



# Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Humanitarian Settings

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# Definition of GBV



- GBV is violence that is directed against a person **on the basis of gender or sex**. It includes acts that inflict **physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering**, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivation of liberty
- While women, men, boys and girls can be victims of GBV, **women and girls are the main victims**

# Types of GBV



## ■ Sexual Violence

- Rape, Sexual abuse/exploitation, Forced prostitution, Sexual harassment etc.

## ■ Physical Violence

- Domestic Violence, Trafficking etc.

## ■ Emotional and psychological Violence

- Insulting, degrading, humiliation, confinement etc

## ■ Harmful Traditional Practices

- Honor killing, forced marriage, infanticide, denial of education for girls/women etc

## ■ Socio-Economic Violence

- Discrimination and denial of opportunities, social exclusion etc

# A few facts about GBV

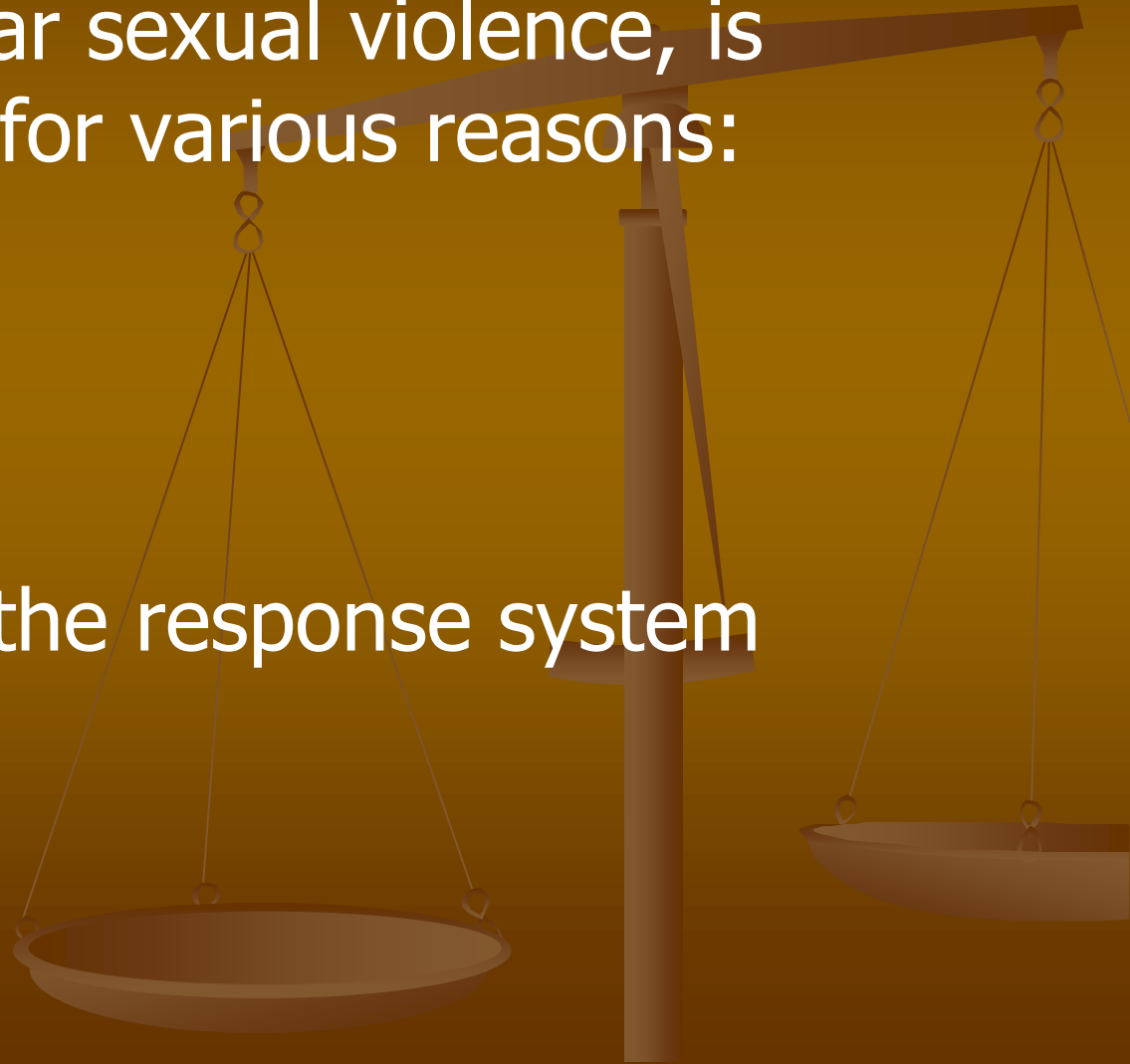
- At least one in three of the world's female population has been either physically or sexually abused at some time in her life
- Violence against women is severe and pervasive in Melanesia. the two most common forms of violence against women in these countries are (i) **physical, psychological and economic violence against women** by intimate partners and
- (ii) **all forms of sexual violence** perpetrated by intimate partners or others."

