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UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

REDUCING RISKS SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN EMERGENCIES

CALL TO ACTION

2014 / 2015

THE RIGHT PEOPLE

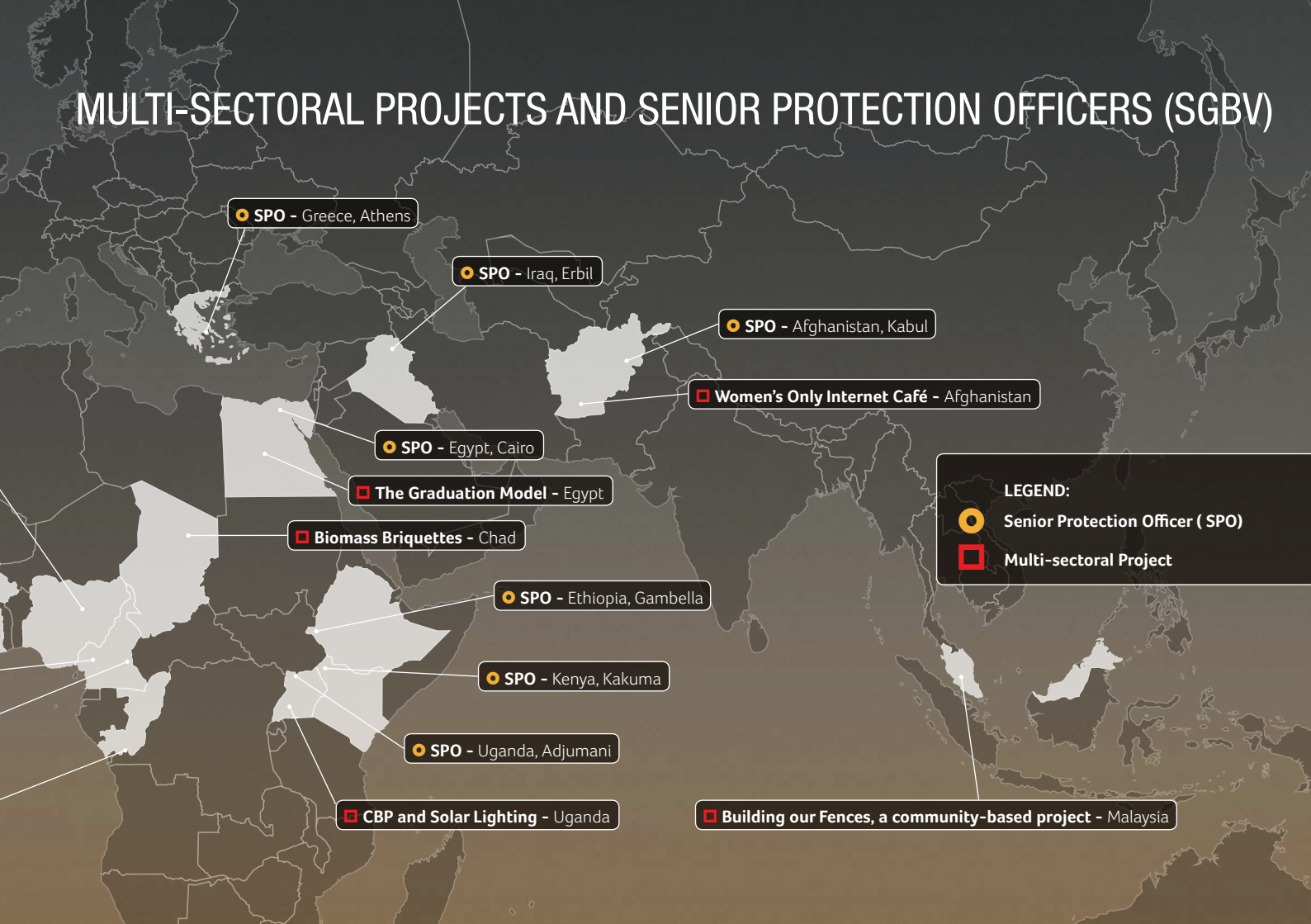
The right staff at the right time is essential to SGBV prevention and response in forced displacement emergencies. To this end, UNHCR has recruited and deployed expert Senior Protection Officers (SGBV) under the US-funded Safe from the Start Initiative, the Capacity Building Initiative, and the Protection SURGE Project.

- 3** Number of Protection SURGE deployments to Cameroon, Rwanda, and Tanzania focusing on SGBV.
 - 3** Number of Regional Senior Protection Officers (SGBV) covering Latin America, East and Horn of Africa, and the Middle East.
 - 4** Number of Protection Officers (CP/SGBV) deployed to Cameroon, Chad, Egypt, and Headquarters under the Capacity Building Initiative.
 - 10** Number of operations that have received technical support from **eight** Safe from the Start deployments: Afghanistan, Cameroon, Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iraq, Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, and Greece.
- THOUSANDS** Number of refugees engaged worldwide in SGBV prevention and response activities. Community engagement is key to ensuring UNHCR works with the “right people”.

