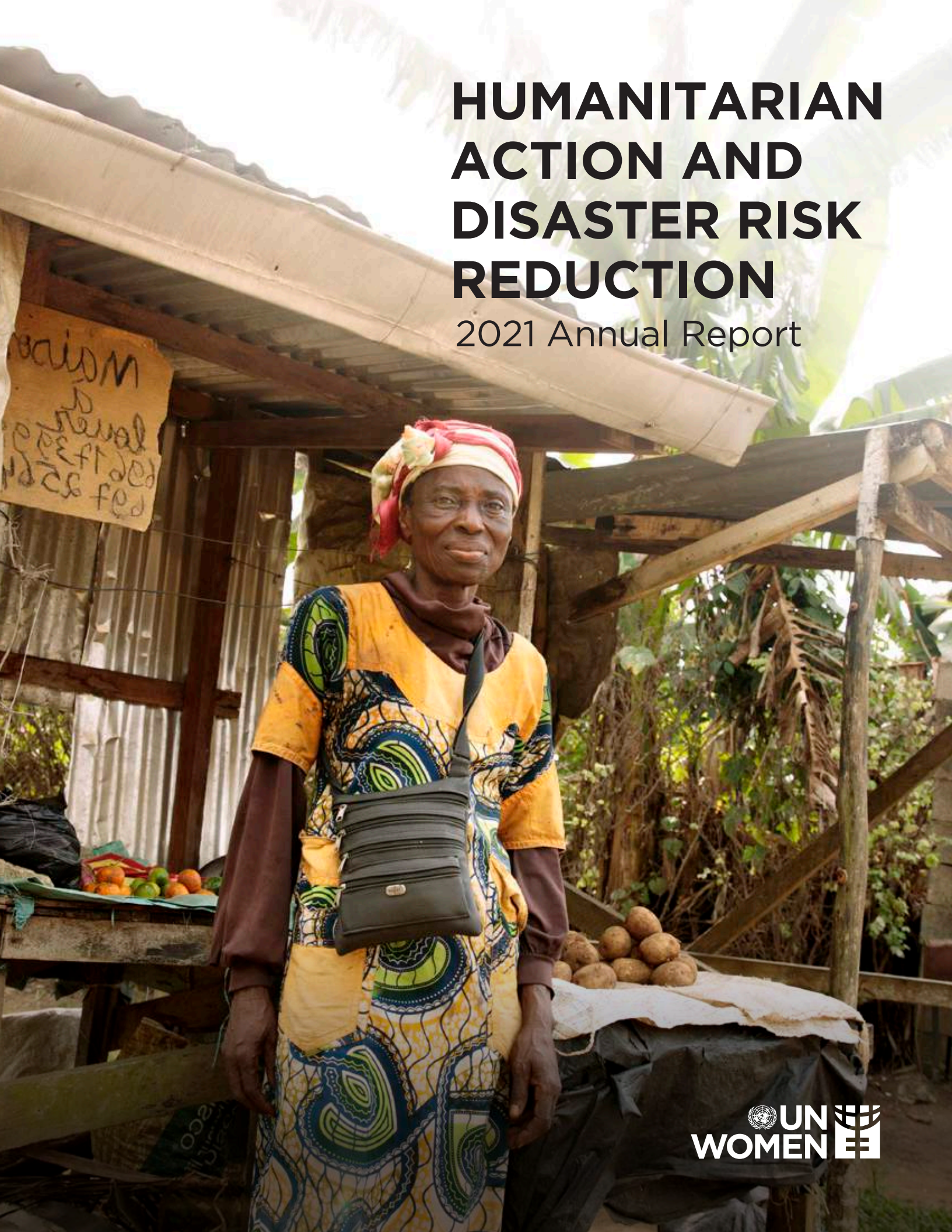


HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

2021 Annual Report

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Cover Photo: Portrait of Christine Banlog in front of the small produce stand she runs near her home.

