GBV integration resource:

Impact Area scenario: Women’s Economic Justice

Scenario

A Cameroonian organization called Horizons Femmes is partnering with CARE to improve women’s economic opportunities through multi-purpose cash assistance. Both organizations have conducted a Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA) through telephone interviews with local women about their needs and circumstances during COVID-19. Research staff have heard many stories of extreme economic hardship faced by internally displaced women and sex workers in urban areas because of lockdowns and social distancing measures. They have continued discussions with project participants after the RGA to identify any potential risks they thought might arise from receiving cash transfers, and what could be done to reduce those risks. CARE and Horizon Femmes adapted IRC’s Safer Cash toolkit for this risk assessment, and consulted sub-groups of participants (e.g. young girls, Internally Displaced People (IDPs), married women, single women, sex workers (host population), and sex workers (IDPs)). They identified three main risks: 1) extortion of funds and phone theft by young boys and managers of hotels; 2) pressure by owners and landlords of rental houses and increases in rent; and 3) social tensions between host and IDP populations. The team realized that providing cash transfers to women might unintentionally increase their risk of violence from their intimate partners, community members, and in the case of sex workers, their pimps, madams, and clients.

Suggestions for integrating GBV into this program:

Design

- Use the CVA and GBV Compendium’s GBV and CVA risk matrix to complete this gender and GBV analysis.

Implementation

- Set up a dedicated hotline for feedback and complaints and for survivors of GBV to access referrals to other local GBV services
- Provide community members with information about GBV referral services and how to access them.

Evaluation

- Conduct a project review to see if the program was successful in reducing the risk of GBV associated with CVAs
- Compile the adapted tools in a Standard Operating Procedures and Post Distribution Monitoring to standardize the practice in future projects.

This resource for all staff implementing development programs. It accompanies CARE’s GBV Guidance for Development Programs.

care.org/gbv-guidance