



GenCapUpdate

IASC Gender Standby Capacity Project

August 2018

WHAT IS GENCAP? *The Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap) is a joint initiative from the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). GenCap seeks to build capacity of humanitarian actors mainly at country level to mainstream gender in all sectors of humanitarian response. Gender Capacity (GenCap) Advisors facilitate, coordinate and advocate for the implementation of sector-by-sector gender-equality programming in humanitarian emergency settings. The generic TORs for GenCap Advisors outline five main areas of work: information and analysis, program and monitoring support, coordination, capacity strengthening and advocacy.*

FUNDING UPDATE *The GenCap Appeal for 2018 asks for a total contribution of \$4.53 million. This corresponds to the deployment of approximately 30 Senior Gender Advisors and 4 Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) training events. As of mid-July, contributions for 2018 have been received from Australia, Norway, Sweden, and the United States.*



Senior GenCap Advisor in Iraq
Indai Sajor
(Nov 2015 – May 2016)

In the first four months of 2016, humanitarian organizations in Iraq reached 1.7 million people with some form of humanitarian assistance. In March more than 80,000 newly displaced people from the Anbar /Mosul corridor along with 3.3 million displaced Iraqis to date are living in IDP camps, site settlements, host communities and non-host communities in opposition armed groups areas. It is within this backdrop of IDPs constantly moving along the safe corridors that the gendered nature of displacement bears a sharp toll on family members separated according to gender. Specific gender vulnerabilities escalate during the flight or due to the military operation. Men and boys from 12 – 70 years of age are targeted, arrested, detained or recruited for the fighting by ISIL and other armed groups. While other IDPs who managed to reach the safe corridors have to go through mandatory security checkpoints operated by Iraq State Forces or the Peshmerga. These men and boys are held on the other side of the checkpoint until cleared to join their families. This process could take days or weeks depending on where they come from, those who fail verification remain in checkpoints that are like detention centers, a violation of international law. Women and children have been used as human shields and become victims of gender-based violence while fleeing the conflict and this destroys the well-engrained social balance of the communities. Separation of families affects women and girls vulnerabilities leaving them without protection and burdening them with extra responsibilities which they are not socially accustomed to or culturally not acceptable practices like travelling without male companion.

GenCap Deployments July 2018

GenCaps Deployed To:	Hosting Agency
CURRENT: <u>Country-level:</u> Nigeria – Anu Pillay Bangladesh – Simon Opolot CAR – Ayoo Odicoh DRC – Jean Baptiste Mikulu Myanmar – April Pham Congo Brazzaville – Christine Mougne Tanzania – Indai Sajor <u>Global:</u> GAM Training – Deborah Clifton Communications Specialist – Fatima Sator <u>Mentoring</u> Senegal – Delphine Brun Djibouti – Lejla Sunagic Chad – Jean Coty Beausejour	UN Women UN Women UNHCR OCHA UNW/OCHA UNDP WFP UNW/OCHA UNW/OCHA OCHA UNDP/RCO UNHCR
Completed (Jan - July 2018): Asia & the Pacific – Christine Mougne Iraq – Indai Sajor Turkey (Gaziantep) – Elham Allan Yemen (Sana’a) – Deborah Clifton Nepal – Geeta Kuttiparamibl	UN WOMEN UN WOMEN OCHA OCHA UN WOMEN
TOTAL : 17	
PENDING DEPLOYMENTS: Panama, Afghanistan, PNG, Tanzania, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Syria	



Gender Equality Programing Gains Traction in Afghanistan through 4 Cs – Coordination, Collaboration, Cooperation and Communication

**Anu Pillay Afghanistan
(June 2015 – July 2016)**

My deployment, which started out as a daunting task is ending on a high note with a dynamic and sustainable mechanism for gender equality in place. I was sent to Afghanistan in 2015, a country which has suffered from such chronic instability and conflict during its modern history that its economy and infrastructure are in ruins, and many of its people are refugees. As the insecurity grows with the resurgence of the Taliban, gains for gender equality slip backwards, exacerbated by natural disasters which also displace and traumatize the population. An early assessment revealed significant entry points of which the main one was the lack of gender architecture in the humanitarian system. Working through UN Women (host) in collaboration with OCHA, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, and UNHCR, I established the Gender in Humanitarian (GiHA) Task Force under the auspices of the UNCT Gender Working Group (GWG). The GWG expanded its ToR to accommodate this sub-working group to include stakeholders outside of the UN. A dynamic GiHA Task Force with NRC, IFRC, ACBAR (NGO Coalition), APPRO, Johanniter amongst many others with the UN Agencies, began to work together to fill the gaps. The group, chaired by NRC and UN Women with technical support from OCHA, decided to focus on strengthening capacity and building accountability and knowledge from evidence. Thus far it has translated the GenCap training materials into Dari; run NGO and UN capacity building workshops in Dari with assistance from UN Women Pakistan; reviewed Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) proposals; worked on a gender strategy for the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and gave input to the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) submissions as well as to the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). Most significantly it has gathered evidence for advocacy through focus group discussions with women returnees from Pakistan and Iran to initiate cross-border discussions and commissioned a gender study on the response to the Kunduz Offensive. Next steps are to review the CHF allocations for this year, strengthen capacity at provincial level and prepare for input into the HRP for 2017. A joint programme on increasing resilience of women in Afghanistan led by UN Women and WFP is also in the pipeline. GenCap support to Afghanistan has profiled the distinct practical and strategic needs of women and girls, boys and men in emergencies through evidence and created a sustainable mechanism that will continue to lobby, advocate and strengthen capacity to ensure that gender equality remains high on the radar of the humanitarian system in Afghanistan.



GenCap in Global Processes

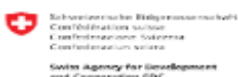
Revision on the IASC Handbook on Gender in Humanitarian Action

April Pham and Merrin Waterhouse



The GenCap Project supports the revision of the flagship IASC handbook on gender in humanitarian action that was created a decade ago. The IASC Gender Reference Group leads this process to ensure that the handbook is updated so that field implementers can access practical advice on gender equality programming adapted to the current context. GenCap has membership of the Gender Handbook Steering Committee (represented by April Pham and Merrin Waterhouse) which was established by the Gender Reference Group (GRG) and is led by UN Women and Oxfam. GenCap Advisors have been actively involved in conducting and supporting consultations with UN and INGOs in Nepal, South Sudan, Jordan and Colombia, as well as at regional and global levels, to inform the revision process. GenCap contributes its collective wisdom on how to implement gender equality programming in humanitarian emergencies, considering challenges and lessons learned in the interest of strengthening the capacity of humanitarian actors and equip them with the appropriate knowledge, tools and guidance to integrate gender dimensions into their work. GenCap engagement in this process is to ensure that gender considerations - needs, opportunities and capacities of women, girls, boys and men - are identified and considered and that factors such as age, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation and identity, class, and geographical location are nuanced in gender analysis. GenCap will stay engaged in this process and the handbook is expected to be ready for publication in early 2017.

With thanks to our generous donors*:



*2015 + 2016 project donors