INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- **Age Inclusive Agendas for Sustainable Development**
- **Piloting and Practicing the Washington Group's Short Set of Questions on Disability in Humanitarian Programming**
- **Staff Picks**
- **Announcements/Upcoming Gender and Social Inclusion Events**

Age Inclusive Agendas for Sustainable Development

The global population of older people is expected to rise from just over 900 million in 2015 to 1.4 billion by 2030 and 2.1 billion by 2050, when there will be roughly the same number of older persons and children under 15 years of age. According to the World Health Organization, "ageism is stereotyping and discrimination on the basis of a person's age. Ageism is widespread and an insidious practice which has harmful effects on the health of older adults." There are international frameworks to address ageism and promote the ability of older persons to realize their potential including the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the Political Declaration adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing in April 2002. AARP's CEO Jo Ann Jenkins summarizes this desire to build a society for all ages in her article, *Disrupt Aging: The Global Imperative,* "When we disrupt aging and embrace it as something to look forward to, rather than something to fear, we can begin to discover the real possibilities for becoming the person we've always wanted to be—and we can build a society where all people are valued because of who they are, not judged by how old they are."

Given this context, the TAAP team is excited to highlight [The Grandmother Project – Change Through Culture,](#) an innovative program that seeks to improve the health, education and well-being of children, women and girls in developing countries by empowering grandmothers to catalyze change in socio-cultural norms. The Grandmother Project (GMP), based in Senegal, develops innovative and empowering methods and tools that engage community members in active reflection on both their past experiences and on new information that is shared with them. GMP takes a six point approach, which includes promoting the use of participatory adult education methods, producing guidelines and tools for partners on how to mainstream grandmother-inclusive and intergenerational strategies in development programs, training and coaching community actors and partners in the use of grandmother-inclusive and intergenerational approaches, documenting lessons learned in

grandmother-inclusive and intergenerational programs and disseminating them in a variety of ways, providing technical support to partners to promote the well-being of children and women, and increase awareness of the importance of grandmother-inclusive and intergenerational approaches in all development programs to improve the lives of women and children.

The architect of this approach, GMP's Executive Director, Judi Aubel, credits the cultural and historic emphasis on the wisdom of elders and intergenerational learning as a key reason for the success of these approaches. In her article, "Elders: a cultural resource for promoting sustainable development" Aubel notes that "in western, youth-focused societies, cultural traditions and elders are often viewed as old-fashioned and given limited attention, and communication between elders and youth limited. In non-western societies, the wisdom of the elders and intergenerational learning, have always been viewed as critical ingredients for survival, especially when those societies have been faced with threats to their environmental, economic and social well-being."

This video explores how grandmothers are leading positive change for girls, including by leveraging traditional ties between grandmothers and girls. According to a report on a GMP project, *Grandmother Leaders: A resource to improve the lives of adolescent girls,* the goal was to strengthen the knowledge and leadership role of grandmothers, building on their traditional advisory role, to promote improved adolescent girls' health and well-being, with specific emphasis on early/forced marriage (EFM), teen pregnancy and female genital mutilation (FGM). All of these problems are prevalent in the Velingara area of Senegal where the project was carried out.

To accomplish this goal, project activities focused on training grandmother (GM) leaders, given their influential role within families and communities related

to the education and well-being of girls. The innovative "Under-the-tree Leadership Training for Grandmothers to Promote the Well-being of Adolescent Girls" includes four two-day training sessions, or modules. For each module, a set of participatory learning activities was developed specifically for use with illiterate GM leaders. All sessions are facilitated by female community development workers and adolescent girls participate in some activities during after-school hours. The report highlights five project accomplishments:

1. Strengthened self-confidence of the grandmother leaders
2. Increased solidarity and understanding between GMs
3. Increased knowledge of adolescents' physical and psychological development
4. Strengthened skills for communicating with teenage girls
5. Increased communication and collaboration between GM leaders and other community actors (traditional leaders, religious leaders, teachers, health workers, etc.) to act favor of girls, and children in general.

As the report concludes, "Grandmother leaders exist in all communities but many programs neither recognize their importance nor encourage them to play an active role in promoting the well-being of families and children. The grandmother leaders training program both values and actively involves the grandmother resource, and empowers them to empower girls."

We love stories where unexpected agents of change empower other unexpected agents of change!

Photo: "Grandmother leaders: A resource to improve the lives of adolescent girls". Lessons Learned Report, Grandmother Project, 2016.

Piloting and Practicing the Washington Group's Short Set of Questions on Disability in Humanitarian Programming

Data, data, data. As development practitioners, we know it's important and more often than not required by donors as part of any project. For measuring disability, the Washington Group's Short Set of Questions on Disability was created. Established in 2001, the Washington Group (WG) developed six questions to measure disability designed to be embedded in census, demographic health surveys or other data collection efforts. These six questions have become the standard to measure disability around the world. The TAAP Team spoke with Pauline Thivillier, Program Manager at Handicap International about their DFID-funded project "Data on persons with disabilities in humanitarian action." HI believes the WG Short Set is helpful because it gathers data that can be compared across projects and countries, raises awareness of disability simply

by asking the questions, and provides a way to bring data collection on persons with disabilities into humanitarian projects. HI is furthering our understanding about how the Short Set can be used in humanitarian programming through a three-year action research project.

The action research project is piloting the Short Set in three countries: Jordan, Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Philippines. There are three phases of the project. First, there is action research on the use of the WG's Short Set in the three countries. Humanitarian actors in each pilot site participating in the project are provided general monitoring & evaluation support, adaptive M&E systems, and staff training on data collection and analysis. Second, HI will gather the learning from the pilots to guide development of training for humanitarian actors on how to use the WG Short Set on Disability successfully. Finally, there will be dissemination of the learning and resources created and advocacy to ensure humanitarian actors use the questions for comparable data disaggregation.

