



Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Fourth Session - Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow

Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 May 2013



FEATURED EVENT

HFA2: Women making a difference

CONCEPT NOTE

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| Schedule | Wednesday 22 May, 11.15 to 12.45 – Room 3 |
| Organizers | UNISDR with UN Women and Huairou Commission (Groots) |
| Focal Points | Ms Helena Molin Valdés, UNISDR (molinvaldes@un.org) |
| Background and Rationale | <p>A number of countries involve women and men actively in disaster risk management and planning and have integrated gender dimensions into risk reduction and response plans. Grassroot women’s organizations, the Red Cross/ Red Crescent, Oxfam and a number of NGOs mobilize both men and women in undertaking risk reducing action. Gender and diversity checklists exist for DRR. There is abundant testimony that the solutions and energy of both men and women are required to prevent, mitigate and recover from disaster. UNISDR has a network of Champions including strong women leaders in political positions driving disaster resilience – including Mayors, Parliamentarians and the SRSG for DRR.</p> <p>The HFA progress reports show the two gender equality indicators are the lowest performing ones; 62 out of 70 countries reported in 2009-2011 that they do not collect gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity information. The contributions of women and girls, visible especially at community level, remain largely isolated from government, private sector and multi-stakeholder DRR decision-making.</p> <p>As noted in the HFA Mid-Term Review background study done by the Huairou Commission, grassroots women’s organizations are almost always excluded and disconnected from national disaster risk reduction and recovery programmes despite successful track records of reducing everyday risks for their families and acting as innovative agents of community resilience. Women’s organizations represent untapped potential for implementation of the HFA in terms of ideas and experience.</p> <p>The application of the label “vulnerable” to women often excludes them from many decision-making processes. Is it therefore necessary to create incentives to promote programs and organizations that increase the leadership roles of women? What impedes gender concerns to be explicitly built into local and national action plans and policies? How can women’s contributions and leadership in disaster risk reduction be harnessed more systematically? And are approaches different for women in national and local public office, in the private sector and at grassroot level?</p> |
| Session Objectives | To explore why gender considerations seems lacking in the disaster risk reduction context of governments and private sector: what synergies are missing and why. |

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| | <p>To provide examples of strategies that have worked to increase women’s participation in decision making positions; how a gender perspective can change the approach to disaster risk reduction (and resilience: food security, safety, preparedness, environmental protection...)</p> <p>To identify strategies to ensure that women, and gender considerations, are at the centre of DRR decision making in “HFA 2”</p> |
| <p>Discussion agenda and structure</p> | <p>1. Introduction and welcoming remarks by Moderator (5 min), Ms. Kathleen Cravero – President of Oak Foundation, Switzerland</p> <p>2. Three keynote presentations – three perspectives (30 min):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Local leadership</u>: Ms Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick, Mayor of Tevragh-Zeina, Mauretania <i>Is the participation and leadership of women in disaster risk reduction invisible- or insignificant? How does a women Mayor in Mauretania apply disaster resilience to improve the city and the participation of all stakeholders. What is the “gender approach”?</i> (7 min) - <u>Grassroot perspectives</u>: Ms. Violet Shivutse, Shibuye Community Health Workers (Kenya) <i>Women led community resilience initiatives expanding their drought resilient crops to new communities - Grassroots Women Lead Food Security Households in the Face of Rising Food Prices and Changing Climate in Kenya. How do women organize and influence change from the bottom-up?</i> (7 min) - <u>Government perspectives</u>: H.E. Abul Hassan Mahmud Ali, M.P, Minister, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh <i>Examples/analysis of the added value of gender-inclusive DRR, and the difficulties to implement this. What are the institutional challenges of advancing gender equality?</i> (7 min) <p>3. Comments from a panel (a Parliamentarian; a private sector representative; a government perspective) (20 min):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Samura Tiulong, Member of Parliament, Cambodia - Mr. Loti Yates. Director, NDMO, Solomon Islands - Ms. Anne Lauvergeon, former Chief Executive AREVA, France <p><i>Based on the presentations, comment on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>How can women leaders change disaster risk reduction, climate change action and environmental management? Challenges and consequences.</i> - <i>How can a gender perspective make disaster risk reduction for resilience more effective (food security, safety, preparedness, environmental protection...) and can this be measured</i> - <i>Strategies to mainstream women’s involvement in “HFA 2”: what are the bottlenecks and options.</i> <p>4. Open floor questions and discussion with panelists (25 min)</p> <p>5. Wrap up and conclusions by the moderator (5min)</p> |
| <p>List of expected outcomes</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better understanding of the role that women can play in disaster risk reduction decision making at local, national and global levels, and why their engagement lead to improved resilience and sustainable development. - Identification of main strategies and indicators to better stimulate, measure and track |

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| | the engagement of women and girls in DRR decision making for “HFA 2” |
| Relevance of the initiative | Women and gender identified in previous Global Platforms, Regional Platforms and keys community practitioners of disaster risk reduction. |
| Subject’s link to post 2015 | Women and gender related key component of HFA2 |
| Expected number of participants and speakers | <p>300</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Kathleen Cravero – President of Oak Foundation, Switzerland</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Fatimetou Mint Abdel Malick, Mayor of Tavrigh-Zeina, Mauretania (French) - Ms. Violet Shivutse, Shibuye Community Health Workers (Kenya) GROOTS nominated - H.E. Abul Hassan Mahmud Ali, M.P, Minister, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh <p>Commentators-panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Samura Tiulong, Member of Parliament, Cambodia - Mr. Loti Yates. Director, NDMO, Solomon Islands - Ms. Anne Lauvergeon, former Chief Executive AREVA, France <p>Rapporteur: UN-Women</p> |
| Technical Equipment Required | Video projector, screen, computer, microphones etc |
| Background documents | <p>-5th Ministerial Conference on DRR, Yogyakarta Declaration, Annex statement on Gender and Women post-HFA (2012) http://www.preventionweb.net/files/23540_5amcdrrposthfaindividualsgender.pdf</p> <p>-Gender-and-Disaster-Network (GDN): Engendering HFA recommendations (2009)</p> <p>-TURNING GOOD PRACTICE INTO INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS: Investing in grassroots women’s leadership to scale up local implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action. An in-depth study for the HFA Mid-Term Review, Huairou Commission-GROOTS (2011) http://www.unisdr.org/files/18197_201guptaandleung.theoleofwomenasaf.pdf</p> <p>-Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender Sensitive. Policy and Practical Guidelines, UNISDR-UNDP-IUCN http://www.preventionweb.net/files/9922_MakingDisasterRiskReductionGenderSe.pdf</p> <p>- Women and Girls: The [in]visible force for resilience http://www.unisdr.org/2012/iddr/</p> |