

Information Management Network Meeting – 1st September 2021

Chair: Shon Campbell (MIMU)

Participants: UN Women, UNICEF, UNOPS, MCC, WB, UNHCR, UNOCHA, UNDSS, FAO, UNFPA, IFPRI, MIMU (22 participants from 12 organisations)

1 Engendering Research for Gender-Sensitive Results – *UN Women Myanmar*

Many UN agencies and other organisations have been conducting impact assessments on the crises in Myanmar. But one important thing to consider is that genders have different needs and thus, have different impacts from any crisis. One example is how poverty affects households led by males or females differently. Hence it is important to not only engender the context but also the way in which the research is conducted to fully understand the picture.

The gender-sensitive research cycle consists of the following phases along with several important bullet points in each.

Research ideas and hypothesis: Because of the different impact on gender, even from the conceptual stage, gender must always be kept in mind to make sure that the assessment or research is gender-sensitive.

Project design and research methodology: Regardless of the methodology used, research must present everyone's realities, meaning accounting for men, women and other minority genders equally. Beware of generalized groupings such as 'citizens', 'patients' etc. For example, if a survey asks for household heads, the majority of the respondents might be male in the developing world. To fully encapsulate the household dynamics, everyone in the household must be included, especially in terms of the gender disaggregation.

Data Collection: This stage is important even if gender was not considered in the planning stages. To collect the required data without offending or excluding anyone, the questionnaires should be designed in such a way that they are gender-sensitive and use gender-neutral language.

Data Analysis: When data has been disaggregated by gender, analysis should follow suit but it's not common practice. Gender should be taken as a central variable and other variables should be analyzed with respect to gender to get more insightful results and results that would be missed otherwise.

Dissemination phase – reporting: Gender should be reflected in the reports with relevant illustrations, charts and numbers. It should be made mainstream as any other variable.

A simple checklist was created to ensure the engendering of research. So far, this has been used mostly in Myanmar but it has been shared with Asia-Pacific partners and there is a plan to expand and make it more comprehensive and applicable at the global level. The check list can be used to easily integrate gender at any stage of research. The checklist is as follows:

- If the research involves humans as research objects, has the relevance of gender to the research topic been analyzed?
- If the research does not directly involve humans, are the possibly differentiated relations of men and women to the research subject sufficiently clear?
- Have you reviewed literature and other sources relating to gender differences in the research field? (Two approach to this; first is to review literature with gender as a variable and second is to review those without gender as a variable and then compare and contrast the results)
- Does the methodology ensure that (possible) gender differences will be investigated: that gender differentiated data will be collected and analyzed throughout the research cycle and will be part of the final publication?
- Does the proposal explicitly and comprehensively explain how gender issues will be handled? (Having a gender expert in your organisation can be helpful)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have possibly differentiated outcomes and impacts of the research on women and men been considered? • Are questionnaires, surveys, focus groups, etc. designed to unravel potentially relevant gender differences in your data? • Are the groups involved in the project (e.g., samples, testing groups) gender-balanced? (this should be highlighted as traditional random sampling methods tend to not take into account of gender. There are two ways to do sampling: 50-50 ratio, and sample according to census. In the case of Myanmar where there are slightly more females than males, the first method seems to be unrepresentative but it is more important in this case to get differentiated and disaggregated data based on gender rather than representativeness) • Is data analyzed according to the gender variable? Are other relevant variables analyzed with respect to gender? (This is important as in most research, one variable is analyzed with our correlated variables to deduce causality and taking gender into consideration gives more nuance and will help with planning more realistic projects. The next step of this checklist is to integrate other human and non-human environmental variables with gender such as gender + disability or gender + climate change) • Do analyses present statistics, tables, figures and descriptions that focus on the relevant gender differences that came up in the course of the project? <p>For more info, see the presentation and guidance note attached.</p> <p>Experience and Lessons Learned</p> <p>It has been a better experience reaching female respondents through remote means such as phone, text messages and online forms rather than in-person surveys. This may be due to traditional/cultural barriers, such as difficulty when using male enumerators etc.</p> <p>In situations where institutional restrictions are placed on women in the workplace, try using the organogram to individually reach the female employees. In general, while we cannot control the participation of women in society, we can control the participation of women in our research.</p>
2	<p>3W Comparison Analysis (2020 – May 2021) – MIMU</p> <p>This Analysis compares the last 3 rounds of the MIMU 3W: Feb 2020, Aug 2020 and May 2021. The following are some of the summary points.</p> <p>There is very little difference in reporting organisations between Feb 2020 and Aug 2020 rounds, but a significant reduction (27%) in May 2021 with 54 less reporting organisations. Yangon has the most change with 29 fewer organisations reporting in May 2021, compared to Kachin State which has the least change with only 2 fewer organisations reporting.</p> <p>If broken down by sector, the biggest reduction comes from agencies working in agriculture with 22 less organisations reporting in May 2021 than in Aug 2020. As expected, the number of projects reported in May 2021 is reduced, most significantly in Shan and Yangon (107 and 91 respectively). In terms of project status, the percentage of reported ongoing projects decreased from 92% in Aug 2020 to 74% in May 2021, while a higher number were completed/ended and suspended (6% to 14% and 0.4% to 10% respectively).</p> <p>The number of village tracts and towns with ongoing activities decreased most in Sagaing Region (190). Other states and regions with similar reductions are Magway, Rakhine, Tanintharyi and Mon. In contrast, the number of camps with projects remains stable with very little change.</p> <p>If we look at the reported number of village tracts and towns with ongoing activities by sector, WASH activities decreased most percentage-wise (80%) while health decrease most in terms of absolute numbers (2070 locations).</p>

