





CARE'S GBV GUIDANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

CARE has an ethical imperative to reduce risks of gender-based violence (GBV). All development programs across all sectors must intentionally work to advance gender equality by addressing GBV.

WHY CARE prioritizes GBV

Eliminating GBV is critical to promoting gender equality and justice. It is one of three priorities we focus on to achieve our goal of gender equality for all.

PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY FOR ALL

Gender-based violence

Eliminate genderbased violence

Education

Increase equal access to inclusive education and skills development

Women's voice & leadership

Increase women's and girls' voice and leadership

GBV is a pervasive and systemic **human rights violation** which disproportionately affects women and girls. It has serious and often life-long impacts including physical and mental health consequences on survivors, families, communities and economies. It is also a known barrier to achieving project goals, further hindering efforts to achieve social justice.

In all our work, CARE aims to ensure that women, girls and others most at risk of GBV from diverse backgrounds are safe, respected, valued and have their rights upheld by building agency, changing relations and transforming structures. We take a proactive approach to preventing and addressing GBV risks throughout all our programming, not just projects specifically focused on GBV.

This document summarizes CARE's **GBV** Guidance for **Development Programs**.

The **GBV Guidance** covers CARE's approaches, key principles to ensure best practice, and 10 steps for designing, implementing and evaluating safe and ethical GBV programming.

Humanitarian actors across all sectors should refer to CARE's **GBViE Guidance Note** for details of CARE's approach to GBV in emergencies.

WHO we work with

CARE works through multiple entry points to prevent and respond to GBV at the **individual**, household, community, national and global levels.

We take an intersectional approach to addressing GBV, working with women and girls in all their diversity who have suffered and are at risk of suffering sexual, physical, psychological and economic violence based on their identities.

CARE works together with **feminist**, **women-led** and **women's rights** organizations, **youth** and **LGBTQI+** organizations, associations and movements, and with **gender champions** in cultural and religious institutions, governments, businesses and donors.

CARE also engages men and boys to challenge discriminatory gender practices, transform harmful social norms, promote positive masculinities, spark dialogue, and teach non-violent conflict resolution strategies.



WHAT we focus on

CARE's programming to eliminate GBV consists of three main program pillars— risk mitigation, **prevention** and **response**. Alongside these we also engage in **advocacy** in support of our GBV goals.

Addressing Gender-Based Violence



Risk Mitigation

Interventions to reduce the risk of GBV exposure

GBV risk mitigation aims to make all programming safer and more inclusive, accessible and effective, transforming typical aid structures which may not consider the safety and needs of women, girls and other populations at risk.



Prevention

Interventions to stop GBV from occurring in the first place

GBV prevention aims to address the root causes of GBV. It mobilizes communities to address harmful social norms and change relations between women, their families and the wider community.



Response

Interventions to address the consequences of GBV after it has occurred

GBV response aims to ensure GBV survivors have access to timely, high-quality, life-saving information, services and support, so they can recover and regain agency and control over their lives.



Advocacy: Interventions to develop and strengthen the passage and implementation of policies, legislation and systems that prevent and respond to GBV, punish all forms of GBV and uphold survivor rights.

CARE's programs around the globe address multiple forms of GBV, with a particular focus on:



Intimate partner violence (IPV)



Sexual violence, harassment, exploitation and abuse



Child, early and forced marriage (CEFM) and other harmful traditional practices



Gender norms equality, toxic masculinities, homophobia and transphobia



Economic exploitation and exclusion of women and girls

HOW we apply this in our programming

All CARE projects start with GBV **risk mitigation**. However, we aim to go **beyond** risk mitigation to integrate GBV considerations across the **whole project cycle** for all development programs.

CARE focuses on two main ways of implementing GBV programming: integrated & standalone.



Integrated GBV programming

Projects across **any impact area** which weave GBV considerations & approaches throughout the project cycle.



Standalone GBV programming

Projects **focused entirely on GBV** through explicit risk mitigation, prevention, response or advocacy interventions.

Minimum standards for integrating GBV across all programming

Both integrated and standalone GBV projects should follow CARE's **minimum standards for integrating GBV**. This means they ensure they **do no harm** by:

- Identifying and reducing GBV risks
- Responding appropriately when someone discloses GBV
- Integrating attention to GBV across the project cycle

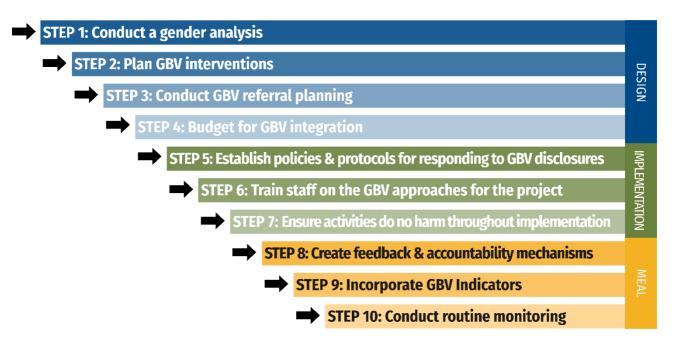
Projects across any impact area may also choose to integrate **additional prevention**, **response or advocacy activities** into their programming.

Standalone GBV projects will place **greater emphasis on in-depth prevention, response or advocacy** interventions in addition to these minimum standards.

CARE's 10 steps for GBV integration

All CARE projects have the responsibility to integrate attention to GBV in project design, implementation, and evaluation. The GBV integration process supports projects to act intentionally to mitigate the risks of GBV, ensure staff can respond compassionately and appropriately to disclosures of GBV, and identify where their programming may benefit from further prevention, response and advocacy activities.

CARE's **10 steps for GBV integration** provide practical, step-by-step detail of what teams should do at each stage of the project cycle.



Header image: Denise and Emmannuelle, participants in CARE's couples-focused GBV prevention program Indashyikirwa in Rwanda. *Credit: Peter Caton/CARE*

Further support and guidance

Supporting resources

Step-by-step, practical guidance is available in the full **GBV Guidance for Development Programs**.

This includes many accompanying resources with further detail of GBV principles & approaches and GBV integration tools & resources.

All of CARE's GBV guidance is available from the **GBV Hub** on CARE Shares.

Specialists within CARE

CARE's global GBV efforts are led by Chrysalis, CARE's Affiliate in Sri Lanka.

CARE's GBV programming is also supported by dedicated technical specialists from CARE USA's <u>Gender</u> <u>Justice team</u> and <u>Global Gender Cohort</u>.

CARE's **GBV/GBViE Community of Practice** provides ongoing support to all staff for GBV programming

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