

UN Women in Humanitarian Action, DRR and crisis Response

Addressing Vulnerability, Promoting
Accountability, and Enabling Empowerment
of women and girls in crisis



Planet 50-50 by 2030
Step It Up for Gender Equality



Heightened Vulnerability in a World in Crisis: An Imperative for Action

**131 million
girls out of
school**

500 adult illiterate women.
And girls 2.5 times more
likely to drop out

**1 in 5 girls
married
before age
18**

**60% of
preventable
maternal deaths
occur in crises**

**141.6m in need of
humanitarian
assistance**

**68 m displaced by
conflict
19.2 m displaced by
disasters**

**1 in 5 women
suffer from
SGBV in crises**

**Women have a
higher chance of
dying and die
earlier than men
when disaster
strikes**

**Average
displacement
is 17-26 years**

**Overemphasis
on victimhood**

A mixed picture: Normative and policy gains and persistent Gaps in Upholding Gender Commitments

The World Humanitarian Summit – Agenda for Humanity Commitments

Global compact for Refugees and The New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants

The IASC Gender Policy and Accountability Framework

Sendai Framework for Action for DRR

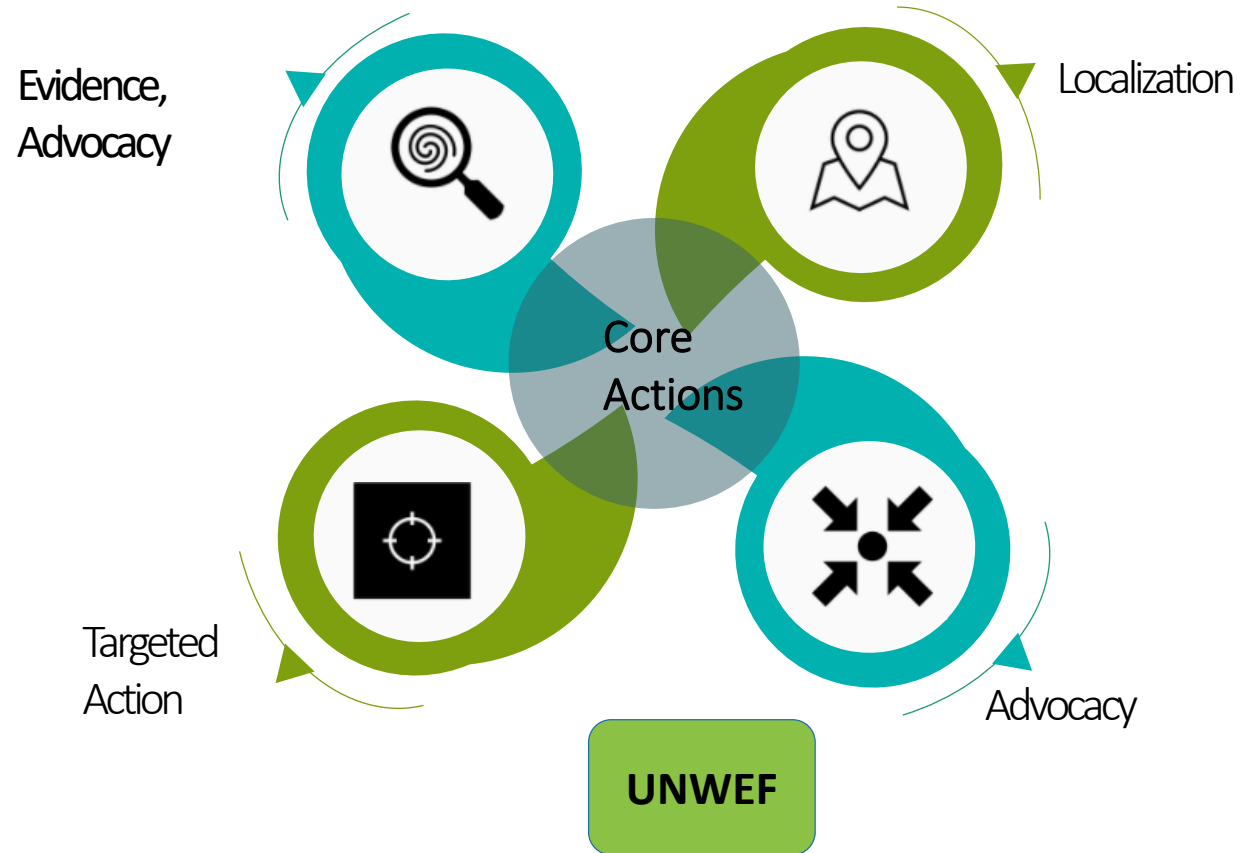
54% of HRPs lack gender analysis

Merely **20%** of countries had an independent gender analysis feeding into the humanitarian planning process

