

TRIPLE JEOPARDY: Protecting At-Risk Refugee Survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

INCLUSIVE SGBV PREVENTION – SEXUAL MINORITY REFUGEES

1. AIM

This module aims to familiarize participants with the key principles involved in inclusive SGBV prevention, including the need to build on the existing strengths of refugees with disabilities.

2. USE

This module may be used as part of a two-day training (see *Model Agendas*).

TIME	METHODOLOGY	MATERIALS
1 hour	PowerPoint Brainstorming Discussion Group work	Flip chart Markers Inclusive SGBV Prevention – Sexual Minority Refugees PowerPoint Projector

3. GENERAL BACKGROUND

SGBV prevention and risk mitigation refers to actions that stop SGBV from happening and/or reduce the risk that someone might be exposed to SGBV.

- There are a range of factors that increase the vulnerability of sexual minority refugees to SGBV, and a range of factors that are protective for SGBV.
- Despite sexual minority refugees facing added risks to SGBV, they are often excluded from SGBV prevention activities, including community awareness raising, sexual and reproductive health education and economic empowerment activities, which have been demonstrated to empower individuals and reduce their risk to SGBV.
- Sexual minority refugees are excluded from these activities due to attitudinal, physical, communication and structural barriers in society.

Helpful **definitions** for this and other modules include:

- **Inclusive SGBV Prevention:** A collaborative effort by all community and agency stakeholders, including traditionally marginalized groups, to end SGBV. Inclusive SGBV prevention requires that all members of the community are able to access and participate in SGBV activities.
- **Twin-Track Approach to SGBV Prevention and Response:** An approach used to ensure SGBV prevention and response is inclusive of all members of the community, including sexual minority refugees. This approach includes (1) targeted actions that empower sexual minority refugees and (2) mainstreaming actions that ensure sexual minority refugees are included in all other SGBV activities and initiatives (most commonly by removing barriers to access and participation).
- **Community-Based Approach to SGBV Prevention and Response:** Strategies, programs and services provided by a wide range of stakeholders in the community to mitigate risks of SGBV and help survivors address the medical, psychosocial, economic, legal and other consequences of SGBV.

Resources

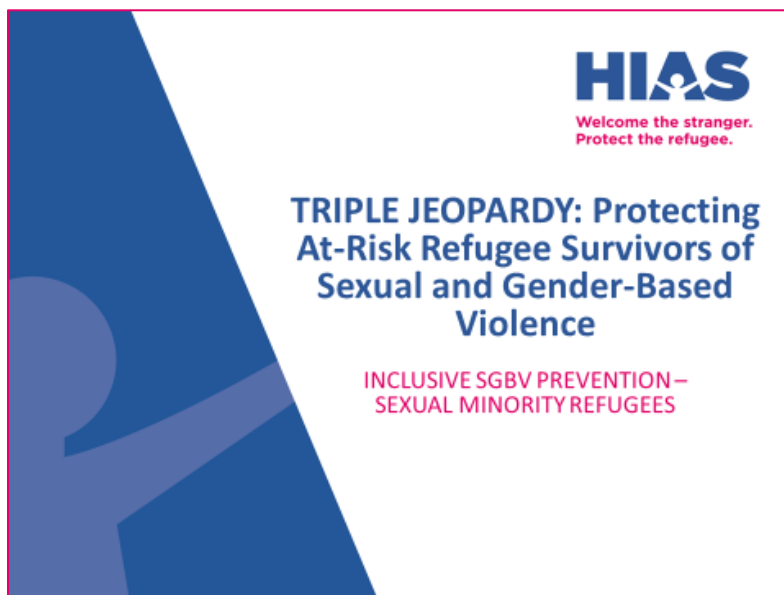
Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 33-38.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (2015) [Guidelines for Integrating Gender Based Violence Intervention in Humanitarian Action](#).