Design: RecDesign

Photo Credit: UN-Women/Ryan Brown

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FOREWORD



Photo: UN Women Africa

In 2021, humanitarian needs surpassed record levels yet again with 250 million people in need of humanitarian assistance across 59 countries. 432 disastrous events relating to natural hazards affecting 101.8 million people were recorded. Persistent discriminatory gender norms, gendered disparities in access to resources, and violence against women and girls exacerbated the impacts of these crises on women and girls placing them at heightened risks and further marginalizing and excluding their voices and capacities. In Afghanistan, following the Taliban-takeover in August 2021, we witnessed drastic reversals on women’s and girls’ rights. Afghan women have been excluded from public life and their access to humanitarian assistance, and services related

to education, health, employment, and justice have been severely restricted. The complex humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan which was marked by sweeping curtailments on women’s rights brought to the forefront – once again – the absolute necessity of ensuring that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is a core principle of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts in every crisis and disaster context.

Leveraging women’s participation and leadership capacities is not only a way to ensure that we respond to the gender-specific and intersectional needs of affected communities but it is also a strategic investment in stronger community

engagement, resilience, and self-reliance. UN-Women proudly partnered with 1,486 local women's rights and women-led organizations across crisis and disaster contexts in 2021 to improve gender-equitable outcomes for crisis-affected and at-risk women and girls. Through these partnerships, UN-Women continued to advance the localization agenda by amplifying the voices of women and women's organizations who are at the frontlines in crisis settings and supporting and advocating for the systematic inclusion of local women's organizations in decision-making spaces.

UN-Women utilized its coordination mandate to ensure that efforts from across the UN system and the broader humanitarian and disaster risk reduction communities addressed the gendered impacts of crises. In 2021, across 40 crisis contexts, as members of Humanitarian Country Teams and leads of 'Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Groups,' UN Women supported and convened humanitarian actors to ensure that responses addressed the specific needs of women and girls. UN-Women also contributed to gender-responsive disaster risk reduction legislation, strategies, plans, and assessments worldwide, covering an additional 106 million people through new gender-responsive policies and plans in 2021.

Alongside UN-Women's coordination work, our programmatic engagements in crisis contexts addressed specific gaps and needs in humanitarian action. In 32 countries, UN-Women delivered

humanitarian assistance to crisis-affected women and girls, refugees, internally displaced persons, and returnees, including through 149 women's safe spaces and empowerment hubs. In 21 countries, UN-Women's initiatives helped those at risk of or impacted by disasters to benefit from disaster-resilient livelihood opportunities, disaster compensation, and financial and social protection services.

These results would not have been possible without the unwavering commitment of my colleagues across UN Women offices, the close partnerships we have enjoyed across the UN system and civil society, especially community-based women's groups, and the steadfast support we have received from Member States and donors. As we seek to further strengthen and expand our support to better serve women and girls in crisis and disaster contexts, I count on the continued collaboration with all our partners globally to advance towards our joint vision of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.



Paivi Kannisto

Chief

Peace, Security, Humanitarian and Resilience Section

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.

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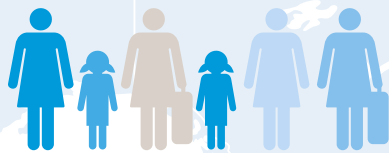
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2021 RESULTS 'AT A GLANCE'

Crisis-affected women and girls in **32 countries**, including refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees, accessed humanitarian services, through UN Women's financial and technical support including through **149 women's safe spaces and empowerment hubs**.



UN-Women enabled **1,241 local women's organizations** and groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian planning processes, improve gender-equitable outcomes and increase access to critical humanitarian services **among crisis-affected women and girls**.

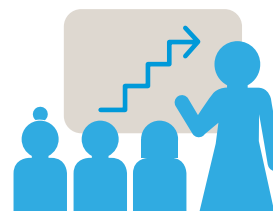
On behalf of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Reference Group, UN-Women continues leading efforts to **maintain accountability** for **gender equality in humanitarian** action by monitoring adherence to gender commitments across **31 crisis contexts** as captured in the **Annual IASC Gender Accountability Framework Reports**.

