What is the link between gender equality and disaster risk? What lessons have been learned in the field and through scientific study? How can this knowledge be applied in practice to reduce risk and respond equitably to disaster events?
USING THE SOURCEBOOK

Notes to users

What is the link between gender equality and disaster risk? What lessons have been learned in the field and through scientific study? How can this knowledge be applied in practice to reduce risk and respond equitably to disaster events?

The Gender and Disaster Sourcebook is a one-stop user-friendly electronic guide to help answer these questions. This version is a pilot and we welcome feedback of all kinds. The final product will be available in March 2006 on the Gender and Disaster Network website, and we hope it will be widely linked to other relevant websites.

How were materials selected?

- **Language**: is it available in English or is a brief summary in English feasible?
- **Accessibility**: can users find these documents on-line?
- **Gender focus**: is gender the primary concern?
- **Environmental disasters**: is this the main focus or well-integrated into related concerns such as armed conflict, migration and HIV/AIDS?

Who is it for?

We hope the compilation will be useful for those new to a gender perspective and those who have helped develop it. In particular, it is a resource bank for:

- Practitioners and relief workers
- Policy makers and technical specialists
- Government authorities
- Journalists, funders, and activists
- Survivors and researchers
- Community organizers
- Women's groups

What kinds of materials are included?

- Academic publications
- In-house reports or documents
- First-person accounts
- Research protocols
- Good practice models
- Checklists and field guides
- Gender mainstreaming guidelines
- Resources for journalists
- Grassroots women's initiatives
- Relevant websites
- Training materials
- University syllabi
- Policy guides
- Bibliographies
- Strong photos of women
- Resources for trainers
**Why is the Sourcebook needed?**

Resources developed in an agency or sector or country are often of interest to others but not known or available. The Sourcebook cannot include all gender and disaster materials but will be the springboard for information exchange and networking.

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**What languages are used?**

The Sourcebook is in English. Bilingual documents are noted, and in some cases synopses are provided of non-English materials. We hope and expect that many entries in the Sourcebook can be translated and/or revised and adapted for use in different regions and contexts. It may be possible to translate selected materials from the English version at a later date subject to funding.

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**Will it be updated?**

The Sourcebook cannot be updated by the writing team after the completion of the project. We solicit your thoughts about mechanisms for annual revision, avenues for promotion, and directions for revision and expansion.

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**How can people access the Sourcebook?**

The Sourcebook will also be available for the foreseeable future through the Gender and Disaster Network website hosted by Northumbria University, Divisions of Geography and Environmental Management [webspinner Maureen Fordham]. We thank them for making this possible.

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**How can people contribute?**

Please contact the writer in your region to suggest appropriate resources, update or correct information, or make new items available electronically. Alternatively, send your ideas or resources along to the project director at enarson@brandonu.ca Be sure to include full citation information, a hyperlink or pdf file, and note the region, intended audience, and key topic areas.

Your submissions are very welcome—and so are your ideas for further distributing and promoting the Sourcebook. Our thanks in advance!

**Send materials to the person in your region or to the project director:**

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Many people contributed time and energy to this project but the writers below took primary responsibility in their region. Your comments and feedback to them are always welcome.

Cheryl Anderson

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Dr. Cheryl L. Anderson is a certified planner (AICP), and the Director of the Hazards, Climate, and Environment Program, University of Hawai‘i Social Science Research Institute. For the last thirteen years, she has conducted research and planning projects in the areas of climate variability and change, hazard mitigation, hazard risk and vulnerability assessments, coral reef protection, ocean resource management, and watershed management in the Pacific Islands region and in Southeast Asia with collaborative partners in regional, federal, state, and local agencies and organizations. These projects include: the State of Hawaii Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, the County of Kauai Multi-Hazard Mitigation Strategy, the American Samoa Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and a Drought Impact Assessment of the 1997-1998 ENSO in the US-affiliated Pacific Islands. She is currently working with the Pacific ENSO Applications Center (PEAC) and the Pacific Regional Integrated Science and Assessment (RISA) program in the area of climate risk management. In August 2004, she co-convened the international Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop in Honolulu, presented the outcomes at the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) in Kobe, Japan in January 2005, and has conducted training in Geneva on gender and disaster risk reduction for the UN Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery. Dr. Anderson is a member of the Navigators (coordinating council) for the Pacific Risk Management ‘Ohana (PRiMO) and a Steersperson (chairperson) for the Risk Assessment and Post-Disaster Evaluation Hui (working group).

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Madhavi is a development researcher with special interest on political economy of development and disasters. She has designed and coordinated a number of research and training initiatives on risk reduction and gender issues in disaster; and has analysed disaster management policies with special reference to South Asia. She has considerable experience in interacting with the communities living with disasters in South Asia, based on which she has written a number of articles and papers focusing on gender issues. Madhavi authored the book ‘Defeating Disasters: Ideas for Action’, and co-authored the publications ‘Seeing Disasters Differently-Visions and Suggestions’, ‘Disaster Communication, A Resource Kit for Media’, ‘Disaster Risk Reduction in South Asia’, Gender Dimensions in Disaster Management; A Guide for South Asia, Livelihood Centred Approach to Disaster Management, a Policy Framework for South Asia. Currently, Madhavi is Project Manager with the Tsunami Recovery team at UNDP Sri Lanka.

Sarah Bradshaw

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Dr. Sarah Bradshaw has a PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science and an
MA in Latin American Studies from the University of Liverpool. She is Senior Lecturer in Development Studies in the School of Social Sciences at Middlesex University, UK. She complements her academic activities with practical development work, supported by International Cooperation for Development UK (ICD-CIIR). She has worked in Nicaragua from 1998 to the present, first with the Regional Coordinator for Social and Economic Research (CRIES) and subsequently with the feminist NGO Fundación Puntos de Encuentro and with the Centro de Información y Servicios de Asesoría en Salud (CISAS). In addition she has worked closely with the Civil Coordinator for Emergency and Reconstruction (CCER) in the elaboration of the civil society proposal for the reconstruction and transformation of Nicaragua post-hurricane Mitch, as a member of the commission responsible for the Social Audit, and in the analysis and critique of the current World Bank/IMF Poverty Reduction Strategy process. Three papers forwarded for inclusion on the workshop webpage: Social Roles and Spatial Relations of NGOs and Civil Society: Participation and Effectiveness in Central America Post Hurricane Mitch; Reconstructing Roles and Relations: A Gendered Analysis of Women’s Participation in Reconstruction in post-Mitch Nicaragua; Exploring the Gender Dimensions of Reconstruction Processes post-hurricane Mitch.

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Dr. Elaine Enarson teaches in the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies Program at Brandon University, Manitoba. She is the author of Woods-Working Women: Sexual Integration in the U.S. Forest Service and co-editor of the international reader The Gendered Terrain of Disaster: Through Women’s Eyes. Her publications have addressed the impacts of hurricane Andrew on women in Florida, US and Canadian domestic violence work in disasters, women’s paid and unpaid labor in disasters, gender patterns in flood evacuation, women’s human rights in disasters, the impacts of drought and earthquake on rural women in Gujarat, grassroots women’s vulnerability research, and patterns in the international gender and disaster literature. Elaine is a founding member of the Gender and Disaster Network.

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I have been researching and teaching disasters for over 15 years. My particular interests have focused on marginalized groups of varying kinds, women being a major focus. More recently I have been concerned with issues of masculinity and with the needs and capacities of children and people with varying kinds of disabilities. I am committed to the free exchange of knowledge and information and to that end have set up and managed a number of disaster-related websites, the Gender and Disaster Network (http://online.northumbria.ac.uk/geography_research/gdn/) and Radix (http://online.northumbria.ac.uk/geography_research/radix/) being just two of them. Much of my time is spent teaching on the MSc in Disaster Management and Sustainable Development at Northumbria University but I often get invited to act as advisor or participant in various parts of the UN system and other national, regional and local governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Rowena Hay

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Originally trained in hydrology Rowena Hay has a keen interest in the science-society interface and
the roles of women in both. In 1992, she established the South African-based earth science consultancy Umvoto where she continues as the managing director and researcher. Now including six full-time professionals and a number of student interns and support staff, Umvoto focuses on people-centered hydrogeology, rural and urban water supply and management, risk analysis and geoinformatics with a strong emphasis as well on mentoring, training and innovation. Rowena Hay sits on the African Advisory Group that serves to support the implementation of the African Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction while also pursuing doctoral studies.

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Stuart Katwikirize participated in the development of the Sourcebook in its early stages. His humanitarian experience includes working with genocide survivors from Rwanda, Congolese refugees and working with famine stricken communities in both Ethiopia and Southern Africa. For his MSc in Disaster Management, Katwikirize wrote a thesis on gender and resettlement, and continues to be passionate about gender sensitive programming during complex emergency responses. Paper forwarded for inclusion on the workshop webpage: “Understanding Resettlement Capacities and Vulnerabilities of Displaced Male and Female Headed Households: A Case of Three Camps in Northern Uganda.” Currently, he works with World Vision International in Lesotho as the Country Coordinator.

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A. Nuray Karanci is a professor of clinical psychology at the psychology department of the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey. She has been working there since 1980. After graduating from the Psychology Department of METU in 1973, she went to the United Kingdom and completed her M.S in Clinical Psychology in 1976, and her Ph.D in 1980. Her research interests center around clinical psychology, attributions of psychiatric patients and their relationships with emotional reactions, families of schizophrenic patients, burdens and expressed emotion and development of self-efficacy. Since 1993, she has been extensively involved in research on psychological consequences of earthquakes, disaster management and facilitating community participation in disaster management and preparing disaster preparedness guidelines and training of trainees programs. She has also worked with earthquake survivors as a clinical psychologist and provided individual psychological services and group debriefing programs. She is one of the founding members of, METU, Disaster Research and Implementation Center and has been involved in applied and basic research in disasters. She is a member of the Turkish National Earthquake Council and Member Vice Chair of the International Natural Hazards Society. She has got numerous international and national publications related to her research interests. Three papers forwarded for inclusion on the workshop webpage: Observations on the Social and Psychological Aspects of the 1 May 2003 Bingöl Earthquake (Karanci et al.); Psychological Distress And Growth Among The Survivors Of The 1999 Marmara Earthquake (power point slides); Karanci et al. 1999, Gender differences in psychological distress, coping, social support and related variables following the 1995 Dinar (Turkey) earthquake.

Lourdes Meyreles

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Lourdes Meyreles is a sociologist with a Masters Degree in Gender and Development Studies. Currently she is the Coordinator of the Social Studies of Disaster Project at Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales FLACSO, Dominican Republic Program. This is a research and education project which during the past 6 years has been involved in various regional research activities and local community educational activities. Research has been basically in the areas of environmental degradation and risk construction in the Greater Caribbean Region, women’s vulnerability to disasters in the Caribbean and other research activities regarding disasters in the Dominican Republic.

Mary Hope Schwoebel

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Mary Hope Schwoebel is an independent consultant and scholar with over 20 years experience in the fields of development, humanitarian assistance, and peacebuilding. She has lived and worked in Africa and South America for 12 years, and has done consulting in Africa, South America, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia. Ms. Schwoebel has a Masters degree in international development from the University of California, Davis, a BS in anthropology and sociology, and is a Doctoral Candidate in peace and conflict studies, at the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (ICAR), George Mason University. She has worked for UN agencies, USAID, NGOs, and research institutions. She has taught as Adjunct Faculty at Georgetown University, American University, and George Mason University. Ms. Schwoebel first became interested in gender and disaster while carrying out relief operations in Somalia in 1992. Most recently, in 2004, she worked with USAID to assist the Indian government in its efforts to mainstream gender into its nation-wide disaster management strategy. She has published a number of articles relating gender and disaster, gender and development, and gender and peacebuilding, including Unsung Heroines: Women and Natural Disasters a publication of USAID’s Office of Women in Development.
## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: SUBJECTS AND TOPICS

### Gender equality and disaster risk reduction
- Publications and reports
- Action points
- Lessons from the field
- Personal narratives

### Training and Education
- Training materials
- Fact sheets and handouts
- Academic resources

### Planning and Practice Tools
- Planning and policy frameworks
- Practice guides and checklists
- Gendered vulnerability assessment
- Discussion papers

### Case Studies and Analysis
- Academic books and publications
- Governmental and NGO reports
- Literature reviews and bibliographies

### Good Practices
- Women’s initiatives
- Nongovernmental
- Governmental

### Related Resources
- Climate change
- Conflict and displacement
- Pandemics
- Women’s empowerment

### Communication Strategies
- Community education
- Multimedia resources
- Videos
- Guidelines for media

### Links
- Academic Links
- Practice Links
- Women's Organisations
- Governmental Links

### Glossaries and Acronyms

### Photo Gallery

Photos are not included here but you will find them on the website of the Gender and Disaster Network when the Sourcebook is uploaded.
The materials in this first section frame those to follow. Strong summary documents, pioneering writing in the field of gender and disaster, significant policy statements and conference papers and recommendations from a series of conferences provide an overview to the major themes of the field and of the Sourcebook.

We offer this broad conceptual foundation, so tragically illustrated by recent disastrous events at the beginning of the 21st century, as one perspective on the need for gender analysis and gender-fair practices across all sectors and regions. While people's homes, families, livelihoods, and cultures are threatened by catastrophic events or the slow grind of "small" disasters, we cannot afford to ignore the part played by gender relations in both constructing and mitigating risk.

As women's voices are so rarely heard we highlight them here. Listening to women talking about how disasters affected them and how they responded is vital for practitioners, researchers and policy makers and an important point of connection between women around the world. Please consider uploading first-person narrative accounts available to you in any of the categories below or others that you may want to suggest.

We also make space for listening to men and invite more personal narrative by and about gender in men's lives in disaster contexts. In this section, men's feelings and words are highlighted in case materials from the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

Users are also referred to the sections on Training and on Communication where numerous short fact sheets or handouts featuring first person statements from women survivors and responders can be found.

**SAMPLE DOCUMENTS FROM THE SOURCEBOOK**

**PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

**1.1 Gender Dimensions in Disaster Management: A Guide for South Asia**

Madhavi Malalgoda Ariyabandu and Maithree Wickramasinghe, 2003. 176 pp. Published by ITDG South Asia. Available from ITDG-South Asia, 5 Lionel Edirisinghe Mawatha, Kirulapone, Colombo 5, Sri Lanka, Tel: +94 11 2829412, Fax: +94 11 2856188. E-mail: general@itdg.slt.lk, Cost: US $12.00 /Sri Lanka Rs. 500.00. (The proceedings of the book will be reinvested in community disaster risk reduction projects).

This book has been developed as a guide to introduce the subject of gender issues in disasters and to provide practical guidelines for addressing issues of gender in planning and implementing disaster management. The book has a South Asia focus drawing on the experiences of ITDG, and members of the Duryog Nivaran network (see full reference) who have been working with communities living in situations of disaster risk. The book places the issue of gender in the context of development, and extends the discussion to show how gender and development concerns are reflected in the context of disasters. It presents real-life examples and case studies, which depict the subtle gender concerns and gender-based social dynamics prevalent in managing disasters, protecting daily-livelihoods, and in disaster/crisis situations. The guidelines presented in the second half of the book aim to help address these concerns in planning and implementing development and disaster management programmes. The guidelines are presented under the two categories: 'Guidelines for Policy-makers' and 'Guidelines for Practitioners'. The book is organised in the following way: (i) Introductory and discussion chapters which provide a theoretical overview of gender issues and disasters and present the case for an 'alternative perspective' in disaster
mitigation. (ii) Examples of how disasters impact women and men differently in social, cultural, economic and psychological ways and gender-based differences in pre-, during- and post-disaster situations. These chapters are based on community experiences across five South Asia countries. (iii) ‘Guidelines for Policy-Makers’ presented as a table outlining the key policy requirements for ensuring that disaster mitigation is linked to overall development planning and that it is gender sensitive. (iv) ‘Guidelines for Practitioners’ such as national and decentralised government staff handling development and/or disaster issues and development organisations such as NGOs or CBOs, training institutions etc. The practitioner guidelines outline required actions and examples of good practice for overall disaster preparedness, planning for disaster responses and emergency management planning for rehabilitation and reconstruction and monitoring and evaluation. (v) The final section comprises a glossary of terminology, a bibliography and a list of Internet resources. The book is the first regional attempt to provide practical, experience-based guidelines on gender sensitising disaster management.

1.2 Women’s Participation in Disaster Relief and Recovery


An excellent overview of the vulnerabilities and capacities of grassroots women in crises caused by natural disasters with emphasis on the innovative peer learning model developed by GROOTS [Grassroots Organizations Organizing Together in Solidarity]. Mechanisms of exclusion of women from disaster management and response as well as women’s proactive self-organization and collaboration across borders are discussed. The pamphlet contains case studies and best practises aimed at sharing information and to spark new initiatives based on positive experiences from projects that are working to help women generate livelihoods and to improve their economic status. The past 3 decades of disaster relief and reconstruction efforts bear evidence that too little attention has been given to the gender differentiated effects of natural disasters, and how disaster related aid and entitlement programmes include or marginalise affected women. Similarly a few practical examples can be found showing how affected low income women can participate in post disaster relief and recovery and secure decent housing and livelihoods for themselves and their families. The pamphlet contains detailed case studies from 3 earthquake stricken areas in India and Turkey They provide examples of how low income women who have lost everything can form groups, can become active participants the relief and recovery process. The case studies demonstrate how women became involved in housing, created business, mobilised funds, and provided crucial community services. Ample use of first-person narrative combined with analysis and thorough documentation makes this a powerful introductory overview.

1.3 The Needs of Women in Disasters and Emergencies


This comprehensive overview and analysis of the gender-based issues confronting women in disasters stands the test of time for its level of analysis, case material and substantive recommendations for research, policy and practice. The authors examine source of gender bias in disaster-related research, critically examine how gender impacts women in diverse social locations, and clearly identifies gender-based vulnerabilities as a priority concern in disaster planning and response. Examining women and gender throughout the disaster cycle and offering an integrated analysis touching on psychosocial dimensions, household structure, the division of labor and cultural context with emphasis on the essential role of women as agents of change in disaster risk reduction, this report stands as a model for many of those that follow. Available through the GDN in English and Spanish.

1.4 Understanding the disaster-development continuum: gender analysis is the essential tool

This early statement on gender as the linchpin connecting disasters and development has been widely reproduced as it provides a concise overview of the key issues and raises concerns taken up by subsequent generations of researchers and practitioners. An essential analytic piece for trainers and teachers.

### 1.5 Environmental management and disaster risk reduction: a gender perspective


This paper explores the gender dimensions of the complex relationships within the development paradigm that contribute to environmental mismanagement and vulnerability to disasters. While the link between natural disasters and environmental degradation is well established, now there is growing evidence that many conflicts – so far mainly intrastate ones, are the result of environmental resource mismanagement. How does gender play out in this web of relationships? The paper makes the case that Gender is at the core of understanding gender roles and how they interface with developments is essential to forwarding our global values and agendas – whether they relate to gender equality, environmental protection, social justice or human rights. The paper suggests that it is important not to miss the opportunity of post-disaster reconstruction and recovery to promote institutional change – which can make way in the future for achieving the goals of environmental management, gender equality and social justice – all of which are required for reducing disaster risk and vulnerability.

### 1.6 Gender equality, environmental management, and natural disaster mitigation: conference report


The paper synthesis and analyzes responses to conference themes posted for discussion on the DAW on-line conference on Gender Equality, Environmental Management, and Natural Disaster Mitigation. More than 200 responses were contributed from practitioners, researchers and policy makers from around the world. The following topics were discussed over five weeks: Victims? Heroines? Gender myths and realities in disasters; How do women manage and use environmental resources in their daily lives? How do women and men cope with the immediate and long-term challenges of natural disasters? How can the “window of opportunity” for social change following natural disasters be exploited? How can gender equality be integrated holistically into both disaster prevention and sustainable development initiatives?

### 1.7 Women, disaster reduction and sustainable development.


Prepared by the Inter-agency Secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), Geneva. The UN/ISDR collaborated with the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women in the organization of the Expert Meeting on Environmental Management and the Mitigation of Natural Disasters: a Gender Perspective (Ankara, Turkey, 6-9 November 2001). Prior to that meeting, a fruitful online debate took place in October 2001, moderated by Elaine Enarson, expert in gender and disasters. Many of the arguments and examples reflected in this article are based on the ideas and experiences shared during the online debate and the expert meeting, and a paper prepared by the UN/ISDR for the Commission on the Status of Women, 6 March 2002.
This succinct and analytic paper provides an excellent summary and overview of the key issues and is especially useful for contextualizing the issues raised by gender as part of the broader risk reduction paradigm.

1.8 Making risky environments safer: women building sustainable and disaster resilient communities


Prepared in magazine form for the UN Women2000 and Beyond publication series, now available in English, French and Spanish. The text introduces gender concerns in the broader agenda of disaster risk reduction and discusses through case material from international disasters how women act to reduce risk. Emphasizes the need to recognize and support the efforts of grassroots women currently marginalized from dominant approaches.

1.9 Disproportionate impact of natural disasters on women


Presentation to the Roundtable Panel and Discussion of the UN DAW for the 46th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, delivered January 17 2002. A cogent and substantive overview reflecting the main conclusions of the Expert Working Group report on the topic. Very useful short summary of the work of the EWG.

1.10 Crisis, women and other gender concerns: selected issues papers


Working Paper # 7 in the series from the ILO infocus Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction presents gender-focused papers from a high-level research consultancy organized in 2002 by the ILO. Included are background documents and original papers from Zenaida G. Delica (Enhancing women’s capacity to manage and recover from disasters); Elaine Enarson (Gender issues in natural disasters: talking points on research needs; Lillian Kimani (Women in conflict and post-war reconstruction; and Monica Trujillo (Disaster preparedness: the gender dimension).

CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS: ACTION POINTS

2.1 Environmental management and the mitigation of natural disasters: a gender perspective [Report of the Expert Group Meeting]


The final report summarizes the work process, main contours of the debate and recommendations forwarded by participants in the areas of: policy and programme; budgeting and finance; legislation and human rights; participation, partnership and community involvement; media; information and dissemination; education, training and capacity building; research; methodologies and data collection; and action at the international level. See also Agreed Conclusions from the 47th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, based on this report and the Expert Group Meeting
2.2 Platform on gender equality and disaster risk reduction, 2004


2.3 Promoting gender equality in disaster risk reduction: action recommendations from gender and disaster conferences

Prepared as background for the 2004 Honolulu workshop, this document draws together action recommendations from conferences conducted in Central America, Pakistan, Australia, Canada and the US. Available through the GDN: [http://www.gdnonline.org](http://www.gdnonline.org)

REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

3.1 Honolulu Gender and Disaster Workshop: regional commentaries from participants

2004, 39 pp. Participants were asked to develop a one-page set of observations about regional issues and possibilities for gendering the disaster risk reduction agenda. Take as a whole, there provide an excellent ‘state of the art’ insight into the challenges ahead. Available through the Honolulu workshop website: [http://www.ssri.hawaii.edu/research/GDWwebsite/pdf/WorkingGroups/COMMENTARIES.pdf](http://www.ssri.hawaii.edu/research/GDWwebsite/pdf/WorkingGroups/COMMENTARIES.pdf)

LESSONS FROM THE FIELD

4.1 Gender matters: talking points on gender equality and disaster risk reduction

Compiled by E. Enarson, 2004 (originally for World Vision International). 22 pp. Drawing on international case material from published and unpublished, these short excerpts were collected to demonstrate the range of issues raised by gender concerns in various disaster contexts. The selections are organized around three major themes: Why gender? Why women? Practical concerns for relief work; Women managing risk: selected international examples ; Gender-fair practices in disaster relief: international cases. Available through the GDN: [http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_practical.htm](http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_practical.htm)

4.2 Six village profiles: women’s journey from the tsunami to the future

Swayam Shikshan Prayog, 2005. 12 pp. Profiles of villages struck by the tsunami including factors exacerbating women’s vulnerability, the multifaceted effects of the disaster, community level responses and women’s specific initiatives to address immediate needs and reconstruct lives and economies in ways that increase women’s resilience to future events. Compiled by SSP in support of the Gender and Disaster Sourcebook December 2005. For more information contact: [http://www.sspindia.org](http://www.sspindia.org)
5.1 First person accounts from tsunami women survivors turned leaders

Swayam Shikshan Prayog, December 2005. 10 pp. When disasters strike, communities are devastated. Women are the human face of disasters. As first responders, they take on the onerous task of restoring life. Restoring home and livelihoods, providing health care to their families, sending children to school, reviving child care their list of contributions after disasters is endless. These first person accounts are from the heart. They are written by ordinary women who showed extraordinary strength. This account salutes these women survivors and highlights their invisible initiatives. It is hoped that readers will do the same. Available through SSP: http://www.sspindia.org/First_Person_account.pdf

5.2 Puriiben’s Story

Very short profile of one woman in Bangladesh who, through livelihood development, training and support from the Self-Employed Women’s Association is now more resilient in the face of drought and other disasters. For more information, visit the website of the SEWA Trade Facilitation Centre. Source: http://www.sewatfc.org/case_studies.htm

5.3 Some of women’s stories: what about yours?


5.4 Loss of Women Haunts Fishermen (2004 tsunami)

See also: Post-tsunami Aceh: It takes woman to rebuild a village, Scott Baldauf: http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0721/p01s03-woap.html

5.5 Hard Lessons Learned in Manitoba: A Personal Account


5.6 Hurricane Stan: A Personal Account of a National Disaster

María Suárez, Co-Director, Feminist International Radio Endeavor {FIRE}, Costa Rica . Her compelling narrative blends her voice as observer with those of Mayan survivors in Guatemala following hurricane Stan. The author notes the significance of the NGOs supporting women’s relief and recovery through the Women to Women With Affected Communities campaign and especially the role of the women broadcasters of Red Mujeres al Aire (Women on the Air Network) in the affected communities who helped women’s voices be heard. Available through the Global Fund For
Women: http://www.globalfundforwomen.org/work/programs/stan-personal-account.html. For related campaigns on women and disaster utilizing radio, see FIRE: http://www.fire.or.cr/indiceingles05.htm [search October 2005]
What to do? What takes priority? How can change occur? Who decides?

Moving toward more gender-aware and gender equitable approaches to hazards and disasters calls for a fundamental shift in ways of thinking about the social dimensions of disasters and their root causes. Historically, a deeply embedded but unarticulated gender bias has existed toward seeing disasters “through the eyes of men”—in the field, in the male-dominated spaces where policy decisions are taken and budgets set, in the male-dominated media, and in academic investigations of society and disaster. This large generalization takes different forms in different contexts but cuts across cultures and institutions.

Because the gender dimension has been so long neglected, and women’s experiences in particular so long overlooked or misunderstood, there is a clear need for fresh approaches. Improving field practice one project at a time is essential (and see the section on Good Practices) but not sufficient. Clear policy frameworks and specific practice standards and guidelines are also required and these must be married with measures for ensuring close monitoring and accountability.

There is much room for improvement, but Sourcebook users will find that there are now a number of very significant models for change available, many of which emphasize the need to avoid top-down approaches and empower community women living in risky environments and affected by disasters. This is an important beginning point for the next century if we are to reduce risk and avoidable harm for all peoples.

For the most part, the materials in this section are generic resources suitable for adaptation in a wide range of contexts. Users will certainly note the policy implications of practice guidelines; we make no firm and fast distinction between “policy” and “practice” here. Related materials can be also be found on the websites of the organizations and institutions to which we refer in the Related Resources section.

1.1 Gender Equality and Humanitarian Assistance: A Guide to the Issues


The Guide is an excellent state-of-the-art summary of the need for gender-sensitive programming and concrete steps toward that goal. The discussion focuses on capacities as well as vulnerabilities and men as well as women with sections on what gender-sensitive humanitarian assistance means, myths and misunderstandings around it, concrete assessment questions to be asked across sectors and in program development, and references to related work. The Canadian guide can readily be adapted or revised for use across regions.

1.2 Passport to Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in Emergency Programmes: Key Analytical Questions for Designing Gender-Sensitive Humanitarian Interventions

Developed by the FAO and the WFP in conjunction with related materials, the “passport” is a planning tool geared to local residents, community groups, humanitarian relief organizations and others. A series of key assessment questions are posed to encourage gender-sensitive data collection and analysis as the basis for designing and implementing gender-sensitive interventions. The broad-based, cross-sectoral and participatory approach adopted makes this an especially useful framework for planning, implementing and evaluating emergency interventions that serve all people.

1.3 Education in Emergencies


Chapter excerpted from the Handbook On Gender Mainstreaming In Humanitarian Action currently under development by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and its partners. This chapter incorporates minimum standards and good practice models developed by Inter-Agency Network on Education in Emergencies [www.ineesite.org; http://www.ineesite.org/inclusion/gender.asp] to help planners anticipate and exploit opportunities for promoting gender sensitive educational programming in crisis response and reconstruction. The chapter, a model for those to follow, asks and answers these key questions: What must be known in order to meet minimal gender-fair standards in education in emergencies? What actions are needed to ensure gender mainstreaming in education in emergencies? What are the best indicators for assessing gender mainstreaming in education in emergencies?
An information flyer on the Handbook is also available through the GDN [check Latest Additions]: http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_latest_additions.htm

1.4 Recommendations for the Prevention and Care of Cases of Domestic Violence and Violence in Temporary Shelters or Refuges During Emergencies

Pan American Health Organization, 2 pp. Available through PAHO: http://www.paho.org/english/ped/te_snant.htm or contact Fernando Amado (amadofer@paho.org)

1.5 Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance, 2005. 100 pp. Produced by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance, this is a very useful summary organized across 10 sectors by: emergency preparedness; minimum prevention and response; comprehensive prevention and response. The Guidelines are currently being field tested. Available through IASC and the GDN: http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/iasc-gbv-guidelines09-11-05.pdf.

Available through IASC: http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/content/subsidi/tf_gender/gbv.asp

Quoting the developers: These guidelines represent joint efforts of all its members and standing invitees namely: FAO, ICRC, ICVA, IFRC, InterAction, IOM, OCHA, OHCHR, SCHR, UNICEF, UNDP, UNIFEM, UNHCR, UNFPA, WFP, WHO. UNFPA coordinated the process of developing and publishing the Guidelines on behalf of the Task Force. These Guidelines have been developed to respond to the growing need for effective activities to prevent and respond to Gender-Based Violence in crises. The purpose of these Guidelines is to enable communities, governments and cooperating agencies, including UN Agencies and NGOs, to coordinate the minimum required multi-sectoral response to Sexual Violence during the early phase of a crisis.

The Guidelines specifically details minimum interventions for prevention and response to sexual violence to be undertaken in the early stages of an emergency. In addition to background information, discussion of terminology and sample reporting forms, there are 25 very specific action
sheets in these areas:

- Coordination
- Assessment and monitoring
- Protection
- Human Resources
- Water and Sanitation
- Food Security and Nutrition
- Shelter, Site Planning and NFIs
- Health
- Education
- Information, Education and Communication

1.6 OCHA Policy on Gender Equality


1.7 Mainstreaming Gender in Unstable Environments

UNIFEM, 1999. 15 pp. Follow up document to the Beijing Conference of 1995 and 1998 meetings of ECOSOC about humanitarian relief. Lays the framework for subsequent initiatives and publications in this area by the IASC Working group on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance. Indicators for assessing and monitoring gender sensitive programming across sectors are provided. The approach is informed by a strong human rights perspective relating planning and programming to existing legal frameworks such as CEDAW. This policy guide is described in more depth on-line in the : IASC GHAR Kit: http://www.reliefweb.int/library/GHARkit/files/GenderInUnstableEnvironments.pdf

1.8 Converting the Tragedy of Mitch into an Opportunity for the Sustainable Human Development of Nicaragua: Proposal for the Reconstruction and Transformation of Nicaragua


This document presents an ‘alternative’ proposal for reconstruction in Nicaragua post-Hurricane Mitch. The document is the result of a consultative process that culminated in the first national meeting of Civil Society. The proposal begins by considering the characteristics of the country prior to the Hurricane, highlighting how conditions such as unsustainable patterns of soil use, high unemployment and severe gender inequalities, led to high levels of social and environmental vulnerability and how in turn this vulnerability influenced the impact of Mitch. The document then goes on to promote a civil society vision of reconstruction calling for a transformation in the approach to development to one that promotes the transformation of unequal power relations at all levels as indispensable for the overcoming social and economic vulnerability and for the sustainable management of natural resources. The authors present proposals for people-centred reconstruction, including proposals related to health, human capital and housing and around gender, young people and the environment, among others. Useful for all those interested in seeing how theory translates into practice and an example of a people-centred, gender aware strategy for reconstruction. ‘The proposal for reconstruction is available in Spanish from: http://www.ccer.org.ni/documentos/publicacion_mitch.pdf

Notes: Civil Society coordinators in other countries of the region also produced proposals for
reconstruction. These documents are collected together on a CD-Rom the details of which are available from:
http://web.idrc.ca/es/ev-7293-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

The visions for reconstruction reflected in the different country proposals were brought together in the Central American proposal for reconstruction: Propuesta de Reconstrucción y transformación de Centroamérica: declaración de las Coordinadoras Nacional y las Redes Regionales, producto del Encuentro Regional de la Sociedad Civil por la reconstrucción y el desarrollo, Espacio INTERFOROS, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 21-22 de abril, 1999.

1.9 Weaving Gender in Disaster and Refugee Assistance


Refugee and disaster assistance efforts have begun to grapple with gender issues and their effects on complex emergencies. To contribute to the development of “best practice” in this field, InterAction organized two opportunities for representatives of member agencies and donors to share experiences and lessons learned. This report therefore covers the two meetings and documents and presents new ways of working in the field, aimed at enabling both women and men to be full participants and beneficiaries in humanitarian and refugee assistance. With examples from Angola, Rwanda, Uganda, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Mozambique, Eritrea, Congo Brazzaville, Ghana, Guinea, Cambodia, Bosnia, Vietnam, and Afghanistan, the report lists both challenges and success stories encountered when using a gender programming approach. In addition, the report makes five recommendations on how to improve services by incorporating gender in the assistance to displaced persons, and also provides a checklist for the Identification of gender roles and needs during crises. The report strongly concludes that weaving gender into the goals, scope, and design of relief efforts should be at the core of what it means to provide emergency assistance. It will be of most interest to disaster responders including donors, humanitarian agencies, and relevant government departments.

1.10 Gender and Humanitarian Assistance Resource

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), 1999. Available through ReliefWeb: http://www.reliefweb.int/library/GHARKit

The IASC Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance, co-chaired by OCHA and WHO in May 1999, endorsed the “Policy Statement on Mainstreaming Gender into Humanitarian Response” and the related background document. This Resource Kit is intended to help IASC members, and others, to implement the policy.

The Kit is an excellent resource though now somewhat dated. It contains key analytic documents as well as many of the guidelines and checklists (also included in the Sourcebook). It is organized in these six major sections with links in each to 5-10 key documents.

• Mainstreaming gender in the humanitarian response to emergencies
• Policies and standards
• Analytic documents
• Best practice in gender mainstreaming in emergencies
• Guidelines and checklists
• Tools for planning and training

Users are directed in particular to the Gender and Emergencies Annex prepared by the FAO which includes supplementary descriptive material for many of the materials referenced in the Sourcebook: http://www.reliefweb.int/library/GHARKit/FilesFeb2001/gender_annex.htm
2.1 Hard Lessons Learned: Gender Notes for Tsunami Responders

Gender and Disaster Network, 2005, 2 pp. Recommendations for the response phase following the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami consolidating recommendations from GDN members. Available through GDN: http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/hardlessons-gendernote1

2.2 Gender Equality in Disasters: Six Practical Rules for Working With Women and Girls

Gender and Disaster Network, 2005, 2 pp. Six areas of concern with practice guidelines prepared by members of the Gender and Disaster Network in the wake of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. Available through GDN: http://online.northumbria.ac.uk/geography_research/gdn/resources/hardlessons-gendernote1.doc

2.3 Promoting Social Justice In Disaster Reconstruction

E. Enarson, 2001. 5 pp. A practice note prepared for the Disaster Mitigation Institute, Ahmedabad, Gujarat in the aftermath of the 2001 earthquake. Includes points of attention regarding livelihood, violence, housing, participation and other areas of concern. Available through the GDN: http://online.northumbria.ac.uk/geography_research/gdn/resources/gender-sensitive-planning.doc

2.4 Gender Considerations in Disaster Assessment

World Health Organizations, 2005. One page. Summary of key questions to be asked and answered, prepared by the World Health Organization. An excellent overview that addresses common areas of concern (e.g. women as carers, specific sanitary supplies) and also the vulnerability of girls and women to sexual exploitation and abuse. Six basic principles are put forward. Available through WHO: http://www.who.int/gender/other_health/en/gwhdisasterassessment.pdf

2.5 Paying attention to women's and gender issues in responding to the tsunami crisis: a concept note

Madhavi Ariyabandu, 2005. 4 pp. Available through ITDG South Asia, #05, Lionel Edirisinghe Mawatha, Colombo 5, Sri Lanka, Email: general@itdg.slt.lk

The note was prepared for the purpose of drawing the attention of the relief and recovery agencies on the severe gaps on gender awareness demonstrated in the tsunami aftermath in Sri Lanka. It highlights the key areas of concern from women’s and gender points of view in different phases; emergency management; response; recovery; and rehabilitation. References are included. Built around the tsunami, this piece is an excellent guide for tsunami responders but can readily be adapted to other contexts. Its specificity as well as its scope make it especially valuable.

2.6 Matrix for Gender Based Violence Interventions in Emergency Settings

2005, one page. The matrix sums up in a user-friendly fashion the critical points from the larger IASC Guidelines on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance in support of the Tool Kit for Gender-Based Violence Intervention. Available through GDN: http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/gbv-matrixposter08-28-05.pdf
3.1 Working With Women at Risk: Practical Guidelines for Assessing Local Disaster Risk


International action research project piloted in the Caribbean. The document includes a methodology for assessing community vulnerabilities and capacities from the perspectives of different groups of women trained as community researchers. Included in the step-by-step project guidelines are Guiding Research Questions for exploring vulnerabilities and capacities with grassroots women in risky environments, and producing and using community profiles based on this local research. The project was developed and field tested in the Dominican Republic, St. Lucia, Dominca, and El Salvador.

3.2 Reducing Risk: Participatory Learning Activities for Disaster Mitigation in Southern Africa

Astrid Von Kotze and Ailsa Holloway, 1996. 301 pp, illustrated. Copies can be ordered online at: http://www.ifrc.org/publicat/catalog/autogen/3386.asp

This gendered manual is a primary a tool for practitioners working with highly vulnerable communities. It is intended to increase understanding about community risk and vulnerability, and to strengthen the training capacities of those involved in community-based disaster management. The manual adopts a gender approach, and helps to provide invaluable insights into questions like:

- What is gender?
- How does gender impact on vulnerability and capacity?
- How is gender a analysis a tool for risk reduction planning?
- How are gender considerations essential to emergency preparedness and response planning?
- And how do we incorporate gender into risk reduction planning?

The manual is an excellent resource for those involved in planning, funding, facilitating, and evaluating community-based risk reduction action programs.

3.3 Socio-economic Impacts of Natural Disasters: A Gender Analysis


Available in Spanish as: Análisis de género en la evaluación de los efectos socioeconómicos de los desastres naturales by Sarah Bradshaw and Ángeles Arenas, Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL), Serie Manuales 33, 2004: http://www.cepal.org/bvsadef/fulltext/analisisgen.pdf

This report was written as a guide to how best to include gender in post-disaster impact analysis drawing on the experiences of Hurricane Mitch in Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador. It begins with a consideration of some basic gender concepts including exploration of the household as a site of unequal gender power relations. The report then considers the direct and indirect impact of Mitch attempting to quantify the largely unrecorded losses that accrued to women specifically, such as destruction of patio or backyard cultivation and impact of reproductive activities. The secondary or indirect impacts of events such as Mitch are then discussed, focusing on the emotional impact of such events, the implications of the resultant rise in male migration for household structure and survival, and the impact of such violent ‘natural’ events on gender based violence. There is also consideration of the impact of such events on political processes, exploring in particular the role of women and women’s movements in the formulation of national plans for reconstruction. The impact of reconstruction projects on the lives of women and men are then considered, highlighting that
these, if done badly, can have more serious and long term effects than the events themselves. The report ends by summarising the key findings and presenting recommendations for those interested in including a gender perspective in post-disaster impact evaluation.

**DISCUSSION PAPERS**

4.1 Caught in the Crossfire: Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka


4.2 Voices of Solidarity: International Women Activists Share Their Perspective on the Katrina Disaster

2005 4 pp. Based on feedback from grassroots women’s rights groups active in other crisis situations, this short report outlines 12 key action points toward gender-fair disaster response and recovery following the Katrina disaster. Available through Urgent Action: http://www.urgentactionfund.org/home1.html

4.3 Noticing gender (or not) in disasters


Also on the GDN website, E. Enarson, Op Ed to the Denver Post: Women and Girls Last? Averting the Post-Katrina Disaster (search Practice)

4.4 Natural Disasters and the Role Of Women

INTRODUCTION TO THE SOURCEBOOK SECTION
GOOD PRACTICE: GENDER AND RISK REDUCTION PROJECTS
WOMEN'S INITIATIVES · GOOD GENDER PRACTICES FROM NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS · GOOD GENDER PRACTICES FROM GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

In the earlier section on Planning and Practice Tools we highlighted documents emphasizing frameworks and practical tools developed, for the most part, by international governmental and nongovernmental organizations. Many of these resources are also good steps toward a gender-aware and gender equitable approach to disasters. They are important initiatives that have helped many organizations identify and change gender biased approaches.

In this section, we follow up by linking users to particular projects or initiatives and to proactive reports, meetings and calls to action. Most illustrate the efforts of grassroots women organized locally or through women-focused groups and networks. Other materials in this section illustrate disaster-specific practices on the ground undertaken (often at women’s instigation) by governmental and nongovernmental organizations and institutions, both publications and field projects. Highlighting their efforts here does not imply any inside knowledge about their effectiveness or implementation, but we do applaud the effort. We include materials that are designed for general use as well as event specific initiatives.

The timing of the Sourcebook made it possible to include a selection of the many initiatives taken by women’s groups and gender-aware IGOs and INGOs in the wake of the Indian Ocean tsunami. Future contributions in other contexts are needed, especially from regions hit routinely but less dramatically by equally devastating events.

The work of grassroots women in this area is particularly valuable and too little known. Good models from around the globe must be documented, evaluated, discussed and adapted where feasible if we are to act on the knowledge developed over the past decades about gender-fair disaster risk reduction. Who or what other groups or initiatives would you like to include? Send us your submissions, please.

SAMPLE DOCUMENTS FROM THE SOURCEBOOK
GOOD PRACTICE: GENDER AND RISK REDUCTION PROJECTS
WOMEN’S INITIATIVES

1.1 Caught in the Storm: The Impact of Natural Disasters on Women


The report was written in collaboration with members of the Coalition of Tsunami Affected Women, the Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault and other women's groups responding to disaster. Includes essential information about likely impacts on women and seven key recommendations: include women in pre-and post-disaster planning; keep women safe; protect girls’ education; target women’s health needs; help women become self-sufficient; ensure equal aid distribution; and, importantly, bring women into all decision-making processes. It also highlights the grants provided through the Global Fund following the Asian tsunami, hurricanes Katrina, Stan and Mitch, and the Kashmir earthquake.

1.2 De Mujer a Mujer

This is an awareness and preparedness campaign currently being launched (2006) in Florida. For more information, contact Juanita Alvarez-Mainster: JuanitaAM@aol.com. For more information about the disaster relief work of Centro Campesino, visit their website:
After seeing all the difficulties experienced by rural poor, farmworker, indigenous and undocumented women after the 2004 hurricane season in Florida, migrant family advocate and researcher Juanita Mainster, then the hurricane coordinator for The Redlands Christian Migrant Association based in Immokalee, Florida, decided that there had to be a better way. She saw the clear need for a hurricane preparedness strategy that every women residing in areas affected by hurricanes could understand and adopt as part of their lifestyle. Focusing first on the many Maya undocumented farmworker women who for the most part reside in rural areas around the state and do not speak English or Spanish, she met a young mother living in Nocotee, FL after hurricane Charlie. She had such a story to tell but could not tell it because she doesn't speak English or Spanish and Juanita does not speak Kanjobal, her indigenous language.

"De Mujer a Mujer" (Woman to Woman) is one response to this, developed in conjunction with Centro Campesino Farmworker Center, Inc. located in South Miami Dade County and supported by the Women's Fund of Miami Dade County and the energies of many volunteers. De Mujer a Mujer will educate women on disaster awareness and preparedness. They will learn how to prepare for a hurricane and at the same time they will educate other women in their families and their neighborhoods. The first of three tiers will consist of Centro Campesino trainees (mostly immigrant women) who will be trained as community trainers in hurricane preparedness. They will convene hurricane preparedness meetings among documented women in the seven Centro Campesino housing developments. From those meetings they will recruit immigrant women interested in become community trainers. The second tier will be documented immigrant women who will conduct similar meetings in the immigrant community at large. Undocumented women or women familiar with the undocumented neighborhoods will be recruited in this way to conduct similar meetings in those neighborhoods. In the third tier, undocumented immigrant women will conduct hurricane preparedness in the undocumented neighborhoods. It is at this level that the project staff hopes to reach the greatest numbers of women encountering the most difficulties during a disaster due to language, culture, economic, or nationality.

In addition to the awareness component, the project also includes an "Important Papers File," in which each participant receives a water resistant file in which to organize all of the important papers they will need in the aftermath of hurricane. Oral histories will also be conducted to capture the experiences of these immigrant women as they strive to increase the resilience of their communities to hazards and disasters.

1.3 Disaster Watch

This innovative and wide-ranging grassroots initiative was undertaken by members of Grassroots Women's Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood [GROOTS] working through the Huairou Commission to promote the growth & development of women - centered community based, post disaster response. Currently coordinated by Swayam Shikshan Prayog from India, Disaster Watch is supported by the New York based Huairou Commission. Disaster Watch addresses the gender-based vulnerability of girls and women in disaster contexts with emphasis on how grassroots women organize to reduce vulnerability and participate actively in disaster reduction activities. A number of projects have been conducted based on the Disaster Watch model of peer learning through which disaster-affected women from one region travel to others to lend support and share information about successful practices in other regions by women's groups. Resource papers, personal narratives, reports from partner organizations and other materials are available on the Disaster Watch website, including:

- an evaluation of Disaster Watch activities ["Findings": http://www.groots.org/news/Evaluation.PDF]
- profiles from one of the first exchanges ["Notes from India/Turkey Exchange [http://www.groots.org/resource.htm
- personal narratives from project partners, e.g. "Our Practice: Stories from the Field" in India: http://www.disasterwatch.net/dis_watch/stories.htm
- monthly Tsunami Updates contributed by GROOTS member SSP with excellent accounts otherwise unavailable from grassroots organizations responding to the
tsunami [for example, see Face to Face with Women in Aceh, by Suranjana Gupta, September 2005.

