



United Nations Population Fund, International Medical Corps, and Human Rights Associates Launch Training Program on GBV in Humanitarian Settings

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Medical Corps, and Human Rights Education Associates (HREA) have created a multi-phase global learning program to increase the number of gender-based violence (GBV) specialists with the technical knowledge and skills needed to respond in emergencies, including natural disaster, conflicts, and population displacement, and to lead the design and implementation of GBV prevention and response interventions.

The Managing GBV in Emergencies (MGBViE) learning program was created in response to the call from within the humanitarian community for greater attention and expansion of GBV interventions in complex emergencies. It is also complementary to other initiatives recognizing the life-saving nature of GBV work. The increased attention and funding has also highlighted the reality of the human resource gap in GBV specialists. While demands for specialized and high-quality GBV programs increase, too few specialists are available to meet this demand.

With funding from the U.S. Department of State, Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration, the MGBViE learning program applies the definition of GBV outlined in the revised *Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines for Integrating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Action* and includes three complementary phases:

1. Phase I is a free e-learning course developed by UNFPA entitled “Managing Gender-based Violence Programmes in Emergencies.” Available to the public, the course provides essential learning on core GBV concepts and the key elements to consider in GBV prevention and response.
2. Phase II involves a five-day, in-person training on designing and managing GBV prevention and response programs. Participants will learn to develop and lead programs that are appropriate to context, timeframes, and organizational capacity and responsive to gender differences. Considerations for program planning include appropriate staff and volunteer profiles, possible service entry points, and potential barriers/risks to service access across different populations.
3. Phase III is centered on building a GBV community of practice (GBVCOP) and will initially be tailored for Phase II graduates. The GBVCOP will offer a structured space for ongoing, field-centered experiential learning, provide a platform for learners to discuss challenges and troubleshoot solutions, and connect learners with mentors. The GBVCOP will subsequently expand to include knowledge and learning options for the general public.

MGBViE Learning Program

About the course:

- Aims to build professional competencies in the field of GBV.
- The training curriculum covers a GBV-focused “toolkit” including: behavior change, case management, psychosocial support, working with child survivors, health response, security, justice/rule of law, advocacy, and working with men and boys.
- Participants must design context-appropriate program plans.
- Aims to benefit crisis-affected populations at-risk of/who have experienced GBV through increased capacity for GBV prevention and response.

Target participants:

- Emerging specialists, specifically those who would lead GBV prevention and response. An emerging GBV specialist is someone who demonstrates an interest in managing GBV prevention and response programs, meets basic academic and communication standards to work with an implementing humanitarian organization, etc.
- Experienced GBV specialists who can be trained as training-of-trainers to support regional and country-level MGBViE trainings.

The e-learning tool is expected for May 2016; the in-person training is anticipated for August 2016; and the application process as well as selection criteria will be widely disseminated in April 2016.

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