



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

# Guidance Note 1.

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Prevent and respond  
to gender-based violence

01

**ADOLESCENT GIRLS  
IN CONFLICT ZONES ARE**

**90%**

**MORE LIKELY TO BE OUT OF  
SCHOOL WHEN COMPARED  
TO GIRLS IN OTHER,  
CONFLICT-FREE, COUNTRIES.**  
GIRLS ARE OFTEN KEPT OUT  
OF SCHOOL DUE TO CONCERNS  
ABOUT SAFETY.<sup>1</sup>

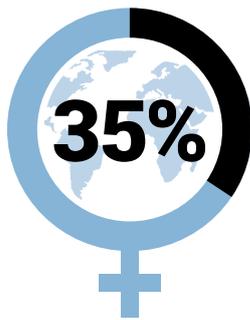
**SOME STUDIES INDICATE  
AN INCREASE IN  
SEXUAL  
VIOLENCE**

**FOLLOWING DISASTERS.<sup>2</sup>**  
IN HAITI, FOR EXAMPLE,  
70% OF RESPONDENTS  
WERE MORE WORRIED  
ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE  
AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE  
THAN BEFORE.<sup>3</sup>



**RATES OF CHILD  
MARRIAGE CAN  
INCREASE IN  
CRISIS SETTINGS**

FOR EXAMPLE, CHILD MARRIAGE  
RATES ARE FOUR TIMES HIGHER  
IN SYRIA NOW THAN BEFORE  
THE CRISIS AND MORE THAN  
ONE-THIRD OF SYRIAN REFUGEE  
WOMEN BETWEEN THE AGES  
OF 20 AND 24 HAVE BEEN  
MARRIED BEFORE THE AGE OF  
18. ALTHOUGH CHILD MARRIAGE  
HAS LONG BEEN PREVALENT IN  
YEMEN, RATES HAVE INCREASED  
FROM 32 PERCENT TO 52  
PERCENT IN RECENT YEARS AS  
DOWRIES HAVE PLUMMETED AND  
FAMILIES USE EARLY MARRIAGE  
AS A COPING MECHANISM.<sup>5</sup>



**APPROXIMATELY 35% OF WOMEN  
WORLDWIDE HAVE EXPERIENCED  
PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE  
BY A PARTNER OR SEXUAL  
VIOLENCE BY A NON-PARTNER  
IN THEIR LIFETIME, AND THIS TYPE  
OF VIOLENCE INCREASES IN CONFLICT  
SETTINGS. IN SOME CRISIS SETTINGS,  
MORE THAN 70% OF WOMEN HAVE  
EXPERIENCED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.<sup>4</sup>**

**DROUGHTS AND PROLONGED  
DRY SPELLS LEAD TO AN  
INCREASE IN HARMFUL  
PRACTICES AGAINST WOMEN,  
SUCH AS CHILD MARRIAGE,  
COURTSHIP RAPE, BRIDE  
PRICE AND FEMALE GENITAL  
MUTILATION.<sup>6</sup> WOMEN AND  
GIRLS MUST TRAVEL LONGER  
DISTANCES TO COLLECT WATER,  
INCREASING THEIR RISK FOR  
SEXUAL ASSAULT.<sup>7</sup>**

**THE PROLIFERATION OF SMALL  
ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS  
INCREASES OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR SEXUAL AND GENDER-  
BASED VIOLENCE.<sup>8</sup> THE  
PROLIFERATION OF MILITIAS  
WITH READY ACCESS TO ARMS  
INCREASES THE RATE OF  
SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED  
VIOLENCE, INCLUDING AS A  
DRIVER OF DISPLACEMENT.<sup>9</sup>**

**ONLY 0.5%  
OF FUNDING  
FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION  
WENT TO GENDER-BASED  
VIOLENCE SUPPORT IN 2015.<sup>10</sup>**

1 Plan International, *A time of transition: Adolescents in humanitarian settings*, 2016, p. 67.

Available from <https://plan-international.org/publications/time-transition-adolescents-humanitarian-settings#download-options>.

2 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, *Unseen, unheard: Gender-based violence in disasters Global study*, 2015. Available from [http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Documents/Secretariat/201511/1297700\\_GBV\\_in\\_Disasters\\_EN\\_LR2.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Documents/Secretariat/201511/1297700_GBV_in_Disasters_EN_LR2.pdf).

3 Arend, Elizabeth, "IFIs & Gender Based Violence Case Study: Haiti," *Gender Action*, March 2012. Available from <http://genderaction.org/program/gbv/case/HAITIGBV.pdf>.

4 UN Women facts and figures. Available from <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/humanitarian-action/facts-and-figures>.

5 UN Women facts and figures. Available from <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/humanitarian-action/facts-and-figures>.

6 Opondo, M., Abdi, U. and Nangiro, P., "Assessing gender in resilience programming: Uganda." BRACED, *Resilience Intel*, January 2016, p.11. Available from <https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/10215.pdf>.

7 Le Masson, V., "Gender and resilience: from theory to practice (working paper)," BRACED: Knowledge Manager, ODI, London, 2016, p. 25. Available from <https://www.odi.org/publications/9967-gender-and-resilience-theory-practice>.

8 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, *Preventing Gender-Based Violence Through Arms Control*, 2016. Available from: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/images/documents/Publications/preventing-gbv.pdf>.

9 "Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence," 23 March 2018. Available from <http://undocs.org/S/2018/250>.

10 OCHA, *World Humanitarian Data and Trends 2016*, p. 40. Available from [http://interactive.unocha.org/publication/2016\\_datatrends/](http://interactive.unocha.org/publication/2016_datatrends/).

