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USTRANSCOM

UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION COMMAND



Operationalizing WPS and Logistics

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AGENDA

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- Gender Advisor
- Overlapping Interests and Gender Domains
- Gender Perspective
- U.S. Policy on Women, Peace, and Security



GENDER ADVISOR (GENAD) RESPONSIBILITIES

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A GENAD is the trained principal advisor on integrating gender into the Command

Duties include:

Technical and functional advice to the commander and staff

Advocating & educating on consideration of gender perspective

Integrating gender perspectives into policies and procedures

Conducting cross-functional planning and working groups

Training gender perspectives for all force elements

Establishing and mentoring the gender network at all levels

Coordinating gender planning with other agencies and stakeholders

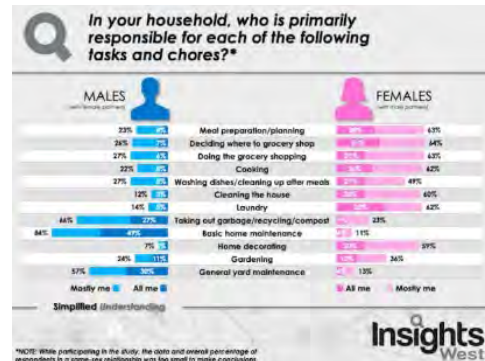
Complying with reporting mandates



UNDERSTANDING GENDER

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- Based on culturally conceived and learned ideals about appropriate characteristics for men, women, boys, and girls through roles, rights, responsibilities, entitlements, and behaviors



Begins at Birth...

Taught at Home...

Reinforced at School...

Varies across Cultures & Families...



WHAT IS A GENDER PERSPECTIVE?

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The **process** of exposing gender differences and how being treated as a man, woman, boy, or girl, in society shapes a person's immediate needs, long-term interests, and (importantly to us) security





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WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

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- Why?

- Peace is longer lasting when women are involved in negotiating peace agreements
- Countries who invest in and empower women are more stable
- Conflict puts men, women, boys, and girls **at risk** in very different ways
- Partner of choice



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UN WPS FRAMEWORK (UNSCR 1325)

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Participation

- Inclusion of women and girls' interests in decision-making processes related to the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict

Protection

- Women and girls' safety, including physical and mental health, is assured and their human rights are upheld

Prevention

- Prevention of conflict and all forms of structural and physical violence against women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence

Relief and Recovery

- Women and girls' specific needs are met and women's capacities to act as agents in relief and recovery are reinforced in conflict and post-conflict situations