UN-Women contributed to humanitarian and refugee coordination mechanisms in over **40 countries** and regional contexts in a range of capacities including as members of the **Humanitarian Country Teams** and leads of GiHA working groups

UN-Women extended gender expertise to **87 percent** of the **humanitarian cluster** systems in countries with UN-Women's presence.

Through **a new global partnership with UNFPA**, UN-Women has been responding to the high levels of GBV in complex humanitarian crises in **Ethiopia, Myanmar, Cameroon, Colombia, Cox's Bazar (Bangladesh) and OpT**. More than **250,000 crisis affected women, girls, men, and boys** accessed information and services around GBV prevention and response; and **71 local women's organizations** and over **100 community protection networks** and women's groups supported through this partnership.

UN-Women's **Second Chance Education programme**, an innovative public-private partnership piloted in **six countries**, increased the number of crisis-affected and marginalised women supported by the programme to **90,000**, through **69 learning hubs** using a "learn-to-earn" approach.



The **Entity supported** capacity building of **2,600 humanitarian actors**, civil society representatives and other partners on gender in humanitarian action across **21 crisis-affected countries**.

UN-Women launched [the Women's Resilience to Disasters Knowledge Hub](#) a one-stop shop for all gender-related disaster and resilience knowledge. The Hub provides critical knowledge production, curation and brokering services with more than **1,651 resources on 18 key topics**; and brings together a growing community of more than **400 practitioners and identifies 63 experts** in its Expert Register.

UN-Women

worked with

245 women's organizations

and disaster resilience stakeholders in

47 countries

to **increase women's access** to gender-responsive early warning systems, finance, services, resilient infrastructure and resilient livelihoods and businesses.



In cooperation with **UNFPA** and **UNDRR** and a wider task team of **22 UN agencies**, UN-Women issued a UN joint study on the status of gender equality and women's leadership in DRR and an accompanying action plan, which identifies critical actions for the UN system's support to Member States to make significant and practical progress on gender equality in DRR **by 2030.**

UN-Women contributed to gender-responsive disaster risk reduction legislation, strategies, plans, and assessments world wide, covering in the year 2021 an additional

106 million

people through new gender-responsive policies and plans.

The **Women's Resilience to Disasters Policy Tracker**, which monitors gender-responsive policy progress in DRR and climate resilience across **193 Member States**, now identifies

150 inclusive national and regional policy frameworks

for easy replication by policymakers worldwide.



59,504 women, girls and 25,385

men and boys at risk of or impacted by disasters in 21 countries

benefitted from UN-Women's initiatives to **strengthen their disaster resilience** through accessing resilient livelihood and business, disaster compensation, finance or social protection services, and by receiving technical training.

UN-WOMEN'S KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION & DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Upholding Normative Frameworks and Advancing Gender Priorities in Coordination Efforts

As humanitarian crises and disasters around the world grew in complexity, UN-Women utilized its **normative** mandate to uphold system-wide standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. UN-Women

also harnessed its **coordination** mandate to ensure that efforts to prevent, mitigate, and respond to crises and disasters were coordinated and guided by the highly gendered nature of crises and disasters.



Photo: UN Women/Eva Sibanda

GLOBAL LEVEL

On behalf of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Gender Reference Group (GRG), an entity associated with the highest-level humanitarian coordination forum, UN-Women promoted collective system wide responsibility and accountability for advancing gender priorities in IASC structures at the global and field levels. On an annual basis, UN-Women continues to lead efforts to maintain accountability towards gender commitments by tracking the extent to which commitments made in the IASC Gender Policy were implemented across the IASC – from the Principals Group at the global level to Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) in over 30 crisis contexts. Key findings on progress, gaps, and challenges in integrating gender considerations in humanitarian planning and coordination are published in Annual Gender Accountability Framework Reports.



