

Overview of the Gender Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS)

GBV
IMS

The GBVIMS is an inter-agency partnership between the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in consultation with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action and the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility Working Group of the Protection Cluster.

INTRODUCTION

The Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) enables those providing services to GBV survivors to effectively and safely collect, store, analyze and share data related to the reported incidents of GBV. The GBVIMS includes:

- **GBV Classification Tool:** provides definitions for a set of six core types of GBV that enables uniform terminology for GBV data collection. The tool uses a standardized process to reliably classify reported incidents of GBV by the core type of GBV that occurred..
- **Intake and Initial Assessment Form:** ensures that all GBV actors using this standard intake form are collecting a common set of data points in a consistent format. The form allows for local and institutional customization.
- **Incident Recorder:** an Excel database designed to simplify and improve data collection, compilation and analysis.
- **Inter-Agency Information Sharing Protocol Template:** provides a framework to guide the creation of a customized Information Sharing Protocol based upon guiding principles on the safe & ethical sharing of GBV data and best-practice.

BACKGROUND

Before the GBVIMS was created, the humanitarian community did not have a common approach to the effective and safe collection, storage, analysis and sharing of GBV-related data. This significantly hampered the use of data generated through service provision to inform programming and impeded the humanitarian community's capacity to obtain a reliable picture of GBV being reported. The sensitive nature of GBV incident data and concerns by many frontline actors has impacted information-sharing between key stakeholders and GBV coordination.

PURPOSE

The GBVIMS was created to harmonize data collection by GBV service providers in humanitarian settings and provide a simple system for GBV service providers to collect, store and analyze their data, and to enable the safe and ethical sharing of reported GBV incident data. The intention of the GBVIMS is both to assist service providers to better understand the GBV cases being **reported** as well as to enable actors to share data internally across project sites and externally with diverse agencies to facilitate broader trends analysis and improved GBV coordination.

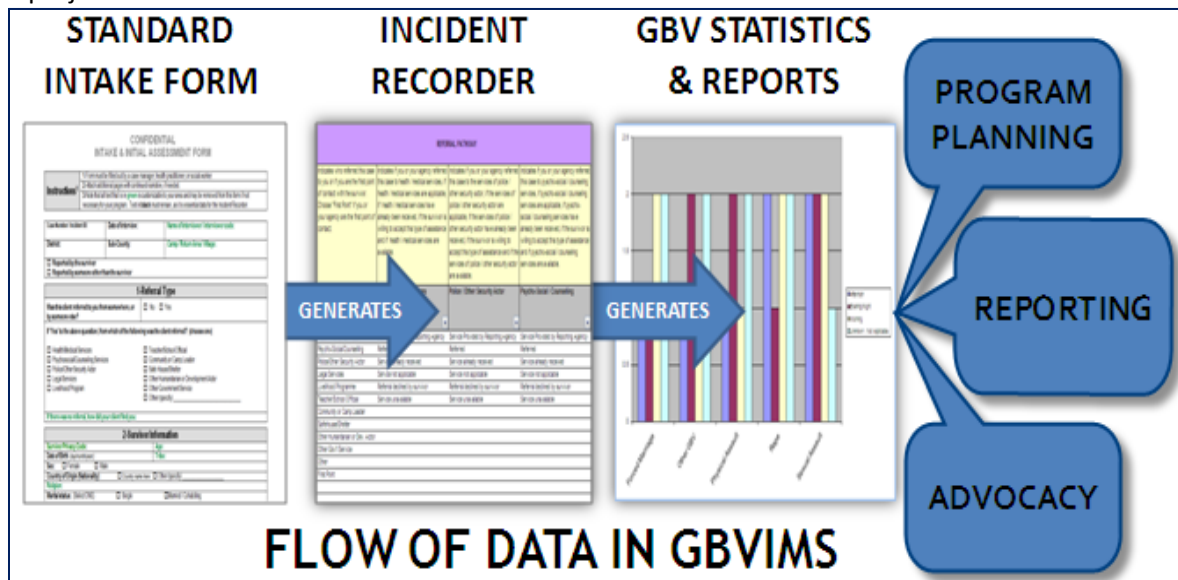
I. Data Compilation & Statistical Analysis

Using standardized incident report forms and a globally-standardized incident classification system, GBV service providers can enter data into the Incident Recorder which will automatically produce statistical tables and charts that enables them to analyze their data, identify correlations between data fields and reveal trends in their reported data. These automatically-generated reports include statistics on the incidents, survivors, and to a lesser extent on the alleged perpetrators. They also include a snapshot of referral pathways and actions taken.

II. Data Sharing

Providing a safe and ethical mechanism for primary service providers to share and access compiled GBV data is one cornerstone of good GBV coordination. At a minimum, actors should be clear on what data will be shared, for what purpose, who will compile the data, and how and when actors will be able to access the compiled statistics. The GBVIMS Incident Recorder

anonymizes and standardizes reported GBV data in order to facilitate the compilation and sharing of sensitive information between humanitarian actors in a safe manner. Comprehensive guidelines for developing data-sharing protocols, as well as information on all of the ethical and safety issues that must be considered before sharing data are an integral part of the GBVIMS project.



LIMITATIONS

In its current format, the Incident Recorder is an analysis tool that will let the user store and analyze data on reported GBV incidents. The Incident Recorder cannot replace existing case management systems used by service providers. The Incident Recorder is not an appropriate tool for Human Rights monitoring, nor is it appropriate for monitoring the quality of program interventions because it does not capture this level of information. Furthermore, the data pertains only to **reported** incidents; thus it may not be a reflection of the actual prevalence of GBV in a given community. It is only one method of data collection in a situation that requires mixed-method analysis.

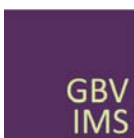
EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected outcomes of the GBVIMS project are

- A standard tool and methodology for data collection and analysis
- Uniform classification of GBV incidents across service providers
- More reliable information about reported GBV incidents in humanitarian settings
- Concrete guidelines for sharing GBV data based on key ethical and safety considerations

The implementation of the GBVIMS is expected to have the following impact on GBV prevention and response:

- More informed programmatic decision-making for individual service providers (organizations) and inter-agency working groups
- Improved data-sharing and collaboration between humanitarian actors
- Bolstered and coordinated advocacy efforts (i.e. policy development and fundraising)
- Improved donor reporting



If you have any questions visit the GBVIMS website at www.gbvims.org; or contact the GBVIMS steering committee at gbvims@gmail.com