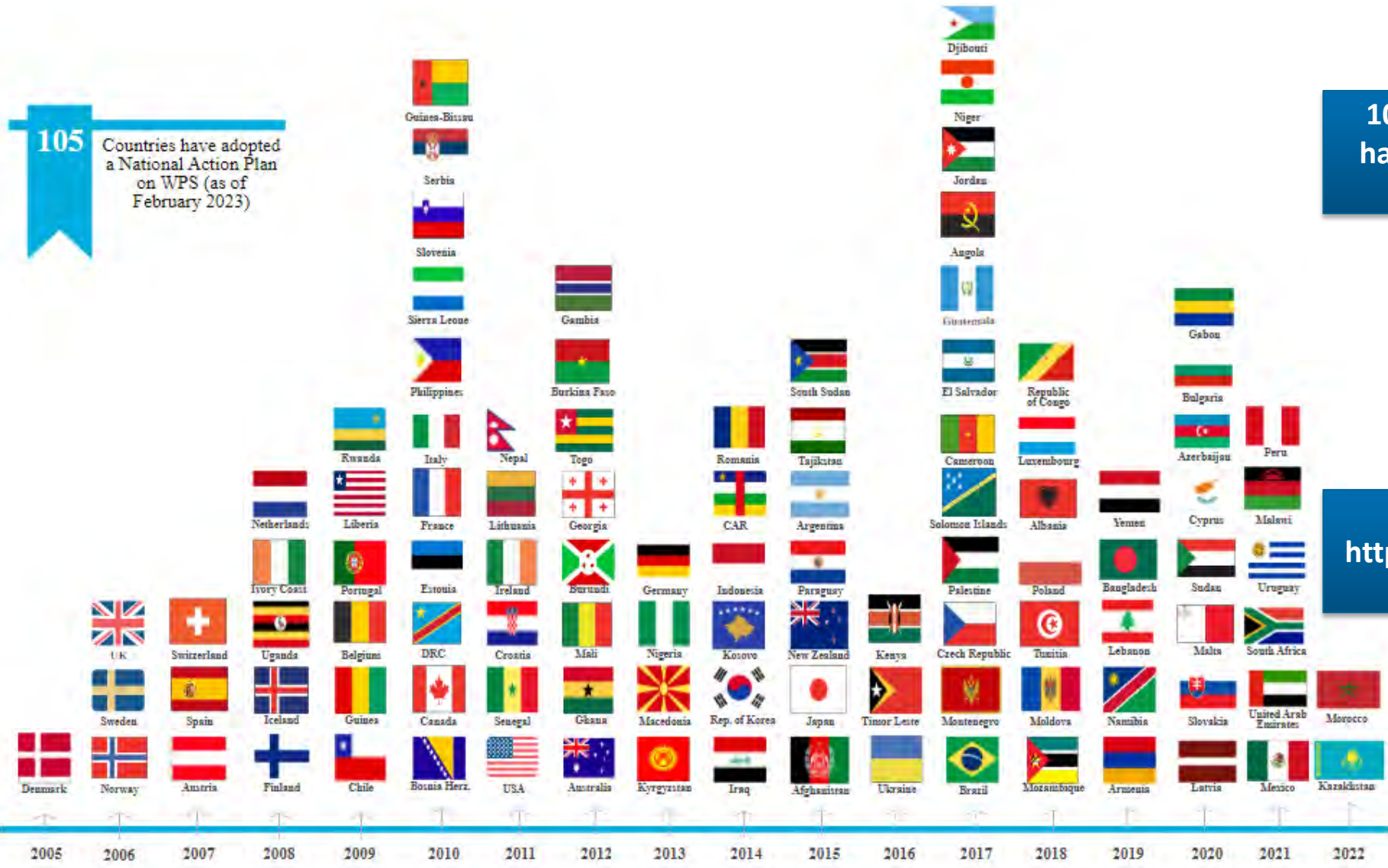


NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON WPS

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105 UN member states (54%) have adopted a 1325 National Action Plan

1325 NAP Toolkit: <https://1325naps.peacewomen.org>





WPS IN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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2000

2011

2017

2019

2020

UNSCR 1325:
First global recognition of the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and girls and their necessary role in preventing and resolving it

EO 13595:
Mandates implementation of WPS and UNSCR 1325; U.S. becomes 50th nation with National Action Plan

U.S. WPS Act (PL-115-68):
U.S. is the first country to enact a national law on WPS; tasks DOD, DOS, DHS, & USAID as implementing departments

U.S. Strategy on WPS:
4-year Whole of Gov't approach based on 4 LOE's

DOD SFIP:
Provides DOD objectives to implement WPS Strategy and WPS Act; fulfills requirement to establish a plan



U.S. STRATEGY ON WPS

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Strategic Objectives:

- Women are **more prepared and increasingly able** to participate in efforts that promote stable and lasting peace
- Women and girls are **safer, better protected, and have equal access** to government and private assistance programs, including from the U.S. international powers, and host nations
- U.S. and partner government have **improved institutionalization and capacity** to ensure WPS efforts are sustainable and long-lasting