Photo: UN Women/Ye Ji Lee

KEY FINDINGS FROM THE 2020 GENDER ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK REPORT

1. Attention to gender priorities at the IASC's global strata remains mixed. While 80 percent of outputs released by the IASC Principals Group complied with the IASC Gender Policy, only 20 percent of outputs from the Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG) Results Groups did so.
2. Women's meaningful influence on decision making, especially at the higher levels, remains limited in both protracted and sudden onset emergency response. In 2020, over 40 percent of HCTs did not hold any consultations with women's rights organizations as part of the humanitarian planning process.
3. While an improvement from previous years, in 2020, only 55 percent of Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs) demonstrated use of SADD and gender analysis. Where Gender Working Groups were active, about 70 percent of HNOs did so.
4. Over 30 percent of crisis contexts reported not having consulted any local women's rights organization at any stage in the humanitarian planning process. However, in contexts with active gender working groups, 82 percent had consulted with WROs.
5. Availability of sustained gender capacity for HCTs was limited with less than 20 percent benefitting from appointed senior gender capacity for at least six months. In 36 percent of crisis-contexts, HCTs relied on voluntary expertise from UN agencies (UN Women, UNFPA) and INGOs.

Through UN-Women’s co-leadership in the coordination of the Grand Bargain Friends of Gender Group, new commitments on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Crisis Affected Women and Girls were integrated in the [Grand Bargain 2.0 Framework](#). These commitments and priorities were highlighted by 16 Grand Bargain signatories during the 2021 Grand Bargain Annual Meeting.¹ Several signatories acknowledged the role of the Friends of Gender Group in ensuring that the Grand Bargain 2.0 framework included commitments to advance leadership of local responders, including local women’s organizations and networks.

Against a backdrop of growing climate-induced disasters, UN-Women empowered women as agents of change, leveraging their full potential for disaster prevention, preparedness, and recovery to build sustainable, secure, and thriving communities and countries. UN-Women identifies and breaks down the gender-specific barriers which

increase women’s disaster vulnerability, exclude women from shaping DRR processes and strategies, and hamper women’s and their communities’ gender-responsive, risk-informed recovery in the aftermath of disasters.

UN-Women successfully increased gender responsiveness of the work of the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, which has opened the avenue for the gender-responsive implementation of the Sendai Framework. In 2021, in cooperation with UNFPA and UNDRR and a wider task team of 22 UN agencies, UN-Women led undertaking a UN joint study entitled “[Beyond vulnerability to gender equality and women’s empowerment and leadership in disaster risk reduction](#).” The study’s nine recommendations were unanimously adopted by **50 UN entities** during the UN Senior Leadership Group meeting in July 2021. These recommendations identify critical actions for the



Photo: UN Women/ Amanda Voisard

1 Germany, Denmark, Norway, US, Canada, UK, Ireland, UNFPA, UNICEF, IOM, FAO, IRC, ActionAid, OXFAM, CARE and UN Women

UN system's support to Member States to make significant and practical progress on gender equality in DRR by 2030. The recommendations include ensuring a gender-responsive Sendai Framework Mid-Term Review process and calling for a Sendai Framework Gender Action Plan.

Through [the Women's Resilience to Disasters programme](#), UN-Women advanced gender-responsiveness and increased women's perspectives, voice and agency in intergovernmental and normative processes in 2021, including the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), the 4 Regional Platforms on Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa, Americas and Caribbean, Arab States and Europe, and preparations for CSW 66² as well as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, including co-organising or contributing to over 14 events³, providing technical support, developing concept notes, securing speaking slots for gender champions, particularly local women leaders in high-impact panels, and conducting strategic advocacy for gender equality, such as the development of [the technical support paper](#). This resulted in gender-responsive outcome documents of the regional platforms on DRR and in increased commitments for women's leadership and gender equality in DRR by Member States.

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVELS

By extending gender expertise to humanitarian decision-making and coordination bodies, developing timely gender analyses in crisis settings, monitoring and accountability of existing gender commitments, and amplifying the voices of women's civil society, UN-Women has sought to ensure that more women play a greater role in and are better served by humanitarian response efforts globally.



