need to be taken into account to make post-disaster reconstruction processes inclusive and transformative. Women representatives need to be involved: local governments could be an entry point.

Geopolitical: China is now coming in with extensive support for infrastructure projects in the region. The question is: Is this a good or a bad development?

See PPT: *5\_Earthquake Nepal Building Back Better\_Nadine Plachta-University of Toronto\_24.11.2021*

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At the end of the first day **learning points** are shared:

- If you want to be transformative you have to get out of your comfort zone;
- It is nice to come together with people with either a gender or a DRR/CC background (or both);
- There is urgent need to bring DRR and gender together;
- The day was quite untechnical (seen as a positive aspect because you are not scared off by DRR as a technical discipline).

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## DAY 2., 25 November 2021

### B.TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION

After a short recall of yesterday's discussions, **Andrea Hofer**, University of Zürich, Department Economics presents: 'The Gender Data Gap in Switzerland':

\* data are not collected at all, or are not disaggregated by gender and/or

\* gender disaggregated data collected, but the gender dimension not used in any data analysis.

Examples Andrea presents

(a) *Health data* – women underrepresented in clinical studies

→ misdiagnoses when women have different symptoms from men (i.e. heart attack);

→ 'overdosing' or wrong medication;

→ mostly female health concerns (e.g. bladder infections, menopause etc) are understudied.

\*\* Take-away: lack of medical data on women may lead to wrong medical treatment for women.

(b) *Workplace*: many aspects of work tailored to men.

\* paid work and unpaid care work are hard to combine;

- CH: no data on availability, usage and price of childcare in CH;

\* Swiss pension system penalizes (women):

-career breaks (disproportionately affects women due to childbirth;

-lack of financial inclusion (less financial literacy)

\*\* Take-away: lack of data on issues women face → labour market prevents sensible/targeted policy.

(c) *Public Space*:

\* unsafe public spaces: sexual harassment leads women to avoid certain public spaces;

-CH: data since 2019: 59% of women reported sexual harassment in 2019, compared to 1,267 police reports in 2018.

\*\* Take-away: inappropriate data collection may lead to mis-assessment of the scale of a problem.

(d) *Effects of immigration* differ vastly across men-women, gender-differentiated data collected and analysed, but not used in study/analysis.

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**\*\* Take-away:** not using available data may lead to mis-assessment of issues; and may also prevent truthful reporting. It is not only important to collect disaggregated data - in the right way; but also how we collect these, and with what implications.

*See PPT: 6\_GenderDataGap\_Andrea Hofer UZH\_25.11.2021*

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**Carolyn Schärpf**, Hazard Prevention Division of the Federal Office of the Environment, presents: 'DRR and Enabling Environment in Switzerland'.

Analysis of disaster events in the country since 1800 shows that with the watercourse corrections that took place in the period ca. 1850-1900 the number of very high damage events decreased. However, since 1987 again some very high impact damages took place; this required other forms of management.

Lessons learned from major events:

= 1987 floods: turning point in flood management; focus more on hazard fundamentals + land use planning + maintenance of river courses and protection facilities;

=2005 floods: improve coordination, forecasts, shift attention from hazard to risk → Integrated Risk Management (IRM).

Carolyn explains the Risk Management Cycle that is being applied (what can happen – exposures, vulnerability, risk; what is allowed to happen – protection in deficits; what should be done – avoid, reduce, transfer risk), as well as the Cycle of Measures in IRM. These need an Enabling Environment:

- Make DRR a policy priority, provide legal framework and strategic orientation;
- With clear roles and responsibilities;
- Trustful coordination and participation (incl. multistakeholder committees, and transparent and participative decision-making)
- Capacities and financial resources
- Local involvement
- Mainstream DRR, incl. risk-informed planning; and involvement private sector.

Take home messages: RM needs a strategic approach; key aspects of an Enabling Environment:

1. Persistent political commitment
2. Clear roles and responsibilities
3. Trustful cooperation and participation
4. Available capacities and resources
5. Involvement of local level
6. Risk reduction is considered in all relevant sectors.