## Why it matters?

Although gender-based violence (GBV)<sup>11</sup> is present to varying degrees across all societies, it can be particularly prevalent in crisis-affected contexts and has serious implications for sustainable and inclusive recovery processes. Factors such as displacement, high levels of violence and militarization and the breakdown of social networks and infrastructure can leave people more vulnerable to GBV in public and private spaces, with women and girls being particularly subject to this form of violence. Conflict-related sexual violence remains pervasive across many conflict zones, where it becomes part of the continuum of violence, and must be addressed as part of a more holistic approach to building resilience.

- **High rates of GBV can negatively impact the stabilization and recovery process.** GBV has direct consequences on sustainable development and democratic governance by undermining the ability of GBV-affected populations to participate meaningfully in the social, economic and political spheres and perpetuates a culture of violence and insecurity.
- **GBV has negative impacts at the individual and societal levels.** At the individual level, survivors can experience negative physical and psychological health consequences, lost earnings, missed education and stigma from their communities. In the long run, these experiences hinder women's empowerment and participation in decision-making, making further conflict and instability more likely. The societal costs of GBV include entrenching gendered social roles and binary gendered narratives, lower productivity affecting economic output and growth, increased burdens on already compromised social and health infrastructures and further breakdown of social order and violence. Male, and to some lesser extent female fighters, have adapted a 'military' identity making it more challenging to transition into a less violent civilian identity and contribute successfully to building back better.
- **Not addressing GBV, including CRSV, can contribute to dysfunctional individuals, families and communities impacting negatively on peace and recovery.** Trauma associated with incidents of CRSV are extensive and impact women, girls, men and boys. It is important

to address this issue at the highest political level to ensure redress for survivors and the children born from CRSV, along with ensuring equal access to resources as both preventative and responsive measures.<sup>12</sup> Not addressing these issues can trigger new conflicts within and across communities.

- **GBV and women's empowerment have a complex interrelationship in crisis and conflict contexts.** Efforts to support women's economic and political empowerment in recovery processes can provide them with the protection, resources and capacities needed to resist and combat GBV. Similarly, by preventing and responding to GBV – through measures such as equal service provision, meaningful participation and campaigns to challenge violent masculinities and change stereotypical attitudes and behaviours – it is possible to create the conditions for greater empowerment of women and girls.<sup>13</sup> Not addressing GBV, and particularly some of the harmful practices based on discrimination against girls, such as bride price, early marriage, FGM, etc., contributes to the perpetuation of conflict, while conflict also exacerbates some of these practices. For example, in South Sudan, extreme poverty caused by conflict exacerbates situations such as early marriage, abduction of girls, etc.
- **GBV levels increase in post-conflict settings.** Women are often forced to adopt new roles challenging pre-existing social norms attached to one's gender. For example, women heads of households and former combatants challenge the pre-conflict status quo. The newly defined roles often reinforce the diminished role of men as main earners.

Masculinities, in post conflict settings, are also wrapped up around notions of violence, including when arms proliferation remains uncontrolled.<sup>14</sup> The tension between changed gender roles and values fuels levels of GBV, including intimate partner violence. Additionally, when perpetrators of gender-based war crimes are not held accountable, the social acceptability of GBV is normalized and reinforced. The humanitarian aid community and peacekeepers must likewise be held accountable – in line with provisions on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

11 See Annex – Definitions of key concepts.

12 True, Jacqui, et al., *A Feminist Perspective on Post-Conflict Restructuring and Recovery – the Case of Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, July 2017. Available from [https://wilpf.org/wilpf\\_publications/a-feminist-perspective-on-post-conflict-restructuring-and-recovery/](https://wilpf.org/wilpf_publications/a-feminist-perspective-on-post-conflict-restructuring-and-recovery/).

13 For more information on "masculinities," see Greig, A., Kimmel M. and Lang, J., *Men, masculinities & development: Broadening our work towards gender equality*, Gender in Development Monograph Series #10, May 2000.

14 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, *Women For Disarmament, Summary Report*, October 2017. Available from [http://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/LIMPAL\\_SummaryReport\\_WomenInDisarmament.pdf](http://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/LIMPAL_SummaryReport_WomenInDisarmament.pdf).

- **The proliferation of conventional arms, especially small arms, can have direct and indirect effects on women as victims of GBV**, and also as protestors or actors in resistance movements.<sup>15</sup> While arms themselves are directly implicated in acts of GBV, they are also correlated with an increase in gendered inequality and a generalized culture of violence, against women in particular. The proliferation of arms tends to have a negative impact on women's equality and bargaining power within the household, as well as their mobility. Widespread possession and use of weapons tend to prevent women from fully participating in public and political life and to hinder their access to and use of resources, business and employment opportunities.<sup>16</sup> In the aftermath of conflict, as state institutions are being established, with high levels of mistrust and weapons in wide circulation, the easy access to small arms places women at increased risk of violence and insecurity as well as an environment which normalizes the perpetration of violence and the further militarization of societies.
- **The impacts of landmines and explosive remnants of war on women and girls, through direct injury or indirectly through death or injury of a family breadwinner, are also considerable.** While men and boys are the majority of victims, women and girls who are directly injured by landmines are more likely to face discrimination, isolation and stigmatization as a result of their disabilities, in turn increasing their risk of gender-based violence. In the case of extreme injury of male family members, women and girls will carry the additional burden to care for the family. In the case of death of the husband, single-headed households and widowed women are particularly at risk of unequal access to land and land rights and of being dispossessed.

In many contexts women are responsible for family food security and provide the majority of agricultural labour. The loss of land because of contamination can therefore have a devastating impact on family livelihoods.