Photo: UN Women/ Ye Ji Lee

The [European Roadmap on Disaster Risk Reduction 2021-2030](#), which was endorsed by **55 Member States**, the [Asia Pacific Action Plan](#), and the updated [Caribbean Regional Action Plan](#) were amongst those normative documents with highest focus on inclusivity and gender equality thanks to close coordination and technical support by UN-Women.

In 2021, UN-Women contributed to humanitarian and refugee coordination mechanisms in over 40 country and regional contexts in a range of capacities including as members of the Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) and leads of Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) working groups. UN-Women was a member of the HCTs (or its equivalent) in 24 crisis-affected countries.

2 With the priority theme “Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes”.

3 14 sessions including the World Reconstruction Conference and the Multi-Hazard Early Warning (MHEWS) III Conference. More information: <https://wrdsn.unwomen.org/engage/events/7th-global-platform-disaster-risk-reduction>

As a lead or co-led of GiHA working groups or humanitarian clusters in 27 crisis-affected countries, UN-Women's gender expertise enabled humanitarian clusters to better integrate gender priorities.

To further accelerate efforts to mainstream gender in humanitarian interventions, UN-Women built the capacity of 2600 humanitarian

actors, civil society representatives, and other partners through training on gender in humanitarian action across 21 crisis-affected countries in 2021 alone. In addition, UN-Women also piloted a new Virtual Gender in Humanitarian Action training programme to ensure that capacity-building opportunities continued despite limitations imposed by the pandemic.

In **Afghanistan**, UN-Women co-leads the GiHA working group which supports the humanitarian coordination structures in country with evidence-based gender expertise to enhance the gender responsiveness of the humanitarian response to a highly gendered crisis.

The establishment of an Afghan Women Advisory Group to advise the Humanitarian Country Team was a key achievement that ensures that the voices of Afghan women and girls are represented at the highest level of humanitarian decision-making in country.

Since the Taliban took control of Kabul in August 2021, the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan have been drastically undermined and rolled back. Afghanistan now ranks last in the Global Gender Gap Index which means there are important disparities between women and men's access to health and survival, education, economic participation, and political empowerment. UN-Women in Afghanistan has been committed to staying and delivering for Afghan women and girls and has prioritized efforts to ensure that women's rights defenders have protection and resources and that the voices of Afghan women are amplified and heard. UN-Women has also continued to support women's civil society and the women's movement in Afghanistan – including by advocating for greater investment in women's society–

recognizing the seminal role they play in advocating for and securing rights for women and girls. With statistics suggesting that Afghan women experience some of the highest rates of violence globally, UN-Women remained committed to providing life-saving assistance to women and girls including for the prevention and response to violence against women.

Within the humanitarian space, UN-Women worked with partners to ensure that the response was informed by the specific needs, concerns, and challenges of women and girls in Afghanistan. UN-Women co-leads the GiHA working group which supports the humanitarian coordination structures in country with evidence-based gender expertise to enhance the gender responsiveness of the humanitarian response to a highly gendered crisis. The establishment of an Afghan Women Advisory Group to advise the Humanitarian Country Team was a key achievement that ensures that the voices of Afghan women and girls are represented at the highest level of humanitarian decision-making in country.

Read the first '[Gender Alert](#)' issued since the Taliban took over Kabul on 15 August 2021 where UN-Women brings data and analyses on the impact of the changing dynamics and the humanitarian crises on the rights of Afghan women and girls.



Photo: UN Women/Christian Aid and WE CAN Alliance



In **Haiti**, as co-lead of the Gender Working Group, UN-Women – working with local civil society organizations, developed a Gender in Humanitarian Action Plan adopted by the HCT in July 2021, setting out a road map to integrate gender into the planning and process and facilitate local women’s consultations.