■ (AusAID Violence Against Women report 2008)

# Under Reporting

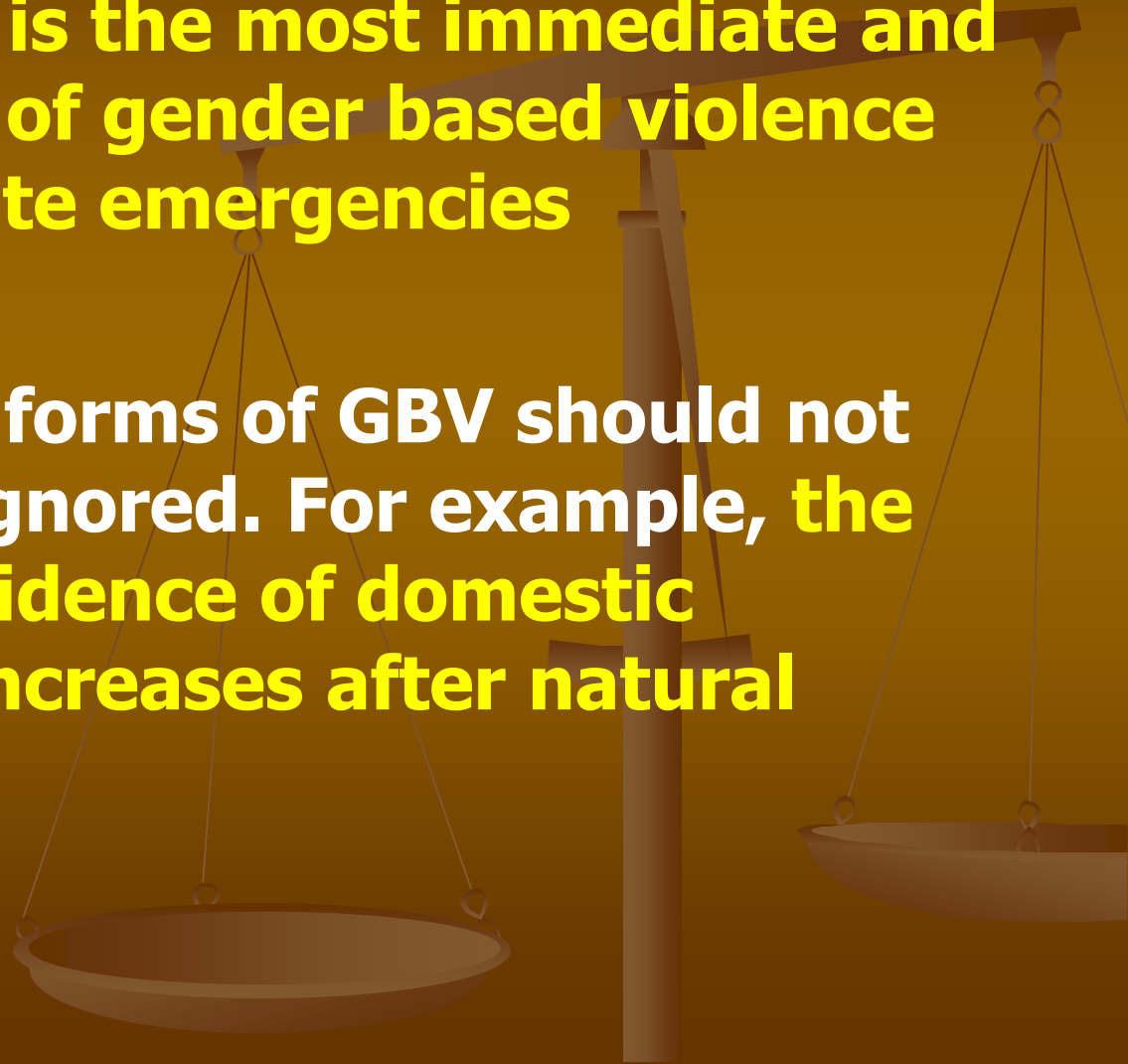
GBV, in particular sexual violence, is under-reported for various reasons:

- Fear
  - Stigma
  - Self blame
  - Mistrust in the response system
- etc.



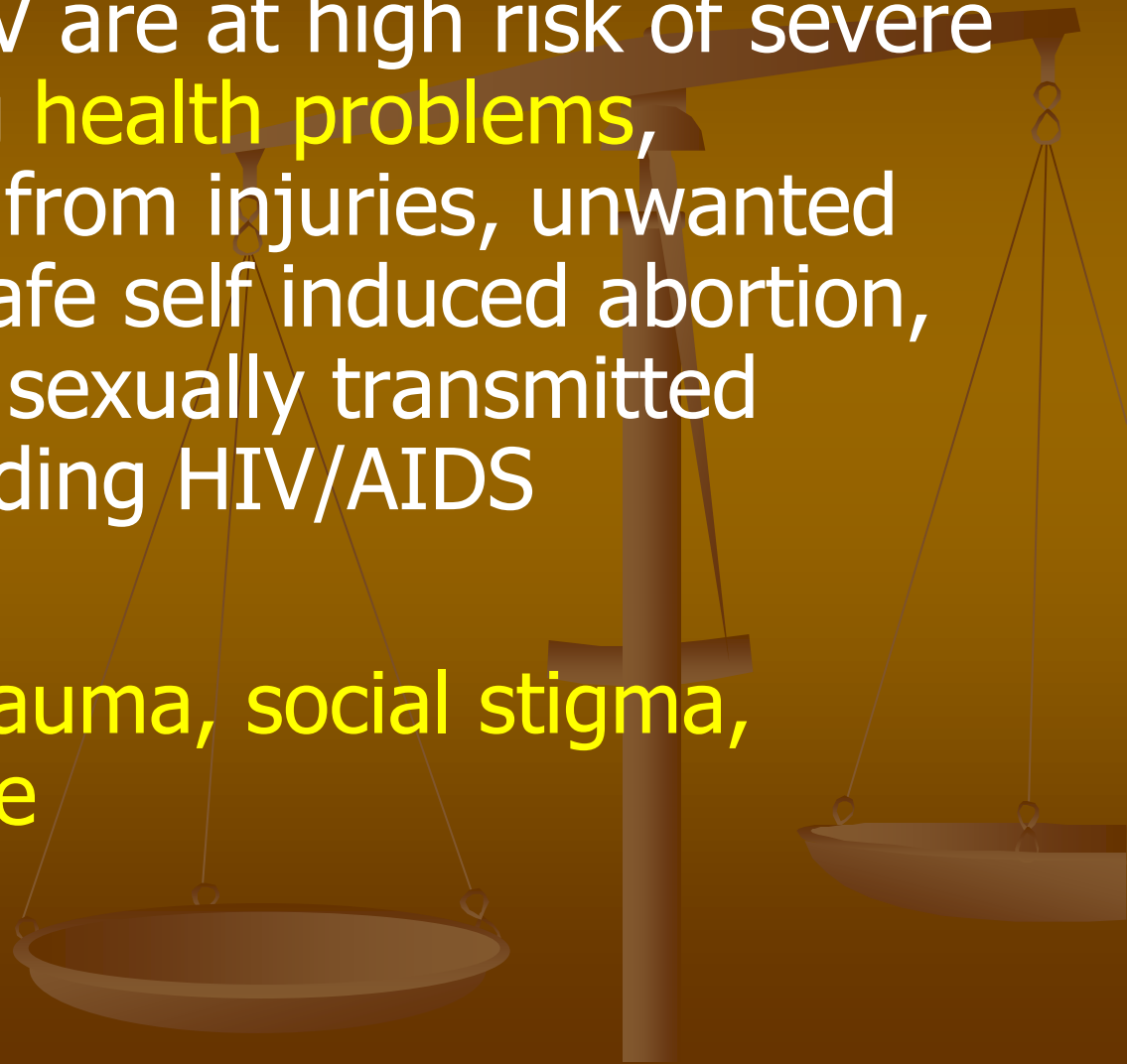
# In emergencies

- **Sexual violence is the most immediate and dangerous type of gender based violence occurring in acute emergencies**
- **However, other forms of GBV should not necessarily be ignored. For example, the severity and incidence of domestic violence often increases after natural disasters**