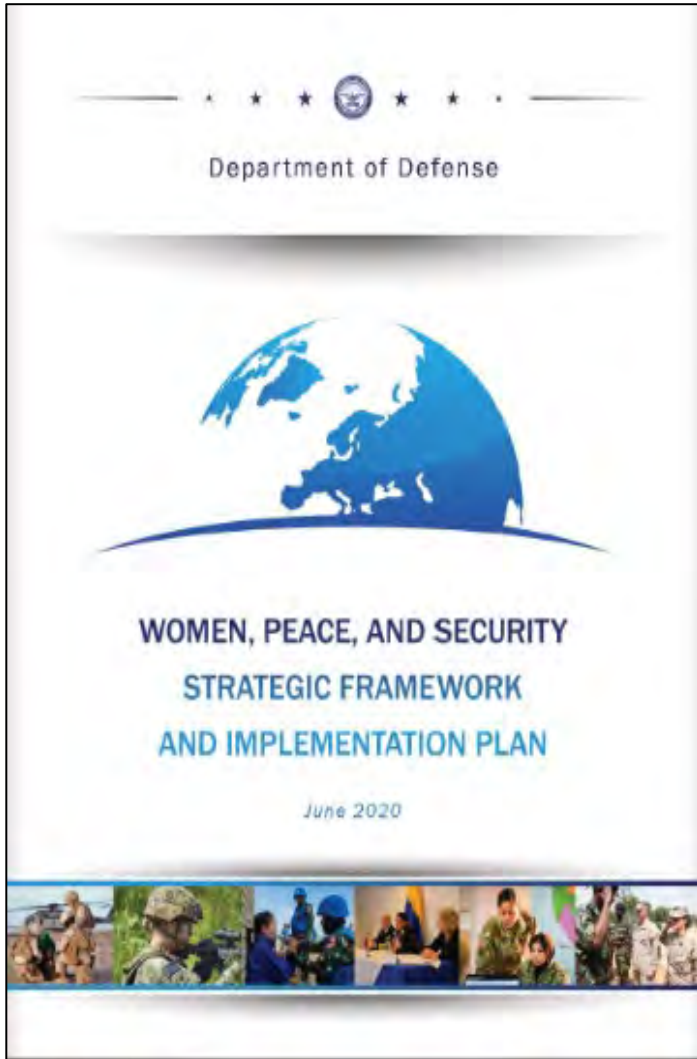
Meaningful
Participation





STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK & IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

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Defense Objective 1: The Department of Defense exemplifies a diverse organization that allows for women’s meaningful participation across the development, management, and employment of the Joint Force.

Defense Objective 2: Women in partner nations meaningfully participate and serve at all ranks and in all occupations in defense and security sectors.

Defense Objective 3: Partner nation defense and security sectors ensure women and girls are safe and secure and that their human rights are protected, especially during conflict and crisis.



WPS & STRATEGIC COMPETITION

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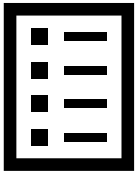
- **Strengthens a Values-Based Narrative**
 - WPS is not a U.S. or Western agenda
 - Demonstrates commitment to the values and norms desired and deserved by all people: dignity, human rights, equality under the law
- **Access through Engagement**
 - We can engage in WPS where our competitors cannot
- **Influence through Empowerment**
 - WPS leverages person-to-person engagement and genuine relationship building
 - We do not seek to "buy" influence
 - We seek to *invest*, not *extract*





OPERATIONALIZE WPS

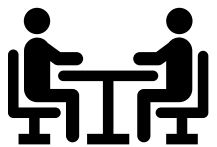
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Gender as a key characteristic to inform planning



Identify opportunities to integrate gender perspective into exercises and operations

