



GENDER CONCERNS – CÔTE D’IVOIRE CRISIS

March 2011

Taking into account the different needs of women, girls, boys and men makes our humanitarian response more effective and equitable.

Experience from past conflicts reveals that important differences between men and women often go unrecognised by the humanitarian community, and as a result impact is compromised. In the midst of the urgent humanitarian response, the particular protection needs of women and men differ. The experience to access food, shelter, health, clean drinking water, and sanitation facilities will also be different for men and women. Failing to address the differentiated needs of men, women, boys and girls can increase disparities between women and men, and further marginalize vulnerable groups.

Follow these 3 immediate actions to ensure that women, girls, boys, and men get access to and benefit from humanitarian response.

A	ASSESS NEEDS – The needs of women, girls, boys and men are different after an emergency so special effort must be made to assess the needs of each of these groups. Ensure that women and men are part of any needs assessment teams and that the needs of all portions of the affected population are assessed.
B	BE ALERT – Learn about risks experienced by unaccompanied women, boys and girls, especially the risk of violence they may face. Put in place measures to ensure their safety and security. At border crossings ensure that women traveling alone or in small groups are provided with safe spaces separate from non-relative men.
C	COLLECT DATA BY SEX AND AGE – All efforts should be made to collect data on who has been affected, including deaths, injuries, displacement, and who is receiving services. A lesson from the tsunami: mortality for women was three times higher than for men. Men die more often in conflict than women.

KEY GENDER Messages: COTE D’IVOIRE

1. **Freedom of Movement:** An unrelenting stream of abuses against civilians, including banditry, assault, extortion, and the rape of women, girls, and even babies are being committed by all parties (HRW Report). Movement is restricted and highly dangerous for all segments of the population due to insecurity.
2. **Meeting Basic Needs:** Bringing food supplies to market is increasingly risky for women who are the major agriculturalists. Access to basic supplies in Abidjan is at crisis levels. Displacement in Abidjan is high with increasing movement out of the city.
3. **Refugee Outflows to Liberia Need Equal Access to Humanitarian Protection & Assistance:** As refugees flood into neighbouring countries, partners should pay attention to women, girls, boys and men’s specific needs. Post-rape care services should be made available.



CÔTE D'IVOIRE INDICATORS

Poverty & Hunger	44.6% women in the workforce	88.4% men in the workforce
Education	38.6% female literacy	60.8% male literacy
	5 year female school life expectancy	8 year male school life expectancy
Gender Equality	146 Rank of 157 in the Gender-Related Development Index	
Child Health	5.8% female infant mortality	540,000 children orphaned by HIV/AIDS
Maternal Mortality	690 maternal deaths/100,000 live births	
HIV/AIDS	6.4% prevalence for women 15-24 years	2.9% prevalence for men
	CDI is the most HIV/AIDS affected country in W. Africa	

Sources: Gender Development Index UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank

CONTACTS FOR Cdi – HQ & Field

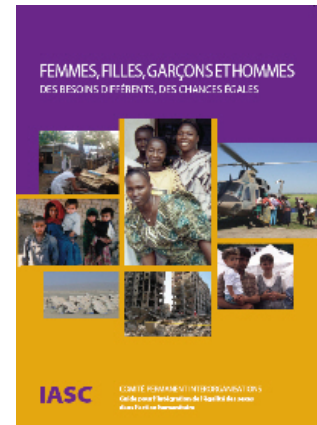
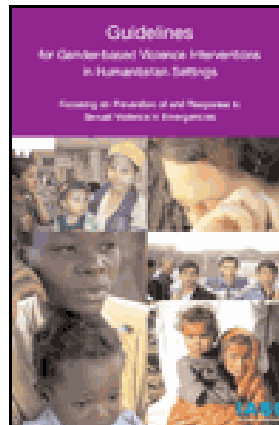
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For more details, please refer to aspects of the ADAPT and ACT framework for gender programming found in the IASC Gender Handbook and use the GBV guidelines. These tools are available in French.

<http://gender.onerresponse.info>
<http://gencap.onerresponse.info>

<http://onerresponse.info/crosscutting/gender/Documents/Gender%20Handbook%20-%20French%20FINAL.pdf>

<http://onerresponse.info/crosscutting/gender/Documents/GBV%20Guidelines%20-%20French.pdf>



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For information on requesting a GenCap Senior Gender Adviser please visit the GenCap page on One Response. [Http://gencap.onerresponse.info](http://gencap.onerresponse.info) or contact Mirjam Sorli at sorli@un.org.