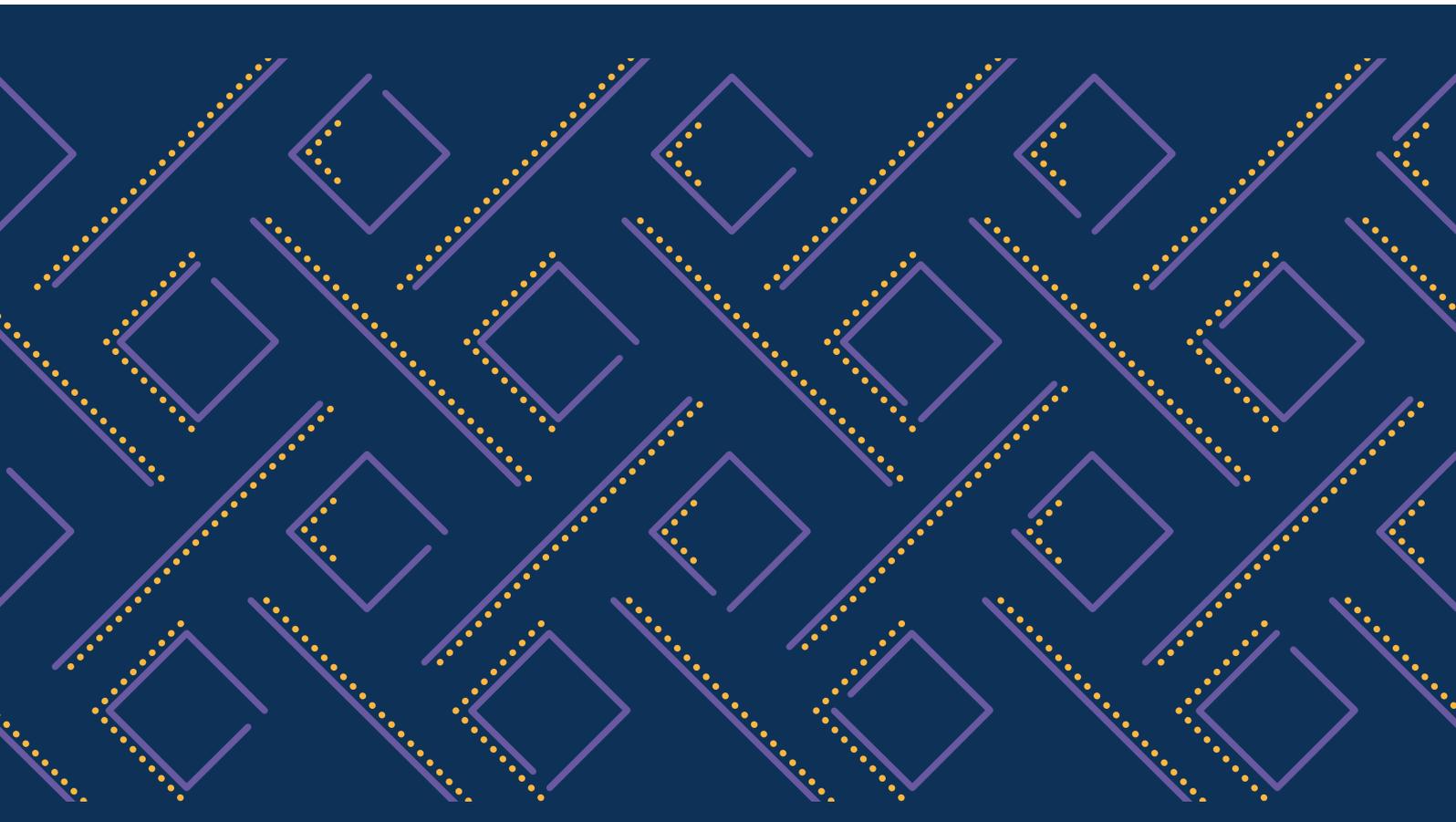


# UNDERSTANDING THE BARRIERS TO INCLUSION FACED BY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES & OLDER PEOPLE IN GBV HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMMING



# ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

Elrha's Humanitarian Innovation Fund (HIF) aims to improve outcomes for people affected by humanitarian crises by identifying, nurturing and sharing more effective and scalable solutions. We fund innovations that aim to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response.

