**Gender and Food Security Interventions**

**Facilitator’s Notes**

Points to consider from gender and protection perspective

* the humanitarian situation impacts/affects women, men, girls and boys in different ways
  + In Kachin IDP camps, for instance,  females make up the majority of almost all vulnerable groups (mentally disabled, single-headed households, unaccompanied children)
  + In Rakhine, IDP women are not  formally represented on government-appointed Camp Management Committees - this makes it very challenging for them to have their voices heard or influence decisions that have a direct impact on their lives
* cash transfer programmes, like many humanitarian interventions, are not gender-neutral
* challenge the assumption that cash transfers empower women by giving them access to and control over cash – could our interventions reinforce existing inequalities between women and men or contribute to violence at a household level? (see Brady, Carol. Walking the Talk: Cash transfers and gender dynamic. Oxfam GB and Concern Worldwide. Oxfam Research Reports. 12 May 2011).   
  as part of the design and implementation of cash transfers, investigate how money is divided, controlled and used within households.
* continually monitor (including through complaints mechanisms) how women and men are affected by cash transfers, at individual and community level.
* communicate with communities about why women or men are main beneficiaries of cash transfers to manage beneficiaries’ expectations of humanitarian assistance

Programmatic considerations (see Guidance Note)

* assessment teams should be gender-balanced
* targeting criteria should be based on separate consultations with women and men
* make sure to engage men and gain their support for providing grants to women
* communicate with communities using appropriate messages,
* take advantage of distribution activities to sensitize beneficiaries about their rights, how to provide feedback about humanitarian assistance, and where to signal potential abuses and signpost them to GBV services.