Disaster Watch is also undertaking a documentation and action research project called Women's Lives, Women's Decisions: Supporting Affected Women to Rebuild After Katrina, described more fully below. See: http://neighborhoodwomen.blogs.com/

Disaster Brief Updates are available on-line with information from partnering organizations in disaster-affected regions about women’s initiatives. This is also available as an electronic newsletter through the Huairou Commission. Back issues are available on-line: http://www.disasterwatch.net/disaster_brief.htm

For more information, visit the GROOTS website: http://www.groots.org/resource.htm as well as the Disaster Watch website: http://www.disasterwatch.net/index.htm.

1.4 Self-Employed Women’s Association

As described on their website, SEWA is a trade union registered in 1972 on behalf of uncounted, undercounted and invisible women, more than 94% of whom labor in the unorganized and informal economy. SEWA projects build on and reflect the labor movement, the coop movement and women’s movement. They have active and sustained projects for capacity building and self-help through women’s banks, health care and law projects, media skills, child care, campaigns to organize women in particular sectors, and disaster mitigation and response. SEWA’s campaigns for training women in construction techniques, offering disaster insurance policies, and developing women’s leadership skills at the grassroots level have made them a vital link for poor women affected by slow- and rapid-onset disasters.

Based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, SEWA frequently partners with the Disaster Mitigation Institute which is also based in Ahmedabad. For more information: SEWA Reception Centre, Opp.Victoria Garden, Ahmedabad 380 001 India. Tel: +(91-79) 5506444; Fax: +(91-79) 5506446 ; Email: mail@sewa.org; Website: http://www.sewa.org/

SEWA’s focus on economic empowerment and capacity development helps low-income women resist the effects of disasters of all kind. One example is the VIMO insurance program which (as described on the website) “is an integrated insurance program aiming to provide social protection for SEWA members to cover their life cycle needs and the various risks they face in their lives, through an insurance organisation in which they themselves are users, owners and managers of all services. Crises such as illness, widowhood, accident, fire, communal riots, floods and other such natural and man-made calamities result in loss of work, income and assets for poor working families. For more information: http://www.sewainsurance.org/

SEWA’s network of village-based self-help groups positions them to promote risk reducing practices at the household level and respond immediately to disastrous events. In the aftermath of the 2001 Gujarat quake they undertook emergency operations including district, block and village level assessments, relief distribution and livelihood reconstruction programs. For more information: http://www.sewa.org/flood/index.htm

The Jeevka gender-sensitive livelihood reconstruction project is described elsewhere in the Sourcebook. Opposition to it from governmental authorities and SEWA’s response is discussed on their website: http://www.sewa.org/flood/index.htm.

On the SEWA website users will also find short profiles useful for training or community education, such as the illustrated profile of SEWA members affected by the 2005 flooding in Gujarat. See Rebuilding Livelihoods - Effect of Floods on SEWA members: http://www.sewa.org/flood/index.htm

1.5 Women’s Tents, Production Workshops and the Social Center

Project of the Women’s Solidarity Foundation. The “Women’s Tents” built in Golcuk and Duzce in September 1999 were the initial steps of solidarity at the earthquake region. In order to meet the
needs identified during counseling, training and similar activities at the tents, WSF launched the Candle and Home Textile Workshops in May 2000 at Golcuk-Sirinkoy prefabricated housing area. Soon enough, these women who had not participated in production before, managed to increase the quality of production and the variety of design. They experienced the pleasure of exhibiting their products at important fairs, marketing them to major stores and contributing to the family budget for the first time. 36 women involved with the workshop production, founded the “Fiskos- Women’s Cooperative of Environment, Culture and Enterprise” in September 2001 and have continued their work thereafter.

The Women’s Social Center in Gölcük- Sirinköy, housed a wide range of activities for each and every woman. Organization of Computer, Literacy, Creativity and Art Production Trainings, Theatre-Drama Activities; provision of Psychological Counseling, Legal Consultation support for women and children; and seminars such as Reproductive and Sexual Health and Disaster Preparedness were among the services of the Center. Activities were carried out until December 2002 while close to 1500 women and children participated in the process.

For more information: contact WSF member Zelal Ayman : zelala@hotmail.com

1.6 Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights

This international women’s fund responds on short notice to women in crisis whose human rights are in jeopardy. UAF collaborates with women activists in three primary contexts: peace building in situations of armed conflict, escalating violence, or politically volatile environments; potentially precedent-setting legal and legislative actions; and protection of women human rights defenders. Two excellent resource papers of interest to disaster-focused activists and scholars are available through the UAF website:


*International Women Activists Share Their Perspective on the Katrina Disaster* (4 page, available in English, Serbo-Croatian, and Albanian): http://www.urgentactionfund.org/home1.html

1.7 Emergency Preparedness in British Columbia: Mitigating Violence Against Women

In 1998, the BC Association of Specialized Victim Assistance and Counselling Programs co-sponsored the first North American conference looking at the link between disasters such as earthquakes and floods and the dramatic increase of violence against women and children in the aftermath. After the conference, with funds from the Ministries of Women’s Equality, Human Resources and Attorney General, we developed a report- Emergency Preparedness in British Columbia: Mitigating Violence Against Women in Disasters (1999)- directed at provincial authorities. This made recommendations for changes to the coordination of emergency and disaster response planning to ensure that women's and victim’s needs are incorporated, and that those organizations are being included at region planning tables. We also developed a workbook in 2001 to assist women and victim serving organizations in developing their own disaster response plans. We distributed this workbook across the province to all women and victim serving organizations and the Ministry of Economic Security and Social Development distributed it to all Emergency Social Service Directors. In addition, the Provincial Emergency Program has the workbook on their web site.

Project documents are available on line through BCASVACP: http://www.vcn.bc.ca/bcasvacp/initiatives.php


1.8 Gender and Disaster Network

An educational project initiated by women and men interested in gender relations in disaster contexts. Since its origins in the 1997 Natural Hazards Center workshop at the University of Colorado, the GDN has expanded to include over 300 international members, including institutions, NGOs and individuals from around the world. The GDN

- maintains a website with information and resource links, currently maintained by GDN member Maureen Fordham through Northumbria University, UK
- manages a listserv to promote information exchange, currently maintained by GDM member Sudha Arlikatti through Texas A & M University.
- maintains and updates a bibliography on the topic, currently maintained by GDN member Elaine Enarson
- coordinates the expertise of experts for projects such as the Sourcebook
- coordinates the international Mary Fran Myers Gender and Disaster award recognizing individuals or organizations promoting gender equality in disaster risk reduction
- organizes an annual gender caucus at the Natural Hazards Workshop, University of Colorado
- produces an annual poster of recent GDN member activities, currently developed by GDN members Kathy Lynn with John Sorenson and Barbara Vogt

To join or learn more, visit the new GDN website: http://www.gdnonline.org

1.9 Neighbourhood Emergency Networks

Women’s groups in Ukraine, Poland, United States collaborated in this project to increase citizen participation in civic life and develop stronger democratic institutions by fostering neighborhood-level coalitions to address local problems. Building on women’s neighborhood-level networks and an existing “sister city” arrangement, the project involved peer exchanges, assessments, skills development, and training between women’s groups in the US and Ukraine. For a full description of the project and documentation papers and photos, visit the project website: http://oregonstate.edu/international/oird/ukr_network/index.htm

In addition, a power point presentation on this project by Associate Director Naomi Weidner, prepared for the 2004 Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop in Honolulu: http://www.ssri.hawaii.edu/research/GDWwebsite/pages/Presentations/Weidner_presentation.pdf

1.10 Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development: Tsunami Aftermath

APWLD is an independent, non-government, non-profit organization. It is committed to enabling women to use law as an instrument of social change for equality, justice and development. APWLD also has consultative status at the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). For more information, contact APWLD: apwld@apwld.org

Among their initiatives in the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami:

Tsunami Aftermath. This excellent resource is regularly updated with illustrated documents addressing topics frequently overlooked, e.g.

- The tsunami exacerbates Dalit women’s sufferings from caste discrimination
- What is the reality of the tsunami tragedy for migrant workers from Burma?
- Women’s Human Rights Concerns in Tsunami Affected Countries
- Gender perspective needed in disaster management:

The Aceh Consultation. APFWLD also organized a regional women’s meeting which brought
together over 60 women survivors and women’s rights activists from all tsunami-affected countries to strategize about how the particular challenges and risks facing women can be addressed. Notably, dalit women (aka ‘untouchable’) were unable to attend due to the actions of the Indian Government in denying necessary travel documents. The objectives of the Consultation included designing research into violations of women’s human rights after the tsunami, collective healing strategies, information sharing, and networking across women in the region.

Direct support to tsunami survivors was also provided. For an example of women’s groups providing immediate assistance to surviving women and their families, see: [http://www.apwld.org/tsunami_relief_tamilnadu.html](http://www.apwld.org/tsunami_relief_tamilnadu.html)

### 1.11 Gender Specific Issues Relating To Post Tsunami Displacement

Coalition of Tsunami Affected Women, Briefing Note 2. 15 January 2005. 7 pp. Challenged by reports aired during a meeting sponsored by the Women and Media Collective in Colombo that violence against women and girls was occurring (and being dismissed or denied by many), members of CATAW organized fact-finding teams to visit women residing in temporary camps about their safety or safety concerns. Methodological considerations are raised as well as political concerns about researching gender violence in disasters and concrete recommendations offered. Two short reports annexed to this report provide illustrative case material from two women. Also see Information Gathering on Incidents of Violence Against Women Reported in Areas Affected by the Tsunami: Visit to Galle and Ambalangoda Area.

For more information, see: [http://www.womeninlondon.org.uk/download/tsunami_women_press_release2.doc](http://www.womeninlondon.org.uk/download/tsunami_women_press_release2.doc)

### 1.12 Louisiana Domestic Violence Victim’s Relief Fund

The LCADV relief fund is one among many such funds. As described by advocates: “The Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence(LCADV) is establishing a fund to assist victims of domestic violence and child victimization who are displaced and affected by Hurricane Katrina. LCADV is a network of 20 domestic violence programs shelters throughout the state. Four of our shelters and two nonresidential programs are completely closed at the time and two or three may be completely destroyed. Sad to say, domestic violence and child victimization are social problems that do not stop during this natural disaster we are experiencing and with the cessation of all direct services in the gulf coast region, the increased need for relocation and basic monetary assistance is essential for these women and children. All donations go directly to victims of domestic violence affected by this hurricane and will not be used for any administrative or other purposes.” For information: [http://www.lcadv.org/Hurricane.htm](http://www.lcadv.org/Hurricane.htm)

### 1.13 Women’s Lives, Women’s Decisions: Supporting Affected Women to Rebuild After Katrina

Spearheaded by The National Congress of Neighborhood Women, a member of GROOTS International (described earlier), this project will identify grassroots women leaders from poor communities and partners (faith based activists, researchers, and planners) to engage with women who have had their lives disrupted by Hurricane Katrina and are now attempting to restore their families and communities. GROOTS has developed a kit for use by voluntary community researchers to help affected women record their stories and speak about their visions of the future and strategies for realizing these. The on-line blog for this project provides first-person narratives, the documentation resource kit, and other information: [http://neighborhoodwomen.blogs.com](http://neighborhoodwomen.blogs.com).

For more information, contact: Shannon Hayes, The Huairou Commission, 249 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211, T: 718-388-8915, F: 718-388-0285, Email: shannon.hayes@huairou.org

### 1.14 Improving Security: Women Building of Hurricane Shelters

This project directed by Ce Mujer, a woman’s NGO in the Dominican Republic, was able to fund the
building of 58 “security modules”, or anti hurricane shelters, next to the homes of women belonging to local CBOs in the communities of Guerra and Los Llanos, communities located in the south east of the Dominican Republic, close to the capital city of Santo Domingo. The Women`s Federation of Guerra (Federación de Mujeres de Guerra) donated building materials to vulnerable women of the community, such as elderly women, single mothers, women in extreme poverty, all living in communities where shelters are nonexistent. The shelters were constructed by women albañiles or constructors, trained through Ce Mujer initiatives and belonging to the local women’s CBOs. See Photo Gallery. For more information: http://www.helvetas.org.do/rehabilitacion.html. Contact: lourdesmeyreles@yahoo.com.

1.15 Tools for Change: Emergency Management for Women


The paper outlines the rationale for working with and through women`s groups to increase community resilience to disaster and offers a step-by-step guide for developing, training and sustaining neighborhood-based women’s preparedness networks. As described by Orstad: “ The Women’s Neighborhood Team can provide an effective first response capability. Acting as individuals first, ensuring that their family is safe and then later as part of the women's team, trained women can make life saving differences in a disaster. Trained women can “fan-out” in their neighborhoods, putting out small fires, performing light search and rescue, and rendering basic first aid. As each woman's neighborhood team is formed, its members select a team leader, and alternate who will work with members and their families to prepare and respond to disasters. The team will identify an emergency meeting location for families to gather to reunite after a disaster.

Women who encounter no need in their immediate area will take on assigned roles based on the overall area need and will assist other women and their families who find themselves in a heavily affected location. The skills must be reinforced through follow-up training and repeated practice in order to ensure an effective response in the face of an emergency or disaster. This training provides valuable networking for women’s groups in the local area.”

1.16 Women For Development

This NGO arose after in the aftermath of an earthquake and continues years later. As described by one of its founders: “In 1988 Spitak disastrous earthquake fully ruined our native town Gyumri (former Leninakan). The absence of solutions and the depression after the seemed endless. We had to do something to save ourselves and to survive. We had to survive in order to find a way out for other women too, who where in the same situation.” This group of women came together in response to the Spitak earthquake, explains the group’s president Armine Mikayelyan:

“In 1988 Spitak disastrous earthquake fully ruined our native town Gyumri (former Leninakan). The absence of solutions and the depression after the seemed endless. We had to do something to save ourselves and to survive. We had to survive in order to find a way out for other women too, who where in the same situation. It was painful for us to be watching 80 percent of Gyumri women spending half of their time standing in lines a humanitarian aid, and the other half finding out where to get more of it.

We are very thankful to international organizations and private contributors for their support, it really saved many families. However, on the other side, it had a bad influence on people’s thinking. It was necessary to create, to rebuild the city and life, to come up with the initiative to increase the social participation of women. Why women? Because they were the more vulnerable part of the population. Regardless of the fact that we (the vice-president of our organization Gohar Markosyan and me), being doctors of science and chief specialists of the National Survey for Seismic Protection of Armenia, had jobs, we still thought that our potential to social work was not used. The condition of the city pressed us, inspired to something new. In 1996 nine men and
women, most of them with university education and scientific level, were collected round us and created “Women for Development” NGO, which had the mission of using the intellectual potential of women with higher education in Gyumri for carrying out development projects.

Since the day of foundation the organization acted actively in the following fields: Education, Health and Human Rights. This work is based in NGO. Date of publication is 2004. It is most relevant to women training. It’s level of analysis is regional. Women are analyzed as disaster survivors. Target readers are community based practitioners, general readers, government/ policy makers.”

Armine Mikayelyan can be contacted by email: armine@shirak.am. She further describes this project in Earthquake mitigation from a gender perspective in Armenia,” paper presented to the UN DAW expert working group on gender and disaster: http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/env_manage/documents/EP8-2001Oct31a.pdf

1.17 Foundation for the Support of Women’s Work

FSWW, whose central office is in Istanbul and has been operating since 1986, aims to support women's efforts to be economically independent and to increase their life quality. In addition, the Foundation's main goal is to expand all kinds of services, which would render women's active participation to every aspect of the public life possible.

Projects in Izmit following the earthquake include:

- **Woman Room** - Women come together; discuss their common problems and demands and try to find solutions to these problems in woman rooms located in Izmit (Uzunciftlik, Yesilova, Derince, Kullar, Gozlementepe), Adapazari, (Emirdag, Dernekkiri), and Duzce.

- **Child Care Centre** - In woman rooms, there are child care centers with a capacity for 50 children of 3-4 and 5-6 ages. Besides the child care centers, 'neighborhood mother' program that serves mothers of 0-2 years old children is available.

- **Production of Ornaments from Waste Paper** - In Izmit Gozlementepe and Derince Prefabricated housing complexes, necklaces, invitation cards, and various ornaments are produced from waste paper.

- **Women Carpenters** - In Uzunciftlik and Derince, Turkey Prefabrics, there are two carpenter studios that are managed by women.

- **Cost Analysis Training** - Women acquire practical financial knowledge necessary for carrying out these projects.

- **Empowerment of Women Decision-Making Process of Housing** - The project which aims to increase the effectiveness of women on construction and control process of housing in earthquake area is in preparation stage now

**Supporting Institutions and Associations**

FSWW programs have also included Preparation for Disaster

After 17 August earthquake FSWW set up eight Women and Child Centers. In this center women take the opportunities for making visible their roles and leadership in the process of emergency relief, rehabilitation and restructuring.

The women who established their cooperative named “Women, Environment, Culture and Enterprise” in Kocaeli, Sakarya and Duzce continue their business enterprises in locations in close proximity to the child care and educational services. In addition to these, they set up 4 “building
societies”. With these building societies they try to develop a new understanding of district/settlement and residence.

FSWW based on its own experience developed capacity building programs and supporting materials. Some of them are:

- Women’s preparation to disaster
- For rehabilitation and restructuring after disaster defining requirements, gather and distribute information
- Planning and applying basic services for women and children
- Starting economic enterprises
- Developing of partnerships

FWSS knew by its experience in Marmara earthquake area that woman play important roles in the process of emergency relief, rehabilitation and restructuring. On the other hand disaster gives new opportunities for women in entering the public sphere. FWSS also realized that it should approach the subject of disaster with a development perspective rather than emergency relief approach.

Since 1999 Marmara Earthquake, FWSS makes an effort for a development approach to be accepted by all parts and sectors that women and men should be put in the center in efforts of preparation for disasters and for post-disaster periods. FWSS comes together with other countries’ similar women groups, share experiences, document these meetings, and works for local, national and international policy changes in this subject. In this extent it launched an initiative for Turkey’s Disaster Rapport.

FWSS’s work after the earthquake represents a new perspective and an effort for Turkey and for World. Women who are victims of the earthquake, who have loss both social and economical means and don’t have any chance to enter public space before the earthquake became an actor of development.

After the earthquake, FSWW with a development perspective launched a wide ranged effort simultaneously with humanity aid. The basic strategies of this participatory approach are:

- Set up centers where women and their children come together
- To provide women access to resources (material, economic and technical information and expertise)
- To introduce other women living in different countries in same conditions to these women
- To inform women on public policies and programs oriented to their regions

The tools FWSS used in this process include:

- Education programs and materials
- Exchange meetings
- Investigation trips to national and international similar groups
- Meeting for problem determination at district level
- Routine meetings on coordination and evaluation
- Meetings for dialogue with public administrators


1.18 Bam Zanan Group

Following the earthquake in Bam, Iran, women’s NGOs formed the to create an enabling and
facilitating environment to provide women with the support, skills, information and contacts to rebuild social, economic and community assets. Their goal was to assist victims in the short-term, to improve women’s self-sufficiently in the long-term, and to provide a transparent and accountable strategy that focuses on future risk reduction.

The Ban Zanan Group subsequently organized a Coordinating Committee comprised of 44 NGOs. Among other activities, the Committee established a Cultural Center for Women to respond to the specific needs of girls and women in emergency camps and temporary. The Committee is currently engaged in working with local women to address risk reduction by expanding women’s participation in all areas of society. The group has established mechanisms for ongoing assessment, monitoring, and evaluation.

For more information, visit these and other documents on the Bam Zanan website:
http://www.bam.zanan.co.ir/
http://bam.zanan.co.ir/archives/000204.html
http://wwwiranwomen.org/ZANAN/english/home.htm

1.19 Women’s Edge Coalition

Over 40 organizations collaborate on focused, practical advocacy to monitor U.S. international trade and assistance programs and promote economic opportunities and self-sufficiency for women and their families worldwide. Following the 2005 tsunami, this coalition of US women’s groups united for fair trade and development policies. Women’s Edge reported on their website that the coalition “was impelled to act. As we asked ourselves ‘What can we do?’ we turned first to the people who knew best: the women themselves.” For more information, visit the Women’s Edge website: http://www.womensedge.org/index.jsp

Among their initiatives:

- Successful legislative lobbying in the US House of Representatives for earmarked grants to promote women’s self sufficiency in tsunami-affected countries;
- Short briefing paper on women and natural disasters; Women’s safety and well being at risk during natural disasters: http://www.womensedge.org/pages/referencematerials/reference_material.jsp?id=345;
- Video conferences on rebuilding after disasters in the US and South Asia;
- Follow-up fact finding field visit

1.20 Putting Safety In People’s Hands – Promoting Safer Building Practices

Swayam Shikshan Prayog. Workshop report by Upmanyu Patil and Prema Gopalan, 2002. 7 pp. Source: Proceedings - Regional Workshop on Best Practices in Disaster Mitigation: Lessons learned from the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Programme and other Initiatives, 24 –26th September, 2002, Bali, Indonesia, Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre and USAID. Available from: ADPC, P.O. Box 4, Klong Luang, Pathumthani 12120, Thailand, Tel: +66 2 524 5354, Fax: + 66 2 524 5360, Email: adpc@ait.ac.th, Website: http://www.adpc.ait.ac.th


This well-known grassroots movement for Indian women’s empowerment has been increasingly involved in disaster response and reconstruction issues.

Quoting the website: “SSP initiated a community-led disaster response project in Latur and Osmanabad following the earthquake in September 1993. Between 1994 and 1998, SSP was
appointed consultant to the Maharashtra Government to promote community participation in rehabilitation under the World Bank-supported project. After the earthquake struck Gujarat in 2001, SSP along with the local women's federations shared insights and experiences from Maharashtra with affected communities in Gujarat with lesser level of government collaboration. SSP's resource pool for transferring lessons consists of community and technical teams and 300 leaders of federations who have worked actively for post-earthquake rehabilitation in Maharashtra. In many villages, especially in the underdeveloped Kutch region, post-earthquake activities effectively became entry-points for SSP to set up and nurture SHGs that later played a key role in village development and governance initiatives. In the aftermath of South Asia Tsunami (Dec 2004), SSP outreach extended to a total of twenty-five tsunami affected villages in Cuddalore and Nagapattinam districts of Tamil Nadu. SSP has facilitated grassroots women to transfer innovations to strengthen community response for preparedness by undertaking risk reduction measures that address vulnerabilities - disaster safe shelter, sustainable and alternate livelihoods, access to health, water and sanitation, to address psychosocial issues, strengthen social networks to respond and intervene with priorities in mainstream rehabilitation programmes.

SSP organizes events uniting women symbolically and politically for safer communities, for example:

December 2001: Sakhi Melava ("Women’s Gathering"). This meeting brought together more than 200 women survivors of the Gujarat earthquake with women from 25 villages affected by the 1993 Latur quake. Local women were not simply participants but facilitators and teachers who also learned about new quake-resistant building techniques and developed their confidence as leaders and speakers.

September 2001: Candle lighting ceremony uniting 4588 women from hundreds of quake-struck villages in remembrance of the Latur quake. Participants called for increased participation of women in meaningful ways in governmental disaster management programs and for linking sustainable community development, gender equality and disaster risk reduction.

Many publications are available through SSP describing their disaster reduction initiatives, for example:

*Lessons From the Epicentre: Mainstreaming Women’s Initiatives in Disaster and Development,* a document outlining the experiences learned by disaster-affected women and the development of the GROOTS peer learning model.

*Women at the Epicentre of Transformation,* a document describing the collaboration of SSP (India) and the Foundation for the Support of Women’s Work (Turkey) in cooperation with the NGO GROOTS (Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood).

*Margin to Mainstream: Rebuilding Communities in Gujarat,* a document describing woman-to-woman peer exchanges between women affected by earthquakes in India and Turkey and the efforts of SSP to train local women as community researchers, activists, environmental educators and home builders.