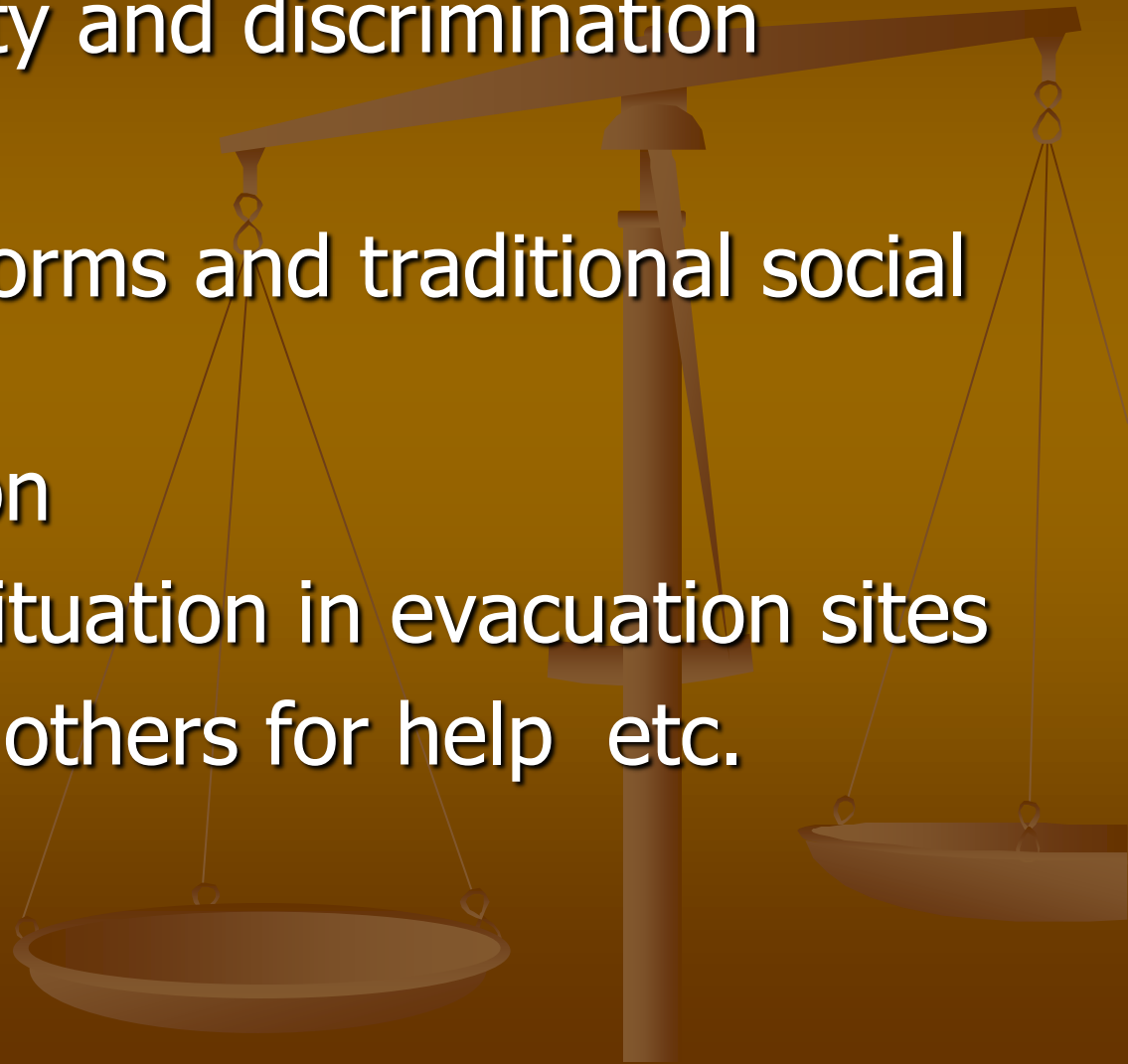
# As consequences

- Survivors of GBV are at high risk of severe and long-lasting **health problems**, including death from injuries, unwanted pregnancy, unsafe self induced abortion, infanticide, and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS
