

Session 7

Working with men as Partners in Gender Equality



The Aim of the Session

To identify all ways in which to include the specific needs of male refugees, and to foster male champions for gender equality.



An exercise to identify different needs



**Men and boys
specific dangers**

**Men and boys
specific needs**

GENDER EQUALITY

**Do Refugee men and
women have equal
access to protection
from danger?**



**Women and girls
specific dangers**

**Women and girls
specific needs**

Shared dangers

Shared needs

**Do Refugee men and
women have equal
access to shared
needs?**

The specific need of male refugees

What are some of the barriers experienced by men and boys in having their voices heard in refugee situations?

- How does this make them feel?
- What is the impact of them not sharing their knowledge and experience?
- What needs to be done to address these barriers, what support, and resources would the groups need to feel confident to speak out?
- Who can help with this?
- What would be the positive outcomes of this happening?



We must include men in the fight for gender equality

Many single young men take dangerous journeys to seek asylum, as a result of forced recruitment into terrorist groups; they face human rights abuses, including rape (Freccero et al. 2017; UNHCR 2017b).

“I saw my single Mum, who did so much to keep our family and community together in the camp while the men just sat around, then she got constantly put down and shut out of meetings with UNHCR and NGOs by the men. It made me very angry”.

(Male refugee youth representative from Sudan, November 2017)



Exercises for working with men

All of the exercises which can be used when working with women and girls are also applicable when working with men, including when examining SGBV.



Use the Men's Matrix

	Boys 0-12 	Boys 13-18 	Men 19-24 	Men 25-50 	Older men 	GBTI men 	Men with a disability 
What are the issues and impacts of sexual and gender-based violence? 	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7
Barriers to shelter, water, food and fuel 	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
Barriers to education 	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7
Barriers to livelihoods and jobs 	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7
Barriers to protection, health, and documentation 	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.7
Barriers to participation in meetings, capacity building, decision making about refugee lives 	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7

Challenging Cultural Roles

Gender roles evolve over time



What was life
like for your
grandmother?



What is life
like for
your wife
and sister?



What do you
want for your
daughters?

What
was/is life
like for
your
mother?



What needs to change for this to happen?



Refugee women:
Key to the
Global Compact
on Refugees



UNSW
Forced Migration
Research Network

How refugee men might be able to assist in the fight for gender equality

What are some of the reasons men resist programs aimed at creating more equality for women?

- What would be the worst things that could happen if women gained more equality?
- What would be the benefits to the community if women and girls did gain more equality?
- What needs to be done to address these fears and encourage gender equality? What support, and resources would the groups need to do this?
- Who can help with this?
- What would be the positive outcomes of this happening?



Suggested storyboard questions to use with men

What are some of the barriers experienced by refugee men and boys in having their voices heard?

- How does this make them feel?
- What is the impact of them not sharing their knowledge and experience?
- What needs to be done to address these barriers,
- What support, and resources would the groups need to feel confident to speak out?
- Who can help with this?
- What would be the positive outcomes of this happening?

