

CONCLUSION

A mere 20 years ago, sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services were virtually non-existent for refugees, displaced persons, and others living in humanitarian settings. In many ways this updated manual — founded on the tenet that sexual and reproductive health is a human right, and as such, applies to everyone, everywhere — and the wealth of guidance and experience contained therein, serves as a reminder of how far our field has come since the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) produced the first version of this manual in 1999. The 2018 *Inter-Agency Field Manual on Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings* (IAFM) is a culmination of years of hard-won, and not always linear, progress to ensure that people affected by humanitarian crises, in particular women and girls, have access to the comprehensive SRH information and services necessary to realize their basic rights.

The contributors to the 2018 version of the IAFM, including United Nations and implementing agencies, technical and human rights experts, advocates, local program managers and practitioners, and researchers, represent a wealth of expertise and experiences across the SRH and humanitarian fields. Although they came to the table with a diversity of perspectives, they were all united by a common passion for ensuring that people whose lives have been uprooted by war, violence, famine and/or natural disasters have access to the sexual and reproductive health care that is foundational to upholding their rights and dignity. Notably, nearly all of the contributors to the 2018 IAFM lacked dedicated time or funding to participate in this process, let alone to do so as extensively and as meaningfully as they did — a true testament to their dedication to reaching people affected by crises with higher-quality, more efficient, more compassionate, and more inclusive care. Through a thorough process of building consensus among a diverse group of experts, IAWG has emerged with a manual that is stronger for the diversity of input that went into it.

The end-users of this manual, SRH Coordinators and health program managers, were consulted as a first step in the process and were kept in mind throughout the development of this resource. It was intended to provide technical updates, clarity, and support, highlight challenges and key considerations, and most importantly offer potential solutions from people who have been in your shoes. Nuances of language, attention to inclusivity, feasibility in a variety of resource-constrained settings, and even the graphic design, have been considered at length, always with an eye toward clarity, conciseness, and usability at the field-level. While there are many issues that are decidedly not black and white – as is the nature of the complex settings where we work – IAWG has endeavored to produce a manual that will be a useful resource to you and your colleagues in your efforts to provide SRH services to crisis-affected populations and that shares best practices that can be adapted to the complicated settings where you work.

We turn it over to you now to continue your critical, yet so often under-resourced and under-valued work. We hope this manual will serve as a valuable tool in your toolbox: as a guide, a reference, but also a symbol and a reminder of the supportive community of practitioners, technical experts, donors, researchers, and advocates who are here to support you. Thank you for the work you do in service of and in partnership with the women, girls, boys, and men affected by crises.

We invite you to join the conversation at <https://knowledge-gateway.org/iawg> or by visiting www.iawg.net. You can also email us at info.iawg@wrcommission.org.