

# SCALING UP GENDER-SENSITIVE HUMANITARIAN ACTION



MORE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO FLEE THEIR HOMES THAN EVER BEFORE IN RECORDED HISTORY.

**GIRLS AND WOMEN MAKE UP HALF OF ANY FORCIBLY DISPLACED POPULATION, SO MEETING THEIR NEEDS SHOULD NEVER BE AN AFTERTHOUGHT.**



Safeguarding their health, rights, and wellbeing can lift up entire communities - during crises and well beyond.

...Yet the needs of girls and women are **consistently sidelined in humanitarian action**, especially when it comes to their **sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)**.

**only 5%**

In 2014-2015, **only 5%** of all foreign aid to fragile states **targeted gender equality** as a main focus.



Adolescent girls in conflict zones are **90%** more likely to be **out of school** compared to girls in conflict-free countries.

In some crisis-affected countries, **over 70%** of women experience **gender-based violence (GBV)**.



Of the 10 countries with the highest rates of **child marriage**, **9 are in fragile states**.



**INVEST IN GIRLS AND WOMEN IN EMERGENCIES TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF HISTORY.**

**HERE'S HOW TO START:**



Mainstream gender at the start of humanitarian action



Engage and invest in local women-focused organizations



Ensure universal access to SRH services in emergencies



Establish specialized GBV prevention and response services at the onset of crises

## Women Deliver is scaling up its humanitarian advocacy work to advance gender equality and the health, rights, and wellbeing of girls and women, including their SRHR, in fragile and crisis settings.

- Our humanitarian advocacy work will contribute and build on what we already do well – convening, communicating, advocating, and partnership-building – to support gender-sensitive humanitarian action.
- We're also investing in the knowledge, capacity, and human resources we need to make Women Deliver a smarter and more effective advocate for girls and women in humanitarian settings.
- With generous support from the Government of Canada, we've established a new humanitarian advocacy team that will focus on advancing two strategic objectives:
  - **Inspiring Gender-Sensitive Humanitarian Action:** We will use our voice and our power as a leading gender equality advocate to fuel action and engagement for girls and women in crisis settings.
  - Whether behind-the-scenes in private meetings or front and center at the world's most influential forums, we'll join long-time advocates in pushing for policies, programs, and investments that can advance girls' and women's health, rights, and wellbeing, including their SRHR, in humanitarian settings.
  - **Amplifying Women's Voices:** When women-focused CSOs are engaged in humanitarian decision-making, resulting policies and programs better meet the needs of girls and women.
  - We will use our Young Leaders Program as a model to help strengthen and elevate the voices of women-focused CSOs in emergency contexts, providing the training and opportunities they need to reach global platforms and shape conversations that affect their lives.

As Women Deliver continues to push itself to do more in the humanitarian advocacy space, we encourage other organizations – from the development and humanitarian sectors alike – to see how they too can be bolder and do better for girls and women in emergencies.



[www.womendeliver.org/humanitarian](http://www.womendeliver.org/humanitarian)