*See PPT: 7\_Swiss approach for enabling environment in DRR\_25.11.2021*

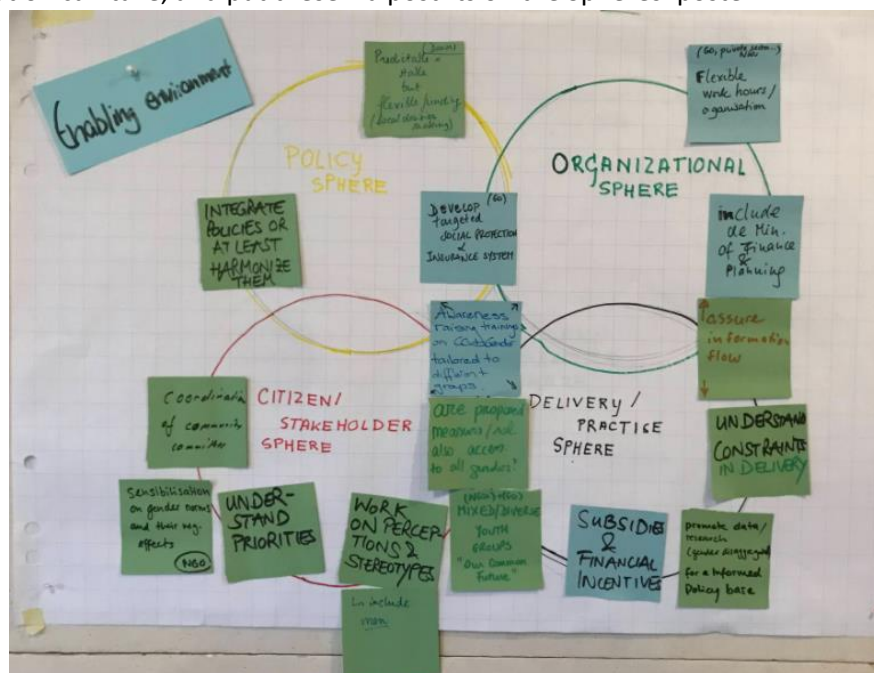
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Next **Irene Dankelman**, IRDANA, gives a presentation entitled: 'Understanding and enhancing an enabling environment'. An enabling environment is needed as solid and supportive basis for gender-responsive/-transformative climate/DRR action, making it more effective and sustainable/lasting. Such an approach also enhances learning and capacity building. As case study she presents the recent work they did in Bhutan – trying to mainstream gender in the Nationally Determined Contribution (national climate policies). This case study is introduced by a short video. Already the initiative - a partnership between the National Commission on Women and Children with the

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National Environment Commission (supported by UNDP) - , was an important starting point. The study consisted of literature reviews, interviews with many different stakeholders, focus group discussions and a nation-wide survey with women and men in households.

In order to focus on the 'enabling environment' the national and international consultant applied the 'Web of Institutionalization' (Caren Levy, 1996/1999). In this web the following spheres are identified: *Policy Sphere*, *Organizational Sphere*, *Stakeholder/Citizen Sphere* and *Delivery/Practice Sphere* (programmes and projects). For each of these spheres a diagnostic was made of the present situation, identifying challenges and opportunities for gender-transformation in CCA and CCM. Based on these diagnostics steps were identified to move from opportunities to action.

As an exercise participants are invited to determine two steps in one or two different spheres that their organisation can take, and put these via post-its on the Spheres' poster.



See PPT: 8\_Enabling environment for Gender responsive transformative DRM\_Irene Dankelman\_25.11.2021

**Sarah Brown** of Practical Action (P.A.), is sharing 'Gender Transformative Disaster Risk Reduction: an intersectional approach to understanding and addressing gender inequality', with a focus on how to move from gender responsive to real transformation. P.A. has analysed if Flood Early Warning Systems were gender transformative. They found that there were gaps in data, and groups and perspectives are missing. Which groups were not heard in the traditional surveying techniques? And are there ways to listen to these 'Missing Voices'? (see: <https://floodresilience.net>)

It is essential to apply an intersectional approach, centred on building trust and listening to the priorities of marginalised or vulnerable sub-groups. Also working in partnership with trusted intermediaries, and outreach to individuals facing multiple intersections of marginalisation, offered rich insights into differential impacts. Target groups were e.g. teenage girls; elderly women; widows; women with mobility-related disabilities; women with visual impairments; single mothers; transgender women; women who were pregnant or had young babies at time of flooding. It is

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important to listen to first person experiences in own words, and to pose open-ended questions in the interviews. This resulted in the study (Z Zurich and Flood Resilience Alliance): *'Missing Voices: experiences of marginalized gender groups in disaster in Nepal and Peru'*.