- **Psychological trauma, social stigma, rejection, suicide**



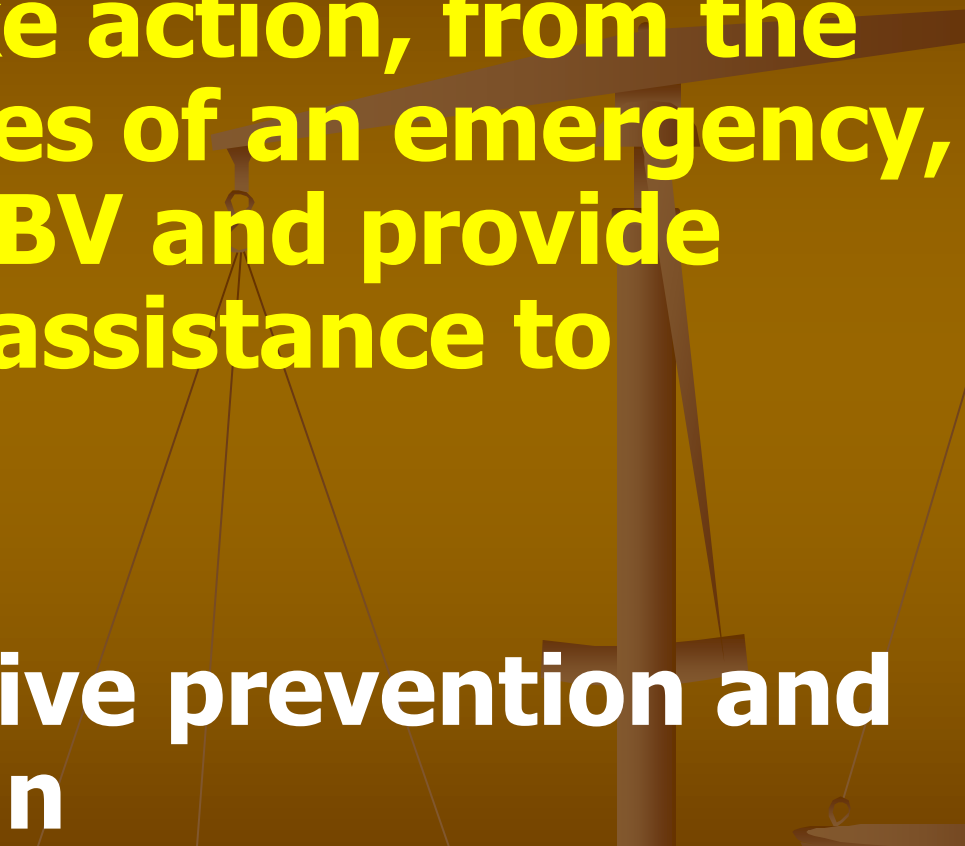
# Causes and risk factors

- Gender inequality and discrimination (root cause)
- Breakdown of norms and traditional social system
- Family separation
- Displacement: situation in evacuation sites
- Dependence on others for help etc.





