

## Module 2f: Gender and Climate Exercise C May 2018



Photo: Climate Centre

Exercises

### Title Making policies and guidelines gender responsive

#### Introduction and background for facilitators:

This exercise (C) is a more elaborate or “advanced” version of the introductory Exercise B – they can be run in sequence, or with participants at different levels of engagement in policy dialogue.

In this Exercise, participants will review some real policies/guidelines – either their own cases or provided by facilitator; these documents can from national or sub-national level. The participants then form groups and select a few documents to work on together. The groups review the document(s) and agrees on 1-2 “policy asks” and then discuss how those policy asks may possibly affect men and women (un)equally.

The aim is to understand that seemingly ‘gender-neutral’ policies or programmes affect and involve women and men differently – and how our sector-specific (DRR, climate etc.) policy dialogue will have to consider those aspects.

*NOTE: in order to have the best real-life cases to work on it is a good idea to prepare for this exercise by inviting participants to pre-identify and bring a policy/guideline etc. relevant to their current work. Or the facilitator may bring a case (not too long to save reading time) for all to work on.*

#### Aim/learning objective:

At the end of the exercise, participants will have a better understanding of ‘gender’ as a concept and what ‘gender empowerment’ really means in the policy space.

#### Materials and preparation:

1. Prior to training session, either:
  - a. Request that participants bring 1-2 real-life cases of policies/guidelines or ‘sector programmes’ relevant to their ongoing work, i.e. something they are already familiar with from some sort of policy dialogue (“advocacy”)
  - b. Or facilitator may bring a few documents that can be used by all groups
2. Flip charts and pens

#### Duration:

About 1 hour for a training session – more if the exercise is used as a real ‘workshop’ to help participants shape and define their real “policy asks” for future work.

**Participant numbers and/or arrangements:**

Participants will be arranged in groups of 2 to 4 based on similar country, region or theme (see 'Facilitator tips' below).

**The exercise step by step:**

1. Each group selects 1 or 2 policies/guidelines – among either their own documents brought for the exercise, or among a handful provided by the facilitator.
2. The chosen document(s) is briefly reviewed for 5-10 minutes so all participants roughly know the content.
3. The group discusses and identifies 2 “policy asks” (points they would like to see changed/added in a new version of the document); the “asks” shall be within the normal type of humanitarian/development issues the participants normally would engage in, i.e. risk reduction, climate change adaptation or environmental management etc. The 2 policy asks are written down.
4. For each of the ‘policy ask’, the group discusses and write down on a flip chart answers to the following 5 questions (30 min)
  - a. What is the *estimated proportion* of women and men that will be affected by the policy/guideline under discussion? *If possible, please list any sources where facts/numbers might be available.*
  - b. Do we have any anecdotal evidence/case studies for the above if we don't have facts/numbers?
  - c. Do women and men both draw similar benefits **if** your defined “policy ask” is met? Or how does this differ?
  - d. How will/can women's voices be included and/or their concerns be addressed in the policy dialogue process?
  - e. Are there political and/or attitudinal barriers among policy makers that inhibit promotion of gender concerns for the identified policy ask(s)?
5. Let each group share their discussion through presentation of their flip charts (10-15 min).
- 6.

**Discussion items:**

Have a discussion on some of the barriers and what specific changes participants can make to overcome these barriers within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and with external stakeholders.

If there is time, participants can put on a post-it the one “change” that he or she will make to make the policy engagement process more gender responsive.

Again, if there is time, each participant can move around the room and share this with another person. Ideally, allocate enough time so that each person can share that one change with 2 or 3 persons.

The facilitator can ask each participant to put their change on a post-it and hand it over to the facilitator. These post-its become part of the meeting minutes.

**Facilitator tips:****3a. Advocacy, Dialogues and Funding**

Since this exercise is so closely linked to advocacy and dialogue, it can also be used in a session on those issues, not only a gender-specific session.