Our new focus area on **Disability and Older Age Inclusion<sup>1</sup> (DOAI)**, funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), will explore the barriers to and support opportunities for the inclusion of older people and people with disabilities in humanitarian response. We believe humanitarian innovation has much to contribute to this agenda and to generating a more effective and inclusive humanitarian response.

Older people and people with disabilities are diverse and have diverse lived experiences. However, older age and disability intersect with each other; we believe this intersection and potential commonalities in barriers faced warrant further exploration, and present significant potential to improve inclusion outcomes for a diverse range of people.

Whilst disability and older age is the predominant focus of this work, we recognise that disability and older age also intersect with other identity characteristics, such as gender, race, colour, ethnicity, sexual orientation, language, religion, health status, political or other opinion, national or social origin. This intersection can lead to compounding and distinct forms of discrimination that must be recognised in order to fully understand and address barriers to inclusion.

Our work on DOAI will be implemented in phases to ensure it builds on existing activity and expertise, and responds to challenges where there is genuine potential for innovation to make a valuable contribution. In this current and first phase, we have engaged with experts in the sector and formed a Technical Working Group to guide our work. Subsequent phases will include a Gap Analysis exercise to provide the evidence base, wider engagement and prioritisation to inform the DOAI focus area for 2020–23. The final phases of the work will focus on uptake, sharing what works and driving change.

For this first Innovation Challenge exploring DOAI, we will complement our existing **Gender-Based Violence (GBV)** and **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** focus areas. We are in the early stages of this work, so the focus of the Challenge will be on Problem Recognition.<sup>2</sup> Future phases are likely to expand to other stages of the innovation cycle and into additional focus areas beyond WASH and GBV.

This Handbook is focusing on the DOAI GBV Challenge.

To apply for the Challenge, fill out the Expression of Interest (EOI) via our Common Grants Application platform.

- Already have an account? [Login to start an application](#).
- Don't have an account? [Sign up to open an account and start an application](#).

<sup>1</sup> Please see [Glossary](#) for further details about the DOAI focus area and abbreviation.

<sup>2</sup> Read more about the '[Problem Recognition](#)' stage in our Humanitarian Innovation Guide.



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# THE PROBLEM

During conflict, natural disasters and displacement, the risk of experiencing violence, exploitation and sexual abuse is heightened. People with disabilities and older people can be more exposed to gender-based violence (GBV) due to a lack of protection by legal and social means. This risk is exacerbated by barriers to inclusion in humanitarian GBV programming, including barriers to accessing services and to meaningfully participating in needs assessments, programme design, implementation and evaluation. Women and girls with disabilities are even more likely to face physical and sexual violence, abuse and exploitation.<sup>3</sup> Overall, the rights of people with disabilities and older people are not upheld and their capacities are overlooked.

While research and guidance concerning the inclusion of older people in GBV programming are scarce<sup>4</sup>, there is some research on disability and GBV which identifies barriers to accessing GBV programming, recommendations and tools for engagement (eg, the Women’s Refugee Commission and the International Rescue Committee’s “I see that it is possible” report, ADD International’s Learning Paper on “[Disability and Gender-based Violence](#)”, Women’s Refugee Commission and UNICEF Lebanon’s guidance on “[Disability inclusion in Child Protection and GBV programs](#)”). However, the extent to which existing tools and recommendations are used in practice, and how older people and people with disabilities experience the resulting GBV programmes is less understood.

We have partnered with [Voice](#) to conduct a ‘Rapid Review of Disability and Older Age Inclusion in GBV Humanitarian Interventions’<sup>5</sup> to provide initial insights to this intersectionality. Key initial findings suggest that:

- of the interventions included in the review, very few GBV initiatives had a focus on older people.
- of the interventions included in the review, there was a notable gap in interventions that address the inclusion of people with disabilities in natural disaster preparedness and response settings.
- while strategies for the inclusion of people with disabilities and older people are being implemented in some GBV programmes, there is still a significant gap in measuring the outcomes of these strategies.

