UNICEF ROSA
GBViE Learning Series
Executive Summary
The South Asia Region (SAR) is one of the most disaster-prone regions in the world with emergencies due to natural disasters, climate change, forced migration and the current COVID-19 pandemic affecting its people. There is also evidence that gender-based violence is often exacerbated during emergencies, which underscores UNICEF’s need to support learning and training on gender-based violence in emergencies (GBViE) to support its programming efforts. Therefore, the UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA) planned and arranged an intensive online Learning Series for all UNICEF SAR country offices and partners.

The Learning Series offered an opportunity to capitalise on lessons learned in GBV Risk Mitigation, as well as share learning on GBViE specialised programming from across the region and the world. Although the focus was on humanitarian response, the Learning Series sought to emphasize the importance of working on GBV at the humanitarian/development nexus across the region, to ensure and plan for continuity of interventions, support ‘building back better’, and promoting disaster readiness and sustainable, shock resilient GBV programming.

The primary purpose of the training was to strengthen the region’s knowledge of and capacity to implement GBV in Emergencies (GBViE) prevention, response and risk mitigation.

**OVERVIEW OF THE CONTENT**

The Learning Series was conducted over a nine-week period from 15 October 2020 - 11 December 2020 with weekly webinars and follow-up workshops. The series focused on GBViE response, prevention and risk mitigation, and provided examples of GBV and gender transformative programming in the SAR. The series was able to capture the linkages between humanitarian and development programming to ensure sustainability and systems strengthening are in place to prepare and deliver in emergencies, including in the context of COVID-19.

The learning series was structured into three main segments: Segment 1 introduced GBV basic concepts; Segment 2 explored GBV case management; Segment 3 concluded with GBV risk mitigation and prevention. There was a total of 9 webinars and 9 workshops. The weekly webinars contained two-hour presentations that drew on lessons and best practices from these
GBV experts, country offices and partners such as those working in Bangladesh’s Cox’s Bazar, Afghanistan, Nepal, CARE and HomeNet South Asia. The learning sessions cover a range of principles and guidelines including UNICEF’s GBV Operational Guide, IASC GBV guidelines, Interagency Minimum Standards for GBViE Programming, 2020 Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CCCs) and GBV safety audits. The webinars were followed up with weekly 1-hour workshops which provided participants with the practical skills and tools to implement GBViE in their programming.

As a result of the Learning Series, participants developed individual and country Action Plans to inform HAC planning. The region now has 100% HAC coverage of GBViE prevention, risk mitigation and/or response planned by the South Asia country offices and ROSA. The Learning Series promises to set a strong course for 2021 programming and capacity building in the region.

OVERVIEW OF PARTICIPANTS

The ROSA GBViE Learning Series participants included UNICEF country office staff and government and civil society partners. Specially, segment 1 of the Learning Series was open to UNICEF regional and country office staff only, while Segments 2 and 3 were open to UNICEF staff and government and civil society partners. There was a total of 66 individuals which includes 42 UNICEF staff members and 24 UNICEF partners (government and civil society partners) who participated in the series along with other regional and COs. The participants came from the 8 countries in the SAR: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The participants represented a variety of sectors such as Child protection (20), Gender (12), Health/Nutrition (11), Education (8), Development (4), Wash/Infrastructure (3), Communication (2), Police (2), Social Policy (2), Emergency (1), and Donor (1).

PARTICIPANT EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS

The final evaluations from participants were exceedingly positive with all participants across the board, either “agreeing” or “strongly agreeing” that they gained new knowledge about GBViE that is applicable to their work.

In terms of recommendations for improvement, increasing interactivity between participants and opportunities for sharing individuals’ own experiences were highlighted. Of note, multiple participants recommended that the training be held at a less-busy time of year in its next iteration, and participants recommended that the length and content of nearly every session be reduced.

The extremely positive feedback about the Learning Series suggests that there is value in replicating it. By analysing the evaluation feedback and the pre/post-test results, it can be concluded that a shorter version to be conducted for all UNICEF staff working on GBViE would benefit the Country Offices. The acknowledgement by participants that their understanding of GBV programming integration had improved and they could now think more creatively and to
plan more comprehensive GBV programming across multiple sectors is testimony to the value of the Learning Series.

Possibilities going forward include structuring the Learning Series into a collection of shorter mini-series which focus on specific areas of content and identifying different levels of engagement for individual sessions and topics. Finally, in addition to making more resource materials available, the following additional topics could be included for consideration in future Learning Series training:

- Gender Equality Marker (GEM) codes – to address budget allocation for GBV programming and tracking of resource allocations and expenditure for gender equality results.
- Expanding on capacity building to increase skills to Receive, Respond and Refer, including PFA, community mobilisation, SBCC, VAW /VAC messaging.
- Individual sessions on sector specific guidance for gender integration / GBV risk mitigation (WASH, Education, Child Protection, Health, Nutrition)
Recordings
All sessions’ recordings are available on the [Gender Equality Website](#) (stroll down to the bottom) or [ROSA YouTube](#) page.

