Global Conceptual Framework and Areas of Inquiry

In 2018, CARE began planning a Strategic Impact Inquiry on Gender in Emergencies (SII on GiE) to understand the immediate and long-term impacts its emergency response work is having on gender equality. This document summarizes the conceptual framework and areas of inquiry that will guide the SII on GiE in its pilot research in 2019.

When a humanitarian crisis hits, its impacts on different groups of people reflects:

1. **The nature of the shock itself**—which may reflect gender in its targets and agents.
2. **The state of gender equality in the affected community**—and the uneven capacities and vulnerabilities these produce.
3. **The nature of diverse humanitarian responses arising**, which include but go beyond CARE—each shaped by gender norms.

Moving top-to-bottom across the conceptual model, we begin to explore gender in emergencies by taking stock of the gendered nature of each of these elements of the emergency system.

But the analysis can not stop here - immediate actions can produce medium- and long-term effects that cycle back on the bottom of the image. As individuals and groups engage the crisis and response, some will assume roles, skills and responsibilities that expand their gendered power. There may be backlash against such change, as well as new coalitions to expand it. This push and pull ripples beyond the crisis and response, producing new pathways of change and eventually consolidating new norms and relations that can weaken or strengthen the progress of gender equality and women’s voices.

**SII Takeaway:** short term impacts shape long-term hierarchies. Trace the links.
1. Societal Impacts
How are CARE’s humanitarian response programs affecting the drivers of gender equality in crisis-affected communities, during & after emergencies?

The SII will use social analysis tools and frameworks to understand diverse perspectives on the dynamics of gender in communities affected by shocks, and to measure changes in those dynamics over time. **Illustrative dimensions shown:**

- **Gender division of Labour:** Livelihood options, conditions, roles time
- **Control over resources:** Negotiating power, control, distribution, legal fame
- **Access to public spaces and services:** Freedom of mobility, access to services, safe return
- **Meaningful participation in decision-making:** Solidarity, voice & leadership in shaping response
- **Control over one’s body and relationships:** Capacity to address risk, right of self-determination
- **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence:** Incidence, community, accountability survivor support

2. Organizational Factors
How do CARE’s ways of working in humanitarian response (our culture, structures, capabilities, and accountabilities) affect gendered outcomes?

The SII will also look inside humanitarianism: at the formal and non-formal factors that shape what we do. These can range from individual capacities and personal biases to office culture, team structure, and work procedures

**Cross-Cutting**
Gendered values & aspiration (individual), social norms and expectations (institutional)