

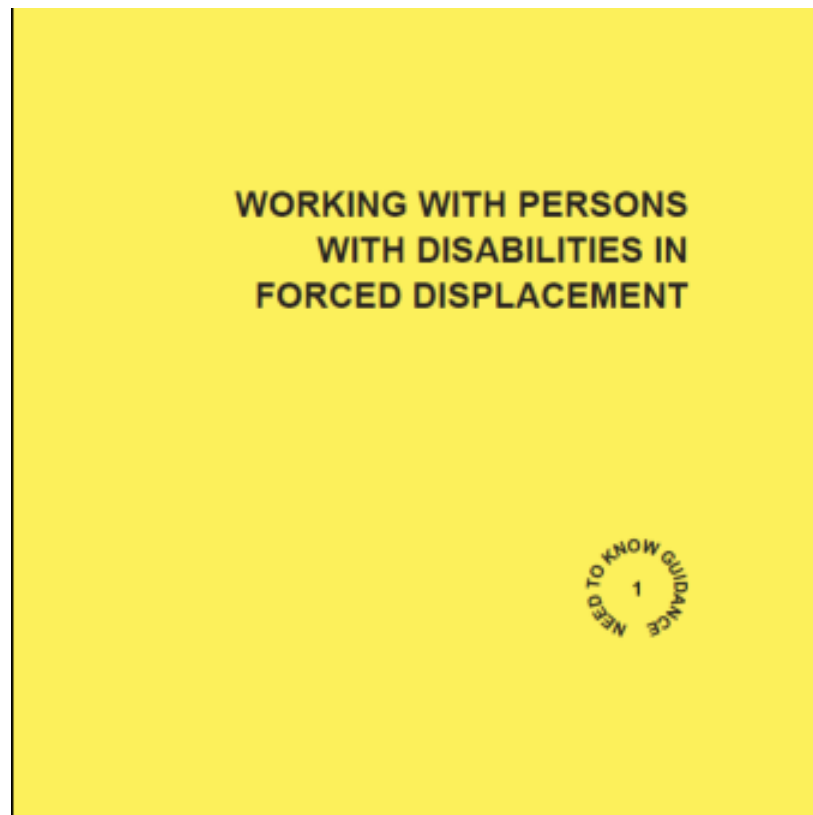
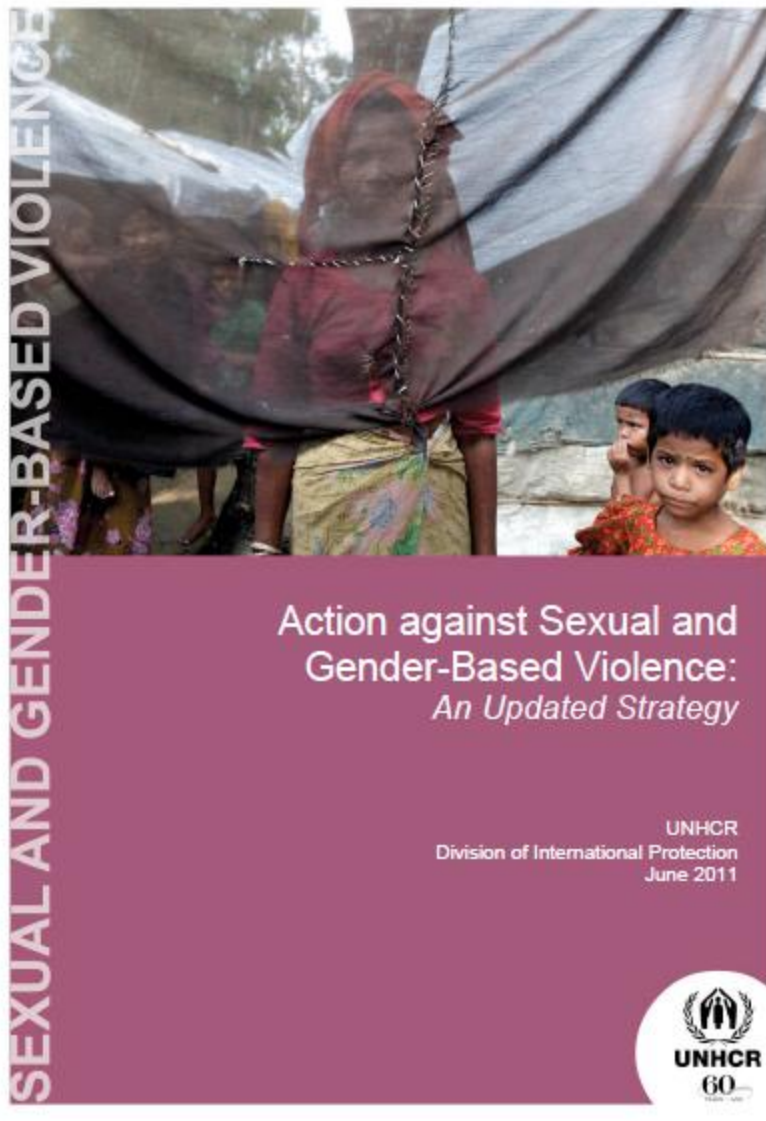