- **Crisis and recovery settings provide unique windows of opportunity to address GBV.** In crisis and recovery settings: pre-existing social vulnerabilities increase; protection, security and justice systems are severely eroded; displacement can lead to the breakdown of community support systems and safety nets; and problems associated with weak infrastructure, social barriers and stigma are exacerbated.

As institutions and infrastructures are being rebuilt and legal and policy reforms are undertaken there is an opening to ensure that these are built back in a gender-sensitive way that includes capacity building and resource allocation for GBV prevention, guaranteeing strong social institutions that promote the realization of women's economic, social and cultural rights and quality responses across all sectors of society. For example, the outbreak of the Ebola virus in Sierra Leone brought a halt to female genital mutilation opening an opportunity to address the discriminatory practice. It would be important to build on this development as part of the advancement of the gender equality and women's empowerment agenda.<sup>17</sup>

### GBV DATA IN THE CONTEXT OF DISASTERS

While data for GBV incidents, and more specifically sexual violence, is increasingly being reported in the context of post-conflict settings, there is a lack of data when it comes to reporting incidents of GBV in the context of disasters. Assume that GBV is taking place, even if no reliable data are available.

For more details, see the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' global study *Unseen, unheard: Gender-based violence in disaster*, Geneva, 2015, at [http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Documents/Secretariat/201511/1297700\\_GBV\\_in\\_Disasters\\_EN\\_LR2.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Documents/Secretariat/201511/1297700_GBV_in_Disasters_EN_LR2.pdf).

15 General Recommendation No. 30, *Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations*, UN Doc. CEDAW/C/GC/30 (Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 18 October 2013), paragraph 32.

16 Submission from the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the impact of arms transfers on human rights, 3 February 2017. Available from <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/RuleOfLaw/ArmsTransfers/WomensInternationalLeaguePeaceAndFreedom.pdf>.

17 Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, UN Women, Country Office-Sierra Leone, Statistics Sierra Leone, Oxfam GB/Sierra Leone, *Report of the Multisector Impact Assessment of Gender Dimensions of The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) In Sierra Leone*, 31 December 2014.

**GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE** refers to acts of physical, mental or social abuse that are attempted or threatened, with some type of force and directed against a person because of his or her gender roles and expectations in a society or culture. Forms of GBV include sexual violence (including intimate partner violence), sexual abuse, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, early marriage or forced marriage, gender discrimination, denial (e.g. of education, food and freedom) and female genital mutilation.<sup>18</sup>

### **INTERSECTIONALITY BETWEEN, DISASTERS, CONFLICTS AND GBV**

Disasters and conflict are usually treated as two separate types of humanitarian emergencies. The fact that disasters often occur in areas of conflict suggests that intersections between GBV, conflict and disasters should receive more attention.<sup>20</sup>

### **CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE (CRSV)** is a form of GBV.

It refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity against women, men or children. Such incidents or patterns occur in conflict or post-conflict settings or other situations of concern (e.g. political strife). They also have a direct or indirect nexus with the conflict or political strife itself, that is, a temporal, geographical and/or causal link. In addition to the international character of the suspected crimes (which can, depending on the circumstances, constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity, acts of genocide or other gross violations of human rights), the link with conflict may be evident in the profile and motivations of the perpetrator(s), the profile of the victim(s), the climate of impunity/State collapse, cross-border dimensions and/or the fact that they violate the terms of a ceasefire agreement.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup> The definition is adapted from UN WOMEN, Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls, last accessed on 19 September 2010. More detailed descriptions of different forms of GBV can be found in Tip sheet 1 – Key Concepts.

<sup>19</sup> Report of the Secretary-General A/66/657\*—S/2012/33\*, "Conflict-related sexual violence," 13 January 2012. Available from [http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=S/2012/33](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/2012/33).

<sup>20</sup> The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' global study *Unseen, unheard: Gender-based violence in disaster*, Geneva, 2015. Available from [http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Documents/Secretariat/201511/1297700\\_GBV\\_in\\_Disasters\\_EN\\_LR2.pdf](http://www.ifrc.org/Global/Documents/Secretariat/201511/1297700_GBV_in_Disasters_EN_LR2.pdf).

## What works?

- Because it is almost inevitable that GBV will increase in times of crisis, it is essential to adopt a preventative approach that underpins interventions to bring about lasting social change.** In recent years, there has been an unprecedented amount of evidence gathered and lessons learned on effective prevention strategies. The evidence shows that efforts must go beyond simple awareness-raising projects and instead work to actively and measurably transform discriminatory and violence-supportive attitudes and behaviours, community norms, institutional practices and systems, laws and policies and society as a whole.<sup>21</sup> Sasa! Uganda reduced intimate partner violence by 52 percent through a community mobilization programme based on promoting shared power between women and men over a period of three years. Girls in Kenya who participated in self-defense and empowerment training had 62 percent lower rates of rape than non-participants after 10.5 months of interventions led by Give Directly.<sup>22</sup>
- While 'building back,' address the root causes of violence.** This requires addressing both causes and contributing factors, including discriminatory attitudes and beliefs and unequal social norms. It also needs a greater investment in social mobilization approaches which can confront vested political and economic interests that maintain inequalities.
- It is well documented that multi-level and multi-component interventions are more effective than stand-alone projects.** The causes and contributing factors of GBV occur at multiple levels. For example, enhancing legal awareness around GBV while not providing access to functional security and justice services will only put survivors at increased risk. Speaking out or reporting incidents of GBV, without further protection – especially for women and girls – can lead to increased violence by the perpetrator and in some extreme cases to honour killing. Hence, interventions need to work at various levels to address both environmental and individual factors. A larger strategy for coordination, implementation and monitoring is essential for promoting more effective interventions (e.g. a national strategy to prevent and respond to GBV). Effective measures can include working in partnership with security and justice actors, policy-makers and implementers, male allies and civil society to ensure the rights of women and girls are respected, protected and

fulfilled and survivors have access to redress and adequate health and psychosocial support. Economic empowerment of those most at risk helps people leave violent environments where they otherwise would be dependent on the perpetrator or their family.