.safe from the **start**



MULTI-SECTORAL PROJECTS AND SENIOR PROTECTION OFFICERS (SGBV)



● SPO - Greece, Athens

● SPO - Iraq, Erbil

● SPO - Afghanistan, Kabul

■ Women's Only Internet Café - Afghanistan

● SPO - Egypt, Cairo

■ The Graduation Model - Egypt

■ Biomass Briquettes - Chad

● SPO - Ethiopia, Gambella

● SPO - Kenya, Kakuma

● SPO - Uganda, Adjumani

■ CBP and Solar Lighting - Uganda

■ Building our Fences, a community-based project - Malaysia

LEGEND:

- Senior Protection Officer (SPO)
- Multi-sectoral Project

THE RIGHT PROGRAMS

The right programs are all about reducing the risk of SGBV through multi-sectoral and innovative approaches. Addressing the myriad of problems that give rise to SGBV, therefore, requires strategic partnerships, sustained action and, equally critical, strong community engagement. Below are some examples.

- ▶ **BIOMASS BRIQUETTES.** Production of biomass briquettes meet the domestic energy needs of refugees and reduce the need for firewood collection in dangerous locations. Livelihoods opportunities are also created when women's groups learn to produce and sell the briquettes. These projects are being implemented in Ghana, Cameroon, and Chad.
- ▶ **COMMUNITY SOLAR LIGHTS.** Installation of solar lighting and the mobilization of refugee communities in Northern Uganda enable refugees to use lights as communal and market spaces. The lights themselves – when used as mobile charging stations – serve as a source of income, which is used to cover the cost of maintenance.
- ▶ **FEMALE ONLY INTERNET CAFES.** In Afghanistan, a pilot female-only Community Technology Access center has been established and, in addition to providing empowerment through information, will be an entry point for women to access SGBV prevention and response services.
- ▶ **REFUGEE TRADE COOPERATIVES.** This initiative focuses on skills development, fair trade production, and income-generating activities to protect persons of concern from SGBV. In Burkina Faso, UNHCR has supported an artisans enterprise, and in Malaysia, a refugee-managed cooperative that includes vocational, entrepreneurial and safe-shelter services.

39

operations provided
psychosocial counseling to

13,532 SURVIVORS

33

operations provided
legal assistance to

3,162 SURVIVORS

27

operations provided
medical assistance to

2,558 SURVIVORS

19

operations provided access
to safe spaces for

829 SURVIVORS

Figures represent 2015 mid-year reporting on these activities.

► **COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTION AND RESPONSE.**

UNHCR works with refugees as key actors in their own protection. By mid-year 2015, **1,157 community-based groups** were working on SGBV prevention and supporting survivor-centered protection across refugee operations.

► **THE GRADUATION MODEL.**

The livelihoods project facilitates access to wage employment as well as self-employment for Syrian refugees in Egypt. Participants include women-at-risk and survivors of SGBV.



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THE RIGHT TOOLS & MECHANISMS

The right tools are indispensable for UNHCR staff around the world to be well-equipped to effectively address SGBV.

- ▶ **GENDER BASED VIOLENCE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM** rolled-out jointly with UNICEF, UNFPA and IRC in **22 humanitarian operations**.
- ▶ **A CHILD PROTECTION INDEX TO MEASURE IMPACT DEVELOPED** in collaboration with the Child Protection in Crisis Network has been used to conduct baseline field research on SGBV and Child Protection in Uganda and in Rwanda. This research measures changes and impact resulting from interventions aimed at protecting children from violence.
- ▶ **SGBV PREVENTION AND RESPONSE INTERNET-BASED LEARNING** that will be mandatory for all staff is in development and will be launched by UNHCR. This will enhance staff capacity to address SGBV in humanitarian situations.
- ▶ **A GUIDE TO SGBV PREVENTION AND RESPONSE** to support UNHCR and partner staff to conduct training on SGBV prevention and response.



- ▶ **THE PROGRAMMING FOR PROTECTION LEARNING PROGRAM** will roll out in early 2016, and will support operations teams to systematically integrate protection and solutions priorities across program design and implementation.
- ▶ **A HIGH-LEVEL ADVISORY GROUP** addressing gender, forced displacement, and protection will provide a cross-disciplinary forum to advance gender equality, improve programs to address SGBV, and empower women and girls to assume leadership roles in their communities.





The Call to Action on Protecting Girls and Women in Emergencies was launched in 2013 to mobilize donors, UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

.safe from the start

Safe from the Start is a U.S. initiative to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies worldwide. The initiative has funded UNHCR programs since October 2013.

CALL TO ACTION

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Division of International Protection, 2015