



© Josh Estey/CARE



Gender in Emergencies Guidance Note

Using the Rapid Gender Analysis Assessment Tools

This guidance note provides information on why and how to use the Rapid Gender Analysis Assessment Tools. The primary audience of this guidance note is assessment team leaders and gender advisors. The Care Emergency Group Gender Team will take responsibility for preparation of rapid gender analyses for Type 4 and large Type 2 responses.

Why use the RGA Assessment Tools?

RGA Assessment Tools are used to gather information from women, men, boys and girls about the impact of a crisis. CARE has seven standard tools used to collect information from women, men, boys and girls: Sex and Age Disaggregated Data (SADD), Key Informant Interviews (KII), Individual Stories, Community Mapping, Focus Group Discussions (FGD), Household Questionnaire, and Gender and Protection Audit.

When to use the RGA Assessment Tools?

The RGA assessment tools can be used as part of a general assessment, as part of the joint assessments, or as a stand-alone gender assessment. The tools are designed to be used throughout the different assessment phases. There are separate gender based violence and protection assessment tools.

Using the RGA Assessment Tools:

The RGA Assessment tools collect different types of information about gender relations. The tools should be used together to triangulate the data and sources. [Guidance](#) for using these tools is available online.

The **Gender and Protection Audit tool** uses field observation to get a snapshot of gender and protection issues, and is an entry point for the assessment team to explore an affected area.

The **Focus Group Discussion tool** is used to gather information about the opinions, beliefs, practices and attitudes of a group of people towards a specific topic of interest. It is designed to be carried out with affected groups separated by sex and age. Additional sector specific questions can be included into the FGDs as appropriate.

The **Key Informant Interview tool** has provisions for semi-structured interviews that can be conducted with community leaders and service providers (i.e. doctors, teachers, village chief, camp leader, women's committee leader, etc). It focuses on understanding the most significant changes to gender relations that are identified, community services and accessibility of those services.

The **Community Mapping tool** can be used to identify community resources, using a gender and protection lens. It includes two tools: community social and resource mapping and mobility analysis, which are designed to be used with mixed community groups.

The [Sex and Age Disaggregated Data](#) tool is used during the assessment phase of a crisis for collecting information about a community's age and sex distribution. It includes information on using existing SADD as a proxy as well as different options for collecting SADD.

The **Survey tool** can be conducted with households or with individuals to understand the impact of the current crisis on males and females. It reviews gender roles, access to services, protection and other needs.

Individual Story tool can be used to understand the impact of the crisis from the perspective of an affected individual woman, man, boy or girl.

Adapt the RGA Assessment Tools

The seven standard RGA assessment tools need to be adapted to the context both to ensure that they are culturally sensitive and that the information needed for a particular crisis is collected. *Sector specific questions* are also available to help you tailor your RGA to your specific context.

How many people should be assessed?

The RGA Assessment tools use [purposive sampling](#). This means that included groups are selected according to specific characteristics, in this case gender and age, which are important related to vulnerability. Sites are selected to gather information from women, men, boys and girls at different locations (camp or host community) and from different groups (ethnic, religious, etc.). These method will be beneficial for collecting necessary information, but it will not generate a representative sample to allow for generalisation about the situation of all women, men, boys and girls.

Who should conduct the RGA assessment?

Assessment teams should include women and men. In contexts where this is challenging successful strategies for mixed assessment teams include hiring couples, brother and sister teams, working with local women or using remote assessment methods. Assessment teams should be [trained](#) on assessment methods, the tools, and [referrals](#) systems for protection issues should be identified. Specific training is required for [GBV assessments](#) to ensure ethical and safety needs are met.

Conducting the Assessment

Ensure that you have informed consent before using the tool. Respect the time of people sharing their experience with you. Keep a record (written

and/or visual) of your results. Make sure the assessment teams de-brief at the conclusion of the assessment.

Want More Information?

The [CARE Gender Toolkit](#) is a very comprehensive online resource that supports gender analysis. It includes “how to” guides, sample gender analyses, and tools from CARE and other agencies that are suited to the humanitarian context. Email the CARE Gender in Emergencies team at emergencygender@careinternational.org

Key Documents

Before using the Assessment Tools, it is essential that you read the *About CARE RGA Toolkit*, which provides an introduction to rapid gender analysis, as well as the *RGA Guidance Note*. Included with the RGA Guidance Note is a template for creating your own RGA.

After collecting data, it will need to be assimilated into making recommendations for future programming. Guidance on that can be found in the Guidance Notes on Analysing Data as well as the Guidance Note on Making Recommendations.

Detailed information on conducting gender assessments can also be found in the [IASC GBV Guidelines](#) and the [WHO Ethical and Safety Recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies](#). Additional support towards conducting assessments can be found through [ACAPS](#), the leading organisation for field assessments in crisis.