



# 2008 A Year of Disasters A Network for Change

2008 Earthquakes and typhoons plus government failures in delivering relief supplies demonstrated several times the importance of preparing women and youth to take action after catastrophes.

Mitigation plans that include women's as well as men's perspectives maximize citizens' flexibility in helping themselves.



Prepared by Linda Driskill, Ph.D.  
Rice University, Houston, TX, USA



Khin Maung Win/  
AFP/Getty Images

## GDN's GOALS

- Build and sustain an active international community of scholars and activists
- Document and analyze women's and men's experiences before, during, and after disaster, situating gender relations in broad political, economic, historical, and cultural context
- Collaborate across disciplinary and organizational boundaries in support of research and applied projects
- Foster information sharing and resource building among network members build and sustain an active international community of scholars and activists

## Find Resources at GDN

**Gender and Disaster Sourcebook** Comprehensive resource compiled by the Gender and Disaster Network. Online resource for countries and communities. 2005 and updates

**UNHCR's Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls.**

**Fact sheet on Gender and Climate Change.** International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), 2008.

**Fact sheet on Gender Equality and Adaptation.** Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) and IUCN, 2008.

**Child-Oriented Participatory Risk Assessment and Planning (COPRAP): A Toolkit.** Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and Center for Disaster Preparedness. 2007.

**Checklist to Facilitate Gender Sensitivity of Relief and Reconstruction Efforts for Survivors of the Earthquake in Pakistan.** January 2006.

**Guidelines for Gender Sensitive Disaster Management.** Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD). 2006.

## In the Pipeline!

**GDN Google Group** - to provide a forum for rapid exchanges of ideas and problem solving

**GDNwiki** - members will upload blogs and podcasts and firsthand disaster accounts.

**GDNforum** - an online "virtual forum" for presentations and discussions on relevant topics. Delivered through Internet-based 'Live Chat'

**Thematic Sections** - materials and links on specific types of hazards or disasters and in different languages

**The Gender and Disaster Network (GDN)** unites people interested in disasters and their impact on gender relations. Over 500 researchers and practitioners interact in GDN's vibrant online community through an active discussion list and a Website at <http://www.gdnonline.org>. The GDN also provides resources to others through **The Gender and Disaster Sourcebook** and a knowledgebase of materials on gender and disaster and related themes. Recently approved mitigation frameworks, such as the Hyogo Framework and the Provention Framework (2007) have increased GDN's opportunities for effectiveness.

## Join Us! Be a Link in the Network!

- What Do You Need to Know?
- What Can We Learn from You?
- What Can We Do Together?

## The Mary Fran Myers Award 2008: Cecilia Castro García

Ms. Castro Garcia's outstanding accomplishments include research, consulting, and activism in Mexico and Central America while she worked for government agencies and departments. Her project for the National Institute for Women in Mexico integrated gender perspectives into policies and risk management programs in association with the United Nations Development Program and Mexico's Interior Department's Office for Civil Protection Coordination. She is also the author of many articles and has given numerous conferences and training workshops.



# The Gender & Disaster Network

<http://www.gdnonline.org>