- Group- or relationship-level interventions that engage both men and women allow for unique opportunities to challenge gender inequalities and power dynamics between genders.** There is emerging evidence that interventions working with both genders are more effective than single-sex interventions. Rather than distinct interventions that target women's empowerment and men's perpetration, working with both groups together simultaneously or sequentially can better address gender relationships.
- Effective measures to reduce the impact of small arms on women can include:** supporting the inclusion of small arms control in UNSCR 1325 National Action Plans to ensure states are accountable for enforcing laws regulating possession of small arms; supporting governments to implement SDG Goal 16 which includes an indicator on reducing illicit financial and arms flows and combating all forms of organized crime; and promoting social change which reinforces positive masculinities and gender-responsive disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes.

### DON'T MAKE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

GBV practitioners should not assume that they know what a person with disabilities wants or feels, or that they know what is best. Do not assume that because a person has a disability they are incapable of certain things or would not be interested in participating in certain activities. Take time to consult with them, explore their interests and provide them with opportunities, as with other GBV survivors.<sup>23</sup>

21 UN Women, et al., *Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls*, Bangkok, Thailand, 17-20 September 2012.

22 World Health Organization, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and South African Medical Research Council, *Global and regional estimates of violence against women: prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence*, 2013.

23 Pearce, E. "I See That It Is Possible": Building Capacity for Disability Inclusion in Gender-Based Violence Programming in Humanitarian Settings, International Rescue Committee, 30 May 2015. Available from <https://www.alnap.org/help-library/%E2%80%9Ci-see-that-it-is-possible%E2%80%9D-building-capacity-for-disability-inclusion-in-gender-0>.

## How to do it?

GBV prevention and response can happen through the below points of entry. These entry points are not exhaustive yet are key within the context of UNDP's mandate. To further create an enabling environment for women to participate and lead, it is important to ensure an environment free of GBV; hence the need to mainstream GBV across selected interventions to ensure its prevention and facilitate professional help for survivors. Innovative interventions should be encouraged to strengthen empowerment, inclusiveness and accountability.<sup>24</sup>

### Suggested strategic entry points

AREA OF INTERVENTION	WHAT KIND OF ACTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?	HOW CAN PROGRESS AND IMPACT BE MEASURED?
<p><b>Promote the Strategic Mainstreaming Approach – Put a GBV lens on all the work you do in recovery settings</b></p> <p><i>(For specific GBV interventions for each Guidance Note, see Tip Sheet 6)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Incorporate qualitative and quantitative information on GBV in baseline studies and PDNAs.</li> <li>2. Ensure that none of the interventions trigger or aggravate incidents of GBV.</li> <li>3. Integrate interventions that can contribute to a change in social norms and that address drivers of GBV, which are mostly the same as drivers of gender inequality.</li> <li>4. Ensure that all staff, including the implementers, receive training on gender, sexuality, GBV, human rights and social exclusion in a specific recovery context.</li> <li>5. Provide information on legal frameworks and support services for possible survivors of GBV.</li> <li>6. Inform all interlocutors about the 'Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse' provisions that guide all of UNDP's work.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline and PDNA are inclusive of GBV data. <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• GBV integrated as an early warning indicator. <b>(2)</b></li> <li>• Perception survey to measure the level of safety experienced by targeted communities. <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Number of UNDP projects that have integrated GBV prevention and response mechanisms. <b>(3)</b></li> <li>• Percentage of total annual budget allocated to GBV work. <b>(3,4)</b></li> <li>• Guidance package for all stakeholders and partners on how legal rights relate to GBV and how to access GBV services. <b>(5)</b></li> <li>• Contracts with partners are inclusive of Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse provisions and reporting guidelines. <b>(6)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Promote GBV prevention</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Empower communities to demand their rights, hold government accountable and lessen the vulnerabilities of women and those most at risk (e.g. refugees, IDPs, people living with disabilities and HIV).</li> <li>2. Establish community sanctioned reporting/ security mechanisms to prevent incidents of GBV (e.g. transactional sex to receive basic goods and services, ID papers, forced marriage, trafficking, etc. in precarious settings).</li> <li>3. Introduce innovative approaches to civil society organizations (CSOs), governments and communities, especially how to trigger normative changes in terms of power relations and how to advance new gender roles following a crisis and/or conflict.</li> <li>4. Extend outreach to men, especially young men who are members of women-headed households, to secure their understanding and reinforce the gains they make within a new normative framework.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of targeted community members feeling safe (sex/age disaggregated). <b>(1,2,7,8)</b></li> <li>• Percentage of targeted population that do not approve of GBV (sex/age disaggregated). <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• Percentage of successful reintegration of child soldiers. <b>(3,5,6)</b></li> <li>• Measure level of disarmament. <b>(5,6)</b></li> <li>• Zero tolerance to child and forced marriage in targeted communities. <b>(4,5,7,8)</b></li> <li>• Percentage of traditional leaders, in targeted communities, that are women. <b>(5)</b></li> <li>• Number of formal and informal meetings between traditional leaders, community representatives and members of the security and justice sector to enhance the understanding of women and human rights. <b>(4,5,6)</b></li> </ul>

<sup>24</sup> A country specific example is provided in Annex – Case Studies.

