

Gender Equality

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Highlights and Recent Developments

GENCAP

GENDER STANDBY CAPACITY

OCHA hosts the Secretariat of the newly established Gender Standby Capacity. GenCap deploys gender experts to emergencies similar to the ProCap arrangement. GenCap experts aim to build capacity of humanitarian actors at country level to mainstream gender equality programming, including prevention and response to gender-based violence, in all sectors of humanitarian response.

The main GenCap activities include:

- ❖ Deploying senior gender advisers (UN P4/P5 equivalent) to support the efforts of the Humanitarian Coordinators for up to six months to improve sex and age disaggregated information collection and analysis, programme planning, capacity building, coordination, and advocacy on gender equality programming.
- ❖ Assisting country actors to use the **IASC Gender Handbook** as well as the **IASC GBV Guidelines**.

OCHA has so far called upon this resource in Somalia and Sudan, and are cooperating with UNFPA in oPt, Nepal and Uganda to support the HCs office through the deployment of GenCap advisers.

For more information, please e-mail gencap@un.org



The first international training workshop for gender advisers in humanitarian action was held in May 2007 and brought together GenCap advisers, field practitioners and headquarters staff.

Update on deployments:

As of end September 2007, GenCap experts have been deployed to CAR, Liberia, Nepal, oPt, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan. GenCaps to Chad, Indonesia, Myanmar and Uganda are in the pipeline. In 2008 more experts will be added to the GenCap pool with support from the Norwegian Refugee Council and supported by the Government of Norway.

GenCap is an initiative of the IASC Sub-working Group for gender in Humanitarian Action

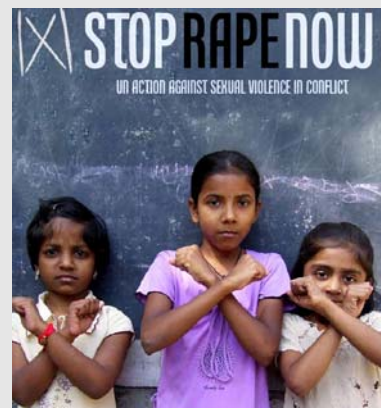
In 2007 UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action) was created to:

- ❖ improve coordination and accountability,
- ❖ amplify programming and advocacy, and
- ❖ support national efforts to prevent sexual violence and respond effectively to the needs of survivors.

UN Action unites 12 UN entities to eradicate the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war.

OCHA led a first UN Action support mission to Darfur to improve coordination of gender-based violence programming there. Following up on the ERC's recent visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), UN Action is working with V-Day and UNICEF to increase global and country advocacy for stopping rape in the DRC. UN Action is also planning a mission to the eastern regions of DRC later in 2007.

USG/ERC John Holmes was one of the key speakers at the launch of UN Action and is committed to the fight against sexual violence in conflict.



In DRC, John Holmes visited the Panzi clinic where survivors of brutal rape are being treated for their injuries: "I am not the same person now as I was when I walked in here – I have heard stories today that go beyond the imagination," Mr. Holmes said. "I cannot find the words to describe what I have heard today. The only thing I can say is never again."

Tools and Resources

OCHA's Gender Equality Toolkit (OCHA, 2005) provides guidelines on integrating gender perspective into humanitarian assistance. In doing so, it addresses both OCHA staff at Headquarters and in the field. The Tool kit assists OCHA staff in ensuring that humanitarian assistance is delivered equally to all beneficiaries. It also provides guidance on how to include gender mainstreaming in all relevant areas.

Available in English and French on:

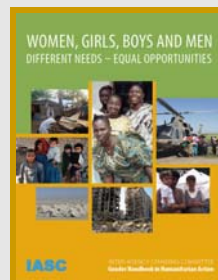
<http://ochaonline.un.org/webpage.asp?MenuID=9897&Page=1965>



The IASC Gender Handbook: *Women, Girls, Boys and Men – Different Needs Equal Opportunities* (IASC, 2006). The Handbook provides humanitarian field practitioners with a basic understanding of gender equality programming in humanitarian settings as well as specific activities for the different sectors of humanitarian response. It has been produced under the auspices of the Cluster Approach, the different clusters producing the chapters relevant to their work, making the final product an IASC-wide tool.