Insights included:

- Entrenched discrimination impacts vulnerability pre and post disaster;
- Multiple marginalisation escalate impacts;
- Minority groups feel invisible, misunderstood and ignored;
- Data gaps reinforce exclusion;
- Gender Based Violence (forms a threat).

The *Global Study on Gender and Age: inequality of disaster risk* (UN Women and UNICEF, December 2019) – that was executed in Nepal, Dominica and Malawi -, showed that gendered data gaps are substantial; out of the 85 countries in DesINvestar, only 15% (13 countries) have disaggregated data by gender or age. A 6-step Guide to Gender and Age Inequality Informed Data was presented (including quantitative data; qualitative data; critical questions; intermediary outreach; missing voices).

*From Analysis to Action* is showed in the report: 'ADB, Australia GO, Asian Australia Smart Cities Outcome, August 2021. *Baguio City Gender and Inclusion Study: findings and solutions to inform the Banguio City Smart Flood Early Warning System*', that is based on the Missing Voices approach. Policy and Practice Recommendations are defined in eight areas: (1) Gender and inequality informed early warning systems; (2) improve understanding of risk; (3) preparedness for safe evacuation; (4) development of forecasts, alerts and warning; (5) dissemination of those; (6) communication; (7) person-centred evacuation; (8) safety and dignity in temporary shelter. Also the importance of working with networks and systemic improvements is underlined.

