Resilient Communities Need Gender Data

Decades of progress on gender equality and inclusive sustainable development are being eroded by compounding global crises, including conflicts, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic. To support the resilience of women, girls, and gender-diverse groups—as well as their households and communities—during (and beyond) these crises, gender data is a key solution. Governments must collect and use gender data to identify and effectively respond to women's, girls', and gender-diverse communities' needs and to document their contributions to crisis mitigation and recovery.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS AND STEPS FORWARD FOR GOVERNMENTS

There are actions that governments can take immediately to strengthen gender data and support the resilience of women, girls, and their communities during current and future crises.

1. **Contribute to closing the global gender data financing gap.** Funding for gender data can come from domestic resources (national budgets), as well as earmarking and increasing funding for data collection in international development assistance and humanitarian relief efforts. Investments should target the core gender data systems that are implicated during crises, such as CRVS systems, and promote the use of digital technologies and rapid gender analysis to support real-time insights during emergencies.

2. **Move beyond data collection to use in order to identify and respond effectively to the needs of women and girls during crises, and to enhance their contributions to crisis mitigation and recovery.** The true value of gender data is not in its collection, but rather in its uptake and use to inform evidence-based policies and decision making. Government attention and resources should be focused across the "gender data value chain" from production to use, in order to realize the full benefits of gender data.

3. **Engage women and girls in data collection to ensure their perspectives, experiences, and contributions are captured and integrated into national strategies, plans, and policies on crisis prevention, preparation, and response.** The use of digital technologies such as social media, mobile phone applications, and geospatial information can facilitate self-reported data from women and girls in real-time, enabling a dynamic response to crises and the sharing of key information and support with households and communities.

4. **Adopt an intersectional approach to ensure no one is left behind in response and recovery efforts.** Collect and disaggregate gender data by multiple dimensions to identify the most vulnerable and impacted women and girls during crises, and to capture differences based on income, age, race, ethnicity, location, indigenous status, migration status, disability, or other characteristics. This type of intersectional information and analysis is crucial to design inclusive response and recovery plans.

5. **Support capacity building of national statistical offices to monitor the gendered impacts of current crises and help prepare for future ones.** Investments in gender data should target national statistical offices, including those in developing countries, with financial assistance, technical assistance, and training to improve effectiveness. Building the capacity of national statistical offices before a crisis will enable better monitoring of gendered impacts in the event of a crisis, when government capacity and resources are constrained.

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10 YEARS OF ADVANCING GENDER DATA