



Gender-based Violence (GBV) prevention and response in humanitarian settings

TYPHOON HAIYAN / YOLANDA

WORKING WITH SURVIVORS

Survivor Centred

Approach = ... **giving the
power back to the
survivor...**



SURVIVOR CENTERED APPROACH

Recognises that:

- Each person is unique
- Each person reacts differently to GBV and will have different needs as a result
- Each person has different strengths, resources and coping mechanisms
- Each person has the right to decide who should know about what has happened to them and what should happen next.



Operationalizing the Survivor-Centred Approach

- ▶ Ensuring that survivors can access multi-sectoral services that are appropriate, accessible and of good quality.
- ▶ Ensure that the service providers have the appropriate attitudes, knowledge and skills.
- ▶ Apply the guiding principles of working with GBV survivors.



Guiding Principles for ALL HUMANITARIAN ACTIONS

- Ethics and safety
- Cooperation and communication with each other
- Carefully coordinated interventions
- Full engagement of the community
- Equal and active participation by women and men, girls and boys
- Integration into all programmes and all sectors/ clusters
- Accountability for action at all levels
- Codes of conduct and ethics for all staff and volunteers



Guiding principles for WORKING WITH GBV SURVIVORS

- Safety
- Confidentiality
- Respect
- Non-discrimination



Safety

- Ensure the safety of the survivor at all times.

Confidentiality

- At all times, the confidentiality of the survivor (s) and their families will be respected.

Confidentiality

Definition = Not disclosing any information at any time to any party without the informed consent of the person concerned.

The decision to release any information related to the incident or the survivor rests with the survivor alone.



Informed Consent

Informed consent means that a person fully understands and voluntarily agrees to participate in an activity.

In order to give informed consent, a person must:

- ▶ Have all information about the agreement and its consequences
- ▶ Be over the age of 18
- ▶ Be mentally sound enough to understand the agreement and the consequences
- ▶ Have equal power in the relationship



Exception

- ▶ The only time confidentiality should be breached is when there is imminent risk to the survivor or the GBV worker.
- ▶ What if confidentiality is breached?
 - ▶ Threat to the survivor, the perpetrator and/or the GBV workers
 - ▶ Injury to the survivor, the perpetrator and/or the GBV workers
 - ▶ Death of the survivor, the perpetrator and/or the GBV workers.



Respect

- The actions & responses of all actors will be guided by respect for the wishes, the rights, the dignity of the survivor.

Operationalizing Respect

- Conducting interviews in private settings;
- Conducting interviews and examinations by staff of the same sex as the survivor;
- Being a good listener;
- Maintaining a non-judgmental manner concerning the survivor and her or his behavior;
- Being patient;
- Asking only relevant questions;
- Not discussing the survivor's previous sexual history;
- Avoiding asking the survivor to repeat her or his story in multiple interviews;



Non-
discrimination

- All has access to services.

Non- discrimination

- ▶ Definition – Survivors of violence should receive equal and fair treatment regardless of their age, race, religion, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other characteristics.



For Queries: PLEASE CONTACT

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