

A Solution to Persistent Challenges surrounding GBV Data in Humanitarian Contexts

Quality data is important! GBV service providers collect, store and analyze data to inform their programming, donor reports and advocacy. Coordinating agencies compile data from GBV service providers to help inform the humanitarian response to GBV.

Maintaining ethical and safety standards to protect the survivors who come forward for assistance is of equal importance!

The problem is the humanitarian community struggles to generate quality data that meets international ethical and safety standards.

Why is it so hard for the humanitarian community to generate quality data and meet ethical and safety standards?

- Lack of standardization in GBV terminology, data collection tools, and incident classification, also lack of uniformity in how and what data is collected
- Human error in recording and manually compiling data and the time intensive process for analysis
- Limited experience with computers, and staff unaccustomed to use data to inform service delivery, programming, and the wider humanitarian response
- Sensitive information is requested of service providers and in some instances shared without the necessary ethical and safety precautions
- Client files (i.e. incident report forms) are often expected to be automatically shared as means for reporting
- Client consent is often overlooked

Collecting quality data AND establishing ethical and safety standards are entirely feasible. The humanitarian community just needs a proven information management system (✓ the GBVIMS!) and the will to implement it.

The four foundational tools of the GBVIMS were developed to address these challenges. The tools are:

1. The Intake & Consent Form
2. The GBV Classification Tool
3. The Incident Recorder
4. The Information Sharing Protocol Template

How the GBVIMS Addresses Data Collection Challenges	
Intake form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standardizes what data is collected and how. - Reduces human error while recording data on intake forms.

How the GBVIMS Addresses Challenges with GBV Definitions	
GBV Classification Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standardizes the manner in which reports of GBV are classified, allowing broader analysis of comparable data.

How the GBVIMS Addresses Challenges with Data Storage and Analysis	
Incident Recorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -GBV data is stored with precautions to effectively protect client anonymity and safety. -Automatic calculation of GBV data reduces staff time and eliminates the need for manual calculation or case file review for data analysis. -Staff is trained on how to use data to inform service delivery, programming and the wider humanitarian response.

How the GBVIMS Addresses Challenges with Information Sharing	
Information Sharing Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sensitive information is shared only after anonymized and after taking into account the necessary ethical and safety considerations. -Requests for information are made with a clear explanation of why the data is needed and how it will be used -Quality and usefulness of data shared is prioritized over quantity -Client files are no longer shared as routine reporting. Now, client case files are only shared within the confines of a referral and with client consent
Consent Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Client consent regarding the use of his/her data is built into the process of information management