In the **Pacific**, UN-Women led the Humanitarian Protection Cluster within the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) and enhanced regional and national capacity for gender and protection-sensitive disaster preparedness, response, and recovery in Pacific Island countries. UN-Women’s targeted support to national protection clusters in five countries – Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Fiji and Samoa – has promoted humanitarian responses and disaster risk reduction plans that respond to the safety and protection needs of persons of all genders and ages.



In **Lebanon**, UN-Women’s leadership in the Gender Working Group led to an estimated 75 percent of indicators across all three of the response plans (the Emergency Response Plan 2021-22, the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2022, and the Lebanon Reform, Recovery, and Reconstruction framework) being gender responsive. To complement and uphold accountability for the respective gender equality issues in the plans, UN-Women’s support ensured that 65 percent of UN-led coordination forums and 100 percent of humanitarian country cluster systems have dedicated gender equality expertise.

At regional and country levels, UN-Women leverages the voice, capacities, leadership, and agency of women and women’s organizations, and works hand in hand with governments, multilateral and bilateral organizations, and DRR and resilience practitioners to integrate gender dimensions into prevention, preparedness, and recovery processes and systems.



In Kenya, during the Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in November 2021, UN-Women lobbied and advocated for the integration of gender during implementation of the Africa Programme of Action for DRR. As a result of UN-Women’s contribution, gender dimensions were featured well in the outcome statement which formed part of the Africa position paper that was presented during the Global Platform for DRR Conference in May 2022.



In Bangladesh, Cambodia and Vietnam, through the “Strengthening Human Rights and Gender Equality through Climate Change Action and Disaster Risk Reduction (EmPower)” programme, UN-Women promoted remarkable advancements in influencing the national and regional normative processes on integrating gender equality in climate change and DRR. With UN-Women’s support, governments in target countries adopted specific guidance documents to enable gender-responsive implementation of national climate policies, including the National Strategy on Climate Change (2022-2030) in Viet Nam and Guidelines on Gender Mainstreaming and Inclusiveness in Disaster Risk Management in Cambodia.



In Albania, UN-Women established partnerships with key DRR stakeholders in 11 municipalities as well as at central level, to promote gender-mainstreaming for the development of the National Platform for DRR and the National DRR Strategy and its Action Plan. UN-Women supported 264 women and activists to actively engage with local planning and budgeting processes in 4 targeted municipalities, identifying gender-responsive needs and priorities for the reconstruction efforts from the impact of the earthquake.



In Vanuatu, to fill a gap in the evidence base on women’s leadership and decision-making roles in disaster and climate resilience, the [Toolkit and Framework for Assessing Women’s Leadership in Disaster and Climate Resilience](#) was piloted in 2021. The resulting baseline highlighted gaps, barriers, and opportunities to women’s leadership at all levels, which will be addressed through the implementation of the WRD programme.



In Cameroon, UN-Women West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO) co-organised a [high-level regional forum](#) on GiHA and gender-responsive DRR. Around **200 actors** increased knowledge on GiHA and DRR norms and standards through the event. This was also a critical opportunity for the grassroots and women’s organisations, alongside national and regional networks, to engage with a collective advocacy and benefit from knowledge sharing and capacity building initiatives.



Photo: UN Women/Ye Ji Lee

Operational Activities to Catalyze Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls

Alongside normative and coordination efforts to advance gender equality in humanitarian and disaster contexts, UN-Women implemented targeted and catalytic programmatic activities.

Through UN-Women's flagship initiative, **LEAP (Leadership, Empowerment, Access and Protection)**, crisis-affected women and girls benefitted from life-saving humanitarian assistance and services. UN-Women's efforts included: scaled up activities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to heightened levels of gender-based violence; support to build women's livelihoods and access to cash and voucher assistance; as well as advancing women's leadership in shaping humanitarian

and policy responses to COVID 19, including community protection mechanisms, livelihoods and GBV related interventions.

