

Mainstreaming Gender In Emergency Management: Selected Training Resources

Training materials on gender responsive approaches to disaster management are rare, and especially rare in the US context. How can we expect the next generation of emergency managers to appreciate the many “lessons learned” about women and gender in US disasters if these are not part of their professional preparation?

More targeted training materials are needed and can easily be developed through revising and supplementing materials such as these from Canada.

For more resources, visit the online Gender and Disaster Sourcebook, a comprehensive clearinghouse developed by a team of international writers and researchers with support from the Public Entity Risk Institute and the Pacific Disaster Center of the East/West Center. Organized by theme as well as region, the Sourcebook was finalized in 2005 and moved to the global Gender and Disaster Network website in 2009. <http://www.gdnonline.org/sourcebook/>

A. Training packages

Gender Mainstreaming in Emergency Management: A Training Module for Emergency Planners (Canada)

Developed by Elaine Enarson, 2009, for the Women and Health Care Reform and the Prairie Women’s Health Centre of Excellence. Includes background and general information and specific exercises and tools for assessing and improving existing approaches to better incorporate gender issues and opportunities to engage with women to reduce risk. The manual is potentially of use to emergency managers in the US as well, including Issues Facing Women in Disaster, Frequently Asked Questions about Gender and Disaster, Gender Matters Through the Disaster Cycle, Mapping Gendered Vulnerability and similar resources.

http://www.womenandhealthcarereform.ca/publications/GEM_MainFINAL.pdf

International Training Materials for Gender Mainstreaming in Disaster Risk Reduction (international)

This set of materials was designed and collated by Maureen Fordham (with help from colleagues in UNDP, UNISDR, Oxfam, AIDMI) for a Training of Trainers for UNDP. Designed primarily for use in developing nations, some materials are readily adapted to the US

http://www.gdnonline.org/wot_keyresources.php

B. Gender Note Series. E. Enarson for the global Gender and Disaster Network

Gender Note # 1 Women, Gender and the Hyogo Platform for Action

http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/GDN_GenderNotes1.pdf

Gender Note #2 Women, Gender and Disaster: Hazards & Hazard Mitigation

http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/GDN_GenderNote2_Mitigation.pdf

Gender Note #3 Women, Gender and Disaster: Men & Masculinities

http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/GDN_GenderNote3_Men&Masculinities.pdf

Gender Note #4 Women, Gender and Disaster: Abilities and Disabilities

http://www.gdnonline.org/resources/GDN_GenderNote4_Abilities.pdf

Gender Note #5 Women, Gender and Disaster Risk Communication

http://www.gdonline.org/resources/GDN_GenderNote5_RiskCommunication.pdf

Gendering Disaster Risk Reduction A Working Glossary

http://www.gdonline.org/resources/GDN_Gendering_DRR_Glossary.pdf

C. Gender-sensitive Preparedness Guides also offer good background information and tools

Sexual Violence in Disasters: A Planning Guide for Prevention and Response

The Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault (LaFASA) & the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) created this guide to ensure that those planning for disaster relief and response do not forget to consider safety from sexual victimization and the importance of creating policies that could prevent it. It offers readers important information about sexual violence and disasters that will help communities to understand the connection and develop better disaster responses. It presents a range of recommendations from suggesting small changes to developing comprehensive plans, making preparations, and coordinating far-reaching policy change. Available in English and Spanish.

www.nsvrc.org/.../sexual-violence-disasters-planning-guide-prevention-and-response

Prairie Women Prepared for Disaster. An Emergency Planning Guide For Women's Community Organizations.

Developed by Elaine Enarson, 2009, for the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Women's Health Research Network, and the Prairie Women's Health Centre of Excellence. Written with special reference to the province of Manitoba, this step-by-step guide has wider applicability and could readily be adapted for use elsewhere, including the US.

http://www.pwhce.ca/program_gender_disaster_1.htm

It Could Happen to Your Agency! Tools for change—Emergency Management for Women.

During and after disasters, violence against women increases and it is more difficult for women to obtain help. This workbook helps agencies develop an emergency response plan. Developed by the Ending Violence Association of British Columbia.

<http://www.endingviolence.org/node/382>

Battered Women in Disaster: Case Study of Gendered Vulnerability

Enarson, 1998, 4 pp. Transcript and related materials from on-line emergency management discussion, including a planning guidelines for shelters and planning guides for emergency management agencies

<http://www.emforum.org/library/980603.htm>

Emergency Preparedness and Response, Publications and Materials, Centers for Disease Control Office of Women's Health. Short, practical guides on public health emergencies with attention to women's health conditions and concerns.