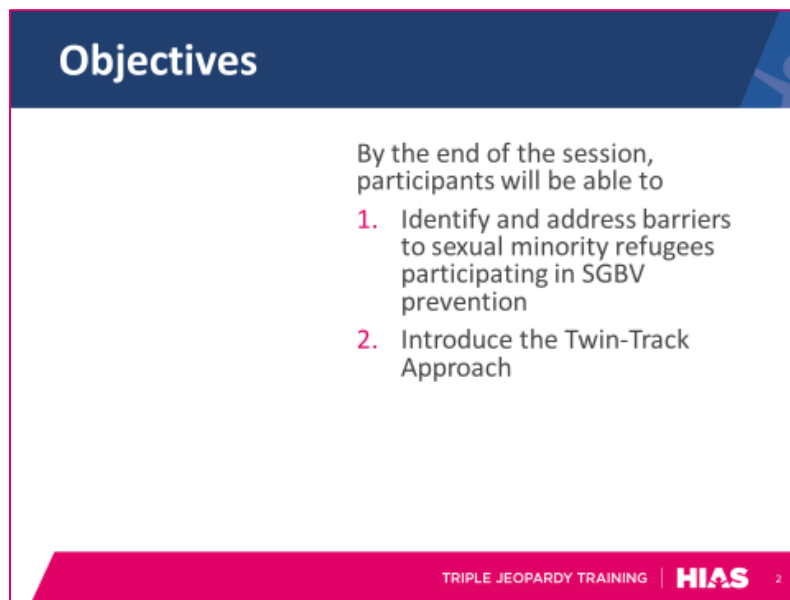
4. SLIDES

This section provides you background and resources for each PowerPoint slide in the module. It also gives you instructions to facilitate group discussions and exercises.

SLIDE 1: COVER



SLIDE 2: OBJECTIVES



Objectives

By the end of the session, participants will be able to

1. Identify and address barriers to sexual minority refugees participating in SGBV prevention
2. Introduce the Twin-Track Approach

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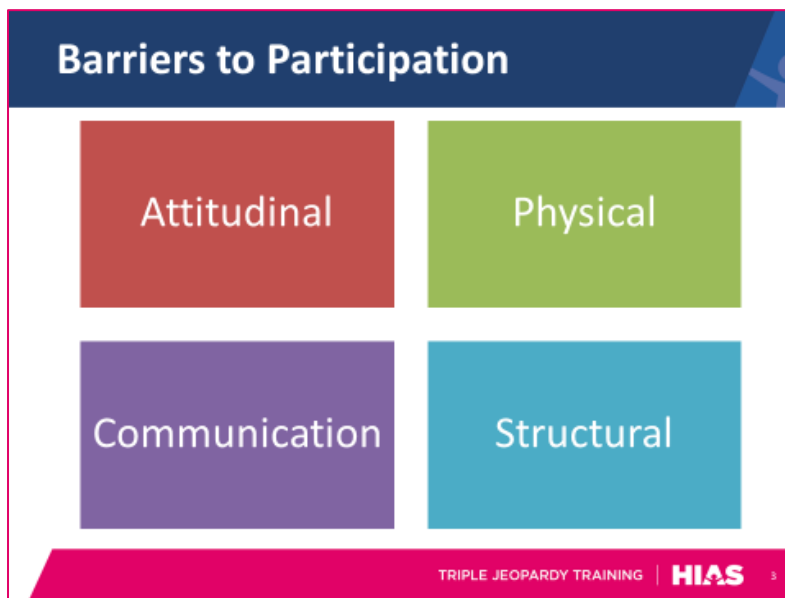
Background

- Review the objectives with participants.
- Explain that the module will focus on the meaning of “inclusive SGBV prevention.”
- To accomplish this, discussion will focus on the identifying and addressing barriers to access and participation in SGBV prevention activities and programs, including introducing the “twin-track” approach to SGBV prevention.
- These points will be re-visited in the last module focused on action planning.

Resources

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (2015) [Guidelines for Integrating Gender Based Violence Intervention in Humanitarian Action](#).

SLIDE 3: BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION



Background

- There are four key barriers faced by sexual minority refugee survivors of SGBV wishing to engage in prevention programs: attitudinal, physical, communication and structural.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 33-38.