AREA OF INTERVENTION	WHAT KIND OF ACTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?	HOW CAN PROGRESS AND IMPACT BE MEASURED?
<p><b>Promote GBV prevention</b> (continued)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Support champions, male and female, to drive behavioural change and a social movement; encourage 'home-grown' solutions.</li> <li>6. Empower women to become effective members of the traditional leaders' structure to lead on GBV prevention in post-crisis settings and promote behavioural change in line with international human rights.</li> <li>7. Impart communication and conflict resolutions skills across all interlocutors to prevent the occurrence of GBV, including conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and harmful practices.</li> <li>8. Reach out, train and recruit women, especially survivors of GBV, CRSV and those most vulnerable (IDPs, women-headed households, disabled, those with HIV) as part of cash-for-work interventions, including for mine clearance.</li> <li>9. In the reconstruction phase, facilitate inputs and leadership by women, across all sectors, to ensure that new facilities provide safety for women and girls and the most vulnerable members of the targeted communities.</li> <li>10. Encourage interaction between communities and formal justice interlocutors to enhance mutual accountability in upholding human rights and women rights.</li> <li>11. Include GBV as an early warning indicator to prevent possible renewed conflicts.</li> <li>12. Support (through training, women journalist associations, documentary productions) sensitive reporting by media on issues of GBV which can pave the way to zero tolerance.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness material regarding women and human rights developed in partnership with women, men and youth from the targeted communities and widely disseminated. (7)</li> <li>• Number of journalists producing GBV coverage that depicts the underlying causes of GBV, CRSV and harmful practices (sex/age disaggregated). (12)</li> <li>• Gender sensitization and analysis integrated within curricula for journalists. (12)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Enhance quality responses to GBV</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthen training packages, toolkits and standard operating procedures for police, prosecutors, judges, correction officers and human rights commission officers to reflect understanding of gender issues and handling of GBV, CRSV and harmful practice cases.</li> <li>2. Promote women's recruitment and specialized training across all relevant institutions and services.</li> <li>3. Support the creation of special units across the police, prosecutors and courts.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard operating procedures in place and operationalized bringing together all stakeholders across the referral pathway. (1,12,13,15)</li> <li>• Integrated national GBV database. (1,4)</li> <li>• Specialized training packages developed, accredited and integrated within relevant learning institutions. (2,7,9)</li> <li>• GBV strategy developed and budgeted. (3)</li> </ul>

AREA OF INTERVENTION	WHAT KIND OF ACTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?	HOW CAN PROGRESS AND IMPACT BE MEASURED?
<p><i>Enhance quality responses to GBV (continued)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Institute integrated mobile justice units, in cooperation with relevant CSOs, to support holistic responses to GBV, CRSV and harmful practice cases to reach those in more remote areas and to temporarily overcome lack of human resources and finance for reconstruction of relevant institutions and services.</li> <li>5. Develop interventions, in cooperation with community leaders and security actors, that will secure safety of at risk people in compromised settings (IDPs, refugees, etc.).</li> <li>6. Establish a long-term mentoring programme to support CSO stakeholders, women community leaders, security and justice actors to overcome difficulties in relation to GBV cases occurring in more strenuous conditions.</li> <li>7. Provide access to trauma healing for survivors and relevant stakeholders supporting work with survivors of GBV, CRSV and harmful practices.</li> <li>8. Integrate economic empowerment of survivors of GBV, CRSV, harmful practices and mine accidents as a tool to secure positive reintegration.</li> <li>9. Integrate legal aid for GBV survivors.</li> <li>10. Support the review and development of legislation to strengthen prevention and responses to GBV.</li> <li>11. Institutionalize paralegals for formal and informal settings by securing a formal recognition and certification.</li> <li>12. Support the establishment and operationalization of a GBV coordination mechanism for effective case management, at national and sub-national levels, that also includes relevant CSOs and human rights defenders as per referral pathway system.</li> <li>13. Ensure sensitive and accurate reporting on cases of GBV and ensure confidentiality and safety of survivors and witnesses in doing so to prevent triggering new conflicts or stressors.</li> <li>14. Introduce yearly reports on the nature and outcome of reported GBV cases to inform recovery interventions.</li> <li>15. Ensure that all interventions are linked with the 'Referral Pathway' led by UNHCR/ UNFPA. (see Tip Sheet 7)</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analytical report highlighting progress and challenges of stakeholders across the referral pathway to prevent and respond to GBV. <b>(1,2,4,5)</b></li> <li>• Percentage of reported GBV, CRSV and harmful practice cases resulting in conviction of perpetrators and reparation for survivors. <b>(1,2,3,4,11)</b></li> <li>• Percentage of targeted community members feeling safe (sex/age disaggregated). <b>(7, 8)</b></li> <li>• GBV related legislation(s) passed. <b>(9,10)</b></li> <li>• Monthly monitoring reports from coordination entities (GBV sub-cluster) and analysis (government and CSO jointly). <b>(14,15)</b></li> </ul>