# **Gender-based Violence and Disability in Displaced Settings**

**Monday, January 28, 2013  
Emma Pearce (Disability Program Officer)**

**Research. Rethink. Resolve.**

# UNHCR...



# Pilot countries...

- New Delhi (urban)
- Uganda (urban & camp)
- Bangladesh (camp)
- Thailand (camp)
- Ethiopia (camp)
- Philippines (IDP)
- Nepal (camp)



Source: Women's Refugee Commission/Emma Pearce

# Consultations...



Source: Women's Refugee Commission/Emma Pearce





# Findings from the field...

## Magnitude of the problem

- GBV reported as a concern by women and girls with disabilities in every context
- UNHCR Nepal's trend analysis of reported GBV from 2009 – 2011
  - Main risk factors were either young age or disability
  - 49% of all rape survivors over 18 years were persons with mental and/or physical impairments
  - Over 75% of attempted rape survivors were persons with disabilities



# Findings from consultations... Vulnerability and risk

***“When walking alone, people are tempted to rape her”***

*(Interpreted report from a young deaf woman living in Kampala, Uganda)*

***“Violence can happen anywhere because she cannot run and has no means to protect herself”***

*(Reports from women with disabilities in Shedder Camp, Ethiopia)*

***“There are cases where they (blind people) have been misguided and faced attempted rape.”***

*(Young women with disabilities in Sansichare camp, Nepal)*



# Findings from consultations... Exploitation

***“If you have a disabled girl, you always worry – a man might come and give her money. She takes the money to get food and he will ask for something back – she will end up pregnant.”***

*(Mother of a young woman with disabilities in Aw’bare camp, Ethiopia)*



# Findings from consultations...

## Lack of awareness and education

***“Females who have intellectual disability also need education because they have relationships.”***

*(Deaf man from Sanischare refugee camp, Nepal)*

***“She wants to go out all the time...She is growing up and not a child anymore...As a mother, you worry what will happen.”***

*(Mother of young woman with intellectual impairments living in New Delhi)*





# Isolation and violence in the home...

***“To outsiders everything looks fine, but actually they are neglected, beaten and abused by their family.”***

*(Report from group activity with women with disabilities in Sanischare camp, Nepal)*



Source: Hesperian (2007)



# Findings from consultations... GBV and men with disabilities

***“They use bad words and say you don’t have a mind, you are useless. Or they say, this guy is deaf, he is of no use and scold him.”***

*(Deaf man reporting in a group discussion in Sanischare camp, Nepal)*

***“Most of these men here, even their wives have left them because of disability ... The wife will say they are suffering because you can’t get water and carry things – things the family needs.”***

*(Man with disabilities from Shedder Camp, Ethiopia)*



# Accessing GBV programs ...

## Capacity of staff

***“It is very difficult to provide assistance to PWDs [people with disabilities] through the multi-sectoral system. We can provide assistance to all, but sometimes it is hard for them to get to first point of assistance... They need support throughout the process (to make decisions) and we need more training... When we start referring to services, it gets very difficult to maintain confidentiality.”***

*(UNHCR Protection Officer, Nepal)*



# Accessing GBV programs ...

## Attitudes of response actors

***“We normally don’t seek help, because people think we are making up stories for resettlement”***

*(Woman with disabilities in Shedder Camp, Ethiopia)*

***“They tell me to go away and to not be violent towards people”***

*(Woman with psychosocial impairments living in conflict-affected Mindanao when asked about the response of police to her reports of “molestation”)*



# Accessing GBV programs... Inclusion in community activities

***“Persons with disabilities are only in the disability centre.”***

*(Group activity with persons with disabilities in Sanischare Camp, Nepal)*

***“We are not represented in the Women’s Association, and we don’t go to any of their activities.”***

*(Women with disabilities in Shedder camp, Ethiopia)*



Source: Women’s Refugee Commission/Emma Pearce





# Outputs from the workshop on GBV and disability in Nepal...



*Source: Women's Refugee Commission/Emma Pearce*





# Gaps in the sector...

- *Piloting and evaluating strategies for inclusion in GBV programs*
- *Capturing, documenting and sharing what field staff are already doing ... **in detail!***
- *Technical capacity for disability inclusion in needs assessment and design of projects*
- *Inclusivity of human rights mechanisms – who is missed?*

***Voice of refugees and displaced persons with disabilities in determining what works where and why?***



**THANK YOU!**



*Source: Women's Refugee Commission/Emma Pearce*

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