

## Project Brief

### Background

The Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) is a research and advocacy organization working to improve the lives and protect the rights of women, children, and youth displaced by conflict and crisis. We research their needs, identify solutions, and advocate for programs and policies to strengthen their resilience and drive change in humanitarian practice.

The WRC, a member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Team mandated to develop Global Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action (IASC Disability Guidelines), is supporting the work of the Task Team with funds provided by the Australian government. WRC is assuming a technical lead role to:

- ensure gender is mainstreamed across the IASC Disability Guidelines, in consultation with humanitarian stakeholders;
- draft and pilot sector-specific guidance for gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response actors on disability inclusion; and
- develop and deliver training packages to support the rollout and implementation of the IASC Disability Guidelines.

### Progress to Date

- Engaged gender, GBV, and organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) stakeholders in a **global consultation process** conducted by the IASC Task Team.
- Drafted **sector-specific guidance** on disability inclusion in GBV prevention and response programs, which has been used as the basis for discussion in regional consultations with gender and GBV actors.
- Designed and implemented **two regional consultations – one in Africa and one in Asia** – to gather feedback on the relevance and applicability of the first draft of the IASC Disability Guidelines to humanitarian actors and OPDs working on gender equality, GBV prevention and response, and women's empowerment initiatives.
- Supported three pilot partners selected through a competitive call: *Allianza por la Solidaridad – ApS (Jordan)*; *National Union of Women with Disabilities in Uganda – NUWODU (Uganda)*; and *Family Planning Association – FPA (Sri Lanka)*. These partners reflect a diversity of geographic contexts and settings; types of partnerships, including with and by OPDs; and types of pilot activities proposed. WRC provided technical support to pilot partners to ensure pilot activities effectively inform the IASC Disability Guidelines development process, and supports pilot partners to monitor and document outcomes and recommendations to be shared with the wider IASC Task Team.

### Next Steps

- Design and launch a training package on disability inclusion in GBV prevention and response programs (including women's empowerment programs).
- Engage GBV, gender equality, and women's empowerment actors, including the global protection cluster and areas of responsibility (AoRs), to actively support the implementation of the IASC Disability Guidelines.

**Implementation period:** July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020

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