Discussion: Why do Frontline Workers
Need to Know how to Handle a Disclosure

Expected : 10 mins

Objective: confirm participants’ understanding of why they need to know how to handle the disclosure of a GBV incident

* Divide the participants in groups.
* Invite them to discuss why they think they need to know how to handle a GBV disclosure.
* After a few minutes of group discussion, return in plenary and reinforce key considerations below.

Key considerations

* A survivor of GBV can decide when and how to disclose her experience.
* All frontline workers could face a disclosure of GBV from anyone in the communities they work in.
* It is extremely difficult for a survivor to disclose a GBV experience and the first contact at the time of a disclosure plays critical role in her healing process.
* As frontline workers, participants are often in direct contact with displaced and stateless persons providing services, undertaking assessments or monitoring activities, consulting community members etc. Therefore, they may develop a relationship of trust, or they may be one of the few frontline workers that they know or are in direct contact with. Based on this, a person may decide to share information about GBV they themselves, or others in their family or community have been exposed to.
* This is a critical moment, and it may be the only moment that a survivor decides to seek support. If this turns out to be a negative experience for her, or she does not receive the information about needed services that she is looking for, she may not be willing to seek any further assistance or find again the strength to share this information.