



Real-Time Accountability Partnership on GBV in Emergencies

The International Rescue Committee, OCHA, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, and USAID's Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance are pleased **to announce a global, multi-agency initiative on addressing gender-based violence in emergencies, the Real-Time Accountability Partnership (RTAP)**. The RTAP aims to harness the collective power of the humanitarian community to ensure that all individuals, particularly women and girls, are free from the threat of gender-based violence (GBV). Specifically, the RTAP's goal is that all actors prioritize and coordinate GBV response services and integrate GBV prevention across sectors from the outset of an emergency.

This is a watershed moment for tackling GBV – one that comes just as crises in Syria, South Sudan, and Europe pose new challenges for the humanitarian system and underline the importance of acting quickly to address GBV. In 2013, governments, donors and humanitarian organizations launched the Call to Action on Protection from GBV in Emergencies, an unprecedented commitment to bringing global attention to this long-neglected issue. In addition, in late 2015 the Interagency Standing Committee released new *Guidelines for Integrating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Action*, significantly strengthening guidance for ensuring risk mitigation and prevention are taken on by all sectors.



The RTAP reinforces these global initiatives by translating humanitarian commitments into concrete actions that lead to results – improved funding, better coordination, and effective programming. This will require the RTAP to develop a framework for action that applies current policies, tools and guidance to identify *high-level, strategic actions* necessary to ensure that GBV prevention and response is prioritized, integrated and coordinated across humanitarian response.



The first step is to better understand how key GBV stakeholders – donors, humanitarian coordinators and country teams, protection and GBV lead agencies, cluster leads, and NGOs – currently

work. To that end, the RTAP is conducting a baseline assessment in five countries across the Middle East, Africa and Asia starting in June 2016. Information collected during the baseline will help the RTAP to develop a robust framework for action that will then be implemented in two countries later in 2016 and through 2017. The baseline will gather high-level input from UN agencies, NGOs and donors so that RTAP's framework is informed by practical and grounded realities.

We are excited to launch this new initiative and look forward to working in partnership as we try to deliver more effective, efficient, timely responses to GBV.

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