In 2021, 562,397 crisis-affected women and girls, including refugees, internally displaced persons, and returnees, accessed UN-Women's humanitarian services, including through 149 women's safe spaces and empowerment hubs. Furthermore, UN-Women enabled 1,241 local women's organizations and groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian planning processes, improve gender-equitable outcomes and increase access to critical humanitarian services among crisis-affected women and girls.



Photo: ONU Mujeres Brasil

In the world's most acute humanitarian crises, high levels of gender-based violence remain a critical challenge for displaced women and girls and a serious violation of their rights. COVID-19, armed conflict, political crises, and natural disasters put women and girls further at risk of violence while causing serious disruption of service provision for GBV survivors. Through a global partnership with UNFPA with support from the UN OCHA-coordinated Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), UN-Women has been responding to the high levels of GBV in complex humanitarian crises in Ethiopia, Myanmar, Cameroon, Colombia, Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar) and OpT. 59,364 crisis affected women, girls, men, and boys accessed information and/or life saving, multi-sectoral GBV and other protection services; and 71 local women's organizations and over 100 community protection networks and women's groups supported through this partnership. 250,000 crisis affected women and girls, men and boys benefited across different interventions dedicated to services, information dissemination and support for GBV and PSEA survivors, awareness raising sessions, community dialogues on GBV prevention and risk mitigation, cash transfers and livelihood opportunities.

In **South Sudan**, UN-Women established a toll-free helpline to provide referral pathways for 450 female survivors of gender-based violence in situations of internal displacement populations or in host communities. This was complemented by efforts to respond to gender-based violence by partnering with 300 "male champions" who were trained to support the identification and referral of cases in Bentiu and Juba, South Sudan. These male champions advocated changes in harmful social norms and cultural traditions that promoted gender-based violence.



In **Burundi**, some 69,000 persons, predominantly women and girls, benefitted from UN-Women's income-generation activities thereby strengthening their socio-economic capacities, empowerment, and resilience. Similarly, in Cameroon, UN-Women economically empowered some 3,700 women through vocational training and support with business kits.




In **Uganda**, women's representation in refugee and host community structures increased from 66 per cent in 2020 to 76 per cent in some settlements such as Adjumani and 68 per cent in Yumbe district in 2021 achieved through capacity-building initiatives led by UN-Women.



The **Second Chance Education (SCE)** program - an innovative public-private partnership piloted in six countries – directly supported 90,000 crisis-affected women through 69 learning hubs using a ‘learn-to-earn’ approach. With a broad offer of life and digital skills training, entrepreneurship/vocational learning and return to formal education, SCE has reached 416,000 indirect beneficiaries. Alongside global funds, in 2021, SCE mobilized 34 percent of co-financing through private sector, government and country-level UN organizations.

UN-Women promotes **gender-responsive DRR and resilience** across its triple mandate through technical and policy support, provision of gender expertise to DRR mechanisms and processes (local, national, regional and global), advocacy and knowledge management, and by implementing programmes and projects for gender-responsive DRR and resilience building, including the Women’s Resilience to Disasters (WRD) programme.



In Solomon Islands, UN-Women strengthened the capacities of 50 organizations, including government ministries, provincial offices, NGOs and networks, women’s organizations, organizations of persons with disabilities, village disaster and climate risk committees and local branches of the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society, to promote gender-responsive DRR initiatives. As a result, the Solomon Islands has significantly improved its reporting to the Sendai Framework Monitor system, becoming one of only a few countries that report on most indicators. Most notably, for the first time, the Solomon Islands provided data disaggregated by sex and age on mortality and people affected.



Photo: UN Women Cameroon

In Bangladesh, UN-Women enhanced resilience of women at risk, who lived in the five most flood and cyclone prone districts of the country, through capacity building on improved and resilient crop production practices, use of early warning and timely agricultural weather forecast messages, promotion of leadership of women’s organizations, and increased access to essential police and justice services. UN-Women also supported the capacity building of a total of 347 DRR and climate change practitioners on the collection and use of Sex, Age, and Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD) for the identification of disaster, climate and environmental risks, rapid gender analysis and the use of gender tip sheets.