*Status of Life in Temporary Shelters,* Tamil Nadu, India - Study July 13-17, 2005. The study on the status of life in temporary shelters in Tamil Nadu covered a total of 2048 temporary shelter units in 11 villages in Nagapattinam and Sirgali talukas. The study found that the major problem faced by the communities in temporary shelters was of severe heat in summer and leaking of the structures in the rains. As far the shelter sites are considered, the impact of wrong site selections and negligence to undertake corrective measures were seen as a major short coming.

*The Lull After the Storm,* Community assessment by women leaders February 2005. Women leaders who participated in post-earthquake development work in Latur and Gujarat visited Tsunami-affected Tamil Nadu region and prepared an assessment report. Facilitated by SSP and Covenant Centre for Development (CCD), the report
covered reconstruction activities in Nagapattinam and Cuddalore districts.

*Our Life, Our Film* (25 minutes) 2004. Directed by eight grassroots women belonging to quake-ravaged villages of Kutch in Gujarat, this visual narrative walks the road with women and children in their struggle to rebuild their lives. The film received rave reviews in Indian media. To get a copy of the film, please write to them at: sspindia@vsnl.net

*Women Builders* 2003, 'Breaking barriers in earthquake torn villages' is an account of women rebuilding habitats and restoring livelihoods after disasters. It tells how women's groups take the lead when there is space to take part in rehabilitation and development, with help from the government, donors and NGOs. To get a copy, please write to them at: sspindia@vsnl.net

**1.21 INCITE! New Orleans Call for Action**

Statement from this grassroots coalition of women of color organized against violence calling for critical race, class and gender analysis and practical support to Katrina survivors from members of Incite. To read this document and others from INCITE: [http://www.incite-national.org/issues/katrinaaction.html](http://www.incite-national.org/issues/katrinaaction.html)

**1.22 Women’s Caucus, People’s Hurricane Relief Fund and Oversight Coalition**

This grassroots progressive coalition responding to those most hard-hit by hurricanes Katrina and Rita (fall 2005) now includes a women’s caucus. As part of their organizing, they have developed an action plan and a statement of principles emphasizing the need for accountability to women and their full participation in reconstruction decisions and to making the post-disaster efforts of low-income women to recovery and rebuild visible. Available through the PHRF: [http://cluonline.live.radicaldesigns.org/?page_id=55](http://cluonline.live.radicaldesigns.org/?page_id=55)

**GOOD GENDER PRACTICES FROM NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**2.1 Ümraniye Women’s Outreach Community Disaster Preparedness Project**


The report gives the details of the project aimed to train women to deliver basic ABCD disaster preparedness training to community members. Through the project conducted by Bosphorus University, Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute, Istanbul, Turkey, with the financial support of CARITAS and CORDAID, ten women were selected and trained for delivering basic disaster preparedness skills training to community members. The trainers reached 1077 households and delivered training to 1015 households. Furthermore 84 group meetings were conducted in public health centers, schools, association of people with disabilities, conference halls, arts and crafts seminars, and in the evenings in front of the buildings where neighbors meet informally. Upon the completion of the project a telephone follow-up was conducted 4 to 8 weeks after the training. The women who acted as trainers were clearly empowered by their systematic acquisition of knowledge, their confidence in the material they are presenting, and they enjoyed being able to make a difference in their neighborhoods. The women expressed their gratitude for being able to be part of this important project. The sustainability of the project and its long term impact are sources of concern. The program needs to be adopted by an institution for securing its sustainability.
2.2 The Jeevika Project: Building Institutional Capacity for Disaster Preparedness of Women

This is a Livelihood Security Project for Earthquake Affected Households in Gujarat initiated by the Gujarat-based Self-Employed Women’s Association. It builds on existing organizational partnerships and village-based networks to promote gender and development goals and objectives holistically through disaster recovery, with attention to livelihood resilience, social development, capacity building, and microfinance. In addition the disaster preparedness component focuses on: earthquake resistant housing, drinking water, drought proofing through integrated land and water management, and capacity building trainings for disaster resilience.

This livelihood promotions initiative is described in the presentation by Mehul Pandya of the Disaster Mitigation Institute (a Jeevika partner) at the 2004 Honolulu workshop on Gender Equality and Disaster Risk: Mehul Pandya, Disaster Management Institute, Gujarat, India: [http://www.ssri.hawaii.edu/research/GDWwebsite/pages/Presentations%5CHonolulu_MPandya.pdf](http://www.ssri.hawaii.edu/research/GDWwebsite/pages/Presentations%5CHonolulu_MPandya.pdf).

For more details about the Jeevika initiative visit the project website: [http://www.jeevikasewa.org/disaster_preparedness.htm](http://www.jeevikasewa.org/disaster_preparedness.htm)

2.3 A Little Gender Handbook for Emergencies (Or Just Plain Common Sense)


One of many gender-sensitive initiatives from Oxfam, this guide provides a succinct and user-friendly overview. Included are discussion and examples of what using a gender approach means in practice, gender analysis practices in field assessments, participatory methodologies and women, how and when to integrate gender concerns in planning, gender-sensitive program planning, monitoring and evaluation. Of special interest is a protocol for assessing the gender dimensions of proposed projects with respect to goals, planning, and evaluation. See also Eade, Dianne and Suzanne Williams (eds.). 1995. *The Oxfam Handbook of Development and Relief*, Vol 1-3. Oxford: Oxfam, special issues relating to gender in emergencies published by the Oxfam journal *Gender and Development*, and gender and disaster reporting in the newsletter *Links*.

2.4 Tsunami, Gender and Recovery


An excellent resource for specialists in tsunami recovery, policy makers and practitioners seeking direction for gender-aware approaches, and for trainers and teachers as a case study. The document reflects the integrated and holistic approach to gender representative of the efforts of the DMI. The publication includes these 12 short articles:

- Gender issues in tsunami recovery planning
- Unequal impact of tsunami on women
- The unbreakable spirit of women: believe in change makers
- Recovery of women : issues and plans
- Addressing gender issues in humanitarian practice: tsunami recovery
- Lessons from earthquake affected women
- Preparedness, risk mitigation and women
- Emerging good practices
- How do we support women’s capacities?
- Gender in Sphere standards

2.5 Intermediate Technology and Development Group-South Asia
The alternative development approach to disasters (Duryog Nivaran) consistently emphasizes the cross-cutting and specific gender dimensions of disaster risk management with emphasis on developing women’s leadership skills and capitalizing on their local knowledge and insight.

ITDG publications and initiatives are uniformly gender sensitive, for example their publication on Traditional Wisdom of Rainwater Harvesting, Livelihood Centered Approach to Disaster Management, Meeting the Challenge of Disasters: A Collection of Best Practices, Field Experience on Community Centered Disaster Management, and tsunami-related recovery planning documents. ITDG-South Asia also undertakes a number of specific gender projects.

Publications, e.g.


*Gender Dimensions in Disaster Management; A Guide for South Asia,* by Madhavi Malalgoda Ariyabandu and Maithree Wickramasinghe, 2004. ITDG South Asia, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Available at ITDG, UK and ITDG South Asia: general@itdg.slt.lk. Also available through Zubaan Publishers, New Delhi (Distributed in India only).

*How to mainstream gender into disaster management and responses – addressing gender issues in post-tsunami reconstruction.* 2005. Report prepared for workshop conducted for bilateral donors, INGOs, NGOs and policy makers of state agencies working on post-tsunami reconstruction. Available at ITDG South Asia, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

*Chapter 4, Paying attention to women’s and gender issues in responding to the tsunami crisis,* pp. 10-15 in ITDG’s *Guidelines for Planning in the Rebuilding Process; Resource Pack.*

Videos, e.g.


*South Asian Women: Facing Disaster, Securing Life.* 60 min. Profiles women in Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka responding to armed conflict, displacement, epidemic, and natural disaster. Produced by Duryog Nivaran, an alternative disaster and development agency in Sri Lanka with a strong gender focus, and available for purchase through their website: [http://www.duryognivaran.org](http://www.duryognivaran.org)

Presentations, e.g.


2.6 Middle East and North Africa Gender Communication Network, IFRC

The Middle East and North Africa Gender Communication Network is an initiative of the Middle East Regional International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies. Representatives from eleven MENA National Societies have created a gender network to promote related training and planning in the region. Countries participating include: Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunis, and Yemen. The network will foster communication and knowledge sharing, and publicize training opportunities across the region. It will produce a web-based human resources data base, and a review of existing programs in the region from a gender perspective. Other goals include identifying practical ways of doing gender sensitive programming and how to consider the needs and capacities of both men and women in Red Cross Red Crescent activities.

The site has a link for the IFRC Gender Training Package which has case studies, including case studies on disaster preparedness. Languages: Arabic, Farsi, English. For more information: http://www.mena-gcn.net/

2.7 InterAction: American Council for Voluntary International Action

The Commission on the Advancement of Women within InterAction, an advocacy coalition of over 160 development and relief NGOs based in the US and active worldwide in emergency relief, represents the commitment of InterAction to gender equality in emergency relief.

Workshops and publications such as Weaving Gender in Humanitarian Assistance (previously cited) are now complimented by organizational development tools such as Building Organizational Capacity for Gender Sensitive Development. Piloted and tested over five years to help member organizations assess their progress toward mainstreaming gender equality in relief work, these materials include guides to organizational self-auditing and a five-day training course for gender audit facilitators, as well as regional documents with best-practice materials from the field on gender mainstreaming. Available through InterAction: http://www.interaction.org/caw/services.html

GOOD GENDER PRACTICES FROM GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

3.1 International Strategy for Disaster Reduction [ISDR] and the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction [IDNDR]

The IDNDR spearheaded the UN’s growing attention to the gender dimensions of disasters and particularly to the ways women and children can and do contribute to risk reduction at the local level. Among others, see:


Stop Disasters —Women and Children: Keys to Prevention. A widely cited compilation of short statements from the field (previously cited).

IDNDR director Sávano Briceño speaks out on gender issues, for example in these venues:


The IDNDR helped develop and promote the 2001 UN DAW Expert Working Group meeting on gender and disaster risk reduction as well as the 2004 Honolulu workshop on the topic. A dedicated gender page is also maintained on their website: http://www.unisdr.org/eng/risk-reduction/gender/rd-gender-eng.htm

In addition to previously cited publications on the gender page, see Natalie Domeisen, IDNDR Promotion Officer, 1997: The Role of Women in Protecting Communities from Disasters http://www.disaster-info.net/crid/eng/info/idndrgen.htm

3.2 Disaster Management, Poverty and Gender in the Caribbean

Concept paper under development (12/05) by the Caribbean Sub-regional Resource Facility [SURF] in support of the work of the Barbados Country Office. The paper will examine how poverty and gender affect vulnerability to disasters, and influence the outcomes and the effectiveness of recovery efforts in small islands of the Caribbean.

The UNDP began with an extensive information gathering phase in which submissions were solicited and received from UNDP offices around the world on good programmes, projects or other initiatives taking account of both poverty and gender in all phases of disaster management, and guidelines to aid in implementation. Information was solicited particularly about these issues in the context of small island economies. The summary of responses from UNDP staff around the world can be obtained by contacting Daniela Jodhan of the UNDP Gender Network (djodhan@surf.undp.org.tt) or Misaki Watanabe of the UNDP’s Crisis Prevention and Recovery Program (misaki.watanabe@undp.org). The original query was initiated by Nadine Bushell of SURF (nbushell@surf.undp.org.tt).

3.3 Masai Women in Drought-Busting Water Project

Nairobi. 27 September 2002. This is a two-year project in Kenya being implemented by UNEP in response to recommendations made in a UNEP and Government of Kenya report “Devastating Drought in Kenya: Environmental Impacts and Responses”. The project engages Masai women in a pioneering anti-drought initiative that involves rainwater harvesting.

For More Information: Eric Falt, Spokesperson/Director of UNEP’s Division of Communications and Public Information, on Tel: 254 2 623292, Mobile: 0733 682656
E-Mail: eric.falt@unep.org or Angele Luh, UNEP Regional Information Officer for Africa, on Tel: 254 2 624294, E-Mail: angele.luh@unep.org.


3.4 BRAC in Afghanistan

The Bangladeshi NGO BRAC [Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee] has implemented innovative work in Afghanistan addressing gender relations and women’s empowerment in the areas of governance, development, and natural disasters. The following annual and audit reports for 2003 and 2002 are found on BRAC’s website. These provide detailed descriptions of their programs in Afghanistan and how they have integrated gender, disaster management, and political and economic empowerment in a challenging environment. BRAC also publishes an informative newsletter about their work worldwide that is available on their website.
3.5 Pacific Islands Energy and Policy Plan

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) Pacific Island countries project involving Pacific Island countries in (SOPAC). Policies for energy development specify developing and strengthening the energy sector through gender mainstreaming and public awareness. Energy is recognized as an area of vulnerability, especially in disaster situations, and policies have been designed to specifically include women in the energy sector. Available through SOPAC: http://www.sopac.org/tiki/tiki-download_file.php?fileId=6+Gender+analysis&hl=en&ie=UTF-8

3.6 Citizenry-Based and Development-Oriented Disaster Response: Experiences and Practices in Disaster Management of the Citizens’ Disaster Response Network in the Philippines


The document outlines a process for community-based risk management planning in the Philippines. The document provides experiences and best-practices for addressing vulnerabilities to disasters. The book was developed to foster exchanges and linkages among practitioners, communities, and organizations involved in disaster management at the local and community levels. Within the community-based framework, the importance of gender is highlighted. The book contains a series of annexes with checklists and tools, including an overview of disasters common in the Philippines, a glossary of citizenry-based and development oriented disaster response terms, tools for participatory data gathering, a damage, needs, and capacities analysis tool, and a list of categories and factors for capacities and vulnerability analysis.

3.7 Gender and Disaster Management Policy in Africa: Review and Recommendations for Action

ISDR Africa and UN Habitat, 2005. 39 pp. Illustrated. Joint project of ISDR Africa and UN Habitat. This comprehensive planning document is an exciting model for gendering disaster risk management at the regional level and includes an excellent empirical case study of women, gender and flooding in Kenya conducted by the author with the support of the Kenyan Red Cross and Soroptimists International. Available through ISDR Africa: http://www.unisdrafrica.org/Review%20Draft%204%20December%2019.pdf

3.8 UN Division for the Advancement of Women

The lead UN agency for gender took a strong interest in disaster risk reduction at the turn of the century as exemplified, among other initiatives, by the following:


*The Disproportionate Impact of Natural Disasters on Women, Carolyn Hannan, DAW Director for Roundtable Panel and Discussion, DAW event for the NGO Committee on the Status of Women
(January 17, 2002, New York) during the 23rd Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development, and Peace for the 21st Century: 


### 3.9 Gender and Food Security (FAO)

The SEAGA project developed by the FAO (previously cited) exemplifies the initiative taken in this area at the practical level. The Gender and Food Security project also contributes to strengthening the capacity of women and men equally to the effects of natural hazards and disasters: 
http://www.fao.org/gender/high-e.htm

### 3.10 UNIFEM

UNIFEM’s proactive gender approach is illustrated in the case of the Indian Ocean tsunami, for example in this strong statement by Executive Director Noeleen Heyzer: 
*Women Must be at the Heart of Rebuilding Shattered Communities*: 
http://www.unfemssingapore.org.sg/unifemnews2/hq_jul_05.htm

See also the attention accorded gender approaches to tsunami relief and recovery in the four papers posted on the UNIFEM website (Unifem Affairs, July 2005): 
http://www.unfemssingapore.org.sg/unifemnews2/say_jul_05.htm

*Mainstreaming Gender in Unstable Environments.* (previously cited) is an early contribution from UNIFEM to gender mainstreaming in disaster response and recovery: 
http://www.reliefweb.int/library/GHARkit/files/GenderInUnstableEnvironments.pdf

### 3.11 World Health Organization

The most proactive of the UN organizations in this area, the WHO strives for gender-aware and women-friendly projects in the field and takes the lead in educating practitioners and policy-makers about gender mainstreaming in this area. The WHO has a particular emphasis on women’s safety in disaster contexts.

See the WHO dedicated gender page with links to academic resource and reports and links to related resources and agencies. In particular see the materials below (described more fully in the Checklist section of the Sourcebook):

- Gender and Women’s Health: Women and Disaster
- Gender and Women’s Health: Gender-based Violence in Disasters
- Challenges to Reproductive Health in Emergencies
- Gender and Health in Disasters

*Challenges to reproductive health in emergencies*, by Wilma Doedens (WHO) and Kate Burns (UNHCR), 2001(12 pp) also makes a positive contribution as the lead article in the June 2001 issue of the WHO newsletter *Health in Emergencies*. The authors provide an excellent survey of critical reproductive health issues facing both women and men, with special attention to sexual and gender-based violence, safe motherhood in crises. Users will find links to key documents and resources in the area.

Available through Department of Emergency and Humanitarian Action, World Health Organization:
http://www.who.int/hac/about/en/7099.pdf

### 3.12 Booklet of Networking for Assistance and Support of Women Victims of Earthquake
Prepared by the Association for Supporting and Training Women Candidates (KADER), DGSPW and UNDP (Turkey) with the co-operation of Association for Supporting and Training Women Candidates (KADER), DGSPW and UNDP. 2000, 31 pp. This booklet provides a list of NGOs involved in disaster work and their projects. Excerpted in “Booklet of Networking in Support of Turkish Women Earthquake Survivors.” For more information: Nuray Kuranci (karanci@metu.edu.tr).

3.13 InFocus Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction, ILO

On the IFPCR website, the Working Paper Series indicates the strong gender focus of this innovative employment-intensive approach to disaster recovery, e.g.

*Working Paper #1, 2001, Gender and Natural Disaster (E. Enarson):*  

*Working Paper #7, 2002, Crisis, Women and Gender Concerns (E. Date-Bah ed.)*  

The ILO gender approach was also evident in the presentation made to the Expert Working Group meeting, Ankara, Turkey. See Man Thapa, 2001. *Participatory disaster management programme*:  

3.14 UNFPA Response To Indian Ocean Tsunami

2005, 51 pp. Update at six months prepared by the Un Family Planning Agency. Available through FPA:  
http://www.unfpa.org/emergencies/pacific/docs/tsunami_report.doc

The document is an update at six months after the tsunami and provides country overviews and covers women and children’s needs. The issues covered include maternal health, ensuring safety and security of women and girls, and preventing gender based violence, safeguarding hygiene and dignity of women, participation of women in aid distribution. The document highlights some of the key challenges in terms of weak capacities, gaps in coordination, start up challenges, security situation, and the neglect of the health and gender issues in the initial emergency phase.
INTRODUCTION TO THE SOURCEBOOK SECTION
COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES
COMMUNITY EDUCATION · MULTIMEDIA · VIDEOS · GUIDELINES FOR MEDIA

Communicating with others about women’s and gender issues in disaster contexts can be challenging. Those we wish to reach are divided by language, culture, specialization, politics, experience—the list goes on. Those wishing to be heard and attended do not, of course, speak with a single voice. With this in mind, we refer readers to a wide range of innovative communication strategies and resources.

The materials include accessible first-person introductory materials suitable for training and communication projects. The Personal Narratives with which we began the Sourcebook are also excellent resources as are the fact sheets and others short readings cited in the Community Education part of our section on Training and Education.

What strategies and materials have you found especially effective? Please pass them along to others.

SAMPLE DOCUMENTS FROM THE SOURCEBOOK
COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES
COMMUNITY EDUCATION

1.1 Violencia contra las mujeres: Un desastre que los hombres SÍ podemos evitar [Violence Against Women a Disaster Men CAN Prevent]

1999. Multi-media public information campaign designed and promoted by Fundacion Puntos de Encuentro, Nicaragua. Materials available in Spanish and English through:
http://www.b.linneker.dsl.pipex.com/docs/CampaignLeaflet_Spanish.zip

The following materials will be useful to all those interested in novel approaches to tackling disaster related violence issues. The post-Mitch campaign materials (some available in English) carried the slogan ‘Violencia contra las mujeres: Un desastre que los hombres SÍ podemos evitar’ / ‘Violence Against Women: A Disaster that men CAN Prevent’ and also featured a leaflet laying out ‘seven steps’; seven reasons why gender based violence harms not only women but the wider community, society and development, suggesting, for example, ‘Now or never: The reconstruction of the country and our lives depends on women being treated as equal’ and advice on actions men can take to prevent them from inflicting violence against women (‘Seven Steps’ leaflet only available in Spanish).

The campaign combined announcements on the TV and radio, promotional materials carrying the campaign slogan such as bumper stickers, calendars, hats and T-shirts, the distribution of educational materials such as leaflets, and training workshops and public presentations up and down the country. The slogan was also carried on a roadside bill board conspicuous to all those entering the capital from the North. While the campaign activities were centred on the areas most affected by the Hurricane, the campaign slogan went nation wide via TV and radio networks and information in the organisations’ magazine (La Boletina – see below), which has a national coverage.

La Boletina, magazine from Puntos de Encuentro (Nicaragua). The articles in this feminist magazine followed the campaign above. Articles are written in a style that allows readers with only primary school education to become informed on issues that affect their lives. A permanent section within the magazine is ‘Breaking the silence’ which discusses issues related to gender based violence. Each edition focuses on the key political, social or economic issue at the time and also carries features on issues such as masculinities, sexualities and mother-daughter relationships. In
particular, see:

La Boletina 40, Julio-Septiembre 1999 'Violencia contra las mujeres un desastre que los hombres Sí podemos evitar: Primera campaña nacional dirigida a hombres'.
Language: Spanish.
Available from: http://boletina.puntos.org.ni/
Explains the background to the campaign, the thinking behind it and the messages it intends to get across.

La Boletina 41, Enero 1999 'Violencia contra las mujeres un desastre que los hombres Sí podemos evitar: Primera campaña nacional dirigida a hombres'
Language: Spanish.
Available from: http://boletina.puntos.org.ni/
Provides base line (pre-campaign) data on men’s attitudes toward gender-based Africa.

Two graphics developed for this campaign is available through the GDN [search Latest Additions]: http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_latest_additions.htm

1.2 Interagency Network for Education in Emergencies

Information about the National Training on Education Management in Situations of Crisis, based on the experience of Bam, Iran is included on the website of the Interagency Network for Education in Emergencies. Users will find a series of useful Good Practice Guides for Emergency Education. One of the Guides is entitled Inclusive Education of Children at Risk: Gender Equality/Girls and Women’s Education. Other titles include:

Inclusive Education of Children at Risk: Toward Full Participation
Inclusive Education of Children at Risk: Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances
Inclusive Education of Children at Risk: Persons with Disability.

For more information: http://www.ineesite.org/members/space/bam.asp or http://www.ineesite.org/inclusion/gender.asp

MULTIMEDIA

2.1 Gender in Emergencies [poster]

Communication poster produced in Hindi by the Oxfam GB East India (Kolkata Office). An accompanying set of cards is under development. For more information: Mani Kumar, Programme Officer, Oxfam GB East India Office: mkumar@oxfam.org.uk

2.2 Gender and Disaster Network [poster]

An annually updated poster highlighting activities of the international Gender and Disaster Network. Prepared by Kathy Lynn with John Sorenson, Barbara Vogt and other members of the GDN for the annual meeting of the Natural Hazards Workshop at the University of Colorado. Available through GDN: http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/gdn-poster.pdf

2.3 Gender and Disaster Risk Management [power point slides]

SHM Fakhruddin (Bapon), Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services. Poster prepared for the 2004 Honolulu Workshop on Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction. For more information: suddin@cegisbd.com Available through the GDN: http://www.gdnonline.org
2.4 The Rough Season: Caribbean Audio Soap Opera


To see other innovative strategies with a gender focus, visit the website of the 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction [Kobe], Session 3.4 in Cluster 3: Knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience: http://www.unisdr.org/wcdr/thematic-sessions/cluster3.htm.

