

**WAVES-CC project: UNDERSTANDING WOMEN’S AND GIRLS’ AGENCY,
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS IN THE
CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN KILIFI COUNTY, KENYA
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET
FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION**

Study Title	Understanding Women’s and Girls’ Agency, Gender-Based Violence, and Environmental Stressors in the Context of Climate Change in Kilifi County, Kenya
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Focus Group Guide: Girls ages 10-14 years

Exploring the Intersection of climate change and Violence against Women and Girls in Kenya

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this study. During this time, we are going to ask you some questions regarding the impact that severe weather has had on violence against women and girls in this community. Please remember that there are no right or wrong answers to these questions. We just want to hear your views and thoughts in your own words. The duration of this focus group discussion will be 60 to 90 minutes. Before we begin, I want to assure you that your privacy and confidentiality will be respected throughout this study. Any information you share with us will be kept strictly confidential, and your identity will not be revealed in any reports or publications resulting from this research. We are here to listen to your experiences and understand your perspectives, so please feel free to share your thoughts openly and honestly.

Do you have any questions before we start?

Understanding of climate change (causes and effects)

Okay, so we'll go ahead and get started. First, we would like to talk about severe weather and how it impacts your day-to-day life. changing climate and severe weather.

1. Have you ever heard of something called climate change? If you have, can you tell me what it means to you? (Probe: What causes climate change?)

For the purpose of this conversation, when we talk about climate change or severe weather, we are talking about droughts that last long enough to impact crops, floods lasting longer than several days, or other weather events that may impact daily life (e.g. landslides). We will refer to these as 'severe weather events.'

2. How does extreme weather, such as heavy rain or drought, affect your everyday /school activities and chores?
3. How does severe weather affect girls your age in the community in day-to-day life? (Prompt: how does it affect your health and well-being, your relationship with your family, changes in household responsibilities, and life in the community?)
4. How do severe weather events affect girls' ability to attend to basic needs? (Probe: Tell me about food, water, fuel, access to health, security, school, menstrual products)
5. How do severe weather events affect girls your age ability to go to school and keep up with your studies? (Probe: canceled classes? transportation? Staying connected to friends?)

Understanding of violence

Next, we are going to ask questions about something a bit more personal and perhaps a bit challenging to talk about. We like to discuss experiences of violence.

1. What does gender-based violence mean to you?
2. What does intimate partner violence mean to you?

For the purposes of this conversation, we define gender-based violence as any violence committed by a man or boy against a woman or girl. This can be a family member (father, uncle, brother) or another partner (friend, boyfriend, fiancé).

3. What are the effects of violence?

Climate change and violence

Now we would like to move to the questions about the connection between the big changes in weather events and gender-based violence in your community

1. What connection do you see between severe weather events and gender-based violence occurrence in your community?
2. Have you heard of girls your age experiencing violence after severe weather?
3. How does severe weather affect the safety of girls your age (probe: in the home? In the community? What about sex for money?)
4. What types of violence do you think girls your age undergo during or after severe weather events? (Probe: Who are the perpetrators? Where does it occur?)

5. How do you think severe weather affects the occurrence of gender-based violence in your community? (Probe: stress? tension?)
6. What social factors contribute to an increase in violence during or after severe weather events? (Probe: relationship issues? Social support network?)
7. What cultural factors contribute to an increase in violence during or after severe weather events? (Probe: female genital mutilation?)
8. Have you noticed any tension in your community after a severe weather event? How do you think severe weather contributes to tensions and conflicts in your rural community?
9. What about in households? Have you noticed any increase in tension or stress in households after a severe weather event?

Understanding what responses there by local authorities were (How would they protect themselves)

These final questions are about the resources or supplies that the local government or school officials offer

1. Where would a girl go if she needed help (if she was a victim of violence or afraid of violence)?
2. What kind of support or programs are available to you?

Sometimes schools provide health related resources for girls such as menstrual supplies.

3. If school was closed, where would a girl go if they needed menstrual supplies or other support that school provides?