



Gender in Emergency Response Fund (ERFs)

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Gender in Emergency Response Funds Projects

This tool provides practical tips on how to ensure ERF projects mainstream gender and achieve a 2a or 2b Gender Marker code.

ERFs are country-level pooled funds managed under OCHA auspices. The HC is the overall custodian of ERFs where grants are allocated to NGOs, UN agencies, the International Organization for Migration and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement for response to rapidly evolving needs. The funds are un-earmarked, and decisions for fund allocations are made at the country level in a timely, flexible and coordinated manner.

The 2012 global evaluation of the ERF highlighted that the management and administration of the ERFs address gender equality and the impact on women, girls, boys and the elderly. Other diversity concerns, such as disabilities, religion and ethnicity, should also be addressed based on an analysis of needs and capacities in the particular situation.

When OCHA submits an ERF project to the CAP as a pooled fund project, it should be designed in a way that attains a 2a Gender Marker code. This means including gender concerns in the needs analysis, activities and outcomes.

Addressing gender in ERF projects

- ERF-funded projects should address the needs of women, girls, boys and men. Additionally, age and other diversity concerns (disabilities) must also be addressed.
- Minimum requirements must be streamlined with the IASC Gender Marker and gender considerations.
- Projects should strive to attain a 2a or 2b Gender Marker code, as these projects should receive a higher priority in the selection of individual projects.
- It is crucial that gender is considered in all programme monitoring reports.
- Sex- and age-disaggregated data should inform programme design.
- The IASC Gender Marker should be included in ERF project proposals and reflected in the final narrative report as well as the "ERF Annual Report".

Addressing gender in the Needs Analysis

Describe different dimensions of the crisis faced by women, men, girls and boys, such as:

- Who is affected (women, men, boys, girls, elderly women and elderly men)?
- How are they affected?
- Who needs protection and how?
- Who has access to what and are there barriers to accessing services?
- What skills/capacities does each group have? Do women and men participate equally in decision-making?



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Addressing gender in the Activities

Systematically describe gender-specific activities in ERF projects.

- The Gender Marker is applied and partners are trained on its use.
- Coordination mechanisms on gender in humanitarian action are supported.
- A task force on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) is created.
- PSEA training conducted.
- Gender is integrated into contingency plans.
- Inter-cluster coordination forum/HCT adopts gender as a priority cross-cutting issue.
- Cluster strategies are gender mainstreamed, adopting the ADAPT & ACT Framework.



Example 1:

oPt, Afghanistan and Yemen ERF projects all prioritize the application of the Gender Marker to all ERF projects.

- Sex- and age-disaggregated data are collected and used to inform programming.
- Advocacy efforts are informed by qualitative information on the different experiences, voices and views of women, men, boys and girls in needs assessments.



Example 1:

The Afghanistan ERF and coordination project lists the following outcomes, flowing from needs analysis and activities:

- Ensuring that ERF projects address critical gender-equity issues that ensure vulnerable women, girls, boys and men have equitable access to humanitarian assistance.
- Increased advocacy for gender equity within the humanitarian response.

Improved information management, including a focus on the routine collection and analysis of sex- and age-disaggregated data.



To find out more about gender equality work in OCHA and additional gender tools, go to:

<http://ochanet.unocha.org/TI/Gender/>
<http://gender.humanitarianresponse.info>

Addressing gender in the Outcomes

The outcomes section should flow from the needs analysis through activities to ensure a consistent approach. Outcomes should reflect the project's impact on women, men, boys and girls. They should be measurable and preferably broken down by sex and age.