



GenCapUpdate

IASC Gender Standby Capacity Project

December 2012

Overview of GenCap: The Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap) is a collaboration between the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). GenCap seeks to build the capacity of humanitarian actors at country level to mainstream gender in all sectors of humanitarian response. From June 2007 to August 2012, **65 GenCap Advisers have supported 29 Humanitarian Country Teams, 4 regional and 4 global deployments, applying gender equality programming in humanitarian action.**

Gender in Humanitarian Preparedness and Response

The GenCap project continues to make an impact in all aspects of the humanitarian programme cycle. The project is now in its fifth year and the GenCap advisers are working with partners to design effective programmes that are based on the needs of the people they aim to serve. The combined efforts of the GenCap Advisers deployed to the field, at headquarters, and at regional levels have helped organizations take responsibility for the integration of gender considerations in humanitarian assistance. However, building the capacity of humanitarian actors takes time: it is an on-going learning process within the humanitarian system. The GenCap team will continue to support Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) through their inter-agency deployments, to strengthen Gender Mainstreaming in Preparedness and response in support to global clusters and field-based clusters.



Going further in 2013, the GenCap project will develop curriculum training on Gender in Humanitarian action in order to strengthen capacities and enable humanitarian actors to integrate Gender in their daily work and throughout the different steps of the programme cycle.

GenCap will also add a mentoring component to its project, enabling some mid-level professionals to work together with GenCap Advisers in the field and to widen the possibilities to enhance capacities and better respond to the different needs of all parts of an affected population: women, girls, boys and men.

GenCap Deployments June 2007 – December 2012

GenCaps Deployed To:	Hosting Agency	No.
CURRENT: Afghanistan – Gurcharan Virdee DRC – Jean-Batiste Mikulu Food Security Cluster – Trish Colbert Global Gender Marker – Kristy Baughman Global Clusters – Delphine Brun Kenya – Njoki Rahab Niger – Jeanne Bushayija Pacific – Anu Pillay Sahel region – Beatrix Attinger South Sudan – Peter Ekayu Sudan – April Pham	OCHA UNFPA WFP - UNICEF UN WOMEN OCHA UN WOMEN OCHA OCHA OCHA	11
COMPLETED: Afghanistan, CAR, Chad, Colombia, CDI, DRC, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guinea Conakry, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Liberia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, oPt, Pacific, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, Yemen, Zimbabwe, and roaming deployment.	OCHA (20), UNFPA (20), UNDP (3), IOM (1), UNHCR (3), UNICEF (1), FAO (3), n/a (1), UN WOMEN (1)	54
TOTAL : OCHA (25), UNFPA (21), UNHCR (3), UNDP (3), IOM (1), UNICEF (2), WFP (1), FAO (3), UN WOMEN (3), n/a (3)		65
PENDING REQUESTS: Mali, UNHCR Global deployment, CAR, Rwanda		4
For more information on GenCap go to: http://qencap.onerresponse.info		
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GenCap Advisers' work in the Field and at the Global Level

GenCap Advisers facilitate, coordinate and advocate for the implementation of sector-by-sector gender equality programming in humanitarian emergency settings. The generic TOR for GenCap Advisers outlines five main areas of work for GenCap Advisers: information and analysis; program support; coordination; capacity building; and advocacy. Depending on the context and priorities of the Humanitarian Country Teams, each GenCap deployment is different.

Anu Pillay, Regional GenCap Adviser for the Pacific (UN Women)

Pacific Island countries are extremely disaster prone, subject to cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic activity, as well as recurrent crises of floods and droughts. At the regional level, the GenCap advisor consolidated country-level gains in gender mainstreaming within the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT), whose members are the regional international DRM actors, and the initial gender support provided to regional clusters that are in various stages of formation/operation. This was to be achieved through providing technical support to the PHT, the Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and regional clusters.

The GenCap Adviser continued the work of her two predecessors, strengthening gender analysis and mainstreaming into emergency preparedness, response and recovery efforts of the Pacific Humanitarian Team and supporting efforts to a sustainable Gender in humanitarian action coordination presence for the Pacific sub-region.

Through her work, the Adviser facilitated training sessions on topics like coordinating assessments for UN agencies and NGOs. A 5-day training programme for first responders was also designed and implemented in Fiji on Gender mainstreaming and GBV in emergencies.

The unique nature of a preparedness focused regional deployment required understanding a complex and challenging context. Sustainability of the work remained a critical issue, but extremely positive actions were undertaken for a better integration of Gender into the humanitarian work in the region.



Gender in Humanitarian action training, Fiji. Our GenCap Adviser (left) was accompanied by the GBV expert for Asia (on the right) for the event.

Linda Pennells, GenCap Adviser to the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit, Somalia (FAO)

Somalia is still recovering from the onset of famine in July 2011. Increased humanitarian aid in the last year has had a significant impact in reducing the number of people in crisis from the famine peak of four million, down by an anticipated one million or more. However, there are pockets of drought in some rain-fed agro-pastoralist areas and in some vital grazing lands. Humanitarian access is severely constrained especially in parts of South Central Somalia.

Consultations, based on the gender information gaps identified in the Gender Compendium, were used to ground the gender team's work with all cluster coordinators on potential areas for focus on FSNAU's upcoming gender stand-alone study.



Gender Session for FAO Somalia staff, Nairobi, Kenya. Participatory exercise on Gender issues.

Linda's work with the FSNAU involved reviewing and refining tools for collection of Sex and Age Disaggregated Data and promoting more effective use of FSNAU data in needs assessments and project design. In addition, the GenCap Adviser held presentations for the Inter-Agency Working group and the regional Gender and Livelihood network.

Technical guidance was provided during a week long course on 'Enhancing quality and accountability in humanitarian action'. The participation of the GenCap Adviser ensured that the IASC Gender Marker was introduced and considered in the deliberations.