



# Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises

Advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in humanitarian settings

## PLANNING FOR THE NEXT GLOBAL EVALUATION 2023 - 2025

### Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Humanitarian Settings

There are an estimated 68.5 million women and girls of reproductive age in need of humanitarian assistance. Today, their lives and well-being are further threatened by the politicization of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and prevalence of gender-inequity. They are at increased risk of preventable maternal and newborn death and illness, unintended pregnancy, unsafe abortion, sexual and gender-based violence, and sexually transmitted infections including HIV.

**In the context of rapidly changing and increasingly fragile global settings, updated evidence is essential to provide clarity around the state of SRHR.**

### Evidence Base for the Next Decade

In 2014, the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on Reproductive Health in Crisis, published a Global Evaluation - a synthesis of seven complementary studies providing a holistic view of the state of SRHR in humanitarian settings. This data, used to inform countless organizations and humanitarian actors working to improve and support SRHR, is now nearly a decade old. **IAWG endeavors to undertake the next Global Evaluation beginning in 2023, with a goal to publish and disseminate the study's findings in 2025.** It will provide those working in humanitarian settings with **an essential understanding of the collective outcomes and progress of their SRH investments over the last decade** and **establish a road map for the effective investment of billions of dollars** by Governments, UN agencies, private foundations, and international and national NGOs.

### The Power of Global Evaluations

Between 2004 and 2014, two Global Evaluations led to profound changes in attitudes, policies, and approaches to SRHR in humanitarian settings.

The Women's Refugee Commission 1994 landmark report, *Refugee Women and Reproductive Health Care: Reassessing Priorities* found virtually no SRHR services for displaced populations. IAWG was launched shortly afterward. Nearly ten years later, IAWG published its first Global Evaluation in 2004 which served as a guide for those working in and across SRHR. IAWG undertook a second Global Evaluation from 2012-2014, revealing substantial improvements in funding, services, and institutional capacity, including awareness and implementation of the MISP in acute emergencies. The gaps identified served as the cornerstone of IAWG's strategy and global advocacy, resulting in improved policies and programming in adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH), comprehensive abortion care, voluntary contraception, maternal and newborn health, and the MISP.



## Phases of the Global Evaluation 2023-2025

Over the next three years, IAWG will undertake a Global Evaluation with a commitment to the equitable engagement of national and community-based partners.

- **Participatory Planning Process** - led by an inclusive Global Evaluation Taskforce to establish key research questions, develop detailed research protocols, identify study leads and establish research partnerships, select sites, and develop detailed study budgets and timelines.
- **Data Collection** - undertake mixed-method complementary research studies including systematic reviews and field-based data collection in a variety of humanitarian contexts.
- **Data Analysis** - synthesize and assess data across individual studies to identify common themes, gaps, challenges, and collective progress in advancing SRHR. Findings will drive recommendations and messaging.
- **Dissemination** - to generate awareness and adoption of the Evaluation's recommendations, publish results in open-access peer-reviewed publications, translate summaries of findings and recommendations into at least four languages, and coordinate launch events (briefings, webinars, conferences, and meetings).



## Next Steps

IAWG is in the early planning phase of the 2023-2025 Global Evaluation, and is now reaching out to potential partners and donors to determine interest in this effort.

You can find the findings from the IAWG on Reproductive Health in Crises' 2012-2014 Global Evaluation [here](#)



## About IAWG

IAWG is a collaborative global coalition of individual and organizational members that provides *unified leadership to advance policy, strengthen practice, mobilize resources, and build accountability to ensure the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of people affected by crises*. Formed in 1995, IAWG includes 55 core member organizations, representing United Nations (UN) agencies, governments, international and national non-governmental organizations, universities, donors, and community-based organizations, as well as 4,000 individual members from 122 countries. IAWG's greatest strength is its diverse membership.