2.5 Natural Disasters—Their Impact on Women [radio interview]

BBC radio programme (November 28, 2005). Audio link: BBC Woman's Hour: http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/womanshour/2005_48_mon_02.shtml. As described by the producers: "It’s three months since hurricane Katrina swept through the southern states of America, nearly a year since the Asian Tsunami, and the recent earthquake in Pakistan is still taking its toll on the population there. In the days following hurricane Katrina, reports emerged that women had been raped during the chaos of the hurricane’s aftermath, but those reports were subsequently downplayed. It’s notoriously difficult to document violence against women during natural disasters, but there is evidence that women are disproportionately affected. So what does happen to women during these periods of disorder and displacement, and what can be done to protect them? Jenni discusses the issues with Madhavi Ariyabandu, an expert on the impact of natural disasters on women and Sarah Bradshaw, Senior lecturer in Third World and Development Studies at Middlesex University."

2.6 Pushing Wheels of Work: Women’s Livelihood Recovery after tsunami in Coastal India [photo essay]

Compelling short photo essay by All-Indian Disaster Mitigation Institute based on their work with tsunami-affected women. Based on 9 captioned photos. Photos available through GDN: http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/pushingwheels.pdf.

For more information, contact DMI: http://www.southasiadisasters.net/.

2.7 Feminist International Radio Endeavour Campaign

This first women’s internet radio program joined and documented the October 2005 “Women to Women with Affected Communities” campaign to channel aid for women in Guatemala and their communities in the zones affected by Stan and other disasters. Visit the website to learn more about the campaign, view photos, and listen to analysis and personal narrative in Spanish with English transcripts provided. Begin here: English: http://www.radiofeminista.net/oct05/camp_quate/camp_quate-ing.htm; Spanish: http://www.radiofeminista.net/oct05/camp_qu

2.8 Gender in Emergencies [poster]

Oxfam GB East India Kolkata Office. Currently available in Hindi with English translations planned. For more information, contact Mani Kumar, Programme Officer Oxfam GB East India Office, Oxfam (India) Trust 30/SB, Block B, New Alipore Kolkata-700053. Phone -91 33 24456650. Email: mkumar@oxfam.org.uk

2.9 Seeing Women as Part of the Solution [poster]
Poster developed in 2005 by Madhavi M. Ariyabandu in conjunction with ITDG-South Asia. Subtitled Disaster Risk Reduction: A Glimpse from South Asia, the poster tells the story with images and bulleted points presented with color and style. A useful model for community education materials in other regions as well as for training and awareness in this region. Available through the GDN (search latest additions): [http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_latest_additions.htm](http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_latest_additions.htm)

**VIDEOS**

### 3.1 When the River Met the Sea (Cuando el Rio y el Mar Se Unieron)

4 minutes, 2004. Produced by the Comité de Emergencia Garifuna de Honduras in conjunction with GROOTS. This is an excellent video profiles grassroots women in Honduras responding to hurricane Mitch and mobilizing to reduce risk at the community level. Emphasizing women's initiative in promoting sustainable and safer reconstruction and the new connections fostered in the community through women's disaster work, the film is an excellent awareness-raising resource useful in Latin America and beyond. Spanish with English subtitles. Available from: [http://www.witnes.org](http://www.witnes.org) or contact [http://www.groots.org](http://www.groots.org).

### 3.2 Women of Ground Zero

15 minutes. 2002. Available for purchase from the National Organization of Women Legal Defense and Education Fund: [http://www.now.org](http://www.now.org). This film profiles a number of New York women who responded creatively to the attacks of September 11, 2001 including women in traditional roles and others such as a plumber and one of New York's few women firefighters.

### 3.3 Our Life Our film

25 minutes. 2004. Directed by eight grassroots women belonging to quake-ravaged villages of Kutch in Gujarat, this visual narrative walks the road with women and children in their struggle to rebuild their lives after the devastating 2001 earthquake. The women’s group SSP provided women training in all aspects of video production in this innovative project to help women tell their own stories. The film provides unique insight into issues arising for children and women in this close-up view of disaster recovery through women’s eyes. For more information or orders: sspindia@vsnl.net

### 3.4 From Chaos to Creativity

15 min., 2005. Produced by the Groots International Network, this film features footage from three member groups in India, Turkey, and Honduras who supported women and their communities to organize and rebuild their lives following devastating natural disasters. Viewers learn how women acted to redirect relief aid, secure food and shelter, combat corruption, and later organize themselves to run community women and children centers and income generating activities following earthquakes and hurricanes.

Women community leaders describe the wide gap between the real needs of poverty-affected families and the official response of governments. This included flawed housing programs and the neglect of basic services. The film describes how women were inspired to create collective initiatives to secure their families' basic needs. Assessing their gains and losses, community members articulate why future disaster interventions must involve (not marginalize) affected citizens in planning and implementing community recovery and development.

Most important, it showcases how grassroots women must play to anchor disaster response - a central message of the film. Contributions from: Comite De Emergencia Garifuna, Honduras; Foundation for Support of Women's Work, Turkey; and Swayam Shikshan Prayog, India.

To order, contact Disaster Watch: [http://www.disasterwatch.net/resources.htm#film1](http://www.disasterwatch.net/resources.htm#film1) or email
3.5 Facing Disasters, Making Decisions: The Gender Dimensions of Disaster Management

10 min., 2005. Video documentary focusing on gender concerns in the tsunami response and recovery. Produced by Young Asia Television for ITDG South Asia. Available at ITDG South Asia, Colombo, Sri Lanka general@itdg.slt.lk

The video contains visuals of the tsunami aftermath in Sri Lanka, and the situation of the displaced people, and highlights gender based concerns of women. It is targeted at the relief and recovery agencies, policy decision makers and development practitioners, with a view to highlight the severe gaps in understanding and awareness on gender issues in disasters, and the importance of addressing gender issues in the wake of tsunami rebuilding. The video is a guide for gender sensitive action in emergency, recovery and rebuilding phases.

GUIDELINES FOR MEDIA

4.1 Gender, media and tsunamis

Ammu Joseph, February, 2005. 3 pp. This piece by Joseph, an independent journalist and author based in Bangalore who writes on gender, development and the media, is based on a presentation on gender-sensitive journalism at a Creative Media Workshop organized by the Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group in Bhubaneshwar, January 7-10 2005.

The article responds to the question ‘Can there be a gender angle to the tsunami story?’ in the affirmative. Among the many stories remain to be told are those of tsunami affected women. It cannot be said that women have been missing from media coverage-on the contrary, the media tend to focus on women and children in any disaster, however primarily as victims; weeping, wailing, awaiting or availing relief; as mothers faced with bereavement; and as heroines who saved lives. The article questions whether or not such limited representations do justice to women’s experiences, concerns and needs in the wake of a disaster. The article concludes that women, including the poor and illiterate have information, knowledge and opinions on practically everything. Failure to tap women including those who are attempting to resume life after the disaster as sources and resources can only impoverish media coverage and diminish our understanding of the post tsunami scenario and many other similar situations.


4.2 Afghanistan unveiled

The Asia Foundation has consistently supported a wide range of efforts to improve conditions for Afghan women. Since 2002, the Foundation has focused on the special needs of women and girls to rebuild their lives, including the training of the first female journalists to be trained in Kabul for more than a decade, and the first-ever to be trained in digital media. The culmination of this training was the production of “Afghanistan Unveiled,” a documentary by the journalists, documenting the lives of Afghan women in the provinces in the past decade. The documentary focuses on women’s experience of both conflict and natural disasters (the five year drought). For more information: http://www.asiafoundation.com/locations/afghanistan.html
Moving from knowledge to action is a challenge across the board in disaster risk reduction. This is especially so when new knowledge and practice challenge entrenched systems and institutions both within and outside of disaster risk management. Incorporating the knowledge gained over the past decades about gender relations through the disaster cycle is a first step.

We focus in this section on in-house trainings for organizations and teaching at the community and secondary education levels. Other materials for general education and targeted trainings can be found in the first section of the Sourcebook under the heading Personal Narratives. Audiovisual resources are included in the Communications section of the Sourcebook.

There are presently few avenues for specific trainings on gender equality and disaster risk reduction. Are more under development in your region or sector? Please submit information here. Do you know of modules on gender and disaster concerns that are incorporated into regular trainings? These would be very useful to others so please details and hyperlinks along if possible.

This section provides both college level teaching guides and materials better suited for community education and practitioner trainings. Broadly applicable training materials are cited as well as short fact sheets or discussion pieces suitable for training packets.

Do you have gender-sensitive training resources developed for specific events, programs or organizations or plans for related training? The Gender and Disaster Network listserv is a great way to publicize and share these resources.

**SAMPLE DOCUMENTS FROM THE SOURCEBOOK**

**TRAINING AND EDUCATION**

**TRAINING MATERIALS**

1.1 Con el agua hasta el cuello : que trata del más desastrosos de los desastres y de cómo ponerlo un remedio sustentable

Asociación Equipo Maíz San Salvador, El Salvador, 2000. 90 pp. Spanish language only. Document can be ordered online from Ecumenical program on Central America and the Caribbean (EPICA) price $8 via: [http://www.epica.org/Bookstore/Spanish.htm](http://www.epica.org/Bookstore/Spanish.htm)

**English language synopsis:** Taking Hurricane Mitch as its reference point, this popular education publication from El Salvador uses cartoons and simple text to explore the underlying causes of disasters. The text does not explicitly discuss gender issues, rather gender is 'mainstreamed' within all sections and the cartoons depict women undertaking activities usually stereotyped as male. The book aims to highlight that disasters are not 'natural' events focusing specifically on the relationship between environmental degradation - global, regional and national - and the impact of events such as hurricane Mitch. It examines processes of development and impoverishment in the Central American region, highlighting the differences between notions of 'standard of living' and 'quality of life' and introducing the concept of sustainable development. The final section suggests some actions necessary for ensuring ecological risk management at the community level. This publication (available in Spanish only) will be useful for anyone involved in popular education activities and engaged in working with communities and groups, both mixed sex and women’s groups, around disasters risk reduction and mitigation.
1.2 How to mainstream gender into disaster management and responses --addressing gender issues in post-tsunami reconstruction

Intermediate Technology Development Group Workshop Report, 2005. 22pp. Available through ITDG South Asia, #05, Lionel Edirisinghe Mawatha, Colombo 5. Sri Lanka. Email address: general@itdg.slt.lk

The workshop was conducted by ITDG South Asia with the support of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Sri Lanka for the benefit of bilateral donors, International agencies, NGOs and policy makers of the state agencies working on post-tsunami reconstruction. The report contains a selective gender profile in Sri Lanka which indicate the gender based issues and disparities in terms of demographic considerations, legal frameworks, poverty, extended conflict and violent tendencies, health, education, livelihoods and employment, and environment. In this backdrop critical gender issues in the tsunami aftermath, and ways and means of mainstreaming the same is discussed. The report highlights the absence or poor awareness and sensitivity on gender concerns reflected in post tsunami activities and interventions. Tsunami showcased existing gender based disparities in society. Women’s specific sanitary and biological needs, and the safety and security concerns were neglected, which resulted in serious implications for women and their families. Rising alcoholism in the displaced situation led to increased violence against women. Relief distribution and access was male dominated and biased. Existing institutional formworks and systems are insufficient to address gender based disparities in recovery. Post tsunami statistics, information and analysis barely contain gender analysis, leading to gender blind and inappropriate recovery panning and interventions which reinforce existing gender disparities and increase the vulnerabilities of women and other marginalised groups. The report contains a summary of the recommendations and an action plan to increase the gender awareness of the key agencies engaged in recovery and rehabilitation and to increase the gender sensitivity of the interventions.

1.3 Notes from the road: India/Turkey exchange

This is a 7-part series written by Sheryl Feldman of GROOTS for their Disaster Watch program. Each is several pages long, illustrated, and written in the very accessible tone of a travel diary. A rare addition to the scare collection currently available of disasters “through women’s eyes.” These are excellent introductory pieces which can be used separately or together for training or community education and by planners as a model of gender-aware good practice. Available as pdf files on the website of GROOTS. The sequence begins here: http://www.groots.org/news/Notes_1.pdf

1.4 Reducing Risk: Participatory Learning Activities For Disaster Mitigation In Southern Africa


Working from an adult education model, a highly gender-sensitive set of participatory learning activities for disaster mitigation was produced by two women researchers and activists for use in Southern Africa with support from the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in southern Africa. Assessing women’s livelihood in disaster contexts is a core component of the training. Workshop participants are provided information about how gender relates to disaster risk, and also helped to recognize gender dynamics within the small work groups as they are being trained in risk management. The grassroots training model offers substantive discussion of the links between gender equality and disaster risk reduction. It includes a number of exercises in which women and men jointly analyze village life to identify local hazards, vulnerabilities, and coping strategies. Specific patterns in the local gender divisions of labor are determined. By identify and supporting economic resources controlled by women, the potential contribution of women’s work in disasters can be anticipated and their efforts supported. For example, women who grow indigenous food crops with nutritional, medical, and fodder value increase the economic resilience of their households.
June 23 2005. Sponsored by the Hazard Management Unit of the World Bank’s International Bank for Reconstruction and Development IBRD in collaboration with GROOTS (Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood). Panel discussions based on case studies of grassroots women’s participation in specific disaster events internationally. An excellent resource for identifying lessons to be learned from bad practices and good, and for contacting experts in the field who are knowledgeable about women’s community work around disasters.

As described by IBRD: This one day course -- combining video, sharing of innovative NGO practices, and interactive learning among workshop participants -- will explore strategies for involving affected communities in post-disaster recovery and disaster mitigation, with an emphasis on recovery strategies following the 2004 tsunami. The training is presented in collaboration with the Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS).

Case studies that detail how grassroots women’s groups have participated in specific disaster events in various countries will anchor the course and support the review of central themes. In the context of responding to disasters as development rather than emergency events, the course will analyze and discuss the policy implications of:

- how disasters impact women and men differently,
- how the structure of entitlement and implementation programs can reduce or preserve inequities, and
- how the disaster recovery process can be used as an opportunity for transferring decision making, implementation, and resources to poor communities and promoting gender equitable development over time.

**Course Presentations**

**Introduction and background:** Margaret Arnold, Hazard Management Unit
Overview: Sandy Schilen, GROOTS International

**Naming Bad Practice: How Affected Communities can be Sidelined by Disaster Response and Risk Management**

Suzanne Shende, Comité de Emergencia de Garifuna, Honduras
Suranjana Gupta, GROOTS International (on behalf of Swayam Shikshan Prayog)
Carmen Griffiths, Construction Resource Development Center, Jamaica
Marilu Sanchez, Estrategia, Peru

**Innovative Alternatives: Strategies and Practices that Facilitate Community Involvement and Women’s Participation**

Ana Lucy Bengochea, Comité de Emergencia de Garifuna, Honduras
Carmen Griffiths, Construction Resource Development Center, Jamaica
Roxana Aching, Mujeres Unidas Para Un Pueblo Mejor, Peru
Kala Peiris De Costa, Siyath Foundation, Sri Lanka
Muthu Velayutham Nagamalai, Covenant Centre for Development, Tamil Nadu, India
Mihir Bhatt, Disaster Mitigation Institute, Ahmedabad, India

**Applying Lessons Learned to Tsunami-Affected Areas: Local Challenges and Opportunities in Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka**

Kala Peiris De Costa, Siyath Foundation, Sri Lanka
Mihir Bhatt, Disaster Mitigation Institute, Ahmedabad, India
Muthu Velayutham Nagamalai, Covenant Centre for Development, Tamil Nadu, India
and Kasthuri Chandrasekar, Community Leader, Mahakalasm, Tamil Nadu, India

See notice on the website of the IBRD:
1.6 Emergency Health Training Programme for Africa


The materials include a unit on Gender Issues and Emergency Management which presents basic information through overhead slides about sex, gender and gender relations and identifies gendered vulnerability factors and vital needs in emergencies as reflected in the gendered division of labor and related issues. Could easily be adapted and expanded for use in related trainings. For more information contact the PanAfrican Emergency Training Centre, Addis Ababa.

1.7 Beyond The Veil: Women In Islamic National Societies

Carolyn Oxlee, 2000. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Magazine. This rare discussion of the challenges posed by gender relations in highly segregated societies is valuable for training responders and relief workers and for initiating discussion of the need for culturally competent approaches to “gendering the agenda.” It includes examples of successful integration of women into community education roles.

FACT SHEETS AND HANDOUTS

2.1 Gender and natural disasters


2.2 Gender Equity and Humanitarian Response

11 pp. March 2001. Thematic issue of the Oxfam newsletter Links. This widely used piece has three parts: 1) Responding to the interests of both women and men; 2) What kind of people does Oxfam need? 3) What standards are required? Part One is of most interest with information about Oxfam’s collaboration with women’s groups after hurricane Mitch, conflict in the Balkans, the Orissa cyclone and Oxfam’s work with Muslim women’s peace groups in Africa.


2.3 Gender and Health in Disasters


World Health Organization fact sheets provide succinct introductions to key health concerns in disasters from a gendered perspective, including recommendations and resources. The short length makes them useful for work with practitioners and in community education. Gender and Health is very useful for the clear presentation of basic information and perspectives, including key definitions, the interactions of biological and social factors, gender roles of men in disasters, risk perception, gendered impacts including violence and psychosocial effects, and gender issues in relief systems. Concluding recommendations are offered about knowledge gaps and research needs, and about the implications of the gender patterns reviews for programmes and policies. Users are also referred
to the WHO webpage for more policy statements with general guidelines and links to additional resources, particularly *Gender and Women’s Health: Women and Disaster* and *Gender and Women’s Health: Gender-based Violence in Disasters*.

### 2.4 Unsung Heroines: Women and Natural Disasters


### 2.5 Women and Disaster— What's the Connection?


The brochure makes basic points about the increased risk of girls and women as well as their proactive efforts to reduce risk. It is written in a casual tone for use in community education projects and can readily be adapted to different contexts. Could readily be adapted and revised for use in differing regions and contexts.

### 2.6 Gender Perspectives on the Conventions: Biodiversity, Climate Change and Desertification

Yianna Lambrou, Gender and Development Service, FAO Gender and Population Division, March 2005. Clear and short presentation of the main gender dimensions of three significant international conventions. Trainers will find this very useful for generating discussion about the root causes of natural disasters and strategies for fully engaging women in addressing these. Vulnerabilities are described and recommendations forwarded toward an integrated and gender-sensitive approach. Source: [http://www.fao.org/sd/dim_pe1/pe1_050301a1_en.htm](http://www.fao.org/sd/dim_pe1/pe1_050301a1_en.htm)

### ACADEMIC

### 3.1 Central American Web Mapping Project

Access through the Civil Coordinator for Emergency and Reconstruction (Nicaragua) in Spanish and English.

This innovative and informative project initiated by the Civil Coordinator for Emergency and Reconstruction in Nicaragua in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch works from the premise that maps are capable of disseminating a lot of information very quickly and easily. Accordingly an interactive Web-based Geographical Information Systems (GIS) has been developed and used by the Civil Coordinator to disseminate information from the various research and Social Audit projects they have undertaken. The web based maps can be interrogated to find information by region or theme, including damage and reconstruction post-hurricane Mitch, and wider issues such as perceptions of violence, security, corruption and poverty. The resource will be useful to all those interested in GIS and those seeking information about, the impact of disasters and about Nicaragua.

While the Civil Coordinator has a number of projects running on their web site of particular interest will be:

- Hurricane Mitch Damage and Reconstruction Indicators by Municipality – based on data mapped from the Social Audit II project (1999) including gender-disaggregated data and information related to gender based violence.
• Risk and Vulnerability to Natural Threats by Municipality - Estimations of communities vulnerable to flooding and other natural hazard risks.
• Also available is information around poverty change and local development information, the perceptions of the poor on poverty in Nicaragua, and basic information on NGO and Civil Society Organisations and Services by Municipality.

3.2 A Social Vulnerability Approach to Disaster: Gender Chapter


3.3 Gender and Disaster College Course Syllabus

Recognizing the considerable degree of overlap, in this section we highlight empirical case studies conducted primarily by academics, government agencies and humanitarian or nongovernmental organizations. As these differing angles of vision are significant, we include representative work from many sources.

The materials vary in content, style and focus but have in common the use of gender analysis and a gender equality perspective. Most publications arise from close analysis of a single event and many focus more on relief and rehabilitation than on risk reduction.

Published academic papers may be found in library collections, through inter-library loan services or in on-line journals so are only briefly cited for the most part. We include a number of special editions of journals and the papers they included as well as relevant papers from academic research centers. Whenever possible, we have included on-line versions of in-house reports or working papers, again selecting for those writing in English.

The bibliographies include references to other publications that build on these kinds of empirical case studies. Users are also referred to conference papers and other documents cited in the first section of the Sourcebook.

It is not possible to annotate every publication included. Users are invited to send along additional descriptive text on the documents cited as well as pointing us to additional books, papers and related documents.

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1.1 South Asian Women: Facing Disasters, Securing Life


This publication is a collection of papers which address gender issues in disasters from an ‘alternative perspective’ that looks at disasters and conflicts as unresolved problems of development. The ‘alternative perspective’ emphasises that for effective long-term disaster mitigation, the relationships and institutional structures that make people vulnerable to disasters must be changed. Effective disaster mitigation requires the need to know more about people who are victims of disasters, their vulnerabilities and their strengths and capacities. The alternative perspective seeks to understand why disasters have a differential impact on women and men and argues that it is the structures and relationships that form gender relations in society that turn women into victims of disasters. At the same time, women also manage crisis situations and demonstrate high degrees of resilience. This book presents articles and case studies originally presented at a Duryog Nivaran workshop on ‘Gender and Disasters’ held in Multan, Pakistan in 1996. Much of the information is provided by NGO workers based on their experiences of working with communities at risk of disasters. The aim of the book is to draw attention to the need to develop new strategies in disaster management and mitigation by NGOs, state agencies and the media. The book pools experiences and aims to contribute towards better dissemination and exchange of information. It critically examines the impact of short-term relief operations against the results of long-term programmes. It focuses particularly on providing experiences of NGOs in addressing the needs and priorities of women and men and discusses the viability of using events such as disasters
for social mobilisation geared towards supporting the empowerment of women in communities. The book also highlights the need to sensitise media and state agencies. Some examples of case studies are: ‘Misery is More Interesting to Report’ which provides a checklist for ‘gender sensitive media for disaster mitigation and management’; ‘An Agencies Approach to Gender and Emergencies’ based on OXFAM’s participation in the 1995 floods in Pakistan; ‘Resilience and Strength in Situations of Drought’ recounts life stories of women in Gujarat, showing their capacities in extreme situations; ‘Turning Crisis into Capacity’ recounts how PATTAN incorporated gender into its work in flood relief in Pakistan.

1.2 Género y desastres: Introducción conceptual y análisis de situación: El caso del desastre provocado por el huracán Mitch en Centroamérica


1.3 Understanding Vulnerability: South Asia Perspectives


Available from: http://www.developmentbookshop.com, Tel: +44 (0) 1926 634 501 (GBP15.95p).

