

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS! **G&D: Humanitarian Action and Crisis Response**

In July 2019, the international journal *Gender & Development* will examine the theme of humanitarian action and crisis response through the lens of gender equality and women's empowerment.

G&D is a unique journal: a forum for the sharing of analysis and experience between feminist activists involved in development research, policy, and practice. We particularly welcome contributions from the global South. We use simple clear language for maximum access. For more information, visit <http://www.genderanddevelopment.org>.

This special edition focusing on humanitarian action and crisis response will be co-edited by UN Women in collaboration with its Humanitarian Action and Crisis Response Office. Gender equality and women's empowerment is central to a rights-based, effective and efficient humanitarian action that bridges the humanitarian-development-peace divide. We live in a world where crisis has become the new normal, and gender-responsive approaches to humanitarian action are required to meet growing needs, and reach those left furthest behind.

On-going and new crises have resulted in more than 128 million people around the world currently in need of humanitarian assistance, as well as 65.5 million people being forcibly displaced, the highest number recorded since the Second World War. Roughly half of all displaced persons are women and girls, who are differently and often disproportionately affected by both natural disasters and violent conflicts. While the international community has increasingly acknowledged the centrality of gender equality and women's empowerment in humanitarian action, gaps remain between global commitments and action on the ground. Transformative shifts are needed to remove structural barriers that particularly affect women and girls in humanitarian settings, to ensure implementation of norms and standards, and to bring greater transparency and accountability for results.

In the last couple of years, much has happened in the humanitarian space. Important commitments have been made to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in humanitarian action at the World Humanitarian Forum in 2016. The Inter Agency Standing Committee has adopted a revised Policy on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (2017) accompanied by a Gender Accountability Framework (2017). Other important developments within the humanitarian field include the New Way of Working (NWOW) being embraced as the vehicle to bridge the humanitarian-development-peace divide and enhance coordination for common outcomes. The Grand Bargain is paving the way for more efficient management of resources and innovative financing arrangements.

While these are all welcome initiatives and developments, gender equality and women's empowerment tend to be the areas where the largest gaps between commitments and actions are apparent. For instance, the first annual report on progress since the World Humanitarian Summit (UN OCHA 2017) concludes that "the political support for equality and gender-responsive programming that emanated from the Summit has not translated into practice", and gender is one of the important parts of the change agenda that is being left behind. Similarly, humanitarian financing remains a grave challenge, and a gender perspective in funding is seriously lacking.

Ideas for articles include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Grounded case studies of experiences in different contexts showing how gender-responsive humanitarian action increases effectiveness and efficiency across the humanitarian-development-peace continuum.
- Examples of women's rights organisations engaged in humanitarian action: how does localized action bring about transformative change?
- Preventing and responding to Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV): case studies showing the potential of humanitarian programming that focuses on the empowerment and self-reliance of women and girls – including cash-based initiatives, livelihood support – to reduce their vulnerability to SGBV in crisis settings, analysing what works and how
- Harnessing the potential of innovation and new technologies for the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian settings: examples of this.
- Changing gender dynamics as a result of displacement: trends from different contexts.
- Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian settings.
- How leveraging cash-based interventions can advance gender-equality and the empowerment of women and girls in humanitarian settings – case studies
- Engaging men and boys in gender-transformative humanitarian action: examples of good practices and innovative approaches, and how they made a difference.
- Improving planning and results by applying intersectional perspectives in humanitarian action
- Addressing the gender inequality of risk in a changing climate: examples of how disaster risk reduction can improve the resilience of women and girls.
- Demonstrating how integrating gender equality and women and girl's empowerment across humanitarian-development-peace nexus programming not only addresses the needs of women and girls, but also improves the long-term outcomes for their families and wider communities.
- Using grounded case studies to determine how a focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls contribute to achieving key SDG targets in humanitarian settings, e.g. on food security and nutrition.
- Ensuring accountability and leadership at global and local ('field') level to integrate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in all preparedness, response and recovery efforts: gaps, trends and good practices.

Please send a paragraph outlining your proposed idea for an article for this issue, in an email (no attachments please) to Caroline Sweetman at csweetman@oxfam.org.uk, by 30 September 2018.

Commissioning will happen by 12 October 2018. Commissioned articles (between 6-7,500 words) will need to be completed for a deadline of 10 January 2019. Guidelines for contributors can be found at <http://www.genderanddevelopment.org/about/#con>