AREA OF INTERVENTION	WHAT KIND OF ACTIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?	HOW CAN PROGRESS AND IMPACT BE MEASURED?
<p><b>Support disarmament and mine action after conflicts</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve availability and assessment of sex and age disaggregated data on armed violence, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) related firearms crime, needs of witnesses and survivors, as well as drivers and distribution of armed violence, to fully understand its gender dimension.</li> <li>2. Support government with updating and implementing arms control regulations to ensure the integration of gender analysis in their implementation.</li> <li>3. Support governments, as part of their UNSCR 1325 National Action Plans, to commit to doctrines and planning that consider the impact on women and girls of every military deployment and operation and that consider the use of unarmed military protection as a preferable or complementary protection method.<sup>25</sup></li> <li>4. Support safer community projects, particularly those that address the root causes of GBV along with disarmament, demobilization and reintegration interventions.</li> <li>5. Promote women's participation in developing action plans for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration interventions.</li> <li>6. Promote women's employment to clear landmines and ensure gender-responsive mine clearance measures to mitigate women's insecurity and vulnerability to GBV.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proportion of empowered women in national and subnational mechanisms for control of small arms and light weapons. <b>(5)</b></li> <li>• Design and roll out of national gender-sensitive awareness campaign on issues associated with firearms, mine clearance and practices that perpetuate GBV. <b>(1,4,6)</b></li> <li>• Proportion of targeted communities that engage women, men and youth in viable economic activities, disaggregated by sex and age. <b>(1,4,5,6)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Support institutions that ensure realization of women's economic, social and cultural rights</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prioritize investments in accessible, affordable and quality social infrastructure and essential services that reduce and redistribute women's unpaid care and domestic work.</li> <li>2. Revise the structure of budgeting from being 'project' based to encompassing long-term capacity building, not only of State entities but also of non-State entities.</li> <li>3. Adopt gender-responsive budgeting practices as a strategy to address, highlight and mitigate militarized state budgets and their destabilizing impact on peaceful societies and women's rights.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage of national and sub-national budgets informed by gender-responsive budgeting which include budget lines for social infrastructures and essential services. <b>(1,3)</b></li> <li>• Design and roll out of national gender-sensitive awareness campaign on issues associated with firearms, mine clearance and practices that perpetuate GBV. <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• Number of media and social networks that are actively engaging with budgetary issues that reflect a gender-responsive analysis. <b>(2)</b></li> </ul>

25 UN Women, *Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing the Peace. A Global Study on the Implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325*. 2015.

Available from [https://peaceoperationsreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/global\\_study\\_implementation\\_UNSC\\_resolution\\_1325.pdf](https://peaceoperationsreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/global_study_implementation_UNSC_resolution_1325.pdf).

## Examples of innovative approaches to programming



**Leveraging insights from behavioural science combined with an experimental approach** can add value to address GBV. Such an approach can inform strategies in national campaigns to shift public perception of domestic violence, for example, as was the aim of New Zealand's awareness-raising campaign launched in 1993: "Family violence is a crime – call for help."

Through messages targeted at the police forces aimed to promote a change in their internal culture by framing domestic violence as a crime that requires as much attention as any other, the campaign resulted in positive outcomes including significant increase in the seeking of help from women's services and a 44 percent increase in police records of assaults by men on women from 1993 to 1994, among others.



**Cognitive Edge's SenseMaker** uses a participatory approach to assist communities in self-identification of acceptable, feasible and sustainable interventions that will enact change from within.

The tool is unique in that it asks participants to self-interpret their own narratives. SenseMaker then identifies clusters of self-reported themes and generates plots where clusters reveal widely held perspectives.<sup>26</sup>



**Cash transfers are a widely used policy tool for decreasing poverty and improving human capital**, reaching up to one billion people across Latin America, Africa and Asia. Cash is often given directly to women, thus potentially changing power dynamics within the household. The scale and reach of cash transfers to the most vulnerable populations have led many to ask, "If cash can change household well-being and power dynamics within households, can cash transfers also be used to decrease intimate partner violence?"

**The Transfer Modality Research Initiative**, implemented by the World Food Programme in rural Bangladesh, targeted mothers of children aged 0-24 months to rigorously estimate the impacts of different transfer modalities on intimate partner violence and to explore potential pathways through which impacts occur.

<sup>26</sup> For an example of how the SenseMaker was used by ABAAD and Queen's University, see: <http://www.svri.org/sites/default/files/DM%20GBV%20Prevention%20-%20Posters%20formatted%20by%20Greg%2005a%20-%20Lebanon%20-%2028Greg%20Wlosinski%2C%20April%207%2C%202016%29%201614018-GBV-PrestonPosters-v1.pdf>.



**Crowdsourced data through social media platforms** can open possibilities to overcome barriers to data collection on sexual harassment. Two examples are:

- **HarassMap** is a volunteer-based initiative founded in late 2010 to deter street harassment in Egypt. It has brought to light instances of street sexual harassment and violence to enable individuals and institutions to collectively stand up to abuse and shift social norms by re-establishing social consequences for harassers and making role models of people who stand up to them. The Map has provided women with an alternative way to report sexual harassment and has enjoyed success in generating debates and discussions around the issue.
- **ViveSegura** in Mexico City is an open source mapping application that lets women put the coordinates of where they were assaulted.



**Social innovation camps** are a multi-day, co-creation event, bringing together different stakeholders to specify a development challenge then to develop and prototype ideas for solutions and identify actionable trials. UNDP Egypt, with the national Council for Women and Vodafone Foundation, has conducted several Innovation Camps to address the issues related to reporting cases of sexual harassment and violence in a three-day Innovation Camp.



**Human-centred design** is a creative approach to problem solving. According to IDEO, a global design company, "It's a process that starts with the people you're designing for and ends with new solutions that are tailor made to suit their needs.

Human-centered design is about building a deep empathy with the people you're designing for; generating tons of ideas; building a bunch of prototypes; sharing what you've made with the people you're designing for; and eventually putting your innovative new solution out in the world."

The approach lends itself to be applied within community-based interventions and to lead the process of co-designing prototypes with the people affected by development challenges. UNDP in Uganda provides a good example of a human-centred design approach.

