



## Gender in Emergencies Guidance Note Preparing a Rapid Gender Analysis

*This guidance note provides information on why and how to prepare a Rapid Gender Analysis. The primary audience of this guidance note is gender advisors. The CARE International (CI) Gender in Emergencies (GIE) team will take responsibility for preparation of rapid gender analyses for Type 4 and large Type 2 responses.*

### What is Gender Analysis?

Gender analysis is a tool that humanitarian responders use to identify and meet the different needs, capacities and coping strategies of women, men, boys and girls before, during and after an emergency.

Overall, gender analysis in a crisis tells us:

- Who is affected (women, men, boys, girls, elderly women, elderly men)?
- Who needs protection and how?
- Who has access to what assets and services, and what prevents others from gaining access to those services?
- What capacities of women, men, boys and girls to respond to the crisis?
- Whether women and men participate equally in decision-making?

### Rapid Gender Analysis

The Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA) provides essential information about gender roles and responsibilities, capacities and vulnerabilities together with programming recommendations. It is used in situations where time is of the essence

and resources are very scarce. It can also be used to update or verify gender information that is already available. Rapid Gender Analysis is built up progressively: using a range of primary and secondary information to understand gender roles and relations and how these may change during a crisis. It will assist in providing practical programming and operational recommendations to meet the different needs of women, men, boys and girls and to ensure we 'do no harm'. Rapid Gender Analysis uses the tools and approaches of [Gender Analysis Frameworks](#)<sup>1</sup> and adapts them to the tight time-frame, rapidly changing contexts, and insecure environments that often characterise humanitarian interventions. It should be used in conjunction with the [IASC Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action](#), especially for sector specific guidance.

In an emergency, RGA begins at the same time as initial assessments and continues throughout the project cycle. Information may be limited during the early stages of an emergency, so a RGA is supplemented with information from assessments, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, or relevant background information on an on-going basis.

Rapid Gender Analysis uses information and analysis that is available at the time to make recommendations for programming, further assessment and to analyse present needs. Follow

the steps described below to undertake a rapid gender analysis.

### 1) Find existing gender information

It is usually possible to find a good mix of primary and secondary background information and qualitative and quantitative data on what gender relations were like before the emergency. This information should be drawn together as part of Emergency Preparedness Planning as a country specific Gender in Brief. This information is crucial for understanding what gender relations were like before the crisis and how they have changed since. Use information from the national census, CARE's *Gender and Power Analysis for Impact Groups* or other reports to answer initial questions such as:

- How many women, men, boys and girls were there in the population before the crisis? What was the average household size?
- What were relations like between women, men, boys and girls before the emergency?
- What social/cultural structures does the community use to make decisions? How do women and men participate in these?
- What is the role of religious and cultural practices, beliefs and institutions in the community? How do they affect gender roles?

Using this background information to answer these questions allows a Gender in Brief to be developed with a very short turnaround time. Use the Gender in Brief template to present the information in a simple document that can be given to new staff or guide gender programming recommendations until more up-to-date gender analysis becomes available. The Gender in Brief should be included in the Rapid Gender Analysis.

### 2) Collect new gender information

Once a crisis happens, a lot of new information becomes available. Collect information from review or sector assessments. Find out what types of sector programming is planned, and see if there is any previous development programming that can be drawn on or linked to. Speak to key people - such as local gender specialists - about gender

relations. Even if the source is not gender sensitive it may still be useful.

CARE assessments must collect and report on information by sex and age. Obtain Sex and Age Disaggregated Data (SADD) by location from CARE beneficiary lists or at the aggregate level from other agencies. In the very early stages of an emergency, use census or other reliable demographic statistics to estimate the number of women, men, boys and girls in an affected population until SADD becomes available. Update the RGA with new information as it becomes available.

While collecting information, it is crucial to consult the communities affected by the crisis and to ask women, men, boys and girls in affected communities about gender relations and how things have changed since the crisis. These must be completed in a gender-sensitive way - use the Gender and Assessments Guidance Note to ensure that need assessments are gender sensitive.

Some suggestions for ensuring gender-sensitivity:

- Train both male and female enumerators to take information on gender relations and debrief them after their field-work.
- Ask women for information separately from men, and girls separately from boys.
- Don't assume that you already know the answers or that you can get the answers from local staff. The Good Practice Framework for Gender Analysis provides guidance on methods for conducting community consultations, such as key informant interviews or focus group discussions.

### 3) Analyse the gender information

Gender analysis in emergencies analyses the impact of the crisis on women, men, girls and boys. It compares how gender issues were prior to the crisis with how gender issues have changed since the crisis began or the program started.

- List the distinct capacities, needs and preferences of women, men, girls and boys. Are they the same since before the crisis or have they changed?

- List the pertinent roles and responsibilities for women, men, girls and boys. Is there a fair workload distribution? How does the distribution affect their respective rights for growth and opportunities? Who makes decisions about the use of the resources and are needs equitably met?
- List the dynamics between women, men, girls and boys. How do women and men help or hinder each other to meet their needs and rights? Who perpetrates violence against whom? What roles do the community and institutions play in meeting needs and rights, as well as addressing and preventing violence?

The analysis considers aspects of gender, age and diversity in order to understand different dimensions of how affected people experience and cope with the crisis.

#### 4) Make practical recommendations

A critical part of any RGA is the program and organisation recommendations that come from an analysis of the collected information. When developing recommendations, consider the following issues:

- How has the emergency affected the community? Are women, men, boys and girls affected differently?
- How should CARE's programs be adapted to meet the different needs of women, men, boys and girls?
- What targeted programs are needed to make sure that women, men, boys and girls all have access to assistance and are able to meet their needs?
- What specific risks has the emergency caused?
- What additional information do you need to continue your rapid gender analysis?

Make sure that the recommendations are practical and easily accessible by colleagues who are not gender specialists. Guidance for making recommendations is available in the Toolkit, under the Guidance on Making Recommendations. You may additionally consult the IASC Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action (available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, and Russian) for the activities that are related to the results of your analysis.

#### 5) Share the Rapid Gender Analysis Reports

After gathering data, this information can be presented using the RGA Template. The RGA Template is a cohesive format for all CARE RGA Reports, but it is not a rigid document and should be adapted to include information specifically relevant to your context or to remove any topics that are irrelevant.

Share information and analysis with CARE and with external stakeholders through a presentation, brief, or sector specific meeting.

#### Want More Information?

The [CARE Gender Toolkit](#) is a comprehensive online resource that supports gender analysis.

Email the CARE Gender in Emergencies team at [emergencygender@careinternational.org](mailto:emergencygender@careinternational.org)

All GIE resources are available on Minerva, which is a CARE space for storing and sharing information and managing documents. If you don't have a password, please request one from [kmod@care.ca](mailto:kmod@care.ca)

Some content is also replicated on the [Gender Wiki](#), which is open access.

#### Key Documents

For more detailed guidance and tools on CARE's approach to gender analysis, refer to the [Gender Analysis Good Practice Framework](#) at <http://www.gendertoolkit.care.org>.