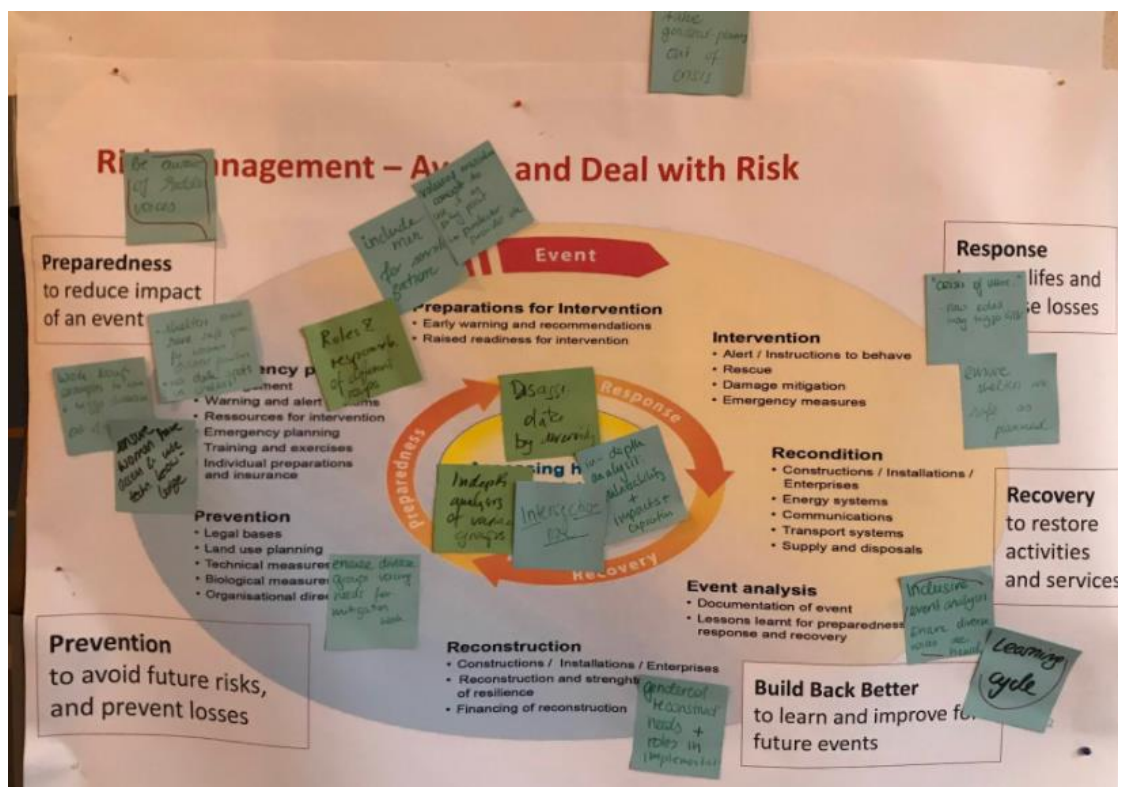
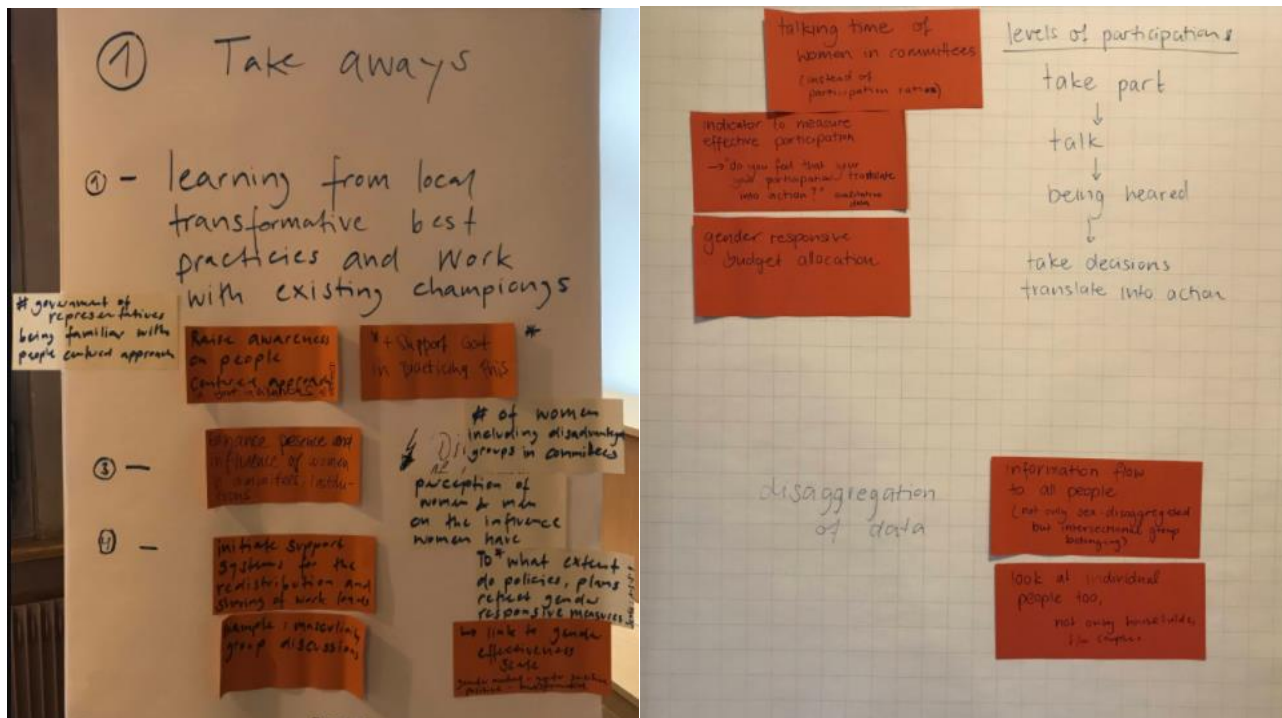
See PPT: *9\_Gender Transformative Action Practical Action\_25.11.2021*

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In three working groups **Discussions** take place on the Transformative Potential of DRM. The groups brainstorm on and discuss how to move from gender responsive to gender transformative DRM initiatives. They start with identifying different measures on the Risk Staircase and/or DRM cycle that enhance gender positivity and responsiveness. Next they identify what needs to change within these measures so that they contribute to supporting the agency of women and girls and/or change gender relations. Or what additional measures are needed. And finally obstacles were pinpointed and how these can be addressed.