Less than **60%** of the reporting countries held consultations with local women's organizations

Only **1.15%** of financed HRP projects is targeted programming and **32%** mainstream gender

The inaugural Accountability Framework Report developed by UN Women on behalf of the IASC Gender Reference Group reveals inconsistency in the adoption and implementation of the Gender Policy



Coordination

Co-chair of the IASC's Gender Reference Group –UN Women has led on key deliverables in partnership with **OCHA, UNHCR, OXFAM**:

- **Review and Update** of the **IASC's Gender Policy** and established the Accountability Framework
- Hosts the **Gender Desk** which carries out the monitoring function of the policy's Accountability Framework
- **Gender Alerts** for major humanitarian crises: Ebola, South Sudan, Yemen, CAR, Iraq, Nepal, Haiti, Hurricane Irma.
- **IASC Gender Handbook** and training of individuals from 42 different agencies.

Engaged in UNHCT and clusters in **20** countries

Leads the Grand Bargain's Friends of Gender Group and active in **4** workstreams

Normative:

Global Compact on Refugees in partnership with **UNHCR** –

- **global and regional consultations** with women organizations and member states.
- **Mainstreaming** GEEWG across all themes. Position papers and aide-memoire developed for member states for consultations for development of GCR. Engagement with the Global Refugee Forum.

WHS/Agenda for Humanity– UN Women convener and catalyst resulting in 446 commitments and continued monitoring.

UN Common guidance on resilience

UN Women's Response: Catalytic programming

LEAP - Addressing immediate needs (Crisis Response): Restoring dignity, amplifying voices and leveraging leadership

UN WOMEN'S HUMANITARIAN ACTION/LEAP IN NUMBERS

33 crisis context countries with UN Women humanitarian response operations	235,000 women and girls, and 89,000 men and boys as direct beneficiaries of UN Women's humanitarian action programmes	66 safe spaces and/or empowerment centers operational in 13 UN Women country programmes	61,500 women and more than 4,500 men in over 18 countries received livelihoods support	35,226 women and more than 7,384 men in over 12 countries benefited from UN Women leadership programming in humanitarian and crisis contexts
---	---	--	--	--

Gender Responsive Disaster Risk Reduction:

39

countries
had UN Women disaster risk reduction and resilience activities

90,907

women and girls and
13,809
men and boys

in 21 countries directly benefitted from UN Women's services to enhance their resilience against disasters and facilitate their participation and leadership in the development of disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies and programmes

100

women's organizations were supported to contribute to national disaster risk reduction policy making

97

partners

in 31 disaster risk reduction and resilience operational country contexts from the UN, academia, CSOs and NGO, international organizations, and the private sector

Second Chance Education:

A humanitarian-development nexus initiative responding to an urgent gap

UN WOMEN'S SECOND CHANCE EDUCATION (SCE) IN NUMBERS

6

Pilot countries

2

Crisis context countries with UN Women humanitarian response operations

66,500

women and young women including

20,000

refugee/ migrant women as direct beneficiaries of UN Women SCE programme

4 tracks of learning and earning pathways

Job Skills, Life Skills, Foundational Skills, Leadership Skills

- Entrepreneurship/ small businesses
- Agriculture
- Tailoring, handicrafts
- Construction, Mining
- Health and education services
- Food production and processing
- ICT
- E-tourism

Our Donors



Australia



Austria



Canada



Finland



Germany



Iceland



Ireland



Italy



Japan



Liechtenstein



Lithuania



Luxembourg



Netherlands



Norway



Spain



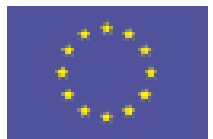
Sweden



United Kingdom



United States



*European Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)*



Central Emergency Response Fund





Management Response

Corporate Thematic Evaluation of UN-Women's Contribution to Humanitarian Action

Strengths

Conclusion 1

- UN Women helps to ensure that gender equality and the empowerment of women remains central to humanitarian action.

Conclusion 5

- There is significant evidence that UN Women has been highly effective in its global normative work.

Conclusion 9

- UN Women's work exemplifies gender equality and human rights approaches.

Opportunities

Conclusion 2

- Stronger links are needed between UN Women's global normative work and humanitarian coordination mechanisms where needs and priorities are determined.