Attitudinal Barriers

- Viewed as unable to fulfill gender roles
- Intersectionality of sexuality, gender roles/expression and refugee status (among other factors)
- Lack of awareness about the daily reality of sexual minorities
- Deep-rooted stigmatization relating to people who fail to conform to social expectations relating to sexual orientation or gender identity
- Fear of sexual minorities to disclose instances of SGBV to service providers

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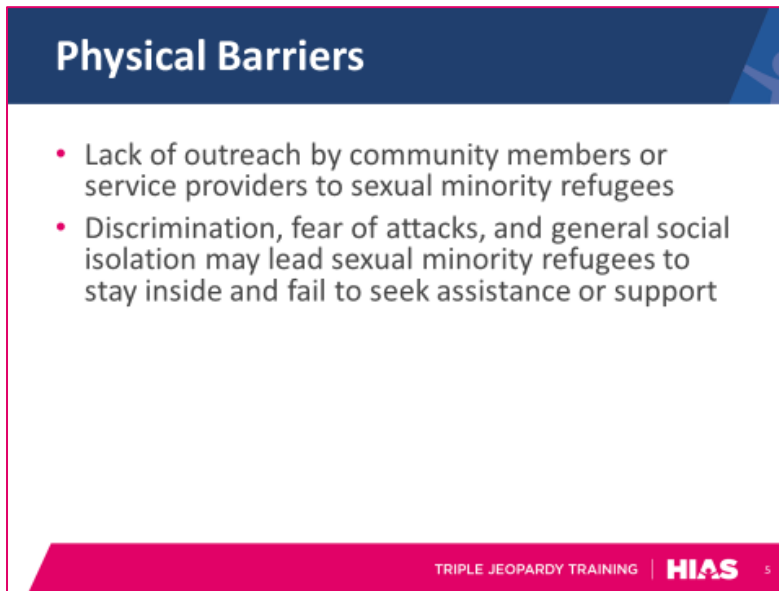
Background

Attitudinal barriers are created by society and are reinforced by community members, family and even staff in SGBV programs.

- Discrimination on the basis of gender, including gender roles and gender expression, can result in reduced economic opportunities, as well as exclusion from community committees that are running SGBV activities. This marginalization intersects with discrimination related to legal status. These multiple levels of exclusion are referred to as “intersectionality.”
- Stigma and marginalization lead sexual minorities to be “invisible,” with little societal understanding of their lived realities, and how important SGBV prevention is to them.
- The deeply-rooted social stigma relating to homosexuality and transgender identities is deeply traumatizing to sexual minorities. It manifests in discrimination against sexual minorities in housing, education, medical care, social support and employment, among other areas. It can prevent sexual minorities from seeking protection if they have experienced SGBV, because they fear secondary stigmatization by police or service providers.
- Lastly, fear and stigmatization leads many people still follow a charitable model when working with sexual minority refugees, prioritizing separate and “special” programs and activities, and taking actions which will “keep them safe” from others. Research shows that this in fact increases their isolation and risk of violence.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 33-38.



Physical Barriers

- Lack of outreach by community members or service providers to sexual minority refugees
- Discrimination, fear of attacks, and general social isolation may lead sexual minority refugees to stay inside and fail to seek assistance or support

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 5

Background

Physical barriers include all physical obstacles in the environment, which reduce access and participation in SGBV prevention activities.

- Sexual minorities may not be able to find suitable transportation and/or may have to pay more for it.
- When service providers are located far away from refugee-populated areas, rely on walk-in services and fail to engage in outreach activities, sexual minority refugees will be unable to participate in SGBV prevention activities.
- Service providers who have not integrated the needs of sexual minority refugees into their programming will not be aware of where they live and work. This will prevent them from reaching and serving sexual minority refugees.
- Sexual minority refugees themselves will often not leave home for fear of social stigma, discrimination or identity-based targeting.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 33-38.



Communication Barriers

- Using only one format to communicate information and messages
- Lack of awareness about respectful language
- Lack of training of key interlocutors on communication with sexual minorities
- Minimal spaces and few opportunities for consultation and dialogue
- Lack of translators for sexual minority refugees

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 6

Background

- Communications provided by service providers in written, spoken or visual formats may not be understood by refugees who are not literate in the language spoken in the country of asylum.
- Lack of awareness leaves many service providers and other stakeholders using degrading terms when referring to sexual minorities, leading to further marginalization and rejection.
- Interpreters may not be trained to protect the confidentiality of sexual minority refugees. They also may not be aware of the appropriate, respectful terminology to be used in the native language or language in the country of asylum.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 33-38.

