

# NORCROSS

## SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV) FACTSHEET

MAY 2019

### JOINT ACTION ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

The RCRC Movement components with their different mandates and reach are perfectly placed to address SGBV in all settings and at multiple levels. The ICRC focus on sexual violence in conflict and other situation of violence (OSV), the IFRC's role in disasters and emergencies and the National Societies' presence before, during and after crisis make it possible to address the whole spectrum of SGBV



Check-point situation

### SGBV WORK AT THE GLOBAL AND MOVEMENT LEVEL

There is an increasing focus within the Red Cross Movement to scale up its response to SGBV, to professionalize, build capacity and to coordinate its efforts. Thanks to the Resolution 31IC/15/R3 "**Sexual and gender-based violence: Joint action on prevention and response**", the topic was lifted as a Movement priority. NorCross is committed to support all the efforts undertaken and has a strong partnership with both the ICRC and the IFRC.

Concretely NorCross:

**Engages and supports** the Movement SGBV Working group to coordinate, exchange experience, information and conclude on joint actions  
**Moderates** the Protection Community of Practice on SGBV  
**Is a strong voice** in Norway and abroad supporting the fight against SGBV  
**Participates** in relevant global Fora and conferences on the issue  
**Briefs and updates** Norwegian authorities in Norway and abroad  
**Organizes and co-facilitates** a Movement SGBV Forum in Africa

### SGBV AS PROTECTION ISSUE

SGBV is a serious protection concern and it is the responsibility of all humanitarian actors, including NorCross, to protect those affected by crisis; this includes protecting them from SGBV.

Concretely NorCross:

**Recognizes** SGBV as a specific protection risk in violence/crisis settings and develops a better "protection lens"  
**Integrates SGBV** response (including for physical and mental security) into existing programs (work in progress)  
**Focuses** more on SGBV risk mitigation in programming  
**Sets focus** on SGBV as an IHL issue and cooperates with the Norwegian armed forces



*"A man would never speak of this. Why should he? We know that everybody in jail is raped – it is normal"*  
(From: "We keep it in our hearts", UNHCR 2018)

## Contact

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## EVIDENCE ON SGBV

In this complex and sensitive field of work NorCross wants to strengthen the evidence base to better understand humanitarian issues linked to SGBV and provide concrete guidance to Movement partners on how to effectively address them in their operations.

Concretely NorCross:

**Develops** joint Movement SGBV outcomes, outputs and indicators, necessary for cooperation and complementarity on the ground and to demonstrate results and a Movement footprint on SGBV

**Supports research** on addressing sexual violence against men and boys in conflict and disasters

**Documents** "good practices cases" in SGBV programming (Colombia, Kenya, South Sudan Burundi, DRC)

**Developed** and now **disseminates** with ICRC a Toolkit on how to engage state armed forces on sexual violence in conflict

**Exchanges** and discusses with the research community

## SGBV PROGRAMMING (WORK IN PROGRESS)

SGBV prevention, mitigation and response interventions are life-saving. SGBV survivors often have limited or no access to formal support services, especially in hard to reach areas and during protracted crisis. Offering services based on a survivor-centered approach will become integral part of the Red Cross Movement response.

Concretely NorCross:

**Supports** partner Red Cross National Societies in providing services for SGBV survivors (medical, psychosocial, risk reduction and other to be further explored in 2019)

**Supports** training for staff and volunteers on SGBV

**Supports** integration of SGBV services into the health response of Red Cross Societies (Colombia, planned in Myanmar and Bangladesh, exploring in Burundi and South Sudan) with a focus on risk reduction

**Cooperates** with Movement and non-Movement partners for a complementary response (currently exploring for piloting in Burundi in 2019)

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*"The world is facing a grave protection failure: the failure to address the enormous harm caused by sexual and gender-based violence...Today we pledge to do better for the survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. We demand an end to sexual atrocities used as a tactic of war; and we demand a change in attitudes that blame survivors, not the perpetrators."*<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> Joint Statement by ICRC President Peter Maurer on behalf of the Red Cross Movement and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019, Geneva