# HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

2020 Annual Report



**Cover Photo:** Mobina Khatun, one of 40 Rohingya women volunteers, working with UN-Women to mobilize their communities and raise awareness on COVID-19

Produced by UN Women's Women Peace and Security, Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction Section

Design: RecDesign

Photo Credit: UN Women/Pappu Mia

Funding for this publication was provided by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

## FOREWORD

Photo: UN Women/Samar Hazboun



2020, marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action and the twentieth anniversary of the UN Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security, was intended to be a monumental year for gender equality. Instead, across every sphere, from health and livelihoods to protection, we saw the limited gains made towards gender equality at risk of being rolled back. In crisis and disaster contexts, women and girls bore the brunt of yet another calamity as gender-based violence rose exponentially, their livelihoods were disproportionally impacted, and their access to basic services and resources was further curtailed. At the same time, women – and often girls – took on more care burdens, led in the COVID-19 response as frontline workers, and organized themselves to meet their own needs as well as those of their communities. From across the world, our partner women's organizations in crisis and disaster settings shared deep concerns as resources were reallocated, the backlash against women's rights grew, and restrictive lockdowns imposed limitations in their ability to deliver critical assistance. The case for placing women and girls at the center of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts, particularly in crisis settings, has never been stronger.

Escalating conflicts, protracted displacement crises, and the increasing frequency and intensity of climate-related disasters coupled with the pandemic left record numbers of people in need of humanitarian and disaster assistance. UN-Women stood alongside women and girls in crisis and disaster settings to mobilize and deliver gender-responsive action in partnership with the international community, national machineries, and civil society. Across regions, from Asia Pacific

to Latin America and the Caribbean. we documented the disproportionate impacts of multi-faceted crises on women and girls and utilized this evidence to advocate for efforts that responded to their unique needs and capacities. By partnering with 1,270 local women's organizations - a 70 percent increase compared to 2019 – in humanitarian settings, we harnessed our strong relationship with civil society to deliver for women and girls while driving the localization agenda forward. From the Adjumani refugee camp in Uganda to Beirut following the Port Explosions, and the Pacific countries preparing for another tropical cyclone whilst coping with impacts of COVID-19, UN-Women amplified the voices of women and women's rights organizations and facilitated their leadership in decisionmaking spaces.

UN-Women's humanitarian services improved the livelihood opportunities, protection, and self-reliance of more women and girls than ever before. Similarly, UN-Women's work through the Women's Resilience to Disaster flagship programme is strengthening the voice and agency of women and girls to withstand multiple hazards, recover from disasters, and increase their resilience to future disasters and threats contributing to sustainable, secure, and thriving communities. Across crisis-affected and high disaster and climate-risk countries and at the global level, humanitarian and disaster risk reduction actors drew upon UN-Women's gender expertise and guidance to deliver better for women and girls. It gives me great pride to present these and other significant results that my colleagues have jointly delivered in the face of tremendous challenges in this Annual Report.

It has also been our honour to receive the continued support of Member States who have been steadfast partners in our efforts to improve outcomes for women and girls in crisis and disaster contexts. In 2020, we strengthened our partnership with sister-agencies, including through new Memorandum of Understanding with UNHCR, a global partnership with UNFPA in implementing the Central Emergency Response Fund in close collaboration with UN OCHA, and continued close cooperation with UNDRR, UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA to support the gender-responsive implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

As crises and disasters become more multifaceted with complex and inter-woven drivers, UN-Women's recently merged Peace and Security, Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction Section allowed us a timely opportunity to consolidate efforts in these interlinking areas. This exercise has provided UN-Women with a foundation to extend more coherent support to women and girls before, during, and after crises arising from conflict, displacement, disasters, climatechange, and the COVID-19 pandemic. In parallel, we have been undertaking an extensive consultation process leading toward the development of UN-Women's new Humanitarian Strategy. I am confident that these institutional developments, alongside the proven contributions outlined in this and previous Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction Annual Reports, has uniquely well-positioned UN-Women to accelerate gender equality in crisis and disaster settings. We look forward to continuing serving women and girls drawing on synergies at UN-Women, across the UN system, the international community, national partners, and civil society guided by the voices of those whom we seek to serve.