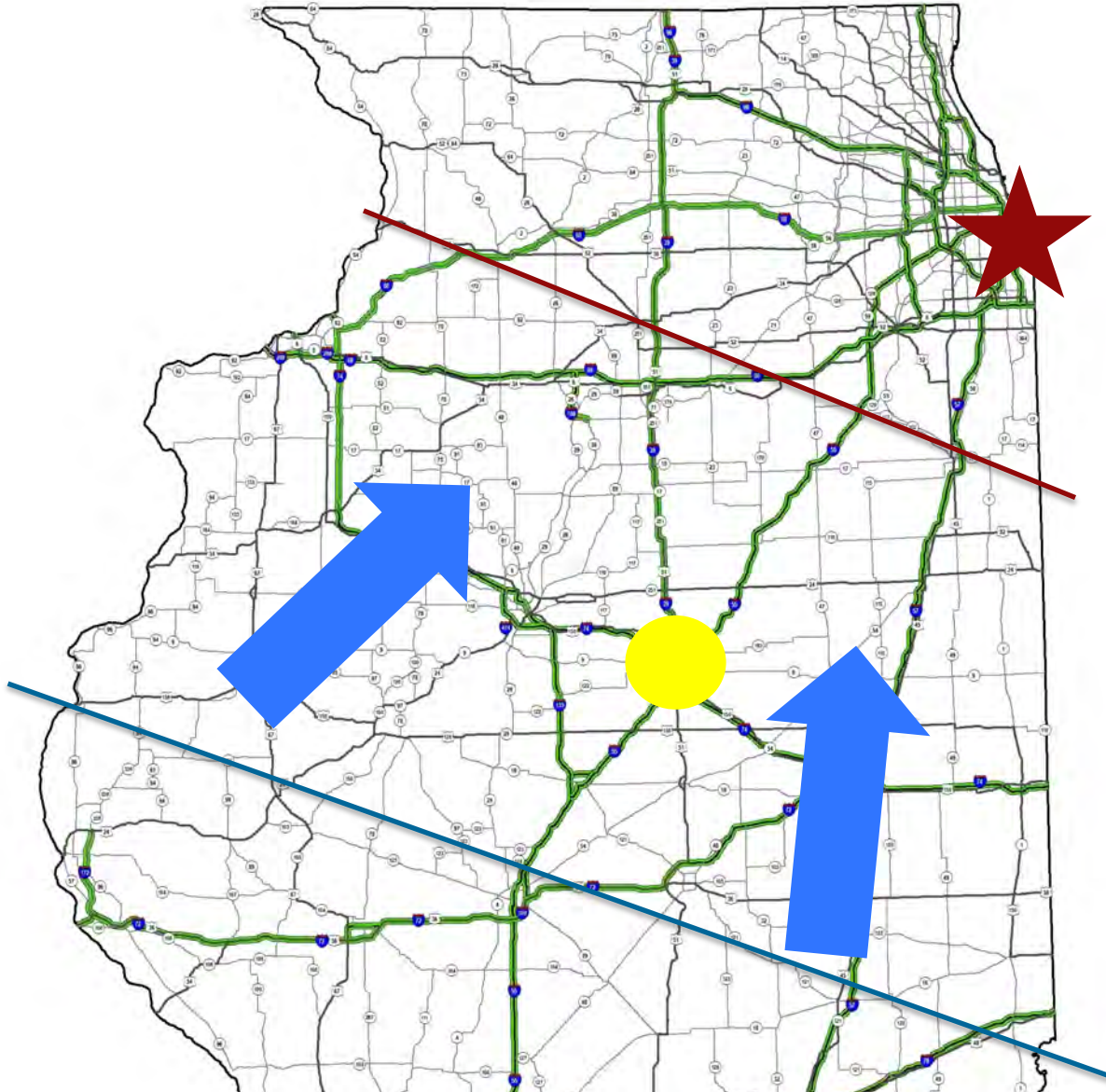


Integrate WPS concepts into security cooperation activities



EXAMPLE

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- Refugee Flows
- Internally Displaced Persons
- Cultural Property
- Population Centers
- Key Travel Nodes
- Main Supply Routes
- Hospital Evacuation



Military Gender Analysis Tool

- Gather Information

3. Economy

Factor	Indicator	Indicator Questions	Deduction (Risks, implications, considerations, consequences)	Conclusion (Actions, recommendations, cooperation)
3.1 Resources	3.1.1. Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How are economic resources distributed among women and men?• What is the poverty rate between women and men?		
	3.1.2. Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who exercises control of national resources and assets?• Who has access to water and other essential resources?		



EXAMPLES

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REGIONAL GENDER-BASED GLOBAL CHALLENGES

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Gender Based Violence



Trafficking in Persons



Violent Extremism



Climate Change



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Questions



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Gendered Disaster Response

Willow Kreutzer, Ph.D.

University of Iowa

Stephen Bagwell, Ph.D.