It will also be available in Arabic, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish on

<http://humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/gender>



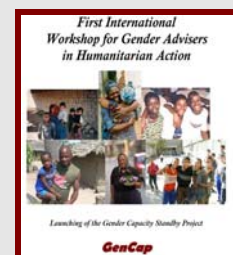
The IASC Guidelines on Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings: *with a focus on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence* (IASC, 2005) is a field-friendly tool on how to set up a multi-sectoral GBV programme stressing the need for a coordinated approach. It has been rolled out with extensive capacity building support in Columbia and Uganda, and more capacity building/ roll-out efforts are planned. (Languages: Arabic, English, French, Spanish, Bahasa. It will also be available in Russian).

Available on <http://humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/gender>



The Toolkit for Gender Advisers in Humanitarian Action is an outcome of the First International Workshop for Gender Advisers in Humanitarian Action, convened by the IASC Sub-working Group on Gender in Humanitarian Action in Geneva, Switzerland, 27 May – 2 June, 2007.

The toolkit is a companion to the other principal resources listed here. It provides a further source of documentation and guidance on gender equality programming in humanitarian emergencies.



Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by UN and related personnel

- Secretary-General's Bulletin Protection from SEA (ST/SGB/2003/13)
- SEA focal point training manual (developed by OCHA and UNICEF)
- Awareness-Raising Film "To Serve with Pride.: Zero Tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse" – available on DVD or online at the following addresses (RealPlayer):
 - http://webcast.un.org/ramgen/specialevents/ocha_video-en.rm (English)
 - http://webcast.un.org/ramgen/specialevents/ocha_video-sp.rm (Spanish)
 - http://webcast.un.org/ramgen/specialevents/ocha_video-fr.rm (French)
- Facilitator's Guide for Film "To Serve with Pride" (developed by OCHA, UNDP, UNICEF and DFS) – draft available
- Inventory of UN SEA materials – working draft available

<http://ochaonline.un.org/HumanitarianIssues/ProtectionfromSexualExploitationandAbuse/tabid/1204/Default.aspx>

**Check out
Ochaonline
For more
information**

GenCap and UN Action, both mentioned above, are also valuable resources for OCHA to call upon for policy guidance and assistance with policy implementation

GENCAP



An inter-active E-learning package for gender equality programming in humanitarian action will be produced in 2008.

For further resources, please see:

- <http://ochaonline.un.org/gender>
- SEA page under humanitarian issues on <http://ochaonline.un.org>
- <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/>



EVENTS CALENDAR

September – October 2007: Work planning/ gender action planning.

While the SMT will not decide on mandatory outputs for the 2008 work planning cycle before the end of October, we expect gender action plans (GAPs) to be maintained as a mandatory output and hope that you will keep this in mind when revising the 2008 workplans.

26-28 November 2007, Nairobi, Gender Equality and GBV Programming in Humanitarian Action: Regional Workshop.

This pilot workshop specifically targets cluster/sector leads and those working to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue in clusters. The concept will be replicated in other regions.

5-16 November 2007, Ghent, Belgium Training Course on Multi-sectoral Response to GBV in Humanitarian Settings.

The training Course is targeted towards participants from the global South and aims to build a curriculum that can be replicated by academic institutions and humanitarian organisations.

February 2008: Experts meeting to develop a GBV research agenda in conflict.

Gender-based violence remains a characteristic of many armed conflicts. In spite of much anecdotal evidence and an increasing number of studies we still lack a comprehensive body of research on the nature, scope, impact, root causes and contributing factors of sexual and gender-based violence. The expert group meeting is a first step in a long-term effort to build humanitarian actors' shared knowledge on gender-based violence in conflict and is part of a wider effort for OCHA to create closer ties academic institutions.

OCHA Gender Advisory Team

The Gender Advisory Team (GAT) of OCHA has at its primary responsibility to facilitate the mainstreaming of gender equality programming and other gender-related issues into OCHA's core mandate. GAT supports the implementation of OCHA's Policy on Gender Equality and its supporting Plan of Action. Facilitating gender mainstreaming throughout the IASC, including in all aspects of the humanitarian reform, is a major area of concentration for OCHA's Gender Advisory Team.

Kate Burns, Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer – Gender Equality

burns@un.org 1-917-367-9002
Cell work: 646 469 5959

Ariana Pearlroth, Humanitarian Affairs Officer,
Contact for issues related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

pearlroth@un.org 1 917 367 4362

Inger Brodal, JPO.
Contact for issues related to GenCap and gender action planning.

brodal@un.org 1-917-367-9497

Audrey Ford, Team Assistant.
Contact for issues related to translation and distribution of the IASC
Gender Handbook

forda@un.org 917 367 3316