

Table of Contents

Foreword	i
List of field practice examples	v
Acronyms and abbreviations	viii
Introduction to the Handbook	1
Overview	1
Chapter 1: Introduction to Protecting Women and Girls	5
Overview	5
1.1 Displacement today	7
1.2 Impact of displacement on women and girls	9
1.3 Promoting gender equality to protect women and girls	12
1.4 Implementation challenges	16
Chapter 2: Principles and Practices for Gender Equality	21
Overview	21
2.1 International legal standards to protect women's and girls' rights	22
2.2 A rights- and community-based approach	26
2.3 UNHCR's age, gender and diversity mainstreaming strategy (AGDM)	34
2.4 Strengthening participation and empowerment of women	39
2.5 Strengthening participation and empowerment of girls	49
2.6 Working with men and boys	55
Chapter 3: Identification, Prevention and Response to Risks Faced by Women and Girls	65
Overview	65
3.1 Risk factors faced by women and girls	66
3.2 Prevention and response to risks in the wider protection environment	74
3.3 Individual case management systems for protection and response	82
Chapter 4: UNHCR's Protection Response	93
Overview	93
4.1 Partnerships and UNHCR's protection response	94
Overview	94
4.1.1 Partnerships	95
4.1.2 UNHCR's protection response	103
4.2 Tools to protect women and girls	111
Overview	111
4.2.1 Registration and identity documentation	112
4.2.2 Birth registration and certification	118
4.2.3 Registration and certification of marriage and divorce	123
4.2.4 Family tracing and reunification	125
4.2.5 Best interests assessments and best interests determinations	130
4.2.6 Refugee status determination	137
4.3 Securing solutions for women and girls	145
Overview	145
4.3.1 Participation in peacebuilding processes	146
4.3.2 Voluntary return and reintegration	151
4.3.3 Local integration	160
4.3.4 Refugee resettlement	166
Chapter 5: Exercising Rights and Ensuring Protection	175
Overview	175
5.1 Access to information	177
5.2 Nationality, civil status and family relations	184
Overview	184
5.2.1 Nationality	185
5.2.2 Marriage, civil status and family relations	191

Continued on next page

Table of Contents, Continued

5.3 Personal liberty and security	199
Overview	199
5.3.1 Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)	200
Overview	200
5.3.1.1 SGBV challenges	201
5.3.1.2 Responding to and preventing SGBV	206
5.3.2 Smuggling, trafficking and abduction	218
5.3.3 Restrictions on freedom of movement	227
5.3.4 Military recruitment and DDR	234
5.4 Administration of justice	245
Overview	245
5.4.1 Administration of justice during displacement	246
5.4.2 Formal national judicial systems	250
5.4.3 Traditional justice mechanisms	255
5.4.4 Transitional justice and justice in return situations	263
5.5 Health	267
Overview	267
5.5.1 Accessing and enjoying the highest attainable standard of health	268
5.5.2 Reproductive health	271
5.5.3 HIV/AIDS	282
5.5.4 Mental health and psychosocial support	288
5.6 Access to safe and quality education	295
5.7 Livelihoods and food security	306
Overview	306
5.7.1 Livelihoods and food security	307
5.7.2 Food security and food distribution	316
5.8 Housing, land and property	320
Overview	320
5.8.1 Housing and shelter during displacement	321
5.8.2 Housing, land and property on return	327
Chapter 6: The International and Regional Legal Framework	333
Overview	333
6.1 International refugee, human rights, humanitarian and criminal law	335
Overview	335
6.1.1 International refugee law	337
6.1.2 International human rights law	338
6.1.2.1 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against	
Women	340
6.1.2.2 Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols	342
6.1.3 International law regarding stateless persons	344
6.1.4 International humanitarian law	346
6.1.5 International criminal law	348
6.2 Other Relevant Principles, Conclusions, Resolutions and Declarations	349
Overview	349
6.2.1 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (DEVAW)	350
6.2.2 ECOSOC conclusions and resolutions	352
6.2.3 Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security	353
6.2.4 Security Council resolutions on children and armed conflict	354
6.2.5 Executive Committee Conclusions	356
6.2.6 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement	357
6.2.7 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action	358
6.2.8 Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals	359
6.2.9 World Summit and World Summit Outcome document	360
6.3 Regional Legal Framework	361
Annexes	365
Annex 1: ExCom Conclusion No. 105 (LVII), 2006, Women and Girls at Risk	365
Annex 2: ExCom Conclusion No. 107 (LVIII), 2007, Children at Risk	370
Glossary	377