Published towards the end of the International Decade for Natural Disaster reduction (IDNDR) this book takes forward the growing prominence of social aspects in disaster mitigation strategies, recognising that more emphasis needs to be placed on community-based mitigation programmes that involve vulnerable people in planning and implementing disaster mitigation. The book contains three case studies of groups of people living in different parts of South Asia. The first case study is about poor women in the state of Gujarat who face a range of hazards, natural and manmade. This along with the other case studies and a final chapter called ‘Can Vulnerability be Understood’, focus on conceptual and practical ways to better understand vulnerability. The book is based on grassroots realities and the material has been chosen to be of value to everyone working in disasters and sustainable development. However, the book recognises that understanding vulnerability is one step and the book hopes to stimulate effective actions to reduce vulnerability and increase security, recognising that understanding needs to be translated into ‘effective, practical efforts on the ground.’ In particular, see:

Women victims’ view of urban and rural vulnerability. Bhatt, Ela: 12-27
Can vulnerability be understood? Bhatt, Mihir: 68-77

1.4 Dangerous Liaisons Women, Men and Hurricane Mitch

Sarah Bradshaw. Fundacion Puntos de Encuentro: Managua, Nicaragua, 2001 (English/Spanish bilingual publication, ISBN9992401281)

The study considered how men and women's roles changed post-Mitch and how the hurricane and the reconstruction process that followed affected gender relations. The study explores how the disaster has influenced women's perceptions of their own value within the household and the extent to which this translates into a stronger decision making voice. It highlights that women's perceptions of change may differ from those of their male partner. The study also considered reconstruction projects concluding that while many claim to be gendered the majority do little more than target women as suppliers of goods and services to others, doing little to improve the welfare of the women themselves. It also demonstrates how reconstruction projects can cause conflicts not only within communities but also within households, between women and their male partners.
1.5 Disaster and Destitute Women: Twelve Case Studies


The case studies in this book arise from a Bangladesh study to understand and learn directly from destitute women how they survived disasters, the extent of their access to resources following disaster, and their struggle and coping strategies in the disaster aftermath. The case studies comprise of personal testimonies. However, the book begins with ‘keynotes’ drawn from the twelve case studies, extracted specifically to aid more effective programme development in disaster management and social development. The target for this information is national and international organisations, government departments, UN agencies, donors and other groups and individuals concerned with disaster preparedness and management. The book is also of relevance to those directly involved in disaster mitigation, and to human rights groups, researchers, training institutes and libraries.

1.6 The Gendered Terrain Of Disaster: Through Women's Eyes

Elaine Enarson and Betty Hearn Morrow (eds.). 1998. First published by Greenwood/Praeger. Now available in paperback through the International Hurricane Center, Florida International University (http://www.fiu.edu/~lsbr) or by contacting the authors (eenarson@earthlink.net; betty@bmorrow.com). Note: Many chapters were uploaded by CRID (search by chapter title): http://www.crid.or.cr/crid/ing/bases_datos_desastres_ing.html

Table of contents:

2. The neglect of gender in disaster work: an overview of the literature. Fothergill, A.
4. The perspective of gender: a missing element in disaster response. Scanlon, J.
   Eve and Adam among the embers: gender patterns after the Oakland/Berkeley firestorm. Hoffman, S.
5. A comparative perspective on household, gender, and kinship in relation to disaster. Wiest R.
6. ‘Men must work and women must weep’: examining gender stereotypes in disasters. Fordham, M. and Ketteridge, A.
   Balancing vulnerability and capacity: women and children in the Philippines. Delica, Z.
8. Gender, disaster, and empowerment: a case study from Pakistan. Bari, F.
9. Women in bushfire territory. Cox, H.
10. Floods, they’re a damned nuisance: women’s flood experiences in rural Australia. Finlay, C.
11. Disaster prone: reflections of a female permanent disaster volunteer. Barneut, C.
12. Women’s disaster vulnerability and response to the Colima earthquake, Vinas Serrat, C.
14. Reflections from a teacher and survivor. Colina, D.
17. Women in emergency management: an Australian perspective. Robertson, D.
19. The role of women in health-related aspects of emergency management: a Caribbean perspective. Noel, G.
20. Conclusion: toward gendered disaster policy, practice and research. Enarson, E. and Morrow, B.H.
1.7 Heads Above Water: Gender, Class And Family In The Grand Forks Flood


As described by the publisher, "Heads above Water" tells the stories of women and their families who survived the Grand Forks, North Dakota, flood of 1997, one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history. This book describes the challenges women faced and explores the importance of class, race, gender, sexual orientation, and disability in their disaster recovery. The women found themselves face-to-face with social and familial upheaval, emotional and physical trauma, precarious economic and social status, and feelings of loss and violation. By exploring the experiences of these women, author Alice Fothergill contributes to broader sociological discussions about women's changing roles, the stigma of needing and receiving assistance, family relationships under stress, domestic violence, downward mobility, and the importance of "home" to one's identity and sense of self. "Heads above Water" offers poignant insight into women's everyday lives in an extraordinary time.

1.8 Women victims' view of urban and rural vulnerability


This chapter collates the views of poor women in rural and urban areas of Gujarat about ‘what they mean by vulnerability’. The information was collected through a method called ‘Participatory Evaluation Writing’ (PEW) designed for understanding vulnerability and women victims’ perceptions of it. The PEW method was followed in order to develop new tools for participatory evaluation and assessment placing poor people at the ‘centre’. The PEW process involved focus group meetings concentrating on issues and joint preparation of PEW manuals in local languages. Only a little detail is provided on the PEW method and the chapter concentrates on the findings from groups of rural and urban women. Rural women were often victims of droughts, floods, fire and health emergencies. Urban women also faced floods, fire, health emergencies, and riots. The chapter discusses the views of rural and urban women separately, summarising their collective views and relaying personal views and stories of individual women and groups. The chapter conclusion focuses on how women perceived themselves as 'locked' in vulnerability and the dynamics that lead to this situation. It highlights how vulnerability compels women into often hostile and exploitative work environments outside the home, and domestic clashes and violence in the home. The conclusion also points to the erosion of community and family support systems, particularly in urban areas. Most vulnerable groups were women headed households, often widows and deserted wives. The author argues the need for a wider range of methods to better understand community perceptions and dimensions of vulnerability, in order to gain a better understanding of the association between vulnerability, life cycles ad quality of life. Ultimately, improved understanding of communities about the vulnerability, combined with resources and institutions, is needed to reduce risk.

1.9 Gender differences in psychological distress, coping, social support and related variables following the 1995 Dinar (Turkey) earthquake


This study examined gender differences in psychological distress, coping strategies and social support subsequent to the 1995 Dinar (Turkey) earthquake. The study also aimed to examine variables related to distress levels for females and males. A sample of 315 adult survivors living in Dinar were administered a questionnaire focusing on socio-demographic variables, earthquake impact, psychological distress, coping strategies, perceived social support and life events since the earthquake, in February 1997, 16 months after the earthquake. The findings of the study revealed
that women reported greater distress as compared to men. There were gender differences in reported coping strategies. Problem solving/optimistic approach was the most frequently used coping strategy for men, whereas for women fatalistic approach was the most frequently employed coping strategy. Perceived social support did not differ for women and men. Both groups perceived highest support from the family and spouse. Women reported experiencing more negative life-events since the earthquake. The results of the regression analyses showed that for women, perceived threat during the earthquake, the use of helplessness coping and lack of belief in control over the future were positively related to distress levels. On the other hand, for men the number of negative life-events experienced since the earthquake and helplessness coping were related positively, whereas the use of problem solving/optimistic approach was related negatively with distress levels. The results are discussed within the cognitive theory of stress and coping and implications for disaster mental health programs are offered.

1.10 Double victims of Latur earthquake


An empirical study of 40 women who underwent recanalisation in private hospitals 6 months after the 1994 Latur quake. Analyzes health issues in particular with attention to the risks women face of being seen as "tubes and wombs" instead of whole people in the post-quake emphasis of medical professionals to restore women's fertility through recanalisation. Women’s reproductive health suffers when relief and rehabilitation is seen as the restoration of patriarchal order.

1.11 Reconstructing roles and relations: women's participation in reconstruction in post-Mitch Nicaragua


The paper questions the extent to which the much talked about change in gender roles and relations that may occur in situations of crisis and reconstruction actually occurred in Nicaragua post-Hurricane Mitch. The paper explores the extent to which relief and reconstruction initiatives post-Hurricane Mitch included women as well as men, and had a gender focus. The central theme of the paper is the implications within households of women’s involvement in reconstruction processes and projects, considering not only changing roles but also changing perceptions of value or worth that such involvement may bring. The notes that important differences exist between women in terms of how they experience change in post-disaster reconstruction, and that important differences exist between men and women in terms of how they understand these changes. The paper highlights that women’s inclusion in reconstruction projects may be as problematic as their exclusion.

1.12 Gender vulnerability to drought: a case study of the Hausa social environment


Available through the University of Colorado: [http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/publist.html#1](http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/publist.html#1)

This case study investigates the effects of different class and gender-based relationships on the relative drought vulnerability of Hausa households on the southern fringe of the Sahel. In particular, it describes the economic and social relationships that make certain people in that part of Africa (in particular, women) more likely to occupy the ecological and economic margins where drought and famine are commonplace. The customs and beliefs associated with gender roles among the Hausa range widely, and the degree of vulnerability of different households varies accordingly. This study concludes that environmental relations are in all respects social relations, and that gender constructions have environmental implications. It follows that an understanding of how these relationships are formed and how they change is essential to an understanding of the relationship
of a particular society to its environment.

1.13 Gender Based Violence in Sri Lanka in the Aftermath of the 2004 Tsunami Crisis: The Role of International Organisations and International NGOs in Prevention and Response to Gender Based Violence

Sarah Fisher, 2005. 74 pp. A dissertation submitted to the University of Leeds, Institute of Politics and International Studies, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in International Studies. For more information: sarahfisher100@yahoo.com

Edited version available through the GDN [search Latest Additions]: http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_latest_additions.htm

While women are commonly acknowledged to suffer increased vulnerability to the effects of natural disasters, their particular vulnerability to GBV in a natural disaster context is less recognised and remains a neglected area within both disaster management and international attention to GBV. The dissertation examines the role of international organisations and international NGOs can play in preventing and responding gender based violence (GBV) in natural disaster situations. The analysis is based on the 2004 tsunami crisis in Sri Lanka, where it was reported within 24 hours of the tsunami, the affected women were subjected to rape, physical and sexual abuse. Women’s increased vulnerability to GBV, and in particular domestic violence, remained somewhat hidden but persisted well beyond the initial emergency phase of disaster. The dissertation discusses the issues of gender, natural disaster and gender based violence, GBV programmes of International Organisations in the tsunami affected areas in Sri Lanka, factors affecting the response of international organisations in post tsunami Sri Lanka, and offers recommendations for humanitarian agencies and for the international community.

1.14 Women in Emergency Management: An Australian Perspective

Doone Robertson, 1998. 6 pp. Chapter 18 in Enarson and Morrow (eds.), The Gendered Terrain of Disaster. The author speaks from experience as one of very few women in emergency management positions in the nation. She identifies barriers constraining women’s full participation and describes an initiative to help bring women in the field together for support and advocacy. Uploaded by CRID: http://www.crid.or.cr/digitalizacion/pdf/eng/doc12899/doc12899.pdf

1.15 “We want work”: rural women in the Gujarat drought and earthquake


This report is based on a community survey conducted by an independent American sociologist in conjunction with the Disaster Mitigation Institute and the Self-Employed Women’s Organization following the 2001 Gujarat earthquake. It focuses on the interactive effects of the quake and the preceding years of severe drought on poor women’s livelihoods in rural Surendranagar. Women’s opportunities to earn income were found to be severely impacted while community services were disrupted increasing women’s community and family labor. Short term losses such as loss of waged agricultural jobs in the local area were reported as were more protracted impacts such as disruption of transport and markets essential to craft workers and the unemployment of women salt farmers due to the quake-induced conversion of salt water to fresh. The report primarily addresses impact and response issues at the village level with a concluding section about the need for community-based mitigation and preparedness. It will be of most interest to researchers with an interest in economic analysis but is also a useful discussion for community and government approaches to reduce risk. The author uses the case study to illustrate the need for working closely with grassroots women to anticipate and address the gender-specific effects of hazards and disasters on women’s family, community and waged labor.

Note: Also see “Promoting social justice in disaster reconstruction: guidelines for gender-sensitive
1.16 Women’s technological innovations and adaptations for disaster mitigation: a case study of charlands in Bangladesh


Based on focus group discussions with women, this paper documents the technological knowledge, skills, practices and constraints of women in the Charlands in Bangladesh. Charlands are pieces of land resulting from the accretion of silt in river channel. Although charlands provide land for settlement and cultivation, they are prone to acute flooding, erosion hazards, fierce storms and sand carpeting. The paper documents how technologies, possessed and practised by women, evolved through small innovations and adaptations from time immemorial, have been the key to communities’ wellbeing in high-risk zones of the charlands. The case study is used to illustrate that women do innovate and adapt techniques, skills, organisation, management and behaviour to minimise the effects of hazard-ridden circumstances, and that their knowledge and practices are not confined to a single technical area or sphere of knowledge. The paper is addressed to development policy makers and practitioners who are trying to find ways to manage disaster issues as part of mainstream development interventions. It endorses the understanding that a disaster should not be treated as a singular phenomenon, but instead seen to be linked to complex intersections of geophysical, social, technological and political systems. The key message is that planning has to be based on an understanding of women’s technological ability. Technology is ‘gendered’ and recognition of this will need to underpin development policy measures regarding technology development options for disaster-affected communities.

1.17 A we run tings: women rebuilding Montserrat


The paper analyzes the relevant role women played during the volcanic eruption in Montserrat during the different disaster phases. It clearly documents women’s participation in broadcasting information, preparedness, recovery and reconstruction. Through interviews of women who experienced the eruption, the authors give a description of how the women of Montserrat took charge of the situation when most men had decided to leave the island.

1.18 Hurricane Georges in the Dominican Republic: civil society and local participation


This paper presents an analysis of the impact of Hurricane Georges in the Dominican Republic and the response from civil society. It focuses on the post hurricane activities of community women’s groups and their participation in recovery and reconstruction in situations where national and local authorities were absent. This participation resulted in better health attention in shelters, where women’s experience with natural health remedies were useful, women’s access to building materials for reconstructing homes and a change in the status of women’s groups in the affected communities.

1.19 Environmental management and natural disasters mitigation: Middle Eastern gender perspective
This paper, entitled “Environmental management and natural disaster mitigation: A Middle Eastern gender perspective” was presented by Dr. Samia Galal Saad at the United Nations Expert Group meeting on environmental management and natural disaster mitigation in Ankara, Turkey in November 2001. The paper provides an overview of the gender issues confronting the Middle East, the types of natural and environmental disasters afflicting the region, the role of women as natural resource managers in the region, gender issues related to natural disaster preparedness, mitigation, and relief, and the roles of governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations.

1.20 Women and Disasters

All papers can accessed on-line: http://www.ijmed.org/1999.php

Note: An expanded version containing these and additional papers is forthcoming 2006 from ExLibris Publications, Brenda Phillips and B. H. Morrow editors.

Contents and abstracts:

Betty Hearn Morrow and Brenda D. Phillips, "What's Gender 'Got to Do With It'?" pp. 5-11.

Disaster researchers are accumulating clear evidence that, as a group, women are likely to respond, experience, and be affected by disasters in ways that are qualitatively different. At the same time it is important to recognize and document women's diversity. Clearly, not all women experience disasters uniformly. It is our privilege to work with a growing cadre of disaster researchers and responders who are dedicated to documenting the experiences of women—their proactions and contributions, as well as reactions and needs. To this end we are pleased to serve as editors for this special collection on women and disaster as viewed from a variety of disciplines, professions, and perspectives, both theoretical and practical. As the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction concludes, we offer the articles that follow as a new step into the next century. All of us associated with this special issue on women and disasters hope the collection will interest you and will have relevance to your work. May you find the arguments compelling and the commitment to a better understanding of the disaster-related vulnerabilities and capacities of women contagious. (Edited from the introduction)


Those who experience disaster are widely regarded as an undifferentiated group, labeled "victims." In the immediate crisis period, it is difficult for professionals to differentiate, except crudely, between varying levels of need and still carry out urgent duties and responsibilities. However, it soon becomes apparent that some are hit harder than others and that disasters are not the great levelers they are sometimes considered to be. Close examination reveals complex variations within, and not just between, social groups broadly understood as middle- and working-class. This paper examines the intersection of gender and social class in two major flood events and argues for a more

This paper examines housing as part of a larger project to illuminate "shadow risks and hidden damages" and to specify root causes reproducing women's disaster vulnerability in developed nations, among them the gendered division of labor, economic dependency, male violence, and housing insecurity. I begin with a theoretical grounding of disaster housing in gender relations and global development patterns and then focus on United States, drawing on Census data and qualitative field studies to address two key questions. First, what structural trends and patterns suggest women's housing insecurity in this context? Second, what emergency management issues emerge from empirical investigations of women's disaster housing experiences? I draw examples from two U.S. case studies to illustrate how housing in the disaster context is a highly gendered issue. The final section outlines women's housing needs and strategic interests and offers guidelines to practitioners. (Edited from the author's introduction)


The goal of this research was to model the relationship between stress and natural disasters, with a view to explaining levels of stress among women. Following flooding in Iowa in 1993, two in-depth questionnaire surveys were administered, one to residents in high flood exposure areas and another to the general population as a control. Results indicated that gender plays a significant role in interpreting stress responses to natural hazards, with women consistently exhibiting greater stress than men. However, it was evident that a complex web of factors influenced stress levels including marital status, structure of the family unit, age, socio-economic status, health, levels of social involvement, and degree of hazard experience. These findings suggest that more research should focus on determining structural constraints that exacerbate stress levels for women. (AA)


This paper presents an exploratory study of woman battering in the Grand Forks, North Dakota, flood of April 1997. Based on my qualitative research of women's experiences in this flood, I present two case studies of battered women to enhance understanding of what intimate partner violence means to women in the face of a natural disaster. The case studies illustrate how battered women make sense of their situations and how factors such as class and disability play a role in how women experience domestic violence. The case studies also show why services for battered women, such as emergency shelters and crisis counseling, are crucial during a disaster period. Even though we do not know if domestic violence rates increase in a disaster, we do have evidence that the demand for domestic violence services increases during disaster times. In light of this, I argue that there is a need to prepare for that situation. (AA)

The purpose of this exploratory research was to compare the income and approval rates of elderly single-female households and other types of households applying for disaster aid. Households from two parishes involved in the flooding in and around New Orleans, Louisiana, in May 1995 who applied for federal loans via the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Teleregistration Center were compared on demographics and outcomes. Data analysis showed that elderly single-female households were over-represented in the population applying to FEMA; two and one-half times as likely as other elderly households or non-elderly households to have incomes of $11,000 or lower; and three times less likely than other elderly households to receive a low-interest loan. This study indicates that the current federal low-interest loan program does not adequately address the needs of poor elderly women. Special initiatives are needed that target this population. (AA)


There is no doubt that women are in short supply as emergency managers at the local level. In many parts in our society women still do not hold positions of leadership, authority, or management. Emergency response agencies are no exception. Indeed, contemporary county offices of emergency management evolved from the traditional local offices of civil defense which were predominately occupied and operated by men. Thus there is a long history of emergency management being considered a male domain. Although the number of women involved in the process of local emergency management is increasing, there has been little research on women's and men's different experiences in this environment. This exploratory study examines women in local emergency management by looking at how gendered expectations, roles, and relationships might affect local offices of emergency management. (AA)

Feedback From The Field

Richard L. Krajeksi and Kristina J. Peterson, "'But She's a Woman and This is a Man's Job': Lessons for Participatory Research and Participatory Recovery," pp. 123-130.

1.21 Gender and Development Journal: special editions on four relevant themes

This Oxfam journal has published several special issues relevant to women, gender and disaster. The entire issue could be used as a reading for trainings or college courses as each offers an analytic introduction, short case studies (or excerpts) from around the world based on accounts from field workers or researchers with a gender focus, and an excellent resource section:


**Climate Change**, Gender and Development 10 (2), 2002.

1.22 The significance of the gender division of labor in assessing disaster impacts: a case study of Hurricane Mitch and hillside farmers in Honduras

To date, most disaster study and practice have not explicitly considered the different roles, needs, and experiences of women and men in response to disasters. Disaster research that does incorporate gender analysis often concludes that the needs, experiences, and contributions of men and women in disaster situations are distinct. In this paper, we present a case study analysis of the agricultural and domestic impacts of Hurricane Mitch among rural, hillside farmers in Honduras, disaggregated by gender. Our research incorporates empirical data from 68 households and reveals that men and women reported similar physical impacts, but that they evaluated these impacts differently depending on where the impact fell within the gender division of labor. Our main conclusion is that impact evaluation and disaster policy must include a consideration of disaster impacts as they are filtered through the actual and normative gender division of labor, in order to determine the degree of priority or severity assigned to impacts. (AA)

1.23 Gender and evacuation: a closer look at why women are more likely to evacuate for hurricanes


Studies of hurricane evacuation have often noted that women are more likely than men to evacuate, yet few examined those differences and tried to explain them. This paper undertakes a series of bivariate and multivariate analyses to examine the relationship between evacuation and gendered variations in socioeconomic status, care-giving roles in the household, evacuation incentives, exposure to risks, and perception of risk. A series of hypotheses are developed and tested in order to help explain why women are more likely than men to evacuate. The data used come from a cross-sectional survey of 1,050 coastal North Carolina households affected by Hurricane Bonnie, which made landfall near Wilmington, N. C., on August 25, 1998. Results from a series of bivariate and multivariate logistic regression analyses indicate that women are more likely to evacuate than men because of socially constructed gender differences in care-giving roles, access to evacuation incentives, exposure to risk, and perceived risk. We find, in part, that women are more likely to evacuate because, compared to men, they live at greater exposure to risk and have a heightened perception of risk. Yet, those men who are at greater risk and do perceive heightened risk are more likely to evacuate than women with comparable risk exposure and perception. Future studies of disaster response should distinguish clearly between the intention to evacuate and the capacity to do so. 107-117

1.24 The Gendered Context of Vulnerability: Coping / Adapting to Floods in Eastern India


This case study was written as part of the Adaptive Strategies project, funded by USAID through ISET (USA/Nepal) which looks at how communities cope/adapt to drought and floods by reshaping their livelihood strategies as actors rather than passive victims. The author begins by briefly describing the physical, economic and institutional context of disasters in India, outlining the largely top-down and gender-blind approach to disaster management by the state apparatus. Drawing on insights from qualitative research, both primary and secondary, the paper then looks at women’s lived experience of floods in Eastern Uttar Pradesh (U.P.), using the narrative form where appropriate to better understand the social context of disaster impacts. How do women, particularly the most vulnerable perceive ‘disasters’, how do they respond to them (cope) and to what extent do they adapt in terms of changing livelihood strategies (or otherwise)? The paper stands out for its sustained analysis of senior women, some widowed or deserted, who live alone or with daughters-in-law as they strive to reconstruct their lives. Rich narrative from these older women combined with careful analysis make the paper an especially valuable theoretically informed case study.

GOVERNMENTAL AND NONGOVERNMENTAL REPORTS

2.1 Gender and post-disaster reconstruction: the case of hurricane Mitch in Honduras and Nicaragua

This paper carried out a gender analysis of the pre-disaster, emergency, rehabilitation and reconstruction phases of Hurricane Mitch in Nicaragua and Honduras. The study reports finding changes in gender roles, men's and women's different priorities, perceptions and coping strategies, and the way governments, NGOs and relief agencies responded to the disaster. Some recommendations are suggested for the World Bank and government agencies to integrate gender in ongoing and future operations. Available through the GDN: http://online.northumbria.ac.uk/geography_research/gdn/resources/reviewdraft.doc

2.2 Voicing Silence: Experience of Women with Disasters in Orissa

Source: Published by OSDMA, Rajib Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India, Tel: +91 674 401769/401773/400369, Fax: +91 674 401871, Email: osdma@stpbh.soft.net, Website: http://www.osdma.org, Cost: Token donation of Indian Rs50.

