Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies

1. PARTICIPATION
   Communities, including women and girls, are engaged as active partners to end GBV and to promote survivors’ access to services.

2. NATIONAL SYSTEMS
   Actions to prevent, mitigate and respond to GBV in emergencies strengthen national systems and build local capacities.

3. SOCIAL & GENDER NORMS
   Emergency preparedness, prevention and response programming promotes positive social and gender norms to address GBV.

4. COLLECTING & USING DATA
   Quality, disaggregated, gender-sensitive data on the nature and scope of GBV and on the availability and accessibility of services informs programming, policy and advocacy.

5. HEALTHCARE
   GBV survivors, including women, girls, boys and men, access quality, life-saving healthcare services, with an emphasis on clinical management of rape.

6. MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT
   GBV survivors access quality mental health and psychosocial support focused on healing, empowerment and recovery.

7. SAFETY & SECURITY
   Safety and security measures are in place to prevent and mitigate GBV and protect survivors.

8. JUSTICE & LEGAL AID
   The legal and justice sectors protect survivors’ rights and support their access to justice consistent with international standards.

9. DIGNITY KITS
   Culturally relevant dignity kits are distributed to affected populations to reduce vulnerability and connect women and girls to information and support services.

10. SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT
    Women and adolescent girls access livelihood support to mitigate the risk of GBV, and survivors access socio-economic support as part of a multi-sector response.

11. REFERRAL SYSTEMS
    Referral systems are in place to connect women, girls and other at-risk groups to appropriate multi-sector GBV prevention and response services in a timely and safe manner.

12. MAINSTREAMING
    GBV risk mitigation and survivor support are integrated across humanitarian sectors at every stage of the programme cycle and throughout the emergency response.

13. PREPAREDNESS & ASSESSMENT
    Potential GBV risks and vulnerable groups are identified through quality, gender-sensitive assessments and risk mitigation measures are put in place before the onset of an emergency.

14. COORDINATION
    Coordination results in effective action to mitigate and prevent GBV and promote survivors’ access to multi-sector services.

15. ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS
    Coordinated advocacy and communications lead to increased funding and changes in policies and practice that mitigate the risk of GBV, promote resilience of women and girls and encourage a protective environment for all.

16. MONITORING & EVALUATION
    Objective information collected ethically and safely is used to improve the quality and accountability of GBV programmes.

17. HUMAN RESOURCES
    Qualified, competent and skilled staff are rapidly recruited and deployed to design, coordinate and/or implement programmes to prevent and respond to GBV in emergencies.

18. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION
    Dedicated financial resources are mobilized in a timely manner to prevent, mitigate and respond to GBV in emergencies.

“Together we must ensure that action to prevent and respond to gender-based violence is a priority — a systematic and unquestionable part of our humanitarian response, at the heart of UNFPA’s work to improve the health, safety, and well-being of women and girls in emergencies.”

— Babatunde Osotimehin, UNFPA Executive Director