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## ASSESSING THE PROCESS – Integrating the gender lens in DRR learning and monitoring

**Irene Dankelman**, IRDANA, presents ‘Learning from the (planning and implementation) process of gender responsive and transformative DRM’. In order to find out if we have reached our goals and objectives, we have to look into inputs, outputs, outcomes and/or impacts of our DRM/CCA initiatives, projects and programmes. This process also helps to learn lessons from the process involved, in order to improve future steps and efforts. Explicitly this can help to determine if we are developing from gender-responsive towards gender-transformative action.

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In this M&E process it is critical to understand the needs and perspectives of different groups of women and men, as well as the impact of social norms on the success. Important methodologies are not only the engagement of internal or external experts, but also to engage local communities and groups, incl. CBOs-NGOs. Apart from the collection of (mainly quantitative) statistical information as verification sources – e.g. censuses, surveys, financial records, attendance lists –, it is also crucial to apply participatory methods, - such as interviews, focus group discussions, community mapping/transects, video-making, citizen-science, life stories, and the missing voices approach –, that help to collect (mainly) qualitative information.

In this process gender-sensitive/-responsive indicators help to assess and understand progress made. Examples of such indicators (developed by GFDR, n.y., E-learning course: Introduction to Gender and DRM) for the DRM cycle (risk assessment, risk reduction, preparedness, financial protection, post disaster response and recovery) are shared.

There are challenges in developing and applying such indicators, including: limited capacity and budget to collect and/or analyse sex-disaggregated data (and SADDD); the baseline is limited and not disaggregated; the indicators do not fully capture the impact of gender-responsive/-transformative climate/disaster action; and sometimes the feeling that gender issues are too personal and that more urgency is felt to tackle CC and disasters, hinders such action. Overall indicators are signals, that call for a wider level of analysis.

Important is also to not only collect this kind of (M&E) information, but also to share the results widely, including with the local communities, colleague organisations, researchers/students, and a wider public.

Groups of participants are invited to identify indicators in the actions they identified earlier today. As inspiration a list with several gender-responsive/transformative indicators is shared.

See PPT: *10\_Learning from Gender responsive transformative DRM\_Irene Dankelman\_25.11.2021*

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## CLOSING

Facilitator of the Learning Event, **Christine Lottje**, FAKT, asks participants for their most relevant take-aways from the learning event. She reminds all that today is the *International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women*. Everybody is invited to think how she/he will contribute to this event and the following 16 days of activism, that finish on International Human Rights Day, 10<sup>th</sup> of December. See: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/ending-violence-against-women-day>

While thanking all contributors to the event, **Jutta Engelhardt**, head of Policy & Advisory Unit, Swiss Red Cross, has visualized her impressions of the last two days. We talked about:

- The concepts: Risk Stairs; from Avoid to Bear; and from Mitigate to Adapt.
- About Risk Management that moves from Prevention to BBBetter
- From Gender Negative to Gender Transformative
- Applying a Gender Lens.

What we take from this conference:

- Know your concepts, think <Alignment>, Intertwine;
- Make Voices Heard;
- Collect Disaggregated Data;
- Use Windows of Opportunities to put issues on the Agenda;

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- Make use/create an Enabling Environment;
- Apply a gender lens in the DRM-Cycle;
- Aim High – Think Transformative;
- Work at Project level and at Organisational level;
- Invest Time and Budget’;
- Network and Cooperate

*See PPT: 11\_Wrap up\_Swiss NGO DRR Platform\_25.11.2021*

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**Jacqueline Schmid**, Senior Policy advisor Disaster Risk Reduction, SDC, and co-organizer of this event together with Judith Macchi of the Swiss NGO DRR Platform, shares with participants the intended Follow-Up steps (with support of Isabelle Providoli, University of Bern):

