



Handout 2.1- Findings on Safety and non-discrimination

Module 2

Slide reference- 8 - 12

For- Sharing with participants as pre-read before coming for the session

Summary of the study “Ageing on the Move” on safety and non-discrimination is given below.

This information highlights some protection concerns that need to be considered in planning future activities. There are 3 key areas selected – Abuse, Safety and Discrimination

Check specific information for your country before joining the session that is in the Ageing on the Move Report – and see it this is new information or no surprise at all.

Abuse

The overall rate of elder abuse surveyed in the countries under study before the pandemic is 38%, with a marked difference between those with disabilities (48%) and those without (29%). During the pandemic, averages of abuse do not seem to be subject to significant fluctuations; however, only a quarter of persons attend medical facilities following abuse and 23% report abuse, leaving a large percentage of persons unprotected in this respect.

In the northern Central American countries, the percentage of elder abuse is 63%, with a significant difference between persons with disabilities (87%) compared to those without disabilities (40%). The gender difference is 11 points, with 65% for men compared to 57% for women. In the Andean region, mistreatment is lower, affecting a quarter of the population (26%), and there is a gender difference of 34% for women compared to 20% for men.

In terms of the older persons with disabilities surveyed in northern Central America, the most recurrent forms of abuse are psycho- logical abuse (36%) and eviction (14%), with slightly more men than women, 3% and 7% respectively.

The most commonly occurring type of abuse against older persons with disabilities in the countries of the Andean region is eviction (8%), affecting more women than men in this situation, by three percentage points.



Safety

Around 36% of older persons surveyed and living in northern Central America consider the place where they live to be unsafe, because of internal violence by gangs. A third of deportees in the same region (33%) did not feel safe to return to their place of origin, mainly because of threats, violence or persecution.

For persons in transit between countries who cross borders on a daily basis, the risks are worrying. The “trochas” or “green roads” are irregular border crossings that are extremely dangerous for those who are forced to cross them, as they expose themselves to robbery, rape, kidnapping and human trafficking, among other risks.

Discrimination

Fifty percent of older persons on the move have felt discriminated against. The main form of discrimination is age, with an average of 25%; however, there is a difference of more than 10 points between women (30%) and men (19%), with the latter feeling greater levels of discrimination. Another significant gender difference is discrimination on the basis of disability, where 5% of women report feeling discriminated against, compared to 10% of men.

In the northern Central American countries, age discrimination reaches 27%, which is more noticeable among deportees in both Honduras and El Salvador. Similarly, both countries report discrimination based on the condition of human mobility among deportees and displaced persons. In the countries of the Andean region, age discrimination reaches the same percentage as discrimination based on human mobility status at 25%

This provides clear areas of protection concerns.

Do you have others to share?

