

LIVELIHOODS

➔ *Engage women and girls to find viable livelihood options for themselves, and work to mitigate any risk of GBV that might result.*

1. **Engage women and girls to identify any protection issues arising from their lack of adequate livelihood options.**
 - Identify risk factors for sexual exploitation and transactional sex. Identify factors that place women and (girls especially) at risk of harm; e.g. lack of law and order, economic hardship, separation of families and social groups.
 - Identify individuals who may be particularly vulnerable to abuse and HIV; e.g., unaccompanied children, female-headed households, disabled females, ethnic minorities, GBV survivors, out-of-school youth, etc.
 - Engage vulnerable women and girls (both GBV survivors and those at risk of future abuse) to identify viable livelihood options for themselves.
 - Women and girls can be engaged to conduct local market surveys using a tool like the Women’s Refugee Commission Market Assessment Toolkit for Vocational Training Providers and Youth
 - Encourage girls and women to consider both traditional and non-traditional (male-dominated) livelihood options.

2. **Develop programmes that consider immediate and long-term needs and focus on reducing survivor stigma.**
 - Include all vulnerable women and girls; do not distinguish between “survivors” and “non-survivors”.
 - Consider the reactions of men; consider the consequences to women.

3. **Integrate community education, sensitization and awareness-raising on GBV and HIV into all livelihoods interventions.**

4. **Monitor and analyze the changing nature of women’s and girls’ vulnerabilities to sexual exploitation or survival sex.**
 - Look back on incidents and actions that were taken to respond; identify patterns and nature of violations, for example, any common characteristics of survivors (age groups, ethnic groups, female-headed households, unaccompanied minors, etc.) and alleged perpetrators, where incidents are occurring, and any extenuating circumstances (family dynamics, role of caregivers/spouses/guardians, changing economic environment, etc.).
 - Identify factors that facilitate violations, such as household-level vulnerabilities, disruption in agricultural practices, economic instability, insecurity, etc.
 - Learn who is orchestrating, encouraging, permitting and colluding in the perpetration of violations.
 - Identify barriers and facilitating factors to prevention, care, support and treatment for HIV and sexual and reproductive health.

For further guidance on livelihoods program design and GBV risk mitigation, see the [Women’s Refugee Commission Building Livelihoods Field Manual](#) and USAIDS/EQUIP3 [Youth Livelihoods Development Program Guide](#).