Dear CG Members,

Happy International Women’s Day! This week we take a closer look at the challenges and opportunities that lie at the nexus of gender and disaster risk management. Thank you for your commitment to this important set of issues.

Best,
Julie

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### Blogs

#### The gender gap in the disaster risk management sector: why it matters

Caren Grown, the World Bank Group’s Senior Director for Gender and a leading expert on gender issues in development, highlights the importance of addressing the gender gap in the disaster risk management (DRM) sector. As Grown explains in this video blog, the DRM sector in many countries is dominated by men, a dynamic which has the potential to embed male-biased perspectives in the way that DRM programs are designed and implemented. [view video here]

#### Why we need to integrate gender equality and women’s empowerment in disaster recovery – and how to do it!

Governments and disaster risk management practitioners have a responsibility to reach, protect and empower women, girls, men and boys before, during and in the aftermath of disasters. This video blog spells out a few steps for how we can empower women and advance gender equality in a post-disaster recovery context. [view video here]

#### Empowering Indian women after a natural disaster hits

Gender-sensitive approaches to disaster prevention, mitigation, adaptation, relief, recovery, and reconstruction can save more lives and promote more gender-inclusive development. With that in mind, the reconstruction from the devastating floods and landslides which hit Uttarakhand state in India in 2013 has put a strong emphasis on women’s empowerment, including in areas such as housing and water and sanitation. [view video here]

#### Engaging women and children in disaster risk management: a pathway for reshaping power relations

As success stories begin to demonstrate the positive impacts of promoting gender equality in disaster risk management, governments are increasingly recognizing the importance of engaging women and girls in DRM at both national and local levels. By reshaping power relations, the recovery process could even provide a pathway for women and girls’ empowerment.
“When Women Rise, Mountains Move” – Women in Technology and Mapping

Women are taking the lead in the global movement to leverage geospatial data for tackling resilience and broader development challenges – helping ensure that these efforts address their particular needs and vulnerabilities. For instance, in Zambia, women have mapped the location of medical facilities that provide maternal services, contributing to a decrease in maternal deaths.

Videos

[Video Series] Advancing Gender-Responsive Disaster Risk Management in India

From helping women learn new skills as part of the disaster recovery to ensuring that housing reconstruction guidelines address the particular vulnerabilities of women and girls, few countries in the world have achieved as much progress in integrating gender equality and women’s empowerment in disaster risk management as India. This video series takes a closer look at how India is advancing gender-responsive disaster risk management.

Integrating gender analyses in Open Cities Africa

The Open Cities Africa project, a collaborative mapping effort to build skills, data, and networks which support disaster risk management and urban planning across Africa, incorporates gender analyses in each of its project cities. By taking this initial step, project teams can better understand how men and women are affected differently by disaster risks in their communities and incorporate the needs of both men and women into their final data tools or products.

Knowledge

GFDRR’s Gender-Responsive Approach to Disaster Risk Management

GFDRR is bolstering its commitment to and capacity for integrating a gender-responsive approach into its disaster risk management efforts. GFDRR’s gender action plan 2016-21 addresses two critical aspects of gender and DRM: understanding and addressing the different needs of men and women in DRM investments, and promoting women’s empowerment for broader resilience strengthening.

[Guidance Note] Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Disaster Recovery

This guidance note aims to provide action-oriented guidance to local and national government officials and key decision makers on how to implement gender-responsive recovery and reconstruction efforts across all sectors. The note also addresses the different challenges that women face in post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, and examines how the aftermath of a disaster can present opportunities for new and more progressive gender roles.

[Results in Resilience] Gender Inclusion in Post-Disaster Housing in India

The government of India and the government of the Indian state of Uttarakhand have made great strides at ensuring gender inclusion in their response to the flash floods and landslides which devastated the state in 2013. Recognizing the importance of financial protection for disaster resilience, these efforts have, for instance, contributed to the financial empowerment of women by fostering the co-ownership of bank accounts, enabling women to have an equitable say in financing home reconstruction.