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Hydrogeological challenges through gender approaches

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Women and Men play a different role in the society, tied from the differences (physical, biological, somatic, etc. . .) typical of each one.
In the last decades, more gender approach has been introduced in a number of fields including the hydrogeological risk.
Experiences, needs and potential of each one, women and men, covers both the risk reduction before the occurrence of extreme events (vulnerability assessment and prediction of the expected risk), then in the next emergency and intervention in follow-up actions to the overcoming of the event for the return to everyday life.
The response of the extreme hydrological events are also subordinated from gender participation and it is closely related from other aspects, as natural disasters (flood events), gender inequalities and urban floodings. These aspects are also scheduled by the different approaches: a woman focuses different primary and social aspects than a man.
How women can help organizations offering new ‘policies’ and government is the main aspect to be considered and how a gender approach can mitigate disasters to hydrological risk. It depends on some factors: gender inequalities (gender perception and sensibility), importance of natural disasters and urban floodings.
Gender inequalities can match both in the natural disasters and urban floodings in a relevant way. ICT solutions can also give a helpful framework to accelerate and focus the quicker condition to get the better approach and solution.
Gender has a particular significant, explanatory variable in disaster research. Many studies, show how women have higher mortality and morbidity rates than men during natural disasters, especially in lower income countries. In the aftermath disasters, at the same time, specific responsibilities on women are imposed from the gendered division of labour. Furthermore gender differences are sometimes attributed to traditional women’s roles, discrimination, lower physical strength, nutritional deficiencies, etc. as demonstrated in Bangladesh Cyclone, named Cyclone Gorky, occurred in 1991, where an emblematic gender-biased was represented: women outnumbered men by 14:1 .
The causes of female’s greater mortality in this lower income countries, as appear from some researches, works where they have a good insight, arriving at the following verifications:
• many women perished with their children at home, waiting both their husbands return at home and make the evacuation decision;
• many women died because of their dress, the saree, which limited their ability to move. Many girls died while their brothers were rescued “to carry on the family lines”,
This two example shows badly targeted disaster communication can increase gender inequalities.
According the previous points, three points seem important:
[U+F0D8] disaster communication is important to be sensitive to gender-targeted and to culture and context;
[U+F0D8] women and men have different risk perceptions, different access to information and communication styles:
[U+F0D8] a new successful relationships with genders communicate and thus adapting communication style is goal to achieve to help the institutions to save more habitants.
The different behaviors, between women and men, will do the best in order to fit how minimize the effects of the hydrogeological disasters.