

This resource for **all staff** implementing **development** programs. It accompanies CARE's [GBV Guidance for Development Programs](#).

GBV integration resource:

Impact Area scenario: **Right to Food, Water & Nutrition**

Scenario A

CARE is implementing a local community program for Rwandan women on seed distribution, farming techniques, and financial literacy education. For most of the households in this community, men historically worked the land while women sold produce from family farms at the town market, enabling them to feed their children and earn additional income. In some households, environmental and socioeconomic shocks led men to stop farming. As a result, some households faced increasing financial burdens and food insecurity. Women were expected to continue providing household labor and childcare but faced increasing threats of violence from their husbands, especially if they brought home more money than their husbands. Most participants were excited to gain skills to re-start the family farm through this CARE program and believed that it would help produce food to improve the nutritional needs and healthy diet of their families.

Suggestions for integrating GBV into this program:



Design

- Integrate a gender analysis into project design to assess attitudes around GBV and women's wage earning
- Engage local leaders, including prominent male leaders, or create spaces for consultations with men when setting up the program in order to explain the project and calm any fears or concerns men may have about women's participation.
- Collaborate with GBV specialists to integrate light-touch intervention components, such as couples' communication sessions and financial literacy classes, to proactively address anticipated changes in gender roles at the household level.



Implementation

- Create opportunities for participants to provide feedback on program implementation and confidential reporting mechanisms for program participants.

Scenario B

El Niño, a climate-change related warming of the Pacific Ocean in 2014-2016, caused a sharp increase in cyclones, flooding, droughts, and crop failures in Vanuatu, making it difficult for many Vanuatuan women to access safe drinking water, latrines, and places to wash safely. CARE interviewed women in a community as part of a WASH program evaluation; many women shared that ever since El Niño, they felt even more tired, overburdened, and unsafe. Women reported that men were able to wash and bathe in public, even during drought, without having to find cover, but women were unable to do this; it was perceived as unsafe and inappropriate for women to bathe in public. They had to walk 1 hour and 30 minutes to a creek to quickly wash themselves and then carry the water the two hours back home. The path to the creek seemed dangerous and some women were harassed or sexually assaulted by men along the path. *This scenario is based on [A Case Study: Gender in WASH in Slow Onset Emergencies in Vanuatu](#).*

Suggestions for integrating GBV into this program:



Design

- Solicit feedback from local women and women's groups about the placement, availability, and accessibility of WASH services.
- Assess routes used by women to access new and proposed WASH services for safety risks.
- Consider integrating program elements that mitigate safety risks, like adding locks to latrines, having separate latrines for men and women, planning social & behavior change activities, and adding WASH services that are closer to participants' homes.



Implementation

- Assess information on changes in GBV risks to participants, barriers to accessing WASH services, and community feedback.
- Incorporate ongoing feedback from local women's groups, activists, and community organizations to course correct.

Scenario C

CARE has taken over a monthly food distribution program in a Honduran community. Program staff had conducted a gender analysis in the community to ask about barriers and challenges and learned that the food distribution sites were associated with sexual exploitation and abuse in the past, with local community members thinking that they needed to exchange sex for food. In particular, the gender analysis learned from transgender and women interviewees that they felt too scared to pick up food from older program sites, as many women were coerced into exchanging sexual favors for food by male staff and volunteers. In the past, transgender community members had been accused of being sex workers because of their gender identity.

Suggestions for integrating GBV into this program:



Implementation

- [Inform the community](#) about updates to the food distribution system and how they could provide oral or written [feedback or complaints](#) should they need to.
- Provide community members with information on how they can [report any concerns](#) about sexual exploitation and abuse or staff inappropriate behavior.



Evaluation

- Follow-up with women and transgender community members to assess their perception of safety while visiting food distribution sites.

For additional information see the [CHS PSEAH Implementation Quick Reference Handbook](#) and [Empowered Aid Toolkit for Planning and Monitoring Safer Aid Distributions Toolkit](#).