The project is in the first stage of action research in the three countries. While collecting disaggregated data is a requirement for some donors, data disaggregated by disability also helps the project design and implementation by better understanding the population the project seeks to reach and subsequent project monitoring strengthens project management decisions. The six questions of the WG Short Set can easily be integrated into demographic sections of existing data collection tools; however, the analysis of the data is more challenging as it requires a certain level of skills which makes training for staff in this area essential. The analysis must also be done in a timely way so the data can be used quickly, especially in a humanitarian context because timing is a constraint due to quickly changing environments. Additionally, the WG Short Set is an entry point to collecting data on disability and should be triangulated with other methods such as qualitative research to give a full

picture of the pathways to inclusion. Pauline Thivillier shares, "Without people with disabilities being systematically identified humanitarian actors are not in a position to implement an appropriate inclusive response."

Do you have an "inclusivized" data collection tool to share? Please email us at taap@worldlearning.org *and we'll feature you in an upcoming edition of TAAP Tuesday.*

Photo: Used with permission from Handicap International. Mohamed, physiotherapist for Handicap International in Jordan, meets for the firsttime Mohamed Fares a 75 years old Syrian refugee, and proceeds to the evaluation of his case. © G. Dubourthoumieu / Handicap International.
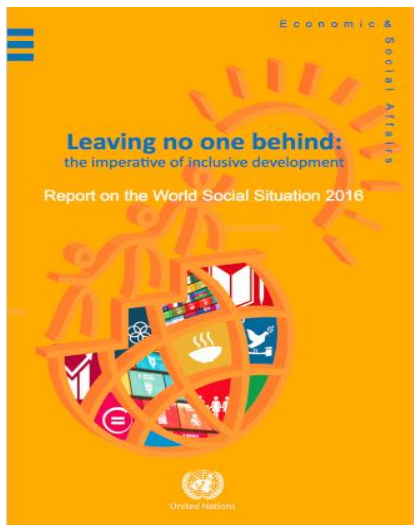

Staff Picks

- **Born Julia and Julius.** In Uganda, growing up as an intersex person is a complicated, often dangerous experience. But this activist is working to end the stigma and harassment the community faces, and to ensure all intersex people have the chance to live safe and happy lives. Check out this video, supported by the Open Society Foundation.

- **"Measuring Transformative Change"** This new resource from CARE, World Fish, and the CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems explores ways to measure gender transformative change. According to the authors, "Transformative change can be measured by examining three broad domains of empowerment: (1) agency: individual and collective capacities (knowledge and skills), attitudes, critical reflection, assets, actions, and access to services, (2) relations: the expectations and cooperative or negotiation dynamics embedded within relationships between people in the home, market, community, and groups and organizations, and (3) structures: the informal and formal institutional rules that govern collective, individual and institutional practices, such as environment, social norms, recognition and status (Martinez and Wu 2009; Morgan 2014). Considering all three of these dimensions helps reframe the discourse of empowerment—and the burden of change—from a focus on women's individual agency to collective responsibility and political engagement and action.

"Violence against women – it's a men's issue." Domestic violence and sexual abuse are often called "women's issues." But in this bold, blunt talk, Jackson Katz points out that these are intrinsically men's issues — and shows how these violent behaviors are tied to definitions of manhood. A clarion call for us all — women and men — to call out unacceptable behavior and be leaders of change.

Photo: Modified from FlickrNation, Episode 2, Free, Hawk, Thomas, 2017.

Announcements/Upcoming Gender and Social Inclusion Events

- **"Leaving No One Behind: The Imperative of Inclusive Development" (Panel Discussion/Webinar).** The World Bank's Social Inclusion Global Solutions Group is hosting a high-level panel discussion on Thursday March 2, 2017, from 9:00 am - 10:30 am, to examine the new United Nations' report on the World Social Situation 2016: **"Leaving No One Behind: The Imperative of Inclusive Development"**. The report brings social inclusion into focus by identifying patterns of social exclusion and considers whether development processes have been inclusive. In particular, the Report examines the linkages between exclusion, poverty and employment trends.

- R.S.V.P.   Simona   Palummo: spalummo@worldbankgroup.org

- **"CSW61 Briefing: Who Cares? The Nexus of Age, Gender, Decent Work & Care."** According to the UN, "the invisibility of older women is a serious global issue

that threatens to leave them at the margins of societies. Women aged 50 and over represent nearly one-quarter (23.6%) of all women around the world, yet them remain invisible in civil society, statistics and public policy. The population aged 60 and over is expected to reach 1.4 billion in 2030 with the majority being women, typically living in low- and middle-income countries. To leave no one behind, policymakers must make older women visible and build inclusive programs and policies for them." For those of you interested in this topic, you may be interested in attending a special briefing, **"Who Cares? The Nexus of Age, Gender, Decent Work & Care"** on Tuesday, March 14, which will examine the age, gender, and care dimensions of work.

(By invitation only. Visit AARPInternational.org/2017unbriefingseries to register. The event code for registrations is 2017briefings.)

Photo: Cover page: "Leaving no one behind: the imperative of inclusive development". United Nations' Report on the World Social Situation, 2016.

Got Inclusion?

We want to hear from you! Please share your inclusion activities, success stories, upcoming events, and intriguing resources. Send to TAAP@worldlearning.org. New to TAAP? Read past newsletters and learn more by clicking here.