# What can we do?

- **We must take action, from the earliest stages of an emergency, to prevent GBV and provide appropriate assistance to survivors**
  - **Comprehensive prevention and response Plan**
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# Response

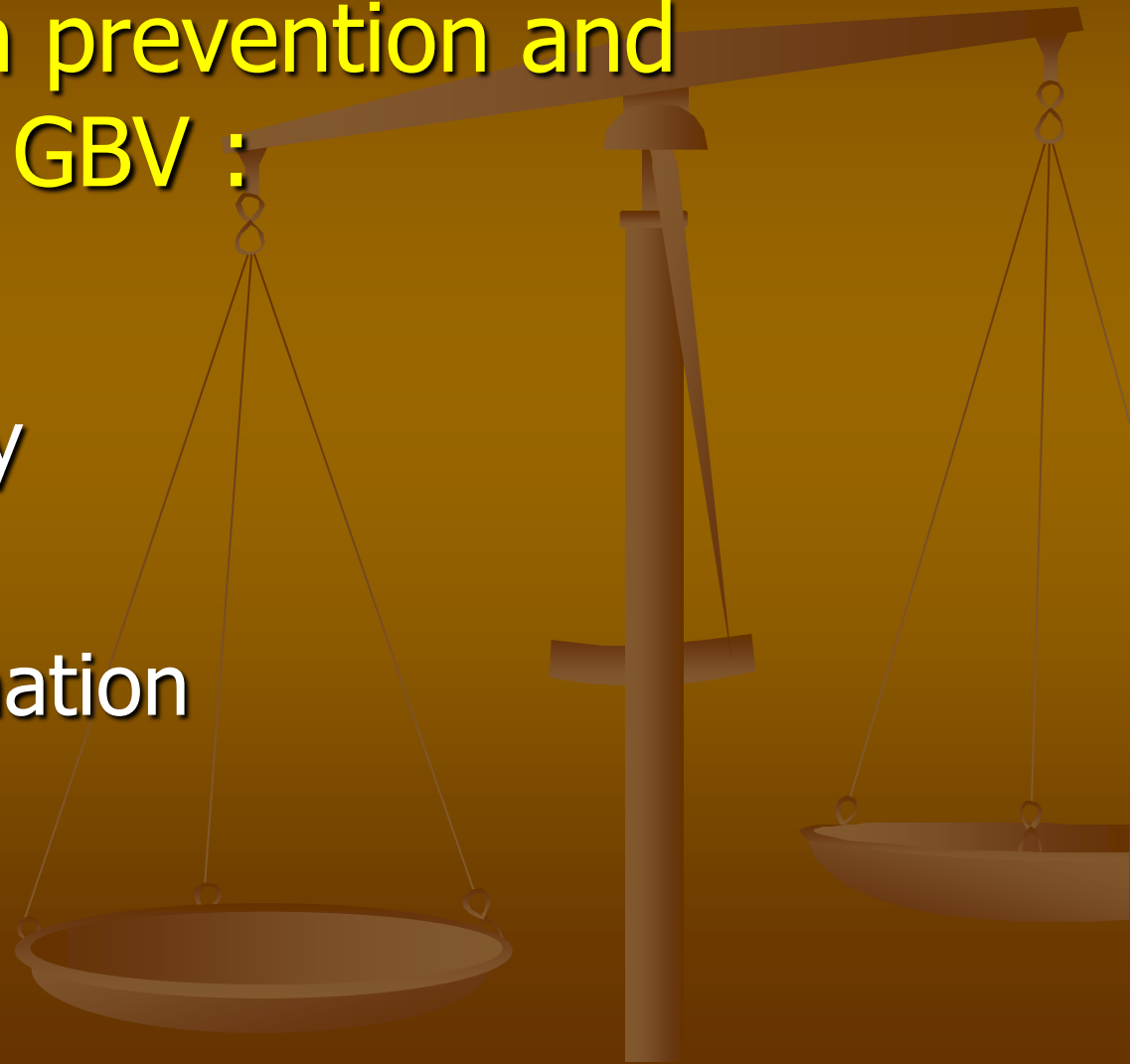


- **Reporting and referral mechanism for response**
- **Multi sectoral Approach/Inter agency**
  - Safety/security
  - Health
  - Psychosocial
  - Legal/Protection

# Guiding Principles

All involved in prevention and response to GBV :

- ⇒ Safety
- ⇒ Confidentiality
- ⇒ Respect
- ⇒ Non-discrimination



# Sectoral response

## ■ Ex: Shelter & Site Planning & NFIs

Designate focal point for GBV working groups

Ensure that survivors of SV have safe shelter

Fuel: understand security issues, increase efficiency, implement safe fuel collection

Implement safe site planning and shelter programmes: layout, design, accessible services/facilities

Provide sanitary materials to women and girls