This booklet is an attempt by the OSDMA to highlight women's situation in disasters and to promote their role in prevention and mitigation at community and state levels. It explores women's particular vulnerabilities to disasters at community and family level, as well as their marginalisation in political power and governance systems. Case studies discuss women's roles in floods and droughts, during and after disaster. These experiences are used to discuss and challenge conventional approaches to women's involvement in government programmes and the portrayal of women in disasters by the media. It explores the possibilities for change, providing specific examples of how mobilisation and organisation of women in disaster scenarios can bring positive results. The booklet ends by laying out a 'road ahead' identifying areas that warrant attention in order to mainstream women's participation in disaster management at different levels. It also identifies processes that can be called upon to provide policy and practical guidelines in achieving gender mainstreaming. The book has wide relevance to state and non-governmental agencies, researchers and others concerned with disaster mitigation, development gender mainstreaming.

2.3 Post-disaster rehabilitation and seed restoration in flood affected areas of Xai-Xai district, Mozambique


This research was sponsored by an FAO regional project called "Gender, Biodiversity and Local Knowledge Systems to Strengthen Agriculture and Rural Development in Southern Africa". The project is assisting many organisations to better understand how the local knowledge of men and women can promote the conservation of biodiversity and enhance food security. The project works with a diverse group of partners in each country including NGOs, government institutions, universities and training centres.

The report contributes a better understanding of the role of traditional seed systems in the food security of rural people in the Xai-Xai district, Mozambique, especially in light of the recent floods. The information gathered for this report may prove useful to many relief efforts currently underway in the region.

2.4 Gender framework for tsunami relief and rehabilitation: focus on Sri Lanka


The primary aim of this framework is to guide USAID staff and their implementing partners on gender aspects in post tsunami recovery. It is intended as a resource on gender for field missions.
and for reconstruction teams in planning and implementing programs in the tail end of the relief, in recovery and long term development. The document presents key gender concerns and priorities and provide recommendations that aim to produce positive, systemic and sustainable change. It discusses the pre- tsunami crosscutting gender-related issues in tsunami affected areas in Sri Lanka looking at the areas of: Conflict, ethnicity and religion; Economy and poverty; Education and Health. Based on observations and discussions held with affected women and men in and outside of camp situations in the tsunami aftermath in Sri Lanka, the document provides an in-depth account of key gender concerns in the emergency and transitional phase, which include shelter, water and sanitation, food nutrition and health, education, livelihoods, and security. The gender concerns arising in the tsunami aftermath is discussed against the pre- tsunami situation. The document proposes a framework for recovery in the immediate medium and long term, paying specific attention to the key areas of: Resettlement/relocation, Women’s property and land rights, Livelihood recovery, Environment, Governance and participation.

2.5 Mainstreaming gender in disaster management support project


The report covers outstanding challenges and opportunities; strategies for assessing tasks and methodologies; approaches to analysis of gender concerns in disasters in Indian contexts, parameters of gendered vulnerability analysis and capacity analysis, institutional capacities and strategies for gender mainstreaming, and recommended action. These include training and capacity building to mainstream gender throughout every aspect of the Indian government’s disaster management training; developing sector specific tools for gender and disaster management; using consultative process to develop curricula and training materials on mainstreaming gender in disaster management; establishing a documentation center, potentially as a part of the National Institute of Disaster Management; developing a comprehensive tool kit for gender mainstreaming in disaster management; offering technical assistance to establish procedures for the sex-disaggregation of relevant data for the Incident Comment System and the emergency operating centers; supporting applied research, monitoring and evaluation on gender and disaster management; offering technical assistance to mainstream gender into operational guidelines for disaster management; support recruitment, training, and retraining of a critical mass of women for on-site disaster response teams at all levels and in climate forecasting systems and earthquake-safety initiatives; encouraging establishment of gender focal points in key disaster management institutions, the on-site disaster response teams, and the emergency operations centers; and supporting institutionalization of ties between gender experts and disaster management institutions.

2.6 Gender and disaster management policy in Africa: review and recommendations for action

Joint project of ISDR Africa and UN Habitat, 2004. 39 pp. Illustrated. Joint project of ISDR Africa and UN Habitat. This comprehensive planning document is an exciting model for gendering disaster risk management at the regional level and includes an excellent empirical case study of women, gender and flooding in Kenya conducted by the author with the support of the Kenyan Red Cross and Soroptimists International. Available through ISDR Africa: http://www.unisdrafrica.org/Review%20Draft%204%20December%2019.pdf

2.7 Gender, households, community and disaster management: case studies from the Pacific Islands


The purpose of this study was to improve understanding of the relative status, roles and responsibilities of women and men in Pacific Island households and communities. The objective was to use this study to design more gender-inclusive strategies and programmes in disaster management at local, national, and regional levels. The methodologies employed in this document
include: 1) community consultations in four countries (Samoa, Solomon Islands, Fiji, and Kiribati) where the roles of men and women in household maintenance and production, and community management and 2) literature review of relevant literature on gender and development in the Pacific Islands, and gender and disaster management internationally. Discussions focused on disaster prevention and post-disaster cleanup as household and community responsibilities. In the findings, research shows that the division of labour between men and women varies quite markedly within and between Pacific Island countries. Housework is defined as ‘women’s work’ in all four countries, but in all countries men and boys so some “housework.” The most significant fact about gender roles revealed is that a line is drawn in all countries between “private versus public” or “informal versus formal” authorities. Adult men and women and elders, and youth of both sexes were well informed about what should be done when a disaster warning is received and that communications to households through radio was generally good. Recommendations for disaster managers and for gender mainstreaming disaster are included.

2.8 A study of gender aspects of communities living with drought and landslide in Sri Lanka

Sepali Kottegoda, 2001. 43 pp. Case Study Paper. Source: LODRR Project, ITDG-South Asia, 5 Lionel Edirisinghe Mawatha, Kirulapone, Colombo 5, Sri Lanka, Tel: +94 11 2829412, Fax: +94 11 2856188, E-mail: general@itdg.slt.lk.

This case study was undertaken for the Livelihood Options for Disaster Risk Reduction (LODRR) project coordinated by ITDG-South Asia (see full reference). The research was carried out by the Agrarian Research and Training Institute (ARTI), Colombo and the National Building Research Organisation (NBRO), Sri Lanka. The case study comprises a sample survey of households experiencing drought in two districts of Sri Lanka and landslide-affected communities within an urban council. The case study explores and documents gender differences on sensitivity to and anticipation of the onset of landslide or drought, impact of the disaster, response and recommendations.

2.9 Flood impact on women & girls in Prey Veng province, Cambodia


This study is a gender analysis of the impact of flooding on women and girls in Cambodia. The topics covered through case studies show differing male and female perceptions of the flood disaster, the time required to sustain livelihood, the impact of debt, security concerns, community emergency response, and family emergency decision making. Recommendations are directed at the CARE disaster preparedness project staff, gender in the Preparedness Action Planning process, and gender in community-based disaster preparedness initiatives. The needs identified to be addressed include: external relief response, rice shortage, access to boats, access to fishing equipment, access to firewood, access to temporary shelter, health, livestock health, information and communication, early warning, personal safety, relief distribution, community organized reconstruction activities, food shortages and nutrition, water supply, sanitation, and credit agencies.

2.10 The tsunami’s impact on women


This widely cited report provides empirical support for the observations made by many that the 2004 tsunami cost more women than men their lives due to the everyday living patterns of women and men and cultural constructions of gender. It is especially valuable for providing close profiles of the gender dimensions of this event in areas across the 4 main countries affected rather than offering only generalized analysis. The report will be useful to academics as well as practitioners and policymakers.

2.11 Redesigning reconstruction: women’s collectives at the centre of rehabilitation in Latur
An excellent overview of the response of SSP to the Gujarat earthquake based on experiences of women during the earlier quake in Latur, with discussion of how the community-based and women-focused strategy was developed, the association of SSP with government programs, case studies of women’s lives in two demonstration villages, analysis of the role of women as community facilitators in the SSP model and a first-person account, summary of activities of women at the grassroots level in reconstruction, and a concluding description of how SSP built on these disastrous events to mobilize women to help women. A wonderful case study of one women’s NGO in action.

2.12 Surviving domestic violence and disaster

Elaine Enarson, 1999. 3 pp. Condensed version of a larger paper [Violence against women in disasters: a study of domestic violence programs in the US and Canada. Violence Against Women 5 (7): 742-768]. The article was designed for community use and subsequently reprinted in the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence journal Voice (No. 2). Following hurricane Katrina, the NCADV posted the link to this on their website: http://www.ncadv.org/unsorted/TheImpactofDisasteronBatteredWomen_162.html

2.13 The women of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast: multiple disadvantages and key assets for recovery, part one: poverty, race, gender and class


Part One of a series focusing on gender, race and class dimensions of people’s vulnerability to hurricane Katrina. Comprehensive report utilizing census data to assess education levels, poverty levels, household structure, living conditions and other factors. Unusual for reports on Katrina, this study examines gender in racial and class contexts simultaneously with attention to specific local conditions such as the high number of historically Black colleges and universities in the area and hence the strong African American middle class. The authors suggest that the resources of middle class African American women and others will be important in the long-term recovery process. A number of strategic recommendations are made. Good resource for use in the classroom or for media communications.

2.14 The status of life in temporary shelters

Swayam Shikshan Prayog report, July 2005. 32 pp. An assessment of living conditions in temporary shelters for tsunami-affected persons in 11 villages in Tamil Nadu identifying health, sanitation, heat and other issues affecting women in particular in advance of the monsoon season. Users will find the assessment questionnaire used with women for participatory research into emergency shelter useful as well as the action steps recommended. Research conducted by the members of SSP. Available through SSP: http://www.disasterwatch.net/resources%20links/Life_in_Temporary_Shelters.pdf

2.15 Setting the stage for resettlement: Tuareg women’s groups


This case study report documents a World Vision program, Malian Refugee Program (MRP), and its attempts to mitigate various social and economic factors in a refugee crisis by creating opportunities for women’s growth and learning. MPR is an example of how a grassroots project targeting women had both a direct impact and a powerful indirect effect on the refugee efforts to build their
2.16 Understanding resettlement capacities and vulnerabilities of displaced male and female headed households: a case of three camps in Northern Uganda


The report documents findings and recommendations of a study conducted in the Northern Uganda complex emergency in 2001. The dual aims of the study were (i) to investigate, compare and contrast the resettlement capacities and vulnerabilities of conflict displaced male and female-headed households and (ii) to assess the perceived resettlement priorities of displaced male and female-headed households. The study reveals that compared to Male-Headed Households (MHH), Female-Headed Household (FHH) have limited asset ownership, limited sources of income, and limited access to required farm inputs. FHH have weak labour, and may not be able to open up sufficient cultivable land upon resettlement. In addition, they lack granary construction skills and their disadvantaged economic status does not allow many of them to have one built for them. Consequently, 20-40% of the FHH experience post-harvest handling losses. And in an effort to limit such losses, there is a high propensity among FHH to sell their produce during the immediate post harvest period. Thus unless given careful attention, the condition of FHH is likely to be worsened by the demands of the resettlement process. The study makes 15 resettlement-related risk reduction recommendations to the Government of Uganda, Donors and Humanitarian Organizations. Donors, researchers, resettlement policy makers, and resettlement programmers will find this report very useful.

2.17 Storm warnings


This briefing considers non-governmental organisations have responded to two recent large-scale hurricanes in Central America and the Caribbean by examining the activities of national NGOs that work in partnership with the UK based organisation – International Cooperation for Development (ICD). The briefing seeks to draw out lessons learned from the experience, learning from both positive and not so positive outcomes of post-disaster reconstruction processes. These lessons include the need for national civil society and more specifically national NGOs to critically review their own role in reconstruction and the wider implications of this role, and the need for international organisations to tackle the issue of land rights and access to land. In terms of gender, while the lessons learned are not necessarily anything ‘new’, the projects described in the report provide useful case study materials on gendered responses to disasters, such as the Women Builders’ Collective in Nicaragua and the Enlace de las Mujeres Negras in Honduras, and more general innovative project design such as the mental health project in Posoltega, Nicaragua.

2.18 Women’s human rights concerns in tsunami affected countries

Ocean tsunami undertook to identify the most pressing problems facing women as they report them, and issue specific recommendations to UN agencies and humanitarian agencies actively in tsunami relief. The report is distinctive for rich case material reported and discussed separately by community, and for analysis of the situation of migrant women’s concerns. Available on-line: http://www.panap.net/highlightsA.cfm?id=46&hiliteid=HILITE46

2.19 La situación de la mujer en El Salvador


An initiative of the El Salvadorian women’s group, Las Dignas, in coordination with other actors in the women’s movements, this study undertaken by researchers within the University Centroamericana "José Simeón Cañas" of El Salvador provides reliable information on the perceptions and opinions of Salvadorian women as well as basic information about incomes etc. The study included questions around such important themes as gender based violence, women’s rights and the attitudes of women to socially prescribed gender stereotypical roles and relations. It also collected information about environmental initiatives and initiatives aimed at reducing vulnerability. It provides as example of what can be done and the type of study that should be undertaken in every country in order to ensure base line data exists about the situation of women and women’s relative status from which to gauge change over time and change produced through events such as ‘natural’ disasters.

Summary findings of the study in Spanish (focusing on women’s rights, violence, machismo, labour market, citizen participation and communication) are available online.

2.20 Gender issues in livelihood options for disaster risk reduction

Priti B Krishnaswamy (Disaster Mitigation Institute, Ahmedabad), Santosh Kumar (Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration) and Mona Dave (Kutch Craft Association), 2001. Unpublished Document. 36pp. Available from: ITDG-South Asia, 5 Lionel Edirisinghe Mawatha, Kirulapone, Colombo 5, Sri Lanka, Tel: +94 11 2829412, Fax: +94 11 2856188, E-mail: general@itdg.slt.lk.

This paper is based on case studies conducted under one of five research themes of the Duryog Nivaran network, ‘Understanding Vulnerability and Building Capacity’. (See the Duryog Nivaran reference). Under this research theme, case studies on gender consideration in risk management were conducted in order to bring first hand experiences of practitioners and researchers across the South Asia region to policy makers. Case studies were conducted in drought-affected districts of Rajasthan, and flooded districts in Orissa. The paper explores the gender issues in livelihood options for disaster risk reduction drawn from these case studies. It discusses conceptual frameworks useful for gender analysis, and provides an overview of gender relations, gendered impact of disasters, and the role of external intervention. The paper concludes with recommendations for fostering more equitable gender relations in disaster mitigation. The gender analysis of the two case studies showed that women face specific disadvantages that are a consequence of their gender, yet disaster mitigation is usually based on ideological notions of women’s roles in society and households rather than reality. This is seen in the emphasis on women’s reproductive roles, whereby their productive activities are often overlooked. The paper also highlights the need to assess the extent to which disaster mitigation address women’s ‘strategic gender needs’ as well as their more immediate ‘practical needs’. Recommendations conclude with the expressed need to look at disaster mitigation programmes as opportunities for introducing policies that are ‘gender-transformative’.

2.21 UNFPA response to Indian Ocean tsunami

The document is an update at six months after tsunami and provides country overviews and covers women and children’s needs. The issues covered include maternal health, ensuring safety and security of women and girls, and preventing gender based violence, safeguarding hygiene and dignity of women, participation of women in aid distribution. The document highlights some of the key challenges in terms of weak capacities, gaps in coordination, start up challenges, security situation, and the neglect of the health and gender issues in the initial emergency phase.

### 2.22 Sharing information for tsunami recovery in South Asia


The chapter discusses the issues related to the need based aid and recovery, and the key role information sharing can play in ensuring the same. The influx of goods, money and NGO led agencies compete for space, and conceal rather than sharing information. Unprecedented media coverage provoked a rush to respond to the tsunami disaster, and many agencies overlooked the longer term risks of inappropriate rehabilitation. In Tamil Nadu, India, information gathering on the fishery sector was biased towards men, who undervalued women’s economic contribution to fishing. Omitting women’s needs had serious implications, particularly for widows who risked sinking into debt. In Sri Lanka, more women died than men. For most women learning swimming was culturally taboo. They spent critical minutes gathering their children before fleeing, and their traditional clothes made running or swimming near impossible. Immediate relief operations were largely ‘gender blind’, according to women’s groups. Only a few organisations provided women’s sanitary needs, underwear or appropriate clothing. Pregnant and lactating mothers were insufficiently cared for. Women’s groups in Sri Lanka promoted the rights of affected women to participate in decision making. The chapter also highlights the media reporting which focused women on victim stories.

### LITERATURE REVIEWS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES

#### 3.1 The neglect of gender in disaster work: an overview of the literature

Alice Fothergill, 1998, pp. 11-25 in Enarson, Elaine and Betty Hearn Morrow (eds.) The Gendered Terrain of Disaster: Through Women's Eyes. Expanded version of "Gender, Risk, and Disaster," originally published in *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters* 14 (1), 1996. Focusing on gender differences, this article synthesizes the literature on gender, risk, and disasters and presents a comprehensive view of what is known in this area. Data are limited, yet by using a nine-stage typology to delineate disaster preparedness, impact, and recovery, noteworthy findings are documented and discussed. The literature reveals a pattern of gender differentiation throughout the disaster process. The differences are largely attributed to childcare responsibilities, poverty, social networks, traditional roles, discrimination, and other issues of gender stratification. The emergent patterns have important implications, and recommendations for future directions are offered. The *neglect of gender in disaster work* was uploaded by CRID: [http://www.crid.or.cr/digitalizacion/pdf/eng/doc12883/doc12883.htm](http://www.crid.or.cr/digitalizacion/pdf/eng/doc12883/doc12883.htm)

#### 3.2 International perspectives on gender and disaster: differences and possibilities

Enarson, Elaine and Lourdes Meyreles. 2004. *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy* 14 (10 ): 49-92. The article provides an introduction and assessment of the English and Spanish literatures on gender relations in disaster contexts. We analyze regional patterns of differences and similarities in women's disaster experiences and the differing research questions raised by these patterns in the scholarly and practice-based literature. The analysis supports the claim that how gender is theorized makes a difference in public policy and practical approaches to disaster risk management. We propose new directions in the field of disaster social science and contribute a current bibliography in the emerging gender and disaster field.

#### 3.3 Women and Children in Disasters
3.4 Selected Resources on Gender and Disaster

Prepared by E. Enarson for the Gender and Disaster Network, revised annually and uploaded on the GDN website. The document included here in its entirety was last updated July 2005. Please consider submitting additional materials.

SELECTED RESOURCES ON GENDER AND DISASTER

Note: This bibliography was compiled by Elaine Enarson [eenarson@earthlink.net or enarsone@brandonyu.ca] with preference to accessible English-language publications that directly address gender relations in the construction of disaster risk and the social experience of disaster events. Submissions are warmly welcomed as the bibliography is updated annually for the Gender and Disaster Network.

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Note: For more Spanish resources visit the Central American information resource center CRID regularly. There are currently 52 documents cited under the search term Gender, only some of which are included here: http://www.crid.or.cr/crid/esp/busqueda_documentos_electronicos.html

French Readings [selected—please submit]


Fact Sheets and Newsletters


Gender and natural disasters (Spanish/English), developed by PAHO (http://www.paho.org)

Engendering Disaster Preparedness and Management, Asian Disaster Management News 3 (3), November, 1997

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Violence Against Women in Disasters Fact sheet (compiled by E. Enarson) available through the
Gender and Disaster Network:
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Audiovisuals


Our Life Our film. 45 min. Directed by women from Kutch and Saurashtra, working with the women’s NGO Swayam Shikshan Prayog, about the struggle to rebuild safer following the 2001 earthquake. 45 minutes. Available through SSP: http://www.sspindia.org.


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Voices of Change. 23 min. Produced by Catholic Relief Services - India Program. 2005. English. For more information, contact Snigdha Chakraborty, National Coordinator (Program Quality), Catholic Relief Services, India Program: (+91-11-2648-7256. cell: 9350990829); email: schakraborty@crsindia.org.

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Networks and Initiatives

Disaster Watch, an initiative of the Huariou Commission to support the growth & development of women - centered community based, post disaster response. Co-ordinated by Swayam Shikshan Prayog, India. For updates, resources, advocacy and action: http://www.disasterwatch.net.

Gender and Disaster Network, an international network of academics, practitioners and policy makers in support of gender equality in disaster risk reduction. On-line publications and reports, member information, and listserv: http://online.northumbria.ac.uk/geography_research/

Related Topics [new section for users who forward materials on closely related themes]


**Note:** The salience of gender in the South Asian tsunami elicited a number of relevant publications. These will be included when the Gender & Disaster Sourcebook is uploaded to the GDN (12/05).
When do hazardous and unjust living conditions produce natural, technological and human-induced disasters and catastrophes? How do efforts to increase social justice and environmental sustainability reduce the risk of disasters? How do the everyday living conditions of girls and women around the world expose them to hazards and disasters?

These are clearly interlocking concerns. Accounts from survivors of disastrous events and the wide-ranging work of activists, practitioner and academics in and out of government in low-income nations and risk-prone places clearly indicate the need for fewer, not more, markers between highly integrated areas of concern.

Because the Sourcebook aims to promote connections rather than divisions between discourses of practice, we conclude with a sampling of resources on some of these themes. With special input from our African team, we offer a resource page weighted toward African resources and concerns.

Please consider submitting related materials for this section, for example on indigenous people’s movements to protect land and culture, the practical and political needs of people living with disabilities, and initiatives and resources specific to particular environmental contexts, nations, or regions.

**SAMPLE DOCUMENTS FROM THE SOURCEBOOK**

**RELATED RESOURCES**

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION**

1.1 Gender and climate change: a forgotten issue?

Ulrike Röhr, 2005. The author clearly outlines the parameters of the case for a gender approach and provides links to other resources and webpages. The article is available through Tiempo Climate Newswatch: [http://www.tiempocyberclimate.org/newswatch/comment050711.htm](http://www.tiempocyberclimate.org/newswatch/comment050711.htm)

**Key words:** policy, gender analysis, energy, vulnerability, cross hazard

1.2 Women, men and environmental change: the gender dimensions of environmental policies and programmes


**Key words:** gender analysis, cross hazard, resource management, policy

1.3 Gender and climate hazards in Bangladesh

Terry Cannon, 2002. Gender and Development 10 (2): 45-50. This special issue of the journal includes other articles of note on gender and climate change though this focuses most directly on the link to hazards and disasters.
1.4 Mainstreaming Gender in water Management: A Practical Journey to Sustainability – a Resource Guide


The guide is a reference document to assist in mainstreaming gender within the context of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). It builds on existing initiatives by summarizing the available tools and materials on gender mainstreaming in IWRM. It focuses on the improvement of sustainability and effectiveness of water-related activities through the incorporation of gender equality perspectives throughout the project cycle. It also aims to improve the approaches to planning, implementation, management and monitoring of IWRM and the understanding and awareness of gender concepts through an easy reference to existing materials and tools. The guide has been developed in response to an identified need. While a lot of information exists on gender mainstreaming in IWRM, this information is dispersed in different institutions and organizations, making it difficult to know where to get specific information. The guide supports the efforts of those trying to mainstream gender in their projects and those seeking to improve their knowledge and skills in gender and IWRM. An initial draft guide was produced in 2000 and wide consultation took place within several different regions. The consultative process then led to the revision of the initial document and a technical team also volunteered in reviewing the final document. The primary target groups for the resource guide are programme managers, gender specialists and researchers within the field of IWRM.