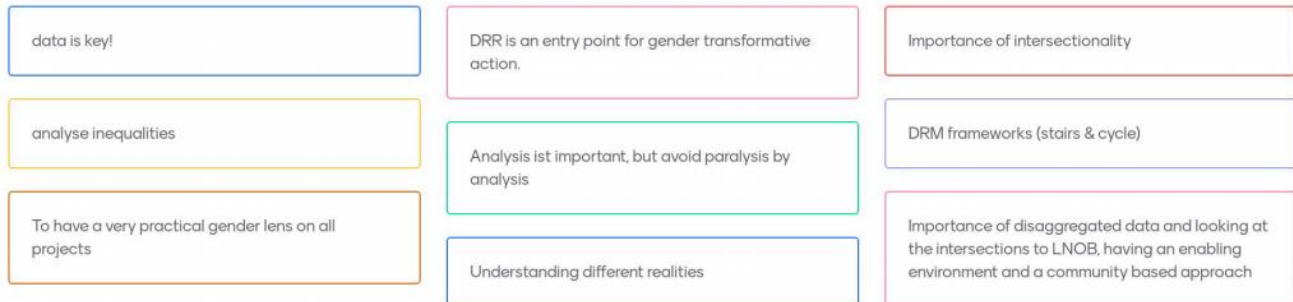
- A Newsletter will be published on this event;
- The existing SDC Guidance Note will be updated;
- And a Series of Webinars on the topics of the event, in different languages (EN, SP, FR) will be organized in 2022, if there is sufficient interest and resources allow.

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## Annex 1: Mentimeter Results

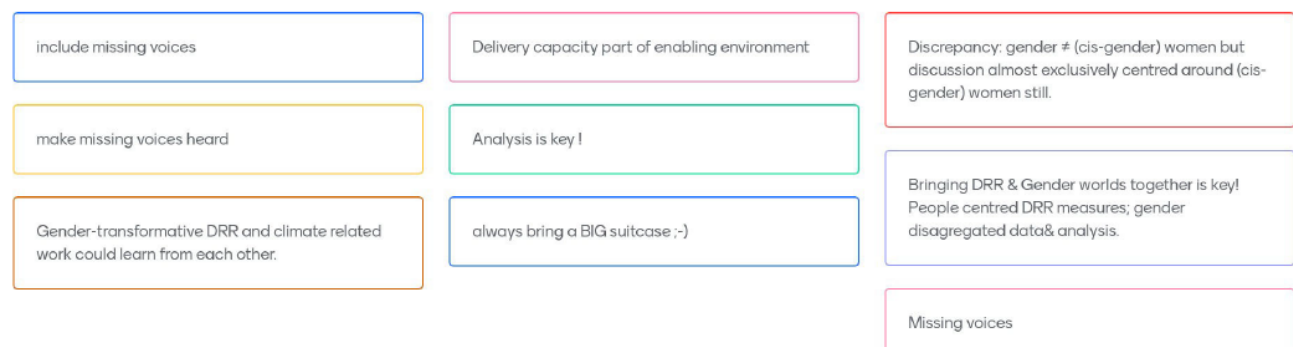
### What are your key learnings from the workshop?

Mentimeter



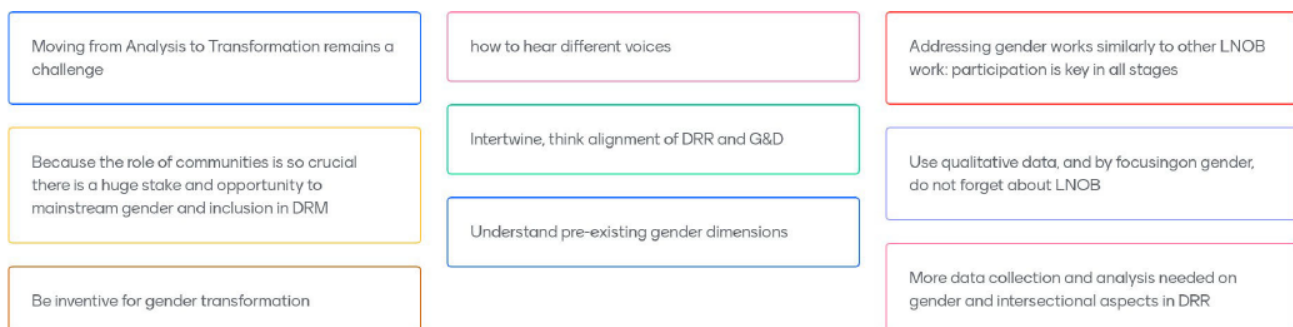
### What are your key learnings from the workshop?