Conclusion 4

- Working in partnership can ensure that UN Women makes contributions at sufficient scale while increasing opportunities for funding.

Conclusion 3

- UN Women should continue to build on its "development" work while increasing a focus on the "humanitarian" side of the nexus.

Weaknesses

Conclusion 7

- UN Women's reliance on non-core resources tends to make it more reactive and less strategic, and thus less efficient overall.

Conclusion 8

- UN Women's capacity and expertise in humanitarian action vary across offices, risking UN Women's ability to deliver consistently.

Conclusion 6

- Lessons from UN Women's country level work should serve to improve programming approaches globally and serve as a catalyst for longer-term transformative change.

Sustain global engagement of UN Women in humanitarian and crisis related normative, policy and coordination mechanisms to promote accountability to GEEWG in humanitarian and recovery efforts

Link global policy and coordination strengths with country level efforts to bridge gaps between commitments and implementation in coordination and response planning.

Consolidate and leverage UN Women catalytic and transformative approach (hum-dev nexus) to maximize gender outcomes of the system at large.

Focus in fewer number of countries to reach scale and higher impact, continue to be the global advocate and supporter of localization and women's leadership in humanitarian action and DRR

Strengthen partnership to maximize impact through system wide response and joint action at global, regional and country level.

Align strategy, structure, capacities and action with further support from donor base



Recommendation 1: Develop a response-level strategy to complement UN Women’s global humanitarian strategy (RM strategy, annual reviews of GiHA)

- Finalize the **UN-Women Humanitarian Strategy, RM strategy** [Initiated; Jan 2020];
- Conduct **internal annual reviews of Gender in Humanitarian Action – Gender Desk for the IASC** [Ongoing; Q2. annually]

Recommendation 2: Identify the necessary leadership, minimum levels of staffing and office structures for a response-level strategy in humanitarian settings to ensure UN Women can maximize its influence at the country level

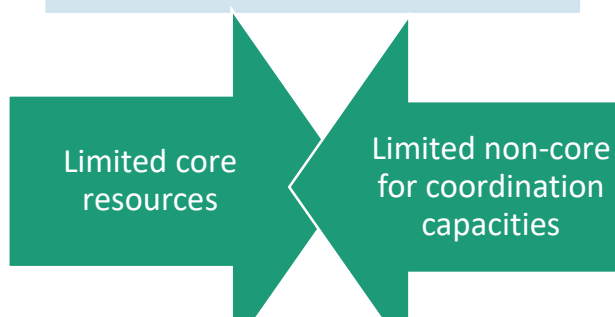
- **UN Women currently reviewing country presence- Rightsizing offices.**
- **Capacity development trainings and thematic webinars.** [Ongoing; Q2 2020] GiHA training already conducted in WCARO, APRO.
- **UN-Women Crisis Management Protocols and Fast Track processes** [Initiated; Q4 2019]
- **Technical guidance** on gender responsive localization, cash transfers, participation revolution and harmonized needs assessment, and rollout PSEA guidance [Initiated; Q4 2019]
- **Strengthen humanitarian content under UN Women’s global Knowledge Management Platform** (SharePoint) [Ongoing; Q1.2020]
- **Strengthen UN Women internal expert deployment systems at global and regional level** [Ongoing; Q4.2019]

Recommendation 3: Develop global partnership frameworks with OCHA, UNHCR and UNFPA building on experience in partnerships in different contexts

- Capitalize on joint initiatives at global, regional and country level for scale up.
- SMT engagement with UN OCHA, UNFPA and UNHCR to **formalize framework agreements within the spirit of UN reforms** [Not initiated; June 2020];
- **HACRO will engage with the AAP and PSEA lead agencies (OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF)** to ensure guidance provides specifics on W&Gs accessing AAP/PSEA in country level strategies. [Ongoing; June 2020]

Recommendation 4: Increase effectiveness and impact in humanitarian action by better linking UN Women’s work to system-wide responses while minimizing programming that is not done in partnership or that does not have broader strategic importance.

- HACRO will develop **field level coordination SOPs** [Not Initiated; Q1. 2020];
- HACRO will finalize the **UNW humanitarian strategy and programme guidance** with a clear criteria and checklist for prioritization of programmatic engagement [Initiated; Jan 2020]



Partially accepted

Shift is contingent on backing and funding of an accountability and coordination mechanism for UN Women in Humanitarian Action.

Upscale of SIDA supported strategic partnership framework which enables UNW’s implementation of SP outcome 5



UN WOMEN

Thank You

Hiba Qasas

Chief, Humanitarian Action and Crisis
Response Office, UN Women

