Gender Analysis of Disaster Risk Reduction and Prepardress Practices in Upper and Lower Chitral



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Prepared for	Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and Aga Khan Agency for Habitat Pakistan (AKAHP), under the ECHO-funded project Improving Responses & Increasing Resilience to Disasters in Vulnerable Areas of Chitral
Prepared by	Support Help Solutions (SHS), with WADDAN – Partner in Development as Technical Partner
Category	Research & Assessments
Theme	Gender in humanitarian action · Disaster risk reduction
Geography	Upper and Lower Chitral (UCs Shoghore, Lotkoh, Yarkhoon, Khot, Laspur, Mastuj)
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Summary

Using the Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) framework, this analysis assesses how far government agencies in Upper and Lower Chitral integrate gender into disaster risk reduction and preparedness across prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. It draws on a review of national, provincial and district plans, key informant interviews with government and partner institutions, and focus group discussions in high-risk union councils.

The central finding is a gendered capacity–vulnerability paradox. Women act as first responders at household level and hold vital knowledge of livestock, water and food security, yet they are largely absent from formal disaster committees and rescue teams. They receive warnings late through male-dominated channels, lack survival skills such as swimming, face overcrowded shelters without private sanitation, and are often excluded from compensation that depends on land titles and male documentation. Widows, women with disabilities, adolescent girls and Kalash women face compounded barriers.

The report closes with recommendations across the disaster cycle and an implementation matrix for district and provincial authorities.

The full report is available on request. Please contact WADDAN – Partner in Development by email.