As a result, the aim of this Challenge is to build on existing evidence and insights to further understand the barriers to inclusion faced by people with disabilities and older people in humanitarian GBV programming, so that more inclusive and effective programmes can be developed.

<sup>3</sup> UNFPA. (2018) “[Young Persons with Disabilities Global Study on Ending Gender-based Violence and Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights](#)”.

<sup>4</sup> American Association for the Advancement of Science. (2017) “[Age is No Protection: Prevalence of Gender-Based Violence Among Men and Women Over 49 Years of Age in Five Situations of Protracted Displacement](#)”.

<sup>5</sup> The rapid review will be available on [Elrha’s website](#) shortly. It includes the review of 26 global GBV interventions, and further elaborates on context and key findings for this focus area.

## THE CHALLENGE

We're looking to understand the barriers to inclusion faced by people with disabilities and older people in GBV humanitarian programming: including needs assessments, programme design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

## WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We're looking to fund innovative projects that:

- are at the Problem Recognition stage of the innovation process.<sup>6</sup>
- are able to provide a comprehensive and developed understanding of the barriers to inclusion in humanitarian GBV programming faced by older people and people with disabilities.
- are able to articulate the identified barriers as opportunities for innovation for the humanitarian sector.
- focus on one or more specific humanitarian contexts; both in terms of geographic setting and phase of humanitarian response.<sup>7</sup>

Successful projects will also respond to the following criteria:

### APPROPRIATE METHODS

Projects should use appropriate research methods and tools that, to the extent it is possible, build on existing effective and safe approaches for participatory research. For example, see our recommended research methodologies for GBV in humanitarian settings, or the use of design research methods such as those in our User-centred Design Guide.

### PARTICIPATORY AND INCLUSIVE

Proposed research methods and tools should be inclusive to enable meaningful and safe participation of older people and people with disabilities, including enabling the participation of diverse disability constituencies.<sup>8</sup>

- The project should also engage with GBV practitioners and humanitarian

<sup>6</sup> Read more about the 'Problem Recognition' stage in our Humanitarian Innovation Guide.

<sup>7</sup> We are open to projects in all humanitarian settings and phases of response.

<sup>8</sup> Please see 'people with disabilities' in Glossary for further details.

actors to understand any challenges and opportunities they perceive in designing and implementing suitable GBV programmes for older people and people with disabilities.

- Where relevant, projects may also consider engaging with carers and care-givers.

## EVIDENCE-BASED

Projects should demonstrably build on existing evidence, guidance and good practice related to engaging effectively with older people and/or people with disabilities in humanitarian settings. Wherever possible, projects should use data from existing needs assessments to avoid duplication and consultation fatigue.

## ETHICAL

Projects must robustly consider the ethical implications of their proposed activities and methods and how to mitigate any risks. Any barriers to the participation of people affected by crisis in the research should also be identified, as well as proposed strategies to address them. Projects must consider how they will gain independent ethical review and approval for working directly with older people and people with disabilities in their chosen setting. They must also pay due attention to ethical issues throughout the project's delivery. Please see our [Humanitarian Innovation Guide](#) and [Ethics Framework](#) for more information.

## INTERSECTIONAL

Whilst projects may focus on people with disabilities and/or older people, they should also recognise the intersection between disability and age when exploring barriers faced and consider other identity characteristics as part of this.<sup>9</sup>

## COLLABORATIVE

Projects must include at least one humanitarian actor as a partner, and, wherever possible, should develop meaningful partnerships with local organisations to support implementation; in particular, with local humanitarian actors and civil society groups (organisations of people with disabilities (OPDs) and older people's associations (OPAs)). **Please note: applications that can demonstrate a meaningful and high quality partnership with a local organisation will be given a higher score on partnerships.**



## FUNDING AVAILABLE

We are looking to fund a selection of diverse Problem Recognition projects in different humanitarian settings.

There is a **total budget of £100,000** available for this Challenge.

- From this, we envisage funding a selection of projects with varying budgets; ideally in the range of **£30,000 to £70,000 per project**.
- The projects will run for between **12 and 18 months** and the total duration should cover **both implementation and dissemination**.

