

# VIOLENCE GENDER & WASH

## A PRACTITIONER'S TOOLKIT

**Making water, sanitation and hygiene safer through improved programming and services**

**This toolkit is being developed in response to an acknowledgement that although the lack of access to appropriate sanitation, hygiene and water services is not the root cause of violence, it can lead to increased vulnerabilities to violence of varying forms. Incidences have been reported from a wide range of contexts, often anecdotally but with regular occurrence, with a number of targeted studies confirming the same.**

**By recognising both the risks of violence associated with WASH and the potential benefits of WASH it is hoped that the toolkit can shine a light on this problem and encourage practitioners to recognise their capacity to make WASH safer and more effective.**

**Effectively considering gender in the process of establishing sustainable WASH services can also contribute to the process of longer-term change in attitudes and relationships between men and women. This in turn can contribute to a transformative process that can help reduce vulnerabilities to violence over the longer term.**

**However, for WASH actors, particularly for those working in the longer-term developmental contexts, there has been a lack of clarity on the practical steps that can be taken so that they can contribute to reducing vulnerabilities through improved policy and programming. This toolkit aims to fill this gap.**

The toolkit is being developed by Sarah House, Suzanne Ferron, Dr Marni Sommer and Dr Sue Cavill, on behalf of WaterAid with contributions from a wide range of actors. It is being funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) of the British Government through the Sanitation and Hygiene Applied Research For Equity (SHARE) Consortium and is expected to be co-published by a number of organisations in April 2014.

Please see overleaf for an overview of the contents of the toolkit.

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### Briefing Note 1 About this toolkit and how to use it

- Purpose, scope and limitations
- Contents
- Definitions
- Acknowledgements

### Checklist of actions

- Ten key principles
- Actions with the potential to reduce violence
- Links to further information in the toolkit

### Briefing Note 2 Improving WASH programming

- Why as WASH practitioners we should consider vulnerabilities to violence
- What violence can look like in relation to WASH
- Principles for good practice in reducing violence related to WASH
- Examples of good practice in improving programming
- Advocacy and awareness raising

### Briefing Note 3 Institutional commitment and staff capacity

- How violence can affect us as WASH professionals
- What we need to know as WASH professionals
- Responsibilities of WASH sector organisations – policies, codes of conduct, training and support for staff, finance and M&E
- Examples of institutional good practice
- What we should do if we or our colleagues are affected directly by violence – ‘Do’s and Don’ts’

### Briefing Note 4 Understanding the protection sector and how to respond to violence as a WASH actor

- Actors who work in the ‘protection’ sector in development and humanitarian contexts
- Examples of how WASH and protection actors have worked together
- Referral systems and ethics used by the protection sector
- What we should do if we are faced with violence in communities – ‘Do’s and Don’ts’

Supporting documents

## OVERVIEW

### Toolset 1 Case studies

Examples of violence, gender and WASH

### Toolset 2 Videos

Violence, gender and WASH and good practice in programming – including the introductory video ‘As safe as toilets?’

### Toolset 3 Case studies

Good practice in policy and programming

### Toolset 4 Methodologies for working with communities

### Toolset 5 Scenarios

For use in training

### Toolset 6 People in vulnerable, marginalised and special circumstances

### Toolset 7 International legal instruments

### Toolset 8 Reference listing