

Lombok Earthquake Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA) CARE Indonesia Summary of Key Findings

A 6.4 earthquake occurred in Indonesia on 29 July 2018, with the strongest shocks felt in Lombok Island, West Nusa Tenggara Province and a subsequent series of strong aftershocks in the same areas, including a 7.0 earthquake on 5 August, a 6.2 earthquake on 9 August, and a 7.0 earthquake on 19 August.¹ The earthquakes triggered landslides, significant structural damage (including to bridges, roads, schools, hospitals and office buildings), damaged cellphone and landline telephone connections, and caused power outages. Satellite surveys in North Lombok District showed more than 50% of houses severely damaged, and the remainder moderately damaged.

Women, men, boys and girls experienced and will continue to experience differing immediate and longer-term impacts of the earthquake; pre-existing inequalities are likely to be magnified and exacerbated by disasters. In acknowledging this reality, CARE Indonesia undertook a Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA), drawing on pre-crisis information as well as primary data collection. This lens helps to ensure the delivery of an effective response that meets everyone's distinct needs and identified the main gender issues in the affected areas, with a focus on the priority sectors of the humanitarian response. Recognising the ways in which gender relations are organised helps to identify where there are likely to be particular issues in displacement; to identify where there is likely to be increase in GBV, including sexual exploitation; and to build mitigation measures that address gendered issues and risks into the design of the humanitarian response.

Key Findings

1. As the main guardians of family health, and caretakers of children and other dependent family members, **women are likely to face a further increase in their workload**, arising from: the partial or complete destruction of WASH facilities and food gardens, children no longer being in school, as well as a rise in family morbidity
2. Damage to food gardens means that **women are no longer be able to sell their surpluses, diminishing their access to income**
3. The poorest members of the community, **particularly widows and single mothers, may have increased difficulty purchasing essential goods** such as food or water and getting help to (re)construct their shelters and are at risk of sexual abuse in exchange for such resources
4. **People with disabilities are at acute risk of neglect and maltreatment**; women with disabilities are at risk of sexual violence; and women caring for those with disabilities are at risk of isolation and impoverishment.
5. As food is scarce, girls and women are **less likely to have access to food that is high in protein and fat. Pregnant or lactating women are at particular nutritional risk**
6. Challenges that women face in fulfilling their role as family caretaker, particularly when it comes to food, **increase the risk of domestic violence**
7. Increased difficulties in accessing drinking water and the lack of sanitation facilities in displaced camps expose **women and girls to greater risks of violence** and undermine their dignity
8. Economic hardship may **heighten the vulnerability of women and girls to sexual exploitation and abuse** as they are more desperate to secure resources
9. When schools resume, impoverished families may prioritise the education of boys, with **girls may be required to stay at home** if families cannot afford school fees for all children
10. Displacement isolates women and girls from their sources of support and protection, making them **more vulnerable to abuse**

For further information of CARE Indonesia's response to the Lombok Earthquake, including the complete Rapid Gender Analysis, please contact Helen Vanwel at helenvanwel@careind.or.id.

¹ OCHA update, 22 August 2018