Three maps showing the number of organisations with ongoing projects by village tract/town were presented, showing the change in ongoing projects. It can be clearly seen that in 2021, only 77% of village tracts/towns in Myanmar have projects underway in contrast to 85% and 87% in the other two rounds. The changes can be clearly seen in the three maps showing changes in reported activities (by status) by village tract/town. The August 2020 map shows a significant increase in ongoing projects, while the May 2021 map shows significantly more projects reported as completed/ended/suspended.

Please visit the [MIMU 3W page](#) for all the available 3W products including the [3W Comparison Analysis 2020 and 2021](#). The previously mentioned map can be found in the 3W comparison report as well as in the attached presentation file.

Invitations for the next 3W round will be sent at the end of September with a deadline for data submission in the third week of October to allow the release of all products by the second week of December. MIMU will arrange 3W Support Sessions in Myanmar Language for partners who have no previous 3W experience or needing support to prepare their 3W input. Agencies can contribute to faster data processing and earlier products by using the Place Codes correctly against their data.

3 MIMU Webmapping Platform – MIMU

MIMU recently released a [webmapping platform](#) based on ArcGIS Online. The platform is free to use by the general public. There are built-in base layers and users can add their own layers/information to create their own customized maps. If an agency needs more customization than this platform provides, they can always contact MIMU via the [map request](#). Key characteristics to be mentioned are:

- It is important to read carefully and follow the disclaimer and MIMU Terms and Conditions of Use that pop up as soon as the platform page is opened.
- Base layers include the most requested information from MIMU and information that might be essential for humanitarian and development work such as population, health, education etc. The layers are dynamic, meaning they will be updated as the new data becomes available. By turning the layers on and off, users can add or remove them from the map. Depending on the layers chosen, legends with colours and symbols can be seen in the legend tab.
- Users can add their own data in shapefile, csv, kml, gpx, and geojson formats using an easy drag and drop interface accessible through the Add data tab. Any custom data and maps created by users are temporary for a session and will be deleted once the tab is closed or refreshed – they are not stored in the system or visible to MIMU or any other user in any way. This is to assure the security and privacy of the users and their information. If a graduated color map is required – the [MIMU Excel Mapping Tool](#) is recommended for that purpose.
- The Base map gallery can be used to change the base map appearance with choices from openstreet map, topography, and satellite imagery etc.
- The Bookmark tab contains easy-to-access shortcuts to states and regions. If clicked, the map will automatically zoom in to the selected location. Custom bookmarks can also be added for any location of choice by the user.
- The Drawing tab features tools that allow the addition of text, lines, points and polygons with various customization options on sizes and colours.
- Using the measurement tab, areas, distances, and coordinates can be measured.
- In contrast, by using the handy coordinate conversion tool, the input coordinate can be converted to a point on the map as well as to convert that coordinate number to other systems such as UTM and MGRS.
- The resulting map can be printed in the print tab with advanced customization options on format, paper size, etc.