Structural Barriers

- Invisibility of sexual minorities = lack of data, lack of funding, lack of inclusive programming
- Programs encourage dependence rather than empowerment or community-based SGBV prevention
- Financial barriers prevent sexual minority refugees from attending prevention programs

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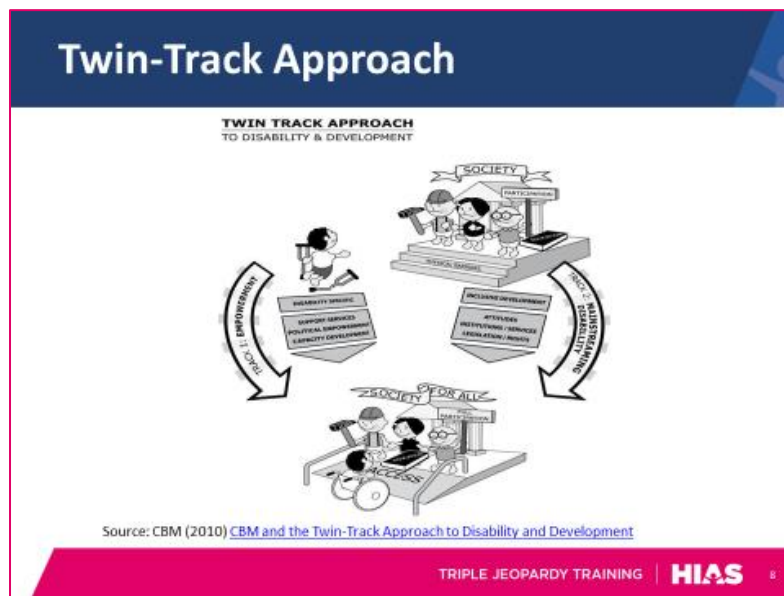
Background

- There is lack of support by service providers, government and international agencies for emerging leadership of sexual minority refugees.
- Service providers tend to manage SGBV prevention as well, leaving sexual minorities out, encouraging a charitable approach rather than empowered community-based leadership in SGBV prevention.
- Outreach by service providers engaging sexual minority refugees is limited. Sexual minorities are often invited to participate separately in sensitization or consultation exercises, further excluding them from integration within local leadership structures which may be more active in SGBV prevention planning or implementation.

Resources

Triple Jeopardy Report, pp. 33-38.

SLIDE 8: TWIN-TRACK APPROACH



Materials

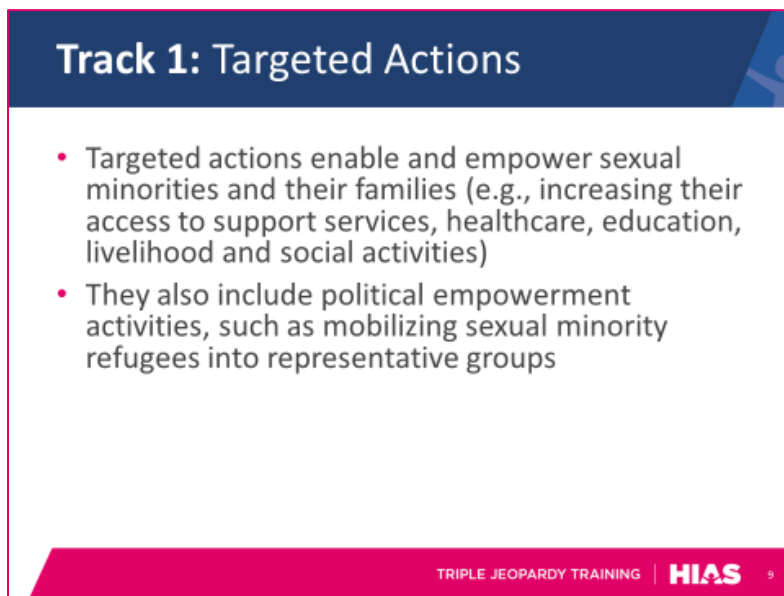
Flip chart and markers

Background

- We can use a Twin-Track Approach to address barriers, ensuring that sexual minorities have the same access as others to SGBV prevention activities.
- Track 1 uses targeted actions to empower and mitigate barriers facing sexual minority refugees. Track 2 uses mainstreaming to ensure sexual minority refugees are included in services for all.

