Who we are

The Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap) is an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) initiative launched in 2007 with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The GenCap Project seeks to strengthen the capacity and leadership of humanitarian actors to undertake gender-equality programming, ensuring the distinct needs of women, girls, boys, and men of all ages are met in the humanitarian response, whether at the global, regional, or country level.

GenCap Advisers are deployed to support Humanitarian Coordinators, Humanitarian Country Teams, UN agencies, and engage with cluster leads, NGOs, and governments.

GenCap Advisers can be deployed in the initial stages of sudden-onset emergencies as well as in protracted or recurring humanitarian situations.

What we do

GenCap Advisers support the strategic and operational response of agencies in applying gender equality programming in humanitarian action. Through assessment of existing gender strategies, development of practicable tools, and collaboration with local actors to facilitate trainings, Advisers mainstream gender and age considerations in humanitarian programming. In this way, they improve the humanitarian response system to ensure quality practices are sustainably integrated and each individual’s needs are met.
GenCap facilitates the use of the IASC Gender with Age Marker (GAM), a tool that supports incorporating gender into humanitarian programming action. The GAM is designed to identify the degree gender equality programming is incorporated into projects and sector-level programming. In 2018, the GAM was formally launched at an ECOSOC side event. This tool is aligned with the Projects' 2018-21 Strategic Framework and enables progress towards the WHS commitment to ‘Leave No-one Behind’ initiative, Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Protection Mainstreaming.

**What support can the GenCap Adviser provide?**

- GenCap advisors provide advice and strengthen coordination mechanisms for gender mainstreaming and gender-equality programming in humanitarian operations.

- Build Gender capacity through trainings at headquarters, regional, and country levels.

- Support Global Cluster Leads and inter-cluster coordination mechanisms by strengthening gender considerations

- Provide contingency planning to governments and local stakeholders.

- Support the IASC Gender and Age Marker (GAM) within the Humanitarian Programme Cycle framework to increase efficiency

- Provide expertise on Gender-based violence through the GBV Window of GenCap.

**GenCap’s Added Value**

- Gender Advisers act as an inter-agency support for technical expertise in gender equality programming in humanitarian action.

- GenCap Advisers act as catalysts for ensuring that humanitarian actors account for the distinct needs and capabilities of women, girls, boys and men, critical to the quality of humanitarian action.

- GenCap Advisers support sector/cluster working groups on mainstreaming gender into contingency plans, assessments, monitoring and implementation.

- GenCap Advisers support the IASC Gender Reference Group and global policy developments on gender.

**Requesting a GenCap Adviser?**

- Following consultation with Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs), a written request with ToRs is submitted. Deployments are normally 6 to 12 months.

- The GenCap project covers salary, Daily Subsistence Allowance, insurance, and travel to the duty station. NRC is responsible for administrative and logistics aspects of the deployment.

- Hosting agencies are responsible for daily supervision, security arrangements, office space and equipment, and in-country travel. Two or more agencies can agree to share costs.

- All UN entities with a MoU with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) can make a request.

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**HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018**

In 2018, GenCap adopted the 2018-2021 Strategic Framework that sets out the strategic direction and focus of its work. The nature of the project has firmly moved from the operational to the strategic, advising leadership and presenting humanitarian responses with greater structural accountability. GenCap Advisers focused on giving technical advice to Humanitarian Coordinators (HCs), Resident Coordinators (RCs), Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs), ensuring that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (GEEWG) remained paramount, whilst also mainstreaming gender across responses. GenCap was present in key humanitarian crises worldwide such as Syria, North-East Nigeria, Cox’s Bazar Myanmar, DRC and CAR. It was proactive in making sure the response to these crises had the capacity to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, which manifested itself in different ways throughout the varying contexts.

For further information, please contact:

GenCap, Support Unit
OCHA-United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10,
SWITZERLAND
Project Manager: Francesca Fraccaroli
Phone: +41 076 691 0389
Email: fraccaroli@un.org

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http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/topics/gencap