Mentimeter



### What are your key learnings from the workshop?

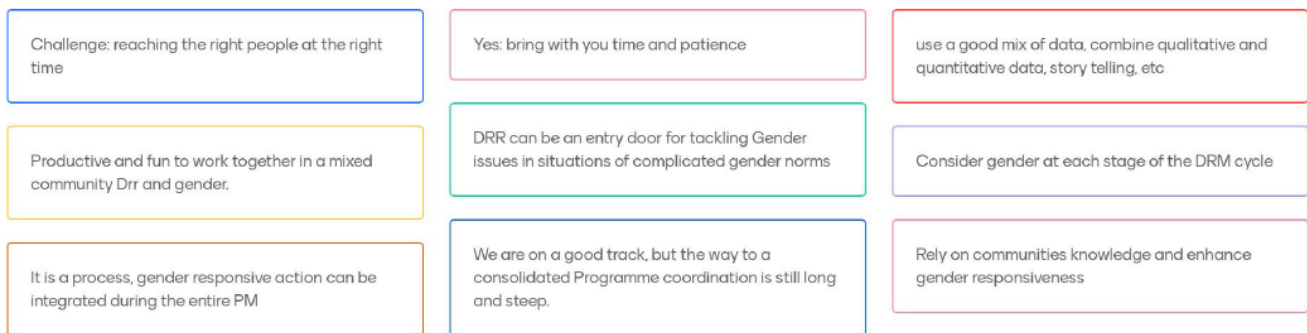
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Mentimeter

## What are your key learnings from the workshop?



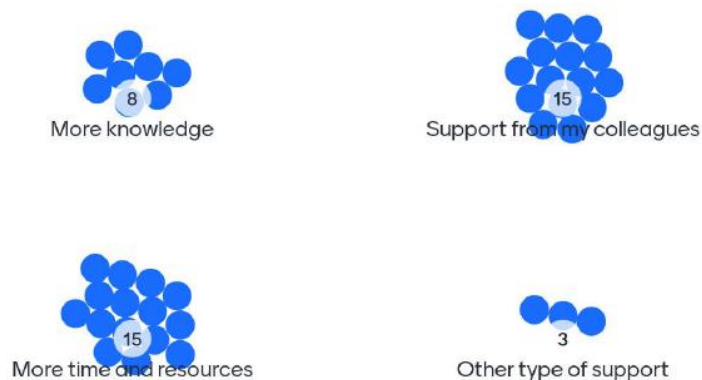
Mentimeter

## What would you like to implement?



## What do you need to implement the learnings from this workshop?

Mentimeter





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## What do you propose to focus on in webinars?

Mentimeter

Intersectionality	Case studies of best practice	Gender beyond the binary
Concrete examples.	Good practices and case studies	practical examples
Masculinity Workshops	Concrete examples for outreach methodologies	Case studies, lessons learnt

## What do you propose to focus on in webinars?

Mentimeter

Reflections on our own role	Testimony from people from the communities involved	Only truly intersectorial inputs, short and scientific and the practitioner exchange
Case studied - best and worst cases	Guidance on actual ways to implement gender-transf. projects	Examples that include work with men / on men's emancipation / contribution
Translation to local level governance.	Build a community of practice	Examples - influence of faith, religion, cultural norms on enabling environment

## What do you propose to focus on in webinars?

Mentimeter

Concrete examples to discuss all aspects	Transformative approach	Frameworks and concepts explained through concrete examples
Identification of intersectional issues in a context		

## What do you propose to focus on in webinars?

Mentimeter

Exchange/inputs from the field, best and worst practices	Share good practices and learnings of gender&drp projects	Redistribution of workload
practical activities for projects	Tangible examples - lessons learnt.	Integration of gender analysis into DRR concepts
Case studies (of gender-sensitive and -transformative DRR projects)	Background information (references).	Practical examples from the field (successes but also failures)