### More options can be found here:

- **The Humanitarian Innovation Fund site:**  
<http://www.elrha.org/hif/funding/gender-based-violence-gbv/current-gbv-projects/>
- **The Sexual Violence Research Initiative site:**  
<http://www.svri.org/what-we-do/research-support/svri-grant/svri-and-world-bank-innovations-prevent-gender-based-violence-building-evidence>

## Checklist for addressing gender equality in the programme/project cycle

PROJECT CYCLE	STANDARDS
<b>Situation analysis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conduct community consultations with diverse groups of women, men and female and male youth, including those most affected by GBV, to inform a conflict- and gender-sensitive assessment and to understand the broader protection factors that exacerbate the risks of GBV in particular settings (e.g. displacement). Whenever seeking personal information regarding GBV cases, ensure that consent has been secured by administering a consent form.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Assess the capacity of security actors to mitigate the risks of GBV (e.g. ratio of male/female officers, existence and implementation of codes of conduct for security personnel and GBV-related policies, protocols, standard operating procedures and confidential and secure environments for reporting incidents of GBV that limit re-victimization of survivors).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conduct a review of secondary data. Refer specifically to national data captured in reports of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sexual Violence in Conflict, Universal Periodic Review, Children and Armed Conflict and Country Gender Assessments on women's security.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Collect and analyse all sex-disaggregated data relevant and available on women's security (e.g. violence statistics including GBV and sexual assault, trafficking). Collect GBV indicators and use proxy indicators when these are not available (e.g. use anecdotal data from NGOs). Fund special data collection when necessary following standard gender-sensitive protocols for the protection of women's privacy and safety.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Consult with the national gender machinery, i.e. the national women's ministry and women's NGOs and their networks.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Include GBV specialists in protection assessments.</li> </ul>
<b>Project design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure project design reflects the expressed needs and proposed solutions of the target population, including women and girls.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure women's groups have been consulted, particularly those representing the most vulnerable/at risk, to assess women's immediate needs and devise strategies.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Assess risks and barriers to participation and reduce risks through project design elements that build in protection and enhance safety and resilience.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure women are represented at a minimum of 30 percent and striving towards 50 percent in leadership and decision-making in all project mechanisms, including design team, project staff and recipients. (Assess ratio of male/female protection personnel; participation in community-based protection programming; etc.)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Work with the justice sector to reform sex- and, whenever possible, gender-discriminatory laws and advance protection of human rights ensuring equal access to justice for all including areas such as land law and by ensuring the consistent integration of gender concerns into small arms and light weapons legislative and policy frameworks.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop activities to ensure that equal access to legal services and protection is available for all.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that social institutions have capacity to realize economic, social and cultural rights of all.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Assess the capacity of formal and informal justice sector actors to safely and ethically respond to incidents of GBV (e.g. accessibility of free/low-cost legal aid services, how judicial processes provide protection to GBV survivors and witnesses, how the informal justice system deals with GBV cases).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Review existing/proposed protection-related community outreach material to ensure it includes basic information about GBV risk reduction (including where to report risk and how to access care).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Incorporate relevant GBV prevention and mitigation strategies into the policies, standards and guidelines of targeted protection programmes (e.g. standards for equal employment of females, procedures and protocols for sharing protected or confidential information about GBV incidents, agency procedures to report, investigate and take disciplinary action in cases of sexual exploitation and abuse).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Align different GBV information management systems across the humanitarian and recovery settings and ensure that updated data is managed by a relevant government entity.</li> </ul>

PROJECT CYCLE	STANDARDS
<b>Project implementation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure programmes include women, girls and the most vulnerable section of the population as equal participants and that programme activities are appropriate to their needs and abilities.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Develop targeted programmes focused specifically on women, girls and the most vulnerable to address inherent discrimination in terms of access to services.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support stakeholders to develop campaigns to challenge violent masculinities and change stereotypical attitudes and behaviours concerning gender roles and responsibilities to promote gender equality and positive attitudes and behaviour.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that wherever vocational training and capacity building are provided, survivors of GBV are given priority.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provide resources to mitigate women's disproportionate care-giving responsibilities.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure a participatory/community-development approach which ensures direct involvement of women and women's CSOs in setting priorities, identifying beneficiaries and monitoring implementation (Secretary-General's Seven Point Action Plan on Gender-responsive Peacebuilding).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Engage men and boys as clients, supportive partners and/or change agents in programming that targets or includes women and/or girls to enhance the protection and reduce backlash against female participants (including, where relevant, men and boys as victims of GBV as well as perpetrators).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Support civil society organizations, including capacity building of women's groups, that work to prevent and respond to GBV.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that GBV is fully integrated in UNSCR 1325 National Action Plans.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure staff and partners have been made aware of the United Nations policy on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement strategies that safeguard those at risk of GBV during documentation, profiling and registration processes (e.g. ensure participation of women, girls and other at-risk groups in the processes, develop strategies that encourage affected populations to report their risk and/or history of GBV, prioritize programmes for women to receive, recover or replace personal documents, consider the need for special protection measures such as relocation and safe houses).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Consult with GBV specialists to identify safe, confidential and appropriate systems of care (i.e. referral pathways) for survivors and ensure that protection staff have the basic skills to provide them with information on where they can obtain support.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that when sharing information about reports of GBV within the protection and other sectors that partners abide by safety and ethical standards (e.g. shared information does not reveal the identity of or pose a security risk to individual survivors, their families or the broader community).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Incorporate GBV messages (including where to report risk and how to access care) into protection-related community outreach and awareness-raising activities, using multiple formats to ensure accessibility.</li> </ul>
<b>Project monitoring and evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Include risk mitigation and protection outcomes in project monitoring and evaluation.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate GBV risk-reduction activities by measuring programme outcomes (including potential adverse effects) and using the data to inform decision-making and ensure accountability.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Include an indicator on collecting gender-sensitive information to ensure women's human rights, such as protection from violence including sexual violence, and include it in the M &amp; E framework where it is identified as a potential risk.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Use impact indicators that measure participant well-being and protection outcomes at the household level (e.g. reduced exposure to violence, nutritional status, educational attendance/retention, savings rates and use of health services) rather than numbers trained or number of participants reached.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate changes in participation rates of different groups across different spaces within society.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate whether policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres are equally beneficial for women and men.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Partner with local NGOs to support monitoring efforts and ensure gender specialists and/or gender skills are included in the TORs of the M &amp; E team. Engage women and other at-risk groups as protection-monitoring staff (including both paid and voluntary work) and ensure they have opportunities to provide protection-related input.</li> </ul>

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## Useful toolkits and other resources

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**Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Resolution in Security Sector Reform**, Bastick, Megan and Daniel de Torres, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, the OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, 2010.

