



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

HIAS KENYA PRESENTATION

28th June 2022

EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL
SYMPOSIUM ON GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE
APPROACHES TO ENGAGING MEN AND BOYS IN GBV
PREVENTION AND RESPONSE IN HUMANITARIAN
SETTINGS

About HIAS

- HIAS (founded in 1881 as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) is a Jewish American nonprofit organization that provides humanitarian aid and assistance to refugees.
- **Vision:** HIAS stands for a world in which refugees find welcome, safety, and opportunity.
- **Mission:**
Drawing on our Jewish values and history, HIAS provides vital services to refugees and asylum seekers around the world and advocates for their fundamental rights so they can rebuild their lives.

About HIAS

HIAS Africa's operations in Kenya begun in 2002, HIAS Kenya has four main programs, namely:

- **Legal Protection:** Ensuring forcibly displaced persons access territory, legal status, and other basic legal rights.
- **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support:** Increasing access to psychosocial services through community-based approaches, culturally appropriate interventions and created safe spaces.
- **Economic inclusion:** Enhancing livelihood skills; supporting business enterprise development; and leveraging local partnerships to advocate for an enabling environment for refugees to conduct business.
- **Gender and GBV:** Supporting forcibly displaced women and girls and LGBTQ individuals access human and legal rights, free from violence and oppression.

HIAS GBV PROGRAMING APPRAOCH

Risk Reduction, Response, and Prevention: A Three Pillar Approach



Risk Reduction:

We help to build women and girls' economic assets, map safe zones in displacement areas, provide critical information and awareness, and support safe spaces for women and girls.

Response:

We help women take back the control and power that violence seeks to erode through lifesaving case management support, psychosocial services, and referrals to health, legal protection, and safe spaces for women and girls.

Prevention:

We create space for men and boys to unlearn norms and behaviors that contribute to and condone violence. Our prevention programs help to enable change that is lifesaving, transformative, and

Risk Reduction

Meet basic needs

Information & awareness

Safe spaces for peer & solidarity groups

Listening to women, girls, survivors

Response

GBV case management

Survivor accompaniment

Psychosocial support

Legal aid

Listening to women and girls

Prevention

Advocacy

Engaging men in ending men's violence against women and girls

Listening to women and girls

Engaging Men And Boys In GBV Prevention And Response In Humanitarian Settings

- Men and Boys largely play key roles in the refugee community, e.g., community leaders, faith leaders etc.
- It is therefore key to engage men and boys in transformative conversations towards prevention, risk reduction and response to GBV
- HIAS has adapted IRC'S (EMAP) Engaging Men in Accountable Practice, we have been able to host group sessions with men and women and adolescent girls aimed at clarifying the gender norms and practices.

Engaging Men And Boys In GBV Prevention And Response In Humanitarian Settings

HIAS:

- Creates male and exclusively female spaces to hold conversations towards transforming inequitable gender practices and preventing gender-based violence.
- Developed a conversation guide to lead these conversations.
- Hosts support group for male GBV survivors for psychosocial support.
- Refers the LGBTIQ+ persons to health and legal services
- Engages men as agents of change against Intimate Partner Violence and Risk Reduction.

Intersecting experiences of forcibly displaced LGBTIQ+ Identifying Refugees

- HIAS acknowledges that among the refugees there are populations with lived experiences that increase their vulnerability to gender-based violence and economic exclusion. These are evident against certain markers such as:-
- **Age:** An elderly LGBTIQ+ is more vulnerable than a young LGBTIQ+ or even an adolescent is more expressive than an elderly LGBTIQ+.
- **Identity:** Transgender persons are more vulnerable to GBV due to the gender expression than a gay man.
- **Faith:** An LGBTIQ+ person of faith will experience a higher level of internalized homophobia than a LGBTIQ+ person who is not of faith.
- **Ability:** LGBTIQ+ persons with disability will be more vulnerable to GBV than one who is not.

Lived experiences of forcibly displaced LGBTIQ+ Identifying Refugees

- LGBTIQ+ not only face vulnerability as refugees but also as LGBTIQ+ persons.
- They face hostility from the host community and refugee community. There are also a number of LGBTIQ+ persons who have not disclosed their identities and orientation for fear of rejection, isolation, discrimination and stigma.
- Protection concerns include GBV, harassment at their workplaces, poor remuneration at work as compared to fellow workers from the host community; forced transactional sex work (not able to negotiate for safe sex/use of condom)
- Risk of contracting HIV and other STIs/STDs.

Activities

- HIAS conducts GBV **case management** for GBV survivors including LGBTIQ+ persons.
- This entails comprehensive case assessment including assessing the level of vulnerability/ risk, counselling , referral to health or legal protection, safe space, resettlement or livelihood intervention and linkage to community-based support systems through the Protection monitors, peer educators and CBO Leaders.

Activities

HIAS works to enhance **community protection mechanisms** as well as linkages between refugee communities and local institutions; this includes: LGBTIQ+ Protection monitors; LGBTIQ+ Peer educators; LGBTIQ+ led Community Based Organizations ; support groups and LGBTIQ+ Working group.

- Direct assistance and consumption support to LGBTIQ+ persons,
- Gender diversity and sensitivity training,
- Capacity building on safety and security both at the LGBTIQ+ community level and at the institutional level.

Success Story



Boda Boda Riders Training on GBV Prevention & Response



Engaging Men in GBV Prevention -Peer to Peer Community Forum



Engaging Men in 16 Days of Activism Against GBV



16 Days
of Activism
Against
Gender-Based
Violence

NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 10



QUESTIONS?