GENDER AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

IN FLOOD EARLY WARNING

Key learning and effective practices

Practical
ACTION

Overview

- Why gender and social inclusion matter
- Gender and inclusion study: objectives and approach
- Key recommendations
- Putting recommendations into policy and practice

Why gender and social inclusion matter

- Disasters do not impact everyone affected uniformly
- Vulnerabilities can be complex and compounded
- Vulnerabilities are often missing in data, policy, and practice
- Unequal disaster impacts reinforce and worsen existing inequalities

Image by Edoardo Santangelo: Community members in Nepal

Overview of the study

- Understanding how gender affects residents' experience of flooding and their needs from an EWS
- Quantitative and qualitative data
- Primary and secondary data
- Community surveys, key informant interviews, and Missing Voices interviews
- The Missing Voices approach is designed to include the experiences of people who are invisible in existing data

Key Findings

- Vulnerability and impact
- Risk knowledge
- Monitoring and warning
- Communication and dissemination
- Evacuation

Practical Action image: Community risk map, Nepal

Vulnerability and impact

- Key role of social connections
- Caring responsibilities a significant driver of vulnerability

"Yes, being a single mother mattered. I cried a lot because I was all alone. I would cry and ask why life is like this. I have a lot of questions and I felt angry."

- Missing Voices interviewee

Risk knowledge

- Importance of experiential knowledge
- Underestimation of risk
- Lower levels of risk knowledge due to lower levels of access to information

"We thought the typhoon has passed because there was just light rain and some winds. Then suddenly, the waters in the canal started rising and then the flood came… We did not know what to do at first… We did not leave yet because we did not expect the waters to rise that fast. It was so fast."

- Missing Voices interviewee

Monitoring and warning

- Lower risk thresholds mean that monitoring and warning systems may not provide sufficient lead times for people with gendered and other social vulnerabilities

"The floodwaters rose in the evening. It was about 3-4 hours when heavy rains fell, around 5pm-9pm. That's when the people panicked and went up the roof to ask for help. There was nowhere to go at that time. The floodwaters raged from 10pm to 2am the next day."

- Key Informant, Baguio City

Communication and dissemination

- The timeliness, accessibility, and usefulness of communication and dissemination will be affected by social inequalities
- Preference for detailed warning information
- Importance of balancing trusted sources of warning with and need for more sources of warning

"What is important is still to follow the barangay officials. Like in our case, we followed immediately so when we got to the evacuation, it was not yet full, we were able to find a place. The siren here is working but it is the officials that people follow."

- Missing Voices Interviewee, Baguio City

Evacuation

- Many challenges in using evacuation and shelter facilities
- Practice of re-evacuation due to lack of resources
- Evacuation comes with its own risks, which can be higher for vulnerable populations than the flood risk

"I just felt that I was following my mother to feel safe….Hygiene was the most challenging… We do not follow our neighbours who leave early… we wait for the waters to come…My experience as a girl influenced me somehow. If my family can avoid staying in the evacuation centre, then we avoid."

- Missing Voices Interviewee, Baguio City

Recommendations

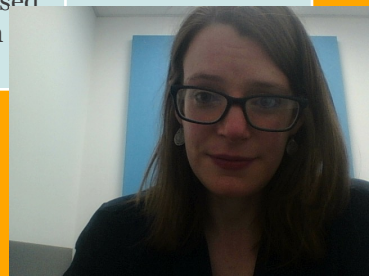
- Consider gender and social inequality and inclusion from the outset
- Ensure minority voices are being invited and listened to
- Build understanding of flood risk
- Build trust in communication pathways and information sources
- Provide multiple lead times for those who need longer to prepare and respond

Practical Action image: Signposted evacuation route, Peru

Taking recommendations forward

- Collaborate with key stakeholders in FEWS
- Identify actions, roles, responsibilities, resources
- Incorporate these into existing action plans and operating procedures

Finding	Recommendation	Immediate action	Longer term action
The current one-size-fits-all early warning lead time was not effective for all, with differing needs and preferences for early warning.	Decide whether the system can immediately (or in the medium term) provide multiple lead times, providing earlier warnings to those who need additional time to respond safely.	AASCTF Pilot Project will in the current FEWS being setup, it is estimated that forecast for the next 48 to 72 hours will be generated with varying levels of accuracy (less accuracy for larger lead times). This means that the lead time will range from 1-3 hours to 2-3 days. This will be tested over the course of one monsoon in a closed prototype system (2022).	CDRRMO to integrate short term FEW (1-3 hours to 2-3 days) with existing or emerging longer term weather forecasting system lead times e.g. PAGASA forecasts

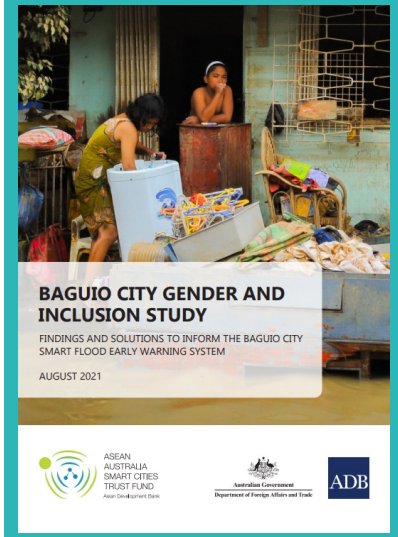


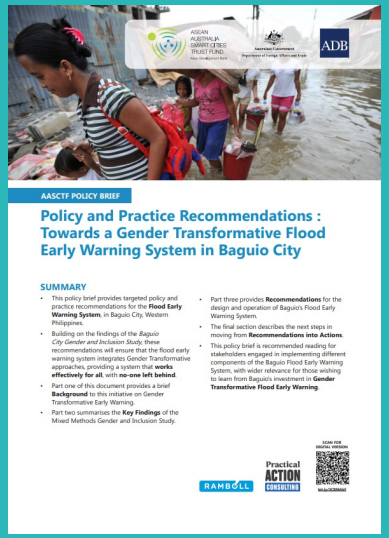
Resources

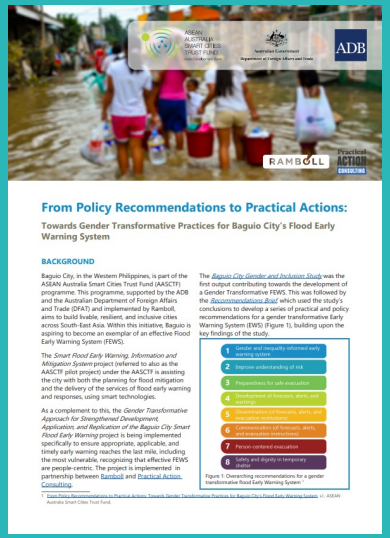
AASCTF Baguio City Gender and Inclusion Study

AASCTF Policy Brief - Policy and Practice Recommendations for a Gender Transformative Flood Early Warning System in Baguio City

From Policy Recommendations to Practical Actions: Towards Gender Transformative Practices for Baguio City's Flood Early Warning System







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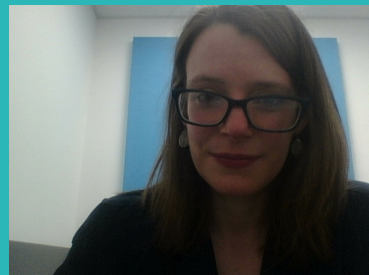

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Thank YOU