**Paivi Kannisto** Chief Women Peace and Security, Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction Section

## INTRODUCTION

In 2021, 235 million people were estimated to need humanitarian assistance in country contexts where displacement and vulnerability are fueled by conflict, climate change, disasters and more recently, the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1</sup> 82.4 million people were forcibly displaced globally with 2020 being the ninth year of uninterrupted rise in forced displacement worldwide.<sup>2</sup> The last decade saw the highest ever number of people internally displaced by conflict and violence, with many locked in a state of protracted displacement that in some cases last for decades. Furthermore, in 2020 alone, 98.4 million people were affected by 389 disasters globally, costing USD 171.3 billion.<sup>3</sup> Humanitarian contexts have become increasingly complex and protracted, often with multiple crises compounding needs.<sup>4</sup>



Photo: UN Women/Pablo Villota

<sup>1 &</sup>quot;Global Humanitarian Overview 2021." ReliefWeb. UN OCHA, December 2020. <u>https://reliefweb.int/report/world/global-humanitarian-overview-2021-enarfres</u>

<sup>2 &</sup>quot;Global Trends in Forced Displacement in 2020." UNHCR, June 2021. https://www.unhcr.org/flagship-reports/globaltrends/

<sup>3 &</sup>quot;Disaster Year in Review 2020: Global Trends and Perspectives." ReliefWeb. CRED, UNDRR, USAID, May 2021. <u>https://reliefweb.int/report/world/cred-crunch-newsletter-issue-no-62-may-2021-disaster-year-review-2020-global-trends-and#:~:text=ln%202020%2C%20389%20 natural%20disasters,a%20strong%20El%20Ni%C3%B10%20effect</u>

<sup>4</sup> Global Trends in Forced Displacement in 2020." UNHCR, June 2021. https://www.unhcr.org/flagship-reports/globaltrends/

Gender inequality is a key underlying risk increasing women's vulnerability to crises. Women and girls affected by crisis, be it conflict, displacement, disasters or climate change, face violence and exclusion due to pre-existing gender-based discrimination and disadvantages, directly affecting their ability to survive, receive life saving assistance and recover from crisis shocks. COVID-19 has further exacerbated gender-based inequalities and discrimination by heightening risks of violence, hindering already limited access to livelihood opportunities and productive resources, and reducing the space and opportunities for their leadership and voices.

Against this backdrop of exponential needs and tremendous challenges, UN-Women scaled up its efforts to support women and girls experiencing, and at-risk of, multifaceted crises with the global pandemic and increasing climate-related disasters aggravating pre-existing humanitarian crises. UN-Women adapted to new realities imposed by the pandemic by: maintaining the focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian and disaster contexts as responses were rapidly ramped up; finding innovative ways to amplify the voices of women and girls; continuing to provide humanitarian services amid lockdowns; and addressing key barriers to delivering disaster preparedness and response in the context of the pandemic.

In 2020, UN-Women contributed to humanitarian and refugee coordination mechanisms in 47 country and regional contexts in a range of capacities including as members of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and leads of Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) working groups. UN-Women supported 571,007 crisis-affected women and girls and 90,520 men and boys with direct humanitarian services and enabled 1,270 local women's organizations to guide and implement humanitarian activities, improving gender-equitable outcomes and accountability to affected populations. UN-Women contributed to gender-responsive disaster risk reduction legislation, strategies, plans, and assessments in 41 countries, covering in the year 2020, an additional 107,481,057 people through new genderresponsive policies, plans and assessments.

A reflection of UN-Women's committed efforts to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian and disaster contexts, these results also underscore the need for greater investment in ensuring that not only are the needs of women and girls in all their diversity are met, but also that their capacities as agents of change are supported to catalyze sustainable impact.

## **Our Donors**

UN-Women is grateful for the generosity of funding partners for enabling its work to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction.

# Member States Image: States

## **United Nations System**

- 1. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- 2. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- 3. Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office (MPTFO)
- 4. Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)
- 5. UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- 6. UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

## **Private Sector**

- 1. BHP Billiton Foundation
- 2. HP Inc

#### Other

- 1. Australia National Committee
- 2. Zonta International

# 2020 RESULTS 'AT A GLANCE'

#### **UN-Women**

contributed to UN-led humanitarian responses as a **member of the** 

Humanitarian Country Team (or its equivalent) in 20 crisis-affected

countries in 2020.

In **26** countries/regions, UN-Women provided

## GiHA capacity building

to humanitarian coordinating and/or implementing agencies and other actors (reaching over

**3300** humanitarian workers in 2020)

## UN-Women enabled 1,270 local women's

**organizations** to guide and implement humanitarian activities, improving gender-equitable outcomes and accountability to affected populations.

In **21** countries,

UN-Women led or co-led a **Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group** extending gender expertise to the cluster system.

### UN-Women supported

571,007 crisis-affected women and girls and 90,520

men and boys with direct humanitarian services including through livelihoods support, cash assistance, and protection services

# 43 countries,

UN-Women was a member of the GBV sub-cluster and/or the Protection cluster and in

## 26 countries,

UN-Women actively engaged in and **extended gender expertise to the broader cluster system**.

In **38** countries, UN-Women built the self-

## 预览已结束, 完整报告链接和二维码如下:

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\_21769

