# Why gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction should also include LGBTs

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**Gender and Disaster Network** 







## Who are the LGBTs?

- LGBT stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trangender
- Also referred to as LGBTIQ (LGBT, Intersex, Queer).

• Why do we have to include them? They too have different needs, capacities and rights.





### **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

- Article 1 "All human beings are born equal in dignity and rights."
- Article 2 universal dignity of a life free from discrimination.

### The Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

- It affirms primary obligations of the State to uphold human rights.
- Principle 1: Rights to the universal enjoyment of human rights
- Principle 2: Rights to equality and non-discrimination
- Principle 13: Right to social security and other social protection measures





"We ate leftovers thrown away by people living in the temporary shelters during the tsunami." – Aravani from India, quoted in Pincha and Krishna (2008)

"Transgender Katrina refugee takes a shower, goes to jail." – San Francisco Bay Times

"Anti-LGBT Violence & Discrimination Rise in post-Quake Haiti" – housingworks.org





## LGBTs in disasters: insights from the Philippines

• LGBTs are often tasked to do dirty chores at home.

• LGBTs are sometimes considered by their parents as second priority for food and financial support in times of disaster.

• LGBTs are frequently discriminated in evacuation centres -usually lack proper private spaces in evacuation centres.





## LGBTs in disasters: insights from the Philippines

• LGBTs take the lead in collecting relief goods and seeking support from government offices and other aid groups.

• LGBTs play a crucial role in providing support to the most vulnerable people in evacuation centres.







Gay group distributing relief goods after typhoon Ondoy in Quezon City, Philippines, Sep. 2009 (*Associated Press*)

Lesbian organization distributing relief goods after typhoon Ondoy in Malabon, Philippines, Sep. 2009 (Associated Press)







## LGBTs in disasters: insights from Indonesia

• LGBTs are strongly marginalized within the Indonesian society.

• LGBTs seek shelter from friends to avoid discrimination in public evacuation centres.









LGBT NGO staff distributing relief goods to evacuees of Mt Merapi, Indonesia, in Nov. 2010 (B. Balgos)





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LGBT NGO staff offering free haircut to evacuees of Mt Merapi, Indonesia, in Nov. 2010 (*B. Balgos*)







LGBTs hosted a benefit event for those who were affected by the eruption of Mt Merapi, Indonesia, in Nov. 2010 (*B. Balgos*)





## Ways forward for DRR

• On the short-term, DRR practice must recognize the particular needs and endogenous capacities of LGBTs.









LGBT youth involved in DRR activities in Irosin, Philippines, in Jan. 2010



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LGBTI Pinoys for Calamity and Disaster Victims 😐			
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#### Informations

#### Catégorie : Organismes - Association bénévole

#### Description :

This is a group dedicated to the positive visibility, productive energy, and caring spirit of the Filipino lesbian, gay, bakla, bayot, bantut, bisexual, tomboy, transsexual, transgender, intersex (LGBTI) and other 'sexual and gender minorities' in view of the calamities and disasters that hit the Philippines. We believe in helping out victims of calamities and disasters without discriminating on the basis of their gender, sexuality, sexual orientation and gender identity.

#### Ang grupong ito ay... (lire la suite)

#### Niveau de confidentialité :

Fermé : contenu public restreint. Les membres du groupe peuvent voir l'intégralité du contenu.



**Bruce P. Amoroto** First Statement of the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues as read by Ambassador Libran Nuevas Cabactulan on Friday, International Human Rights Day, 10 December 2010, 1:00 – 2:45 p.m. ECOSOC Chamber, NLB, at the UN Headquarters in New York. Ambassador Cabactulan's statement starts at 1:10

#### Special Event: Ending violence and criminal sanctions on the basis of sexual orientation and gender.

#### www.unmultimedia.org

High-level panel discussion on "Ending violence and criminal sanctions on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity" (co-organized by the Permanent Missions of Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, France, Gabon, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Norway, the United States Mission and the Del

🕣 11 décembre 2010, 18:39 · J'aime · Commenter · Partager



**Bruce P. Amoroto** Tonight, November 22, at 10:45pm, members of the Filipino LGBTI community takes part in 'Isang Tanong' the GMA7 Presidential Forum. Inaanyayahan ang lahat na panoorin mamayang alas-10:45 ng gabi sa GMA7 ang paglahok ng mga bakla at tomboy sa 'Isang Tanong' the GMA7Presidential Forum. Ang Part 2 ay sa susunod na Linggo.... Afficher la suite

### LGBT Facebook group involved in DRR advocacy in the Philippines





## Ways forward for DRR

• In the long -term, institutionalisation of their recognition in the society

• It is essential to include LGBTs in policy and decision-making towards a comprehensive, inclusive and gender-sensitive DRR.