	<p>MIMU is now preparing a basic mapping training and the course will feature more detailed explanation and tutorials on use of this platform. The course will be targeting those with little to no knowledge on mapping and will focus more on using accessible platforms such as this and Google My Maps.</p> <p>Organisations are invited to contact MIMU to provide more data that can usefully be added as base layers - maps@themimu.info</p>
3	<h3 data-bbox="165 363 891 406">Updates on Sector/Cluster/Agency Initiatives</h3> <p data-bbox="165 448 2085 550">UN Women: will soon launch on study on urban resilience in Hlaing Tharyar Township focusing on the female workers laid-off in the textile industry and also on the overall resilience and planning to share the full study by mid-November. Also, UN Women is partnering with UNDP on the impact so-called double crisis in terms of gender.</p> <p data-bbox="165 592 2096 694">UNHCR: The Protection Incident Morning System (PIMS) Q2 report is accessible for PWG members. The Kachin/NSS Shelter/CCCM/NFI Cluster Analysis July report is uploaded on websites (MIMU, Shelter and CCCM clusters). Rakhine Shelter/CCCM/NFI Cluster Analysis Q2 report is uploaded on websites. cRS camp profile Q2 dashboards (static and online interactive) for 21 IDP camps are published on websites. The Kachin/NSS Round 11 camp profile dashboard is under review.</p> <p data-bbox="165 735 2125 837">UNICEF: will reach out to beneficiaries in the maternal and child cash transfer programme to understand their situation since that programme has finished. This initiative is at the stage of developing the sample design. For upcoming humanitarian cash transfer programmes for pregnant women and under-5 children, efforts are underway to analyse various indicators such as vulnerability profiles of states/regions/TS.</p> <p data-bbox="165 879 2107 1018">FAO: is making a series of assessments in collaboration with WFP on the impact of COVID-19 on food security. In the first assessment, only 7 states and regions were included. In this second assessment, two more were added: Kayah and Ayeyarwady - totalling 9 states and regions. For each state and region, sample size will be 300 people. Last week, beta version of peer-to-peer mobile application called FishAdapt was launched. People can register in the app and get knowledge and advice relating to aquaculture and fishing.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1059 2107 1126">MCC (Myanmar Council of Churches): Launched a climate change project in Kayah, Kayin and Bago regions with local communities. A framework for analysing people in need countrywide is being developed.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1168 2107 1235">UNDSS (Regional Threat & Risk Assessment Service): Working on updating the security risk management areas - about 7 duty stations to classify and assist. Currently, collecting the data on all the security incidents under the different categories.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1276 2033 1310">UNOPS: The Global Fund is working on fever clinics in different states and regions. Access to Health fund is trying to fill the gaps that Global Fund cannot cover.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1351 2089 1418">UNOCHA: Established the Humanitarian Programme Cycle analysis working group under the framework of ICCG with the objective of supporting IM related matters relevant to the HRP.</p>

	<p>UNFPA: Doing SRPH situation assessment - data collection started last month.</p> <p>MIMU: May 2021 3W round has been completely finished with all the products now available online. The MIMU Photo Archive has also been launched, providing a platform for organisations to showcase their humanitarian, development, and peace-focused work countrywide across many sectors through photos. The general public can see the photos as watermarked thumbnails and cannot download. Only the registered agencies can download - in order to register, agencies must be listed in MIMU Contact List. Registered users can upload or download and use the photos in their own works such as reports provided that the proper attribution to the created agency is made. It includes galleries uploaded by agencies with information on location, date and focal person along with attribution information. MIMU's latest Analytical brief, Disability in Myanmar (2014-2019) based mainly on 2014 Population and Housing survey and 2019 Intercensal survey is now available in the form of a dashboard, report (in MMR and ENG) and infographics (MMR and ENG). As for the capacity building, 3 days Tableau training for IM Network members will start on September 8. MIMU's Excel distance learning module is still ongoing with field trainees and expect to finish by the end of September. The next Excel distance learning module will begin in early 2022. There will be an IM workshop in the first week of October. Invitations will be sent to IM network and 3W focal points in the second week of September. A new 1-day basic mapping training will be arranged in the last week of September. Assessment tracking data is collected twice per year. More details can be found in the MIMU Assessments and Publications page which includes a dashboard (showing which assessment is done by whom, in what year with what completion status), one pager report, overview report, and the list of all available assessments. The list is filterable based on multiple factors such as sector, language, data and location etc.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>AOB and other updates</p> <p>An experience sharing session on phone surveys was conducted 2 weeks ago for IM Network members. Some key points from it were discussed and the minutes are now available on the MIMU website Information Management sector page.</p> <p>Cluster activation: It has been agreed to activate 4 new clusters thus bringing the total to 7 clusters. Clusters and the sectors associated with it will now have a countrywide reach instead of a few focus areas. This is an opportunity to link the Humanitarian Needs Overview with the humanitarian and development sides. Since this is a major change, some time will be required before this can be fully implemented.</p> <p>The next IM network (English language) meeting will be on November 3rd 2021. Myanmar language IM network meetings are also held monthly at the Tuesday of last week – the next will be on September 29th 2021.</p>