Resources

CBM (2010) [CBM and the Twin-Track Approach to Disability and Development](#).



Track 1: Targeted Actions

- Targeted actions enable and empower sexual minorities and their families (e.g., increasing their access to support services, healthcare, education, livelihood and social activities)
- They also include political empowerment activities, such as mobilizing sexual minority refugees into representative groups

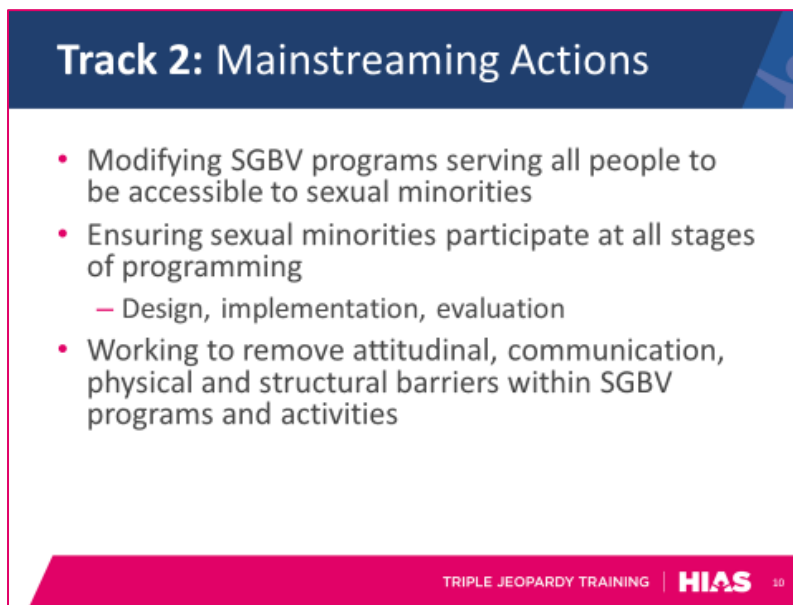
TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 9

Background

- Review the more detailed definition of targeted actions on the slide.
- Targeted actions are those that enable and empower sexual minorities and their families (e.g., increasing their access to support services, healthcare, education, livelihood and social activities).
- They also include political empowerment activities, such as mobilizing sexual minority refugees into representative groups.
- Explain to participants that “targeted actions” are developed by service providers in close collaboration with sexual minority refugees and their families, and should be done concurrently with mainstreaming (Track 2), so that sexual minorities are included in the same SGBV activities as others.
- An example would be the formation of representative group of sexual minorities, who will help to raise awareness about training and awareness raising on SGBV.

Resources

CBM (2010) [CBM and the Twin-Track Approach to Disability and Development](#).



Track 2: Mainstreaming Actions

- Modifying SGBV programs serving all people to be accessible to sexual minorities
- Ensuring sexual minorities participate at all stages of programming
 - Design, implementation, evaluation
- Working to remove attitudinal, communication, physical and structural barriers within SGBV programs and activities

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | HIAS 10

Background

- Review the detailed definition of mainstreaming actions on the slide.
- Mainstreaming ensures that all SGBV programs are accessible and inclusive of sexual minority refugees. This includes addressing the attitudinal, communication, physical and structural barriers within SGBV programs and activities.
- Examples include providing a vehicle or bus fare to bring sexual minority refugees to agency programming.

Resources

CBM (2010) [CBM and the Twin-Track Approach to Disability and Development](#).

SLIDE 12: SUMMARY

Summary

- Attitudinal, physical, communication and structural barriers reduce access and participation of sexual minorities in a range of activities
- We can use a Twin-Track Approach to address barriers, ensuring that people with disabilities have the same access as others to SGBV prevention activities

TRIPLE JEOPARDY TRAINING | **HIAS** 11

Background

- Present the summary points.
- Ask participants for any questions or requests for clarification.