The proposed budgets and timelines should align with the level of ambition of each individual project within the Challenge parameters. Each solution will be assessed on its own merit, value for money and potential for impact.



Please note that the grant amount requested at EOI stage can be indicative. Detailed budget plans will be requested at the full proposal stage.

# DELIVERABLES

In response to this Challenge, applicants will be expected to deliver the following stages of work:

## DEVELOP PROBLEM RECOGNITION RESEARCH METHOD

Further develop, adapt or tailor your proposed research method to support the development of a comprehensive understanding of:

- the barriers to inclusion in GBV programming experienced by older people and people with disabilities.
- the extent to which existing GBV programmes address these barriers.
- the extent to which older people and people with disabilities currently have access to GBV services, and are meaningfully participating in needs assessments, and the design, implementation, and M&E of GBV programmes.<sup>10</sup>
- the impact of inclusion (or lack of inclusion) in humanitarian GBV programmes on older people and people with disabilities.
- the opportunities for inclusion and addressing barriers in GBV programming, with particular consideration for the capacities and rights of older people and people with disabilities.

## UNDERTAKE RESEARCH IN CONTEXT

Carry out the research in one or more specific humanitarian settings. This stage is expected to involve data collection, analysis and formulation of findings.

## GENERATE OPPORTUNITIES AND INSIGHTS

Articulate identified barriers as clear opportunities for the humanitarian sector to explore and inform the development of inclusive GBV programmes in a participatory way. Part of this could be highlighting areas for innovation.

## ASSESS METHOD

Appraise the effectiveness of the research method and tools used.

<sup>10</sup> We ask applicants to propose a suggested research focus and accept that this may not include all stages of programming. However, we expect applicants to reflect on the implications barriers in one stage of programming may have on other phases.

## DISSEMINATE FINDINGS

Share the key opportunities and insights from the research and the appraisal of your method, in clear and accessible format(s).

- The format for dissemination is open for applicants to decide but should be accessible and appropriate for target audiences, and easy for other practitioners to learn from, use and/or adapt to different humanitarian settings.
- We would expect applicants to consider open-access, peer-reviewed paper(s) as one possible output in order to add findings to a formal body of trusted evidence.



The projects selected for funding will be required to report on their progress via written reports, verbal conversations or possible monitoring visits. Details on the reporting requirements and timings will be shared at the contracting stage, as well as details of our safeguarding and whistle-blowing policy, procedures and feedback mechanisms.

# CHALLENGE TIMELINE

## APPLICATION (2019)



- 23 May 2019**  
Challenge launch

The Challenge launches on 23 May 2019. The deadline for expressions of interest (EOIs) is 23 June 2019 at 23:59 BST. Apply via the Common Grants Application platform.
- Jun–Jul 2019**  
EOIs shortlisted

EOIs will be reviewed against the criteria outlined in this Handbook. Shortlisted projects will be notified in the week commencing 1 July 2019.
- 8 Jul 2019**  
Feedback webinar

Shortlisted projects will receive top line feedback via a group webinar on 8 July 2019. There will be two webinars (AM/PM UK time) to suit different time zones. **Attending the webinar is mandatory for qualifying for the full proposal stage.**
- 4 Aug 2019**  
Full proposals

All shortlisted projects will be invited to submit full proposals. The deadline for full proposals is 4 August 2019 at 23:59 BST. Full proposals are reviewed by independent technical reviewers and their feedback is given to the HIF’s independent Funding Committee. For further details on funding decisions and processes, please see [our governance information](#). The final project selection is made by our Funding Committee.
- Oct 2019**  
Project(s) selected

Successful projects will be announced in early October 2019. Contracting is expected to last six to eight weeks.

## PROJECT PHASE (12–18 MONTHS)



- Dec 2019**  
Project(s) start

The projects are expected to start in early December 2019, with a kick-off workshop organised by us in the week commencing 20 January 2020.
- Dec 2019–Jun 2021**  
Project(s) ongoing

Grantees will have between 12 and 18 months to carry out their projects. **The total duration of projects should cover implementation and analysis of findings, as well as a dissemination phase.** All projects need to be completed by June 2021 – including dissemination activities.

# YOUR APPLICATION

To apply for this Challenge, register via our Common Grants Application platform accessