

HRP Tip Sheet for GBV Risk Mitigation Mainstreaming in Shelter¹

Key Messages

- This Tip Sheet is developed for Shelter Cluster Coordinators to guide them on the GBV Risk Mitigation mainstreaming in preparation of the Shelter chapters of the HRPs.
- Safe and dignified shelters are central to reducing protection/GBV Risks.
- Mainstreaming GBV risk mitigation is a requirement across all sectors as part of accountable humanitarian action in all humanitarian responses. GBV risk mitigation is about ensuring good programming, not creating any harm through humanitarian programming as well as reducing the risk of GBV through the provision of services and assistance. GBV risk mitigation interventions are lifesaving.²
- GBV Risk Mitigation refers to the reducing the risk of the exposure of GBV in Shelter/NFI program setting. It doesn't replace GBV programming (i.e. prevention and response).
- Risks of GBV can be reduced through shelter programming that continuously monitors for and develops strategies to address emerging GBV-related safety risks related to shelters, settlements and NFIs.
- It complements the overall protection mainstreaming approach and applying the four elements of protection mainstreaming (i.e. safety and dignity, non-discrimination/meaningful access, accountability and participation, and empowerment) in Shelter/NFI will contribute to mitigating the risk of GBV.
- GBV Risk mitigation is most effective when planned and conducted together with protection and GBV specialists – so please consult and collaborate with protection/GBV teams! This must be done in consultation with the community, especially diverse women and girls.
- Use all available data e.g. from GBV safety audits, rapid gender analysis, sector-specific assessments, multi-sectoral assessments etc. to inform the development process and prioritisation of interventions.

Preparing for the HRPs

- Provide clear linkages between protection/GBV risks outlined in the HNO Shelter needs analysis and Shelter response strategies and priorities.
- Include shelter specific GBV Risks as part of the protection concerns.

¹ This guidance will be updated as needed.

² CERF (United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund), 2020, CERF Life-saving Criteria.

- Highlight the specific needs of the sub-groups of people affected by the crisis, in particular women, girls, in the proposed Shelter sector response strategy.
- Include diverse women and girls (single women, adolescent girls, women and girls with disabilities, female headed households, older women etc...) in target population sub-groups throughout the sector narrative and briefly elaborate how shelter cluster will prioritize these groups throughout Shelter/NFI interventions.
- Make sure population profile of the SNFI section of the HRP include sex and age disaggregated data. The collection and analysis of sex and age disaggregated data (SADD) (at minimum) is essential to inform programme design, monitoring, results measurement and in reporting. It is critical to gender analysis and contributes to the promotion of gender equality.³ Using SADD helps to articulate the needs, capacities and recommendations of the affected population.
- Include relevant **GBV risk mitigation measures/ activities** in Shelter sector objectives and response strategies that will address the outlined GBV risks in SNFI HNO needs analysis.
- Be specific about the actions/measures intended to reduce risks of GBV in SNFI settings. It is necessary to specify interventions and activities and how they link to the risks and priorities outlined by the community, especially women and girls.
- Indicate at least one or two concrete GBV risk mitigation interventions in SNFI programming. Below is list of shelter specific GBV risk mitigation activities.

Examples (GBV Risk Mitigation Activities in Shelter Programming)

- Designing communal living spaces to maximize safety and prevent GBV.
- Establish shelter committees with equal female and male participation; ensure that women participate in the decisions, shelter designs and their specific needs and security concerns are met. Women, girls and other at-risk groups will be prioritized for the allocation of shelters.
- Conduct safety audits, rapid gender assessments or regular consultations with women, girls, and groups with special needs on shelter issues.
- Trainings for government, shelter staff and community groups on the safe design and implementation of shelter programming that mitigates the risk of GBV.
- Improve safety and privacy within sleeping areas and protect against attack by providing strong and non-transparent building materials; doors and windows that lock;

³ For more information see the IASC [Gender Handbook](#), the [IASC GBV Guidelines](#) and the [GBV Minimum Standards](#).

and (where age-, gender-, and culturally appropriate) family and sex-segregated partitions.

- Where lighting is a responsibility of the shelter sector, prioritize the installation of appropriate lighting in and around shelters, particularly in areas deemed at high risk of GBV. Distribute torches and/or solar powered lights for individual use.
- IDP Site designs to improve safety in sites/around shelters based on consultations with diverse women and girls (for example, installation of solar lights, ensuring roads and footpaths are available, adequate site planning considerations such as ensuring WASH facilities and other common services are provided)
- Establish a system for the community to provide feedback about shelter-related safety issues relating to GBV.
- Develop sustainable strategies that promote the safety and well-being of those at risk of GBV, and to long-term efforts to reduce specific types of GBV (e.g. integrating GBV risk-reduction strategies into national and local policies, such as standardizing partitions into pre-positioned tent supplies; developing strategies for cyclical natural disasters in which women-, adolescent- and child-friendly spaces and safe shelters are considered from the onset of an emergency; etc.)

Example – GBV Risk Mitigation in the HRP

Guidance will be given to shelter partners on how to reduce GBV risks in rehabilitation of collective centres and design of individual shelters to improve safety and privacy. For NFIs, beneficiary selection, content and distributions will follow sector standards and IASC guidelines to ensure the physical safety and accessibility of all groups, especially diverse women, and girls are ensured.

Shelter cluster partners will work closely with the Protection Cluster, GBV AoR and Government counterparts to strengthen GBV Risk Mitigation through capacity building initiatives, joint safety audits and strengthened referral mechanisms.

The participation and leadership of diverse women, girls, LGBTIQ communities and people with disabilities will be encouraged in the decision making and design of shelter activities as well as construction and repairs. The well-being, privacy, protection and security of women, girls, boys, men, LGBTIQ communities and people with disabilities will be insured through emergency shelter and NFI provision.

- Make sure that GBV risk mitigation activities/measures are included in the response budget and monitoring sections.
- Include clear and measurable CCCM response monitoring indicators disaggregated by sex and age group (women, men, girls and boys).
- If possible, please include at least one or two relevant clear and measurable response monitoring **indicators** to measure the progress on the GBV risk mitigation activities. Please see below list of sample response indicators.

- ✓ # of Shelter assessments that include GBV-related questions
- ✓ # of Shelter assessment respondents and / or enumerators who are female
- ✓ # of specified geographic locations assessed through consultations with the affected population on GBV risk factors in and around shelters
- ✓ # of Shelter staff who trained/informed about the referral pathways for GBV survivors and GBV Risk Mitigation Guidelines
- ✓ # of GBV risk-reduction supplies that have stock levels below minimum levels
- ✓ % of targeted population able to access gender-responsive shelter material & non-food items in situations of emergency & transition (disaggregated by sex, age & disability)
- ✓ % of displaced people in sites or areas who live in safe, gender-responsive and appropriate site management services

Resources

[GBV Risk Mitigation in Shelter Programming](#)

[Tools to Reduce the Risk of GBV in Shelter Programmes](#)

[Shelter - IASC GBV Guidelines for Integrating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Settings](#)

[Essential actions and minimum commitments for emergency response](#)

[The Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action](#)

HRP Minimum Requirements - [HPC guidance | Global Protection Cluster](#)

For more information see [Module 5 of the Centrality of Protection in the HPC](#).

[Site planning - Guidance to reduce the Risk of Gender-Based Violence](#)

[Distribution: Shelter materials, NFI & Cash](#)