This tool analyses the implications of four United Nations Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security for security sector reform. It shares experiences and good practices in implementation of the resolutions in national security policy-making, security sector reform processes and in the military, police and justice sectors.

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**Working Against Violence: Promising Practices in Armed Violence Reduction and Prevention**, Eavis, Paul, Geneva Declaration Secretariat, 2011.

This working paper documents promising practices in armed violence reduction and prevention. Drawing from experiences across multiple sectors and organizations, it seeks to generate a better understanding of what is working and, in so doing, encourage more effective and efficient policies and programmes.

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**Gender-based Violence Area of Responsibility website**, UNFPA and UNICEF.

The Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility website is a global forum for coordination and collaboration under the cluster approach on GBV prevention and response in humanitarian settings. The website brings together non-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies, academics and others under the shared objective of ensuring life-saving, predictable, accountable and effective GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response in emergencies, both natural disasters and conflict-related humanitarian contexts. The website also works to strengthen systemwide preparedness and technical capacity to respond to humanitarian emergencies.

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**Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery**, Inter-Agency Standing Committee, 2015.

Practical guidance and effective tools for humanitarians and communities to coordinate, plan, implement, monitor and evaluate essential actions for the prevention and mitigation of gender-based violence throughout all stages of humanitarian response, from preparedness to recovery.

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**Sexual Violence in Disasters: A planning guide for prevention and response**, Klein, Alisa, Louisiana National Sexual Violence Resource Centre and National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2008.

This guide offers important information about sexual violence and disasters that will help communities to understand the connection and develop better disaster responses.

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**The UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific**. Partners for Prevention, Bangkok, UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNV, 2013.

Partners for Prevention—on behalf of UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNV—coordinated the UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific to generate knowledge on how masculinities relate to men's perceptions and perpetration of GBV, in order to prevent violence.

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**Stop Rape Now: UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict**.

UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict unites the work of 13 United Nations entities with the goal of ending sexual violence in conflict. It is a concerted effort by the United Nations system to improve coordination and accountability, amplify programming and advocacy and support national efforts to prevent sexual violence and respond effectively to the needs of survivors.

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**United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security.**

This Women's International League for Peace and Freedom's 'PeaceWomen' website provides overviews and translations of eight United Nations Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and security.

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**How to Design Projects to End Violence Against Women and Girls. A step-by-step guide to taking action,**

UN Women Pacific Multi-Country Office and Australian Aid, 2015.

This toolkit was developed by the UN Women Pacific Regional Ending Violence Against Women Facility Fund in response to requests by stakeholders for practical, user-friendly materials and resources that would help to design and implement successful projects to end violence against women and girls.

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**"I See That It Is Possible": Building Capacity for Disability Inclusion in Gender-Based Violence Programming in Humanitarian Settings,** Women's Refugee Commission, 2015.

This report documents key findings and lessons learned from a project and concludes with practical recommendations for humanitarian actors, governments and donors to improve disability inclusion in GBV programming in humanitarian settings. Stories of change from women and girls with disabilities involved in the project and a toolkit for practitioners, including tools and guidance to assist them in strengthening disability inclusion in their work, are available at [http://wrc.ms/disability\\_GBV](http://wrc.ms/disability_GBV) or [www.gbvresponders.org](http://www.gbvresponders.org).

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**Toolkit for Monitoring and Evaluating Gender-Based Violence Interventions Along the Relief to Development Continuum.** Menon, Jessica, Victoria Rames and Patricia T. Morris, USAID, 2014.

A toolkit for monitoring and evaluating GBV-specific programming along the relief to development continuum.

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**Toolkit on Eliminating Violence Against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Fiji,** Pacific Disability Forum, 2014.

The toolkit contains five modules with facilitator notes, additional information and worksheets to run sessions. It also contains checklists that can be used in programme assessment and planning for disability inclusion.

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**Inclusive Security – Training Resources.**

The Inclusive Security website provides training resources to build the capacity of women peacebuilders, policymakers and students, both in civil society and government, to meaningfully affect the outcomes of peace processes.

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**Reporting on Gender-Based Violence in the Syria Crisis, Good Practices in the Media,** UNFPA, 2015.

A guide for journalists and media professionals as part of a regional programme to enhance the quality of reporting on gender-based violence in the Syrian crisis. The booklet is intended to complement other materials, to be used in workshops and as a self-learning guide for journalists and media producers.

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**WHO ethical and safety recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies,** World Health Organization, 2007.

While numerous established codes of practice offer guidance in matters relating to the ethics and safety of research and documentation that involve human subjects, ethical and safety guidelines (or recommendations) specific to issues that arise during collection of information about sexual violence in emergencies are lacking. The recommendations in this document have been developed to address this gap. They are not meant to replace but rather to complement existing internationally-agreed ethical guidelines for research and to inform ethics review processes.

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