**Session 1**
- Facts and Figures: Ending Violence against Women and Girls
- Mind the 100 Year Gap
- Know VAW Data
- UNICEF GBViE Operational Guide
- Gender-Based Violence in Pakistan A Scoping Study
- The Inter-Agency Minimum Standards for Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies Programming
- IASC Guidelines on Integrating Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action

**Session 2**
- GBV AoR
- GBV AoR Community of Practice
- Gender Equality Overview for CCC
- Tip Sheet for integration of GBViE in HAC

**Session 3**
- WFP GBV manual
- IASC GBV guidelines thematic area guide for food security and agriculture
- Gender and the COVID-19 Response in South Asia
- Women and Girls Safe Spaces: A toolkit for advancing women’s and girls’ empowerment in humanitarian settings
- ROSA Gender Quarterly newsletter
- Moving beyond the numbers: what the COVID-19 pandemic means for the safety of women and girls
- Parenting for Lifelong Health A suite of parenting programmes to prevent violence

**Session 4**
- Monitoring Framework in Annex 3 (pages 46-54)
- Resource: The Importance of Donor Support for Gender-based Violence Programming in Emergencies, Even in the Absence of Prevalence Data
Additional resource for similar information from UNICEF. Moving Beyond the Numbers: What the COVID-19 pandemic means for the safety of women and girls.

- **Kit M**: Minimum GBViE Response Package
- IRC’s GBViE assessment tools
- UNICEF GBViE resource pack Kit 2 GBV assessments
- Decision tree: Data Collection on Violence against Women and COVID-19

This resource is available to download in Arabic, Bahasa Indonesia, Bengali, Burmese, Chinese, English, French, Hindi, Khmer, Nepali, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Urdu and Vietnamese.

- COVID-19 Rapid Gender Analyses (RGAs) conducted across the region
  - Afghanistan RGA
  - Cox’s Bazar Rapid Gender Analysis
  - Bangladesh Rapid Gender Analysis
  - Myanmar- Rakhine State
  - Myanmar RGA
  - Nepal RGA

A non-exhaustive list of available COVID-19 RGA for the Asia-Pacific region can be found [here](#).

### Session 5
- Feminist Approaches to Specialized Mental Health Care for Survivors of Gender-based Violence
- Inter-Agency Gender-Based Violence Case Management Guidelines: Providing care and case management services to gender-based violence survivors in humanitarian settings.
- Communities Care: Transforming Lives and Preventing Violence

### Session 6
- Caring for child survivors of sexual assault guidelines and training modules.
- GBVIMS Global Team, Podcast and video short on remote service provision in the context of COVID-19
- Podcast on how to adapt service delivery in the context of COVID-19
- Podcast and Video Series: Remote GBV Case Management

### Session 7
- Data protection protocol
- Information sharing protocol
- Primero Webinar
- Systems Strengthening and GBViE Programming UNICEF GBViE HELPDESK

### Session 8
- Afghanistan WASH Cluster: WASH- GBV CHECKLIST for Implementation by Cluster Partners
- WASH- GBV CHECKLIST
Tip Sheet: Consulting Women and Girls
Webinar on Nutrition Safety Audit
Nutrition Site Safety Audit Tool
Standard Operation Procedures GBV Safety Audit from Kenya/Somalia
Guidance on Local Safety Audits: A Compendium of International Practice
Safetipin / Digital Safety Audits in India
Closing the Gender gap in the Humanitarian WASH sector in South Sudan
Shining a Light: How lighting in or around sanitation facilities affects the risk of gender-based violence in camps
GBV Helpdesk
Sample of Safety Audit from Baidoa (Somalia)
Somalia - CCCM Cluster - Safety Audit - Garowe - Nov 2018
CCCM Training, Camp Management Safety Audit and CCCM Safety Audit Tool and Monitoring Protection Risks
Making Cities and Urban Spaces Safe for Women and Girls. Safety Audit Participatory Toolkit
Women’s Safety Audits: What Works and Where?
Mapping of Safety Audit Tools and Reports
UNICEF WASH Safety Audit Observation Checklist

Session 9
Communities Care: Transforming Lives and Preventing Violence
Social Norms Measurement: Catching up With Programs and Moving the Field Forward
Social norms and beliefs about gender-based violence scale: a measure for use with gender-based violence prevention programs in low-resource and humanitarian settings
HNSA resources on VAW available in English and South Asian languages
Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings in South Asia: Study Results from Bangladesh and Nepal
Tipping Point Resources
Working with Men and Boys to Promote Gender Equality and Prevent GBV
GBV In Emergencies and Livelihoods
Intimate Partner Violence in Emergencies
UNICEF Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies (GBViE) Programme Resource Pack – Kit 3.4 Prevention includes guidance and resources on preventing sexual violence, IPV and child marriage.
Promising approaches for the Prevention of Violence Against Women and Girls
UN Women publications on prevention include a framework to underpin action to prevent violence against women, the RESPECT Women overview and implementation package

Online Courses
Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action
IASC e-learning on Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action
COVID-19 - integrating gender-based violence risk mitigation
Psychological First Aid