



UN WOMEN ROLE IN HUMANITARIAN SITUATIONS

EXECUTIVE BOARD
INFORMAL BRIEFING
5 OCTOBER 2022



| CONTEXT AND WHY A STRATEGY

“Impartiality is not possible without an evidence-based approach that aims to collect, analyze, and use disaggregated data”

1. 304 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, most crisis beyond emergencies +10 years.
2. Humanitarian crisis and response are gendered.
3. Pre-existing gender-based discrimination and inequalities are exacerbated in crises settings/most serious threats rights/rollback– e.g. women excluded from providing humanitarian response/freedom of movement + impact on access to lifesaving services; barring of girls from schools in Afghanistan; higher # of girls/women dropping out of education; conscription/gender roles + increased vulnerabilities – GBV, forced pregnancies and marriages, trafficking.
4. Lack of women’s voices and organizations in humanitarian planning – only 40% of HCTs reported consulting WLOs in HRPs and less attention to intersectionality.
5. Accountability (IASC/HCTs) – what is needed and what is provided/effectiveness.
6. GAM not consistently used, when used no accountability and no funding to funding specifically targeting vulnerabilities.
7. Key Policy Frameworks – IASC GP, WHS, ECOSOC, IAHE



| OBJECTIVES

1. To integrate gender in humanitarian response to improve effectiveness in addressing gendered lifesaving needs of those affected by sudden onset of emergencies.
2. To support the early recovery and resilience of women, working across the humanitarian-development – peace continuum in protracted crises.
3. To strengthen UN-Women's organizational effectiveness and deficiency in responding to sudden onset emergencies and protracted crisis.



| TWO-PRONGED APPROACH

Approach 1

Strengthen accountability towards gender commitments in coordination and implementation of UN-led humanitarian and refugee responses.



Context: UN RC/HC Activation of Humanitarian Clusters/UNHCR Refugee Coordination Model

Interventions:

- Gender analysis of HRPs, HNOs, cluster plans/GAF/Local GAFs
- Facilitate women's voices in community coordination mechanisms including monitoring, local accountability, assessments, PSEA
- Support UN systemwide PSEA interventions.

CROSSCUTTING: WLOs/WROS

Approach 2

Strengthen Comprehensive Protection and Livelihood support to Crisis Affected Women and Girls through LEAP Framework.



Context: Protracted humanitarian and Refugee crises. Focus is rights, recovery and using nexus approach to programming.

Interventions

- GBViE prevention: Survivor support, social norms programming; CRSV – UN Call to Action, access to legal aid, transitional justice.
- Livelihoods/CBIs.
- Second Chance Education
- Rights
- Women Empowerment Centers.

EXAMPLES

Promoting Localized Gender Accountability to Address Inequality in Humanitarian Crisis

- In nine select countries, UN Women is ensuring that UN led coordination of humanitarian response adequately identifies and addresses the specific needs of crisis affected women and girls.

Amplifying Women's Voices In Afghanistan

- The **Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan** - application of a Gender Equality Marker, with 15 % in minimum allocation to initiatives having as a principal objective gender equality
- **Afghan Women's Advisory Group** to participate and advise the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).
- Support for core funding for women's organizations to function and advocate for humanitarian access/peacebuilding in diaspora and in Afghanistan .

LEAP Programming – from Jordan to Uganda

- Integrated support – leadership, peacebuilding, transitional justice, WECs, prevention of GBV, CBIs, second chance education.



| 2021 RESULTS AT A GLANCE

1. Contributed to humanitarian and refugee coordination mechanisms in over **40 country and regional contexts**.
2. **Nearly 1M crisis-affected women and girls**, including refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees, accessed UN-Women's services including cash interventions, SCE, GBV, leadership training;
3. Support for, in different forms, through partnerships with governments, women organizations, UN agencies, the establishment of 149 women's safe spaces and empowerment hubs.
4. Enabled **1,241 local women's organizations** and groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian planning processes, improve gender-equitable outcomes and increase access to critical humanitarian services among crisis-affected women and girls
5. Extended **gender expertise to 87 percent of the humanitarian cluster** systems in countries with UN-Women's presence.
6. On behalf of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Reference Group, UN-Women continues leading efforts to maintain accountability for gender equality in humanitarian action by monitoring adherence to gender commitments across 31 crisis contexts as captured in the **Annual IASC Gender Accountability Framework Reports**.
7. The Entity supported **capacity building of 2,600 humanitarian actors**, civil society representatives and other partners on gender in humanitarian action across 21 crisis-affected countries.



| IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

- Capacities of, and resourcing COs/ROs.
- Capacity Building/Skills Set Of UN-Women Staff (online facilitated training to increase GIHA specialists within organization.
- Standard Programming Models (GiHA Coordination; Masculinities/working with men; Women Empowerment Centers; Intersectionality; working with WLOs/WROs) – deliver standard needs assessments, capacity building,
- Communication – Gender Alerts
- Increase resources for, expand Surge Roster (Internal/Standby Partners)
- Emergency Fund
- Resource Mobilization
- Crisis Response Policy and alignment of Programming Policies (DOA, Fast-track Procurement, HR, Security, Communications)



| IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY: POLITICAL/INFLUENCING

1. IASC MEMBERSHIP – Accountability within UN led humanitarian coordination.
2. UN-Women is co-chair of IASC GRG/established GiHA WGs as part of HCTs = opportunity to scale up accountability by IASC Principals and Associated entities/HCs/HCTs.
3. Leveraging annual IASC Gender Accountability Framework Report for political .
4. Strategic dialogues/partnerships with OCHA, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNDP & WFP.

A woman in a black abaya and yellow headscarf is holding a boom microphone. In the background, two other women are sitting and smiling. The scene is outdoors, with a chain-link fence and a building in the background. A hand is visible in the foreground, holding a red patterned cloth.

Thank You