Key words: gender-sensitive approaches in water and sanitation programmes, poverty alleviation, livelihoods, environmental protection, gender equality

CONFLICT AND DISPLACEMENT

2.1 Rising Up In Response: Women’s Rights Activism in Conflict

Jane Barry for Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights, July 2004. 111 pp. The UAF encourages collaborative projects supporting women in crisis through rapid response grant-making. This study was conducted in 2003 to identify strategies for supporting the interventions of women’s rights activists and advocacy organizations. Over 82 women’s rights activists were interviewed in the Balkans, Sierra Leon and Sri Lanka. Recommendations for capacity building are included based on rich case material. Available in Serbian-Croatian and Albanian as well as English through UAF: http://www.urgentactionfund.org/

Key words: conflict, grassroots, women’s groups, human rights, capacity building

2.2 A Gender Perspective for Conflict Management


This paper looks at the strategies that aim to increase the participation of women in the decision-making processes during peacekeeping missions and reconstruction. It also looks at attempts to integrate women in processes like conflict management, preventive diplomacy and peace-building as shown in case studies by the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD). It also covers developments on the Conflict Management Front, Conflict Management and Women, Conflict Management Activities and the Role of Women, Preventative Diplomacy,
2.3 Gender Approaches in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations

27 pp. 2003. UNDP manual developed as a follow-up to the 2001 Rome seminar on Gender approach in emergency, conflict, and post-conflict situations. The manual is intended to build the capacity of UNDP staff to mainstream gender equality in all aspects of crisis and post-conflict situations. Available through the UNDP: http://www.undp.org/gender/docs/gendermanualfinalBCPR.pdf

Key words: GO, complex emergency, training, conflict, practice guide

PANDEMICS

3.1 Suffering in Silence: The Links between Human Rights Abuses and HIV Transmission to Girls in Zambia


The report is based on the impact that HIV/AIDS have in Africa, particularly on girls and women more than that of boys and men. This is linked mainly to the abuse of the human rights of girls along the lines of sexual violence and abuse. It also focuses on the high rate of orphaned girls in the country of Zambia and their “suffering in silence” as the government fails to provide basic protections from sexual assault and thus vulnerability to HIV/AIDS. The abuse of young girls is further exacerbated by the myth that sex with virgins will cure HIV/aids. The subordinate legal status of women and girls makes it difficult to negotiate safer sex, protection against aids and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). The primary focus of the report falls on state response, the lack thereof, and the failure of the criminal justice system to deal appropriately with cases of sexual abuse. In Zambia itself, governments, schools and communities will have to enhance programs to keep girls in school and in a safe environment. The report concludes that international and national policy makers will have to impact on a political level to break the cycle of abuse and transmission and emphasis the protection of human rights of young girls and women. The report will be of particular interest to policy maker, international and national donors, researchers and human right activist aiming to improve human rights.

Key words: HIV/AIDS, human rights, sexual abuse and violence, women and girls HIV/AIDS transmission

3.2 Thirty Million African Youths to Join Forces to Combat HIV/AIDS


The article is based on the coalition formed by a network of 30 million African youths, who are members of the world’s seven largest youth organizations. It focuses on the joint forces aiming to counter the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Senior leaders are affiliates of seven organizations from Ghana, Zambia, Kenya and Uganda. The coalition will plan ways to best implement and scale-up existing
best practice programs in the six strategic areas. These include empowering African young people
to adopt responsible sexual behaviour, spreading accurate information about HIV/AIDS, raising
HIV/AIDS awareness and generating behaviour changes through religious and community partners,
engaging African youth in advocacy efforts against discrimination, encouraging volunteer services
and caring for those living with HIV/AIDS. The alliance will provide a coordinated response to crises
and allow for the sustained and positive impact on African lives at risk. The coalition will in future
develop specific strategies and programs to address and coordinate action plans with their regional
and global offices. The goal is to mobilize and organise a capacity to rapidly deliver and expand a
holistic response to the HIV/AIDS affected young people. The article will be of most interest to
groups, donors and youth leaders aiming to combat HIV/AIDS in African Countries.

Key words: African youth, coalition, sustained impact, development strategies, HIV/AIDS
programmes, youth organizations

WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

4.1 Human Rights, Formalization and Women’s Land Rights In Southern And Eastern Africa

Available through Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD):
http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what_we_do/issues/livelihoods/landrights/downloads/
womens_land_rights_in_southern_and_eastern_africa.pdf (Accessed 09/05).

The report is based on land reform initiatives from a gendered human rights perspective. The
human rights-based approach (HRBA) has a direct bearing on international and national land reform
policies, facilitating gender equality through elimination of discrimination against women. It focuses
on making a contribution to the operationalisation of the HRBA. The human rights based approach
to development was initiated by the UN and is gradually adopted by international and national donor
agencies. The overall challenge addressed in the report is to bring the HRBA framework from the
plane of abstract principles and turn it into a practical response to poor women’s concerns. In
southern and eastern Africa, contemporary formalization initiatives, understood as increased state
engagement through legal regulation and registration of land rights, build on and seek to reform the
legacy from the colonial period. To operationalise the HRBA women’s human rights, land reform and
formalization of land rights in Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Kenya. The
country studies look into the role of both economic and legal mechanisms at the international level,
such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and human rights reporting systems. It will be
of interest to policy makers on national, governmental and international level.

Key words: women’s land rights, human rights, formalization, gender equality, non-discrimination

4.2 The Magic ingredient? Microfinance & Women’s Empowerment

Research Centre, Improving Women’s Access to Credit: http://www.gdrc.org/icm/wind/magic.html
(Accessed 09/05).

The report is based on the promotion of microfinance programmes as key strategies toward
addressing poverty alleviation and women’s empowerment. It focuses on the improvement of
women’s income levels, providing better access to networks and markets (information and
development opportunities), enhancing women’s contribution to their household income and family
welfare and the improvement of their role in the general household and community. However, in the
evaluation of various micro-finance programmes, with blended negative consequences for women
have emerged and require for further study e.g. within women’s enterprises small increases in
income is established at the cost of heavier work loads and repayment pressures. The report
primarily focuses on the establishment of a more comprehensive framework for participatory
planning to ensure the positive benefit of women’s enterprises. The report will be of most interest to
legislators, policy makers, national and governmental officials and microfinance researchers hoping
to improve the provision of microfinance on a local level to women entrepreneurs.

**Key words:** Microfinance programmes, women’s enterprises, participatory planning, women’s empowerment

### 4.3 Changing Times Changing Attitudes: Alternative portrayals of men and women


The report is based on the concerns surrounding illiteracy amongst women in Africa undermining development efforts. To remedy the situation the media and especially radio is seen as an important link to alleviate the problems that could limit the success or realization of sustainable development. It focuses on the programmes that can be utilized to target women and adolescent girls in addition to the general public. UNESCO-DANDIDA has organized various workshops with the aim of training and production of radio programmes and reading materials to the public and women in particular. Gender issues are introduced and guidelines provided on how to apply them in the media. The aim of the guidelines is to cater for the wide range of needs and conditions of African women. Broadcasted programmes have thus become the local resource for the production of gender-sensitive and educational information to African women. The report includes various case studies and programmes implemented on a local level and the general recommendations that came from the study. The report will be of most interest to broadcasting organizations and literacy workers seeking the help of the media as a literacy tool.

**Key words:** media, radio programmes, educational tool, literacy, gender-sensitive radio programmes

### 4.4 Our Thoughts in Our Voices


The report is based on the Intergenerational Dialogue organized in Nairobi (Kenya) in 1995, to initiate a process of rapprochement between girls and older people. It focuses on the providing secondary school girls with a platform to exchange their views with representatives of the previous generations on a range of issues concerning academic performance and persistence in school. Adult participation included that of teachers, parents, researchers, guidance counselors and NGO’s. The report contains extracts from the Intergenerational Dialogue held in Kenya and represents the voices of young girls and boys on issues such as school-girl pregnancy, sexual harassment, rape, lack of communication between parents and children, gender bias at home, community and the classroom, poor quality teaching, male-female attitudes towards formal education, sex education, guidance and counseling. The report will be of most interest to educational policy makers and practitioners concerned with the needs of young girls.

**Key words:** gender bias, education, sex education, communication

### 4.5 Promoting Basic Education For Women And Girls: A Survey Of Structures, Programmes And Activities In Africa


The report provides a summary of a survey of structures, programmes and activities concerning basic education for women and girls. It is based on the findings of a self-report questionnaire study
that was completed by 23 of the 47 African member states. The study included questions on policy framework, structures for promoting the education of girls and women, special programmes and projects, the educational situation of girls and women over the years, women in teaching and in educational administration, the role of NGO’s, problems and innovative solutions, and funding in the respective countries. This survey will be of interest to policy makers, government departments, humanitarian agencies and donors.

**Key words:** basic education for women and girls, programmes and projects, women in teaching and educational administration
INTRODUCTION TO THE SAMPLER

SELECTED LINKS

ACADEMIC LINKS · PRACTICE LINKS · WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS · GOVERNMENTAL LINKS

In this section, users will find hyperlinks and other contact information for a wide array of international groups and organizations active in the area of gender, development and disaster, humanitarian relief, research and information exchange, and the mobilization of women.

Periodic visits to these sites are recommended for updates and new information on gender, development and disaster. Naturally this is not a complete list but a selection of sites that contributors have found useful. We provided information about these organizations and sites in some but not all instances and welcome your contributions to develop this section of the Sourcebook across regions and sectors.

By sending us information about your organization or those whose work in this area you admire and recommend, you will help make the Sourcebook a portal to related work that supports gender-fair disaster management.

SAMPLE DOCUMENTS FROM THE SOURCEBOOK

SELECTED LINKS

ACADEMIC LINKS

1.1 BRIDGE

Supports gender mainstreaming efforts of policymakers and practitioners by bridging the gaps between theory, policy and practice with accessible and diverse gender information. This is undertaken through accessible and appropriate knowledge creation, sharing, and management, in long-term collaboration involving mutual capacity-building with Southern and Northern partners. BRIDGE produces the bulletin Gender and Development In Brief and hosts an on-line database Siyanda of gender and development materials (http://www.siyanda.org). See the Gender, Conflicts and Emergencies page: http://www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/reports_gend_con_em.htm

1.2 Gender and Disaster Network

An educational project initiated by women and men interested in gender relations in disaster contexts. Since its origins in the 1997 Natural Hazards Center workshop at the University of Colorado, the GDN has expanded to include over 300 international members, including institutions, NGOs and individuals from around the world. Website: http://www.gdnonline.org

1.3 ID21 Development Research

Reporting service offering a selection of the latest and best UK-based development research. This online service offers hundreds of summaries of problem-solving work on critical development dilemmas around the world. This Information for Development in the 21st Century is drawn from over 40 top UK research centres; conference papers, unpublished reports; research by aid and development agencies and pressure groups; research consultants. Website: http://www.id21.org/

1.4 Middle East Technical University Department Of Gender & Women's Studies

IIBF B, I-102, Inonu Boulevard, 06531 Ankara, Turkey. Phone/ Fax: 90 0312 210 30 19. E-mail: gws@metu.edu.tr; Web Site: http://www.gws.metu.edu.tr/
1.5 Radix [radical interpretations of disaster]

Offers alternative, progressive perspectives on the disaster risk reduction and particular disaster events including a dedicated gender section. Radix also maintains an active listserv with policy and practice debate and resource sharing. Website: http://online.northumbria.ac.uk/geography_research/radix/culturalandsocial.htm

1.6 Women, Ink

A project of the International Women’s Tribune Centre to market and distribute books on women and development world-wide. It is the exclusive distributor of publications from UNIFEM. Website: http://www.womenink.org/

PRACTICE LINKS [selected]

2.2 Aid Workers Exchange

See discussions on Incorporation of Gender in Emergency Assistance in the Aid Workers Forum listserv. Website: http://www.aidworkers.net/exchange.

2.3 Duryog Nivaran

Duryog Nivaran is a South Asia network of organizations and individuals concerned with development and disaster mitigation. The network was established in 1995 to fill a void in cross border dialogue and to promote experience sharing among organizations, governmental or otherwise, working in the world’s most disaster-prone region. Duryog Nivaran promotes an ‘alternative perspective’ towards disasters - be they natural or man-made. This perspective points out that people affected by disasters are more than mere victims, but are partners in their future development and well-being. The network’s activities are information sharing, building a concerned media, research and grassroots community action. Duryog Nivaran emphasizes much on the media and its importance in fighting the stereotypical view that disaster-prone communities are helpless victims who cannot change their circumstances. The network possesses some of the best examples of community-involved disaster management practices in the South Asian region, including documenting and advocating on gender dimensions in disasters and development. The Duryog Nivaran website provides online access to publications, including project experiences, case studies and features emerging from the Livelihood Options for Disaster Risk Reduction project (LODRR) which highlight gender issues in disasters, news about events and useful links. Launched in 2004, the website can be used as a platform for improved interaction across the region on gender issues in disasters through its bulletin board and through facilitated web discussions. Website: http://www.duryognivaran.org

2.4 Humanitarian Practice Network

Resource for relief workers with “gray reports,” on-line dialogue and policy discussions. Website: http://www.odihpn.org/index.asp

2.5 InterAction [Commission on the Advancement of Women]

US-based coalition of international groups active in humanitarian relief with a strong gender orientation and gender-sensitive practice resources. Website: http://www.interaction.org/caw
3.1 Gender and Water Alliance

International initiative to mainstream gender concerns in water management. Considerable common ground with disaster risk reduction to be developed. As described on the Website: “Everybody, men, women and children must help manage and share water fairly. Conflicts over "troubled water" - sometimes too much, too little or too polluted - must be avoided. They harm people, food production, nature and the environment. Research and practical experience from the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA) have demonstrated that effective, efficient and equitable water resources management is only achieved when both women and men are involved in integrated water resource management.” On-line dialogue, disaster event analysis, policy papers, networking and other resources. Website: http://www.genderandwater.org.

3.2 Disaster Watch

Disaster Watch is a web forum designed to support the growth and development of women-centered community-based, post-disaster initiatives. It is a joint effort of the Huairou Commission, GROOTS International and Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP). Website: http://www.disasterwatch.net/.

3.3 genanet: focal point on gender, environment and sustainability

Organizers write that they “consider gender justice an indispensible prerequisite for sustainable development. genanet has been created to raise awareness of gender equity in environment and sustainability policy and to integrate it into research, to implement gender mainstreaming in environmental policymaking and into the activities of environmental organisations. genanet will prepare position statements on recent environment and sustainability issues, discuss strategies to implement gender mainstreaming, and will put structures in place to allow effective lobbying of environment policy decisions from a gender perspective.” One working group focuses directly on gender and climate change working primarily at the international governmental policy level. New toolkits and other resources for challenging gender bias in the climate change discourse area available through the Website: http://www.genanet.de/klimaschutz.html?&L=1

3.4 Foundation For The Support Of Women’s Work

NGO working with women at the community level that became especially involved in disaster recovery led by grassroots women following the Marmara earthquake. Address: Galipdede Cad. 149/4 Kuledibi 80030 Istanbul-TURKEY. Tel: (90-212) 292 26 72. Fax: (90-212) 249 15 08. E-mail: kedv@kedv.org.tr. Website: http://www.kedv.org.tr

3.5 Huairou Commission

NGO created for the partners and friends of grassroots women around the world. “Our mission is to forge strategic partnerships to advance the capacity of grassroots women to create and strengthen sustainable communities all over the world.” 249 Manhattan Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Tele: 718-388-8915. Fax: 718-388-0285. Cell: 1917-532-7055. Website: http://www.huairou.org. See the women and disaster section of the Huairou Website: http://www.huairou.org/knowledge/resource.html#disaster

3.6 Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights

This international nongovernmental women’s fund responds on short notice to women in crisis whose human rights are in jeopardy. UAF collaborates with women activists in three primary contexts: peace building in situations of armed conflict, escalating violence, or politically volatile environments; potentially precedent-setting legal and legislative actions; and protection of women
human rights defenders. Website: http://www.urgentactionfund.org/

3.7 Women’s Environment and Development Organisation

“WEDO is committed to empowering women. WEDO has a global information and advocacy network of more than 18,000. Women must have an equal say in decision-making on environment, development, population, reproductive rights, technology, political participation and other issues affecting their lives, their families and the future of the planet, and healthy communities make a healthy planet. In focusing on women’s roles, needs, and capacities in movements to restore the environment to sustainable health.” Website: http://www.wedo.org/

3.8 WIDE: Globalising gender equality and global justice

European network of development NGOs, gender specialists and human rights activists. Website http://www.eurosur.org/wide/home.htm

3.9 Women’s International Studies Europe

WISE advocates for the promotion of women’s studies research, teaching and publication in Europe, and the defence of women’s studies on a European and international level in all appropriate institutions and organisations. Belgium-based. Website: http://www.uia.ac.be/women/wise/

3.10 Women For Women’s Human Rights

NGO aiming to develop knowledge resources about women’s human rights in Turkey and transfer this knowledge to the women in Turkey. Active following recent earthquakes. Address: Plaj Yolu Sok. No: 12/9 Suadiye Istanbul-Turkey. Phone: (90 216) 357 21 42. Fax: (90 216) 385 12 62. To contact by e-mail: whrist@superonline.com

3.11 Women’s Edge Coalition

Over 40 organizations collaborate on focused, practical advocacy to monitor U.S. international trade and assistance programs and promote economic opportunities and self-sufficiency for women and their families worldwide. Contact: http://www.womensedge.org/index.jsp

GOVERNMENTAL LINKS [selected]

4.1 Regional Disaster Information Center [CRID]

CRID (Spanish acronym) is an initiative sponsored by six organizations that decided to join efforts to ensure the compilation and dissemination of disaster-related information in Latin America and the Caribbean. Data base can be searched in English and Spanish using search term Gender: http://www.crid.or.cr/crid/ing/bases_datos_desastres_ing.html. Documents may be downloaded or courtesy copies requested.

4.2 Gender Dimensions in Natural Resource Management

An initiative of the Food and Agricultural Organization relating to women’s management and use of natural resources and hence to disaster vulnerability and resilience. Website: http://www.fao.org/sd/nrm/nrm.htm
4.3 InFocus Programme on Crisis Response and Reconstruction

An initiative of the International Labour Organisation focusing on employment-intensive disaster risk mitigation, response and recovery. Strong gender focus in InFocus projects relating to fiscal crisis, armed conflict, severe social strain such as that caused by pandemics, and natural disasters. 
Website: http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/recon/crisis/about/object.htm

4.4 International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

UN coordinating body with platforms of study and action across all regions and sectors. Strong gender focus. For example, visit the dedicated gender page on the ISDR Website: http://www.unisdr.org/eng/risk-reduction/gender/rd-gender-eng.htm.

4.5 Women Watch

Information and Resources on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women. Website developed by the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality as a central gateway to information and resources on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout the United Nations system. Created in March 1997 to provide Internet space for global gender equality issues and to support implementation of the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action: http://www.un.org/womenwatch/. For moderated on-line discussions on relevant topics: http://www.un.org/womenwatch/forums/review/. Extensive archived material available electronically.

4.6 International Institute for Disaster Risk Management

1703 Cityland Herrera Tower, Corner Valero-Rufino Streets
Salcedo Village, Makati City 1200, Philippines
Tel. +632-8131668 / Fax +632-8170894

Email for general queries: info@idrmhome.org
Email for projects and partnerships: deo@idrmhome.org

Website: http://www.idrmhome.org/

The International Institute for Disaster Risk Management (IDRM) philosophy is to promote international standards and world best practices in risk management through continued mutual sharing towards professional excellence in developing countries. IDRM works on principles of continuous learning, organizational and individual professional development. IDRM specialists and partners are committed to appropriate, user-friendly, innovative and cost-effective solutions for the promotion of community safety, self-reliance and sustainability.

Established in 1998 at the request of the Philippine Government, IDRM International is a uniquely self-reliant, not-for-profit organization. IDRM effectively transfers knowledge and expertise to its development partners by working with people to help build their capacities and confidence in implementing sustainable Risk Management programs and projects in their communities. IDRM conducts training and work in the South and Southeast Asia regions, including work with gender and disasters in Afghanistan. With partners in Australia, IDRM offers a series of disaster risk management certificates and training programs.

4.7 European Commission

Visit the Gender Equality site for relevant resources on women’s empowerment, vulnerability, and gender mainstreaming. Website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/equ_opp/index_en.htm
The Sourcebook is intended for use by a wide variety of people and for many different reasons. How does this Sampler of this electronic resource work in CD-ROM form?

To help with future revisions, we invite your feedback in these and other areas you would like to comment on. Your ideas can be forwarded by email to the project director and/or to any of the members of the writing team (contact information here).

Ease of use:

Organization and topic areas:

Contents:

Scope and scale:

Presentation:

How did you use the Sourcebook Sampler?
Glossaries and Acronyms

In this section the user may access definitions for terms often employed by the authors of documents included in the Sourcebook.

Developing consensus about terminology across regions, cultures, world views, disciplines, organizational boundaries, and politics is not necessary, likely or perhaps even possible. This is one way approach among others.

To simplify the Sourcebook we have utilized abbreviations for frequently cited organizations. Below you will find the full name for those with which you are not yet familiar.

GLOSSARIES

Disaster

Terminology: Basic Terms of Disaster Risk Reduction, appended to Living With Risk: A Global Review of Disaster Reduction Initiatives, ISDR 2002:
http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/basic_docs/LwR2004/Annex%201%20Terminology.pdf

Sphere Project Training Materials, Module 4 (Disaster Preparedness), Session 1, Basic Concepts:
http://www.sphereproject.org/training/pages/m4.htm

Gender

INSTRUW (United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women) Glossary of Gender-related Terms and Concepts:

ACRONYMS USED IN THE SOURCEBOOK

Nongovernmental

ADPC - Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
AIDMI - All-India Disaster Mitigation Institute (formerly DMI)
CIET - Tropical Disease Research Center
CRID - Regional Disaster Information Center
DURYOG NIVARAN - Disaster Mitigation
FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency
FSW- Foundation for the Support of Women’s Work, Turkey
GDN - Gender and Disaster Network
GROOTS -
IFRC - International Federation of Red Cross/Red Crescent Society
ITDG - Intermediate Technology and Development Group
NGO - Non-Governmental Organization
SEEDS - Sustainable Economic and Educational Development Society
SSP - Swayam Shikshan Prayog, India
SEWA - Self Employed Women’s Association, India
WEDO - Women’s Environment and Development Organization

Governmental

CIDA - Canadian International Development Agency
CSD - Commission on Sustainable Development
DHA - Department of Humanitarian Affairs
ECLAC - Economic Commission for Latin America
ECOSOC - United Nations Economic and Social Council
ESCAP - Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO - Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
Habitat - United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
IASC - Inter-Agency Standing Committee [UN]
ILO - International Labour Organisation
ISDR - International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OFDA - Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance [US AID]
PAHO - Pan American Health Organization
UN DAW - United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women
UNDP - United Nations Development Program
UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR - Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF - United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIFEM - United Nations Development Fund for Women
USAID - United States Agency for International Development
WFP - World Food Programme
WSSD - World Summit for Social Development
WTO - World Trade Organization
This project was made possible through the generous support of the Public Entity Risk Institute and the Pacific Disaster Center. Heartfelt thanks to Claire Reiss, Gerry Hoetmer, Allen Clark and Ralph Carvalho for their help at every turn. To learn more, please visit the websites of PERI [www.riskinstitute.org/] and the PDC of the East-West Center [http://www.pdc.org/iweb/index.jsp].

It goes without saying that the Sourcebook could not have been developed without the continuing efforts of many, many people around the world who work in different sectors, languages, and ways to address gender concerns in disaster contexts. We applaud their passion and thank them for sharing their hard-won knowledge. Too many to name offered important guidance, documents and support over the past year as the Sourcebook took shape. We would be remiss, however, in not thanking our research and technical assistants by name: Elham Atashi, Sharon de Alvis, Jose Ramon Martinez Batlle, Maria de Lourdes Cabrera, Cenia Correa, Alex Enarson-Hering, Robin Fordham, Shani Fourie, Ayse Gonullu, Anne Gormally, Armine Mikayelyan, Reema Nasser, Louise W Platt and Manuela Scharf.

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Finally, as project manager I commend each member of the writing team. Your knowledge and commitment are reflected in the Sourcebook and in your continuing efforts to build more just, sustainable and safer communities. Special thanks to:

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- Rowena Hay
- Nuray Kuranci
- Lourdes Meyreles
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_Elaine Enarson, March 2006_

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