GENDER, DIVERSITY, AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)

Asuka Murata
Programme Specialist
UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

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# Even Disasters Discriminate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Disasters and Country</th>
<th>Female Mortality</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Cyclone oB2 Bangladesh</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Tsunami – Aceh, Indonesia</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Tsunami- Tamil Nadu, India</td>
<td>73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Cyclone Nargis- Myanmar</td>
<td>61%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Tsunami – Tonga and Samoa</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Solomon Islands Floods</td>
<td>96% women &amp; children</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Nepal Earthquake</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Myanmar Floods</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Fiji Cyclone Winston</td>
<td>50% (92% iTaukei)</td>
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GENDERED RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES

- More likely to be working in homes when disaster strikes;

- More likely to attempt to save children as well as valuable assets and documentation in disasters;

- Less likely to receive early warning information in time;

- Less likely to learn to swim or climb trees, reducing their ability to escape disasters such as floods
IN ADDITION TO HIGHER MORTALITY, WOMEN AND GIRLS ALSO EXPERIENCE...

1. Increased burdens of work and time poverty
2. Higher levels of violence against women and girls
3. Higher risk of human trafficking
4. Child and early marriage of girls and young women
5. Loss of livelihoods, assets, properties, and documentation
COMMON GENDER EQUALITY ISSUES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

- Women out-number men around the world, but in the Asia men outnumber women with 50 million ‘women missing’.
- Women, children and elderly make up > 80% of those living on less than $2 per day in Asia;
- High rates of SGBV: 60-80% of Pacific women aged 15 to 49 years experienced violence
- Lowest decision making power and political participation when Asia-Pacific combined
- High dependence on natural resource
- Low access to resources
NOT ALL WOMEN ARE AFFECTED IN THE SAME WAY:
SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY ARE NECESSARY IN DRR

People with disabilities
- More likely to be left behind during evacuation in disasters
- Face exclusion from equitable access to resources such as education and employment

LGBTQI populations
- Face reduced access to essential services and support due to stigma and discrimination
- Transgender people particularly vulnerable, especially in countries where legal ID does not affirm their gender
- Heteronormative assumptions of the gender composition of families which can exclude them from aid
WOMEN ARE NOT JUST VICTIMS, THEY ARE ALSO AGENTS OF CHANGE

· Women are already catalysts in bringing families and communities together, and key to strengthen social system and the sustainable development.

· Women are often the first responders in emergencies.

· Evidence worldwide shows that when women are meaningfully engaged and their needs addressed, the process to stability and resilience is accelerated, efficient, and more effective.¹

However,

· There is significant underinvestment in women’s resilience.

· Women are left behind in DRR leadership and decision-making process.
Asian Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR

- Member states committed to operationalize the Sendai Framework and SDGs, including gender equality at local, national and regional level
- Includes a guidance note, “Gender Inclusion & Women’s Empowerment at the Centre of Resilience Building”, to ensure the integration of gender and diversity specifically into the Plan

The Hanoi Recommendations for Action on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction

- Identify actions to ensure that the implementation of the Sendai Framework in the region is gender responsive and inclusive.
TIME TO TAKE ACTION: REMAINING CHALLENGES

Insufficient gender data and analysis
- Sex and age disaggregated data in DRR available in only 14% of Asia-Pacific countries (1)
- Lack of vulnerability assessments and gender analysis
- No gender indicators formulated for monitoring policy and programme implementation

Lack of substantive leadership and participation of women in DRR
- Analysis of 13 countries in Asia showed that only 38% of countries reported women’s participation in national DRR platforms
- Women’s organizations and CSOs often do not have access to government policy-makers

Insufficient investment in gender in DRR
- In Asia Pacific, even though gender-sensitive DRR plans and programmes have been developed by 47% of countries, gender aspects are included in only 33% of post-disaster needs assessment methodologies. (2)
- Only 18% of the Global Environment Facility climate mitigation projects reviewed in 2014 addressed gender. (3)
KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Place women’s leadership at the forefront of DRR

- Strengthen and apply strategic information and evidence, including SADDD and gender analysis.

- Ensure DRR policies are gender transformative and address all forms of inequalities.

- Invest in innovation in disaster and climate resilient economic empowerment and livelihoods for women
THANK YOU!

ASUKA MURATA

E-MAIL: ASUKA.MURATA@UNWOMEN.ORG