<http://www.cdc.gov/women/pubs/epr.htm#2006>

Critical Needs In Caring For Pregnant Women During Times Of Disaster For Non-Obstetric Health Care Providers, 1 p. Centers for Disease Control.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/pregnantdisasterhcp.asp>

Tools to Help You Build a Healthier Life—Disaster or Emergency Preparedness Plan for Women, US Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Women’s Health. Generic information with advice about violence prevention and breastfeeding during emergencies:
<http://womenshealth.gov/tools/disaster.cfm>

Meeting the Special Needs of Pregnant Women & Infants: Six Key Elements of Every Disaster Plan, 2006, 1 p., March of Dimes:
http://www.marchofdimes.com/files/DPRP_Section_2a_6_Key_Elements_for_Every_Disaster_Plan_FINAL_10-01-06.pdf

Giving Birth “In Place”: A Guide to Emergency Preparedness for Childbirth, 2003, 6 pp. American College of Nurse-Midwives:
<http://www.midwife.org/siteFiles/about/givingbirthinplacerevised.pdf>

Resources for Breastfeeding During Emergencies, 2006, La Leche League International:
<http://www.llli.org/emergency.html>

D. Women in emergency management

Emergency Management Career Path Survey [EMPOWER]

Slides with data from a 2006 survey are available through EMPOWER [Emergency Management Professional Organization for Women’s Enrichment]. Women in the field working in the US and Canada were surveyed about their paths of entry into the professions, their career goals and experiences and more.
<http://www.empower-women.com/mc/page.do?sitePageId=49325&orgId=emp>

E. Other

Gender Mainstreaming In Emergency Management: Opportunities for Building Community Resilience in Canada

Developed by Elaine Enarson, 2008, for the Public Health Agency of Canada. The policy review identifies specific interventions that could help increased understanding of gender as an integral and cross-cutting dimension of disaster risk management. Many of the observations and recommendations extend to the US but a US-focused policy review is needed.
www.gdnonline.org/.../Enarson_GenderMainstreamingCanada.pdf

Gender and Disaster Roundtable meetings are held in conjunction with the Boulder, CO Natural Hazards Workshop sponsored by the University of Colorado. The Gender and Disaster Roundtable is open to all and generally meets the afternoon before the first day of the July workshop. In addition, gender focused sessions are usually offered, for example in 2008:

Gender specific efforts (2008 workshop session summary)
<http://www.colorado.edu/hazards/workshop/archives/2008/international.html#gender>

Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop, 2004 [Honolulu]
<http://www.ssri.hawaii.edu/research/GDWwebsite/index.html>

This international meeting included many US participants. Visit *Participant Commentaries* for regional views on gender and disaster issues. Under *Background* papers, click *Lessons Learned* for links to proceedings from past conferences including: Reaching women and children in disaster (Miami, 2000) and Women and disaster: exploring the issues (Vancouver, BC., 1998)

F. More information, recommendations and planning guides on these websites

Gender and Disaster Network

On the homepage of the GDN you will find numerous recent and foundational paper and reports, many unpublished or otherwise unavailable, practice guides, advocacy pieces, and contributions from around the world. The GDN is a free membership organization with over 600 individual and organizational members.
<http://www.gdnonline.org/index.php>

US Gender and Disaster Resilience Alliance

Stay tuned—this new network is taking shape now and will soon launch a website: US GDRA will promote disaster resilience through the leadership of grassroots women to build safer, just and disaster resilient communities.
<http://www.usgdra.org> [coming soon]

EMPOWER

Joined by the common motivation to build skills in preparing for and responding to emergencies and disasters, a group of women (and one man) to provide a forum to strengthen women's presence and excellence in the field of emergency management.

<http://www.empower-women.com/mc/page.do;jsessionid=2DAC8701DBD5C16EF512DD31B04769CB.mc0?sitePagelId=46823>

GenaNet

Based in Germany, this network is a leader in gender and climate change work globally with a focus on policy interventions and gender dimensions of climate change in the developed world.
<http://www.genanet.de/home.html?&L=1>

G. Short videos from the US

Still Waiting: Life After Katrina is an excellent account of one extended network of women in the aftermath of Katrina, developed by Ginny Martin & anthropologist Kate Browne. Sequel under development.
<http://www.stillwaiting.colostate.edu/>

Coastal Women for Change (Oxfam)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Ar54LMsixw>

Women in New Orleans Post Katrina (Ms Foundation)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdPVSRsYgeU>

Gulf Coast Heroine (Women's Enews video): One woman drawn to activism
<http://vodpod.com/watch/67034-gulf-coast-heroine>

WHAT TRAINING RESOURCES WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE? WHO WOULD USE THESE AND HOW?

We would like to hear from you. E-mail to: enarsone@gmail.com. March 10, 2010