In Nigeria and Cameroon, through the WRD sister programme in the Lake Chad Basin region, UN-Women and partners have directly served 17,107 crisis-affected and at-risk women and girls as well as 4,476 men and boys, promoting their access to information, tools and services with a particular focus on DRR, humanitarian assistance, climate resilient agriculture, livelihoods and protection from violence.



In the Caribbean, UN-Women trained senior technical officers in five countries on gender analysis for development and policy planning, and also supported the gender-responsive review and budgeting of national adaptation plans and gender baselines in Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Suriname. UN-Women also developed the Gender & Climate Change Resilience Infographic series and policy briefs covering 12 key sectors⁴ for the programme countries.

In Mexico, UN-Women supported 2,040 women in four municipalities, who were affected by the earthquakes and COVID-19 pandemic. They have received tools and increased entrepreneurial capacities to develop innovative, sustainable and time-saving businesses to rebuild their lives. They have also increased their knowledge on DRR and promoted the development of gender-responsive community plans on DRR and prevention.



Partnerships to Accelerate Progress

To enhance accountability towards gender equality across all UN-led humanitarian and disaster-risk reduction efforts, UN-Women systematically collaborates with other UN agencies including **UN OCHA, UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP, UNDRR** national and local government

authorities as well as local civil society organizations with focus on local women's organizations and networks. UN-Women offices reported having partnered with 11 UN agencies under the agency's humanitarian portfolio in 2021.



Photo: UN Women/ Amanda Voisard

⁴ Agriculture (Food Security), Coastal Communities, Employment, Energy, Finance, Fisheries, Health, Infrastructure, Protected Areas/Forestry, Social Protection, Transportation and Water, see: <https://caribbean.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2022/06/engender-gender-and-climate-change-resilience-infographic-series>

UNHCR and **UN-Women** signed a global Joint Letter to accelerate progress on the priorities of forcibly displaced and stateless women and girls and advocate for their leadership in the decisions that impact their lives, and that shape their societies. During the first year of implementation under the Joint Letter of Agreement, collaboration between the two agencies deepened at global, regional and country level with focus on the protection and leadership of displaced women and girls (refugees, IDPs, returnees and women and girls in host communities) in camp and non-camp settings.

Ahead of the preparations for the second Global Refugee Forum, UNHCR and UN-Women have joined forces to call for strengthened global partnerships to bring durable solutions to refugee women and girls, through increased funding to women and girls' priorities, support to local women's organizations and the scaling up of gender-specific programmes that provide expanded opportunities for livelihoods, second-chance education, acquisition of new skills and prioritization of statelessness and rights of refugee and forcibly displaced women and girls.

UNHCR joined as a Board Member and Signatory of the Global Compact on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action, which was launched in July 2021, as one of the outcomes of the Generation Equality Forum hosted by UN-Women. Together, both Agencies highlight the priorities of forcibly displaced and stateless women and girls and advocate for their leadership in the decisions that impact their lives, and that shape their societies.[2] One of the key joint priorities is the advancement of meaningful participation of forcibly displaced and stateless women and girls using a local

multi-stakeholder approach to identify effective responses to gender-based violence and gender equality.

The partnership has also progressed at the country level in displacement contexts. For instance, in **Jordan**, UN-Women and UNHCR partnered to ensure effective and timely referrals in and out of UN-Women Oases centers, including for identifying women for participation in cash for work and cash assistance programming and for effective coordination for referral of protection cases. UN-Women and UNHCR, along with ILO, further partnered to provide services aimed at enhancing the transition from cash-for-work modalities to work permit employment for vulnerable Syrian women, through dedicated capacity-building opportunities, job fairs, awareness-raising and coordination, at the camp level through the oasis centers.

Under its DRR portfolio, UN-Women has been providing advocacy, technical support, knowledge and tools to the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) to increase gender responsiveness and women leadership, including for the CADRI digital tool which supports governments in their commitments to identify integrated solutions to manage disaster and climate change risks through a rights-based approach.



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