University of Missouri – St. Louis

Government Responses to Disasters

- Disaster responses are often a "blanket" response aimed at serving the general population, but are biased toward men's disaster experiences (*Kreutzer 2022*)
- Women's unique needs and experiences are more likely to be left out of government policies and programs responding to disasters (*UNDP 2022*)
- Türkiye, for example, adopted policies which ignored women's safety and recovery needs by building refugee camps that did not have safe bathrooms, did not provide separate areas for women and men, and restricting access to social media

Gendered Disaster Vulnerability

- Women and men are affected differently by disasters (*Juran and Trivedi 2015*)
- After disasters women suffer from negative health, socioeconomic, and other consequences that impact their daily lives as women (*Jahangiri et al. 2014*)
- In Türkiye, women who were caught naked or without headscarves under the rubble were less likely to ask for help or rescue from predominately male relief workers.

Gender Roles Post Disasters

- Gender roles solidify in crisis (*Goldstein 2003*)
- Women's roles as caretakers are solidified after disasters including caring for sick or injured family members, collecting and carrying resources, and staying with the family while others go for help
- Intensification of gender roles can lead to negative health and safety of women who may put themselves in dangerous situations or negate their own health (*Berndt 2008*)
- In Türkiye, women are often responsible for queueing in food lines, taking care of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable family members

Violence Against Women (VAW)

- Sexual Violence

- There is a surge in sexual violence during and after disasters, often committed by rescuers or within refugee camps (*Horton 2012*)

- Domestic Violence

- Increase in domestic violence following disasters, specifically within camps
- Husbands blame their wives for their family or children's death
- Take out their aggression or frustration on their wives (*Fisher 2010*)
- One report from Türkiye: Alev Altun, took refuge with her ex-husband and father of her children, who poured scalding water on her, forcing her into intensive care

Women's Healthcare

- Pregnant and nursing mothers
 - Decrease in routine care and hospital services can lead to increase in risk of death or diseases to both mother and baby
 - In Türkiye, 356,000 pregnant women- many forced to give birth in collapsed buildings and in urgent need of medical care
- Reproductive Healthcare
 - Inadequate access to safe and private wash facilities
 - Lack of appropriate menstrual materials and supplies
 - Limited menstrual health and hygiene information (*Colombia Public Health 2022*)
- Increase sexual violence
 - increased need for reproductive healthcare and safety addressing HIV, STDs, sexually induced trauma, unplanned pregnancies, and violent partners (*Berndt 2018; Hapsari et al. 2009*)

Women's Economic Empowerment

- Disasters significantly decrease women's economic empowerment
(Kreutzer et al. 2023)
- Fewer economic alternatives than men
- Slower to return to work, if they can at all
- Often denied government relief under the assumption that husbands will support them
- Time that could be used for employment used to support and care for family after disasters *(Enarson 2000; Hines 2007)*

Loss of Life

- Disasters lower the life expectancy of women compared to men
(Neuymayer and Plümpert 2007)
 - Stronger the disaster, the more women's life expectancy is lowered
- Gender specific vulnerability of women built into socioeconomic structures of states leads to higher mortality rates for women during disasters *(Neuymayer and Plümpert 2007)*

Not only in Türkiye

- Similar problems with gender-based violence spiked after earthquakes in Peru (2007) Chile and Haiti (2010); Hurricanes in Nicaragua (1998) and the USA (2005)
- Heatwave in France in 2003 led to an increase in excess mortality 15% higher in women than men (*Fouillet et. al 2006*)
- The 2004 tsunami impacting Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and India killed almost four times as many women as men

What Can You Do?

- Government Responses
 - Include women's unique needs
 - Include women in the creation of responses
- Gender Roles
 - Be aware of how gender roles can play into disaster response and recovery
- VAW
 - Separate men and women in camps
 - Have adequate lighting at camps
 - Include women on search and rescue teams

What Can You Do?

- Women's Healthcare
 - Provide menstrual products and services
 - Have clean water and private spaces for women to wash
 - Prioritize maternal health/maternity wards
- Women's Economic Opportunities
 - Policies to allow women head of households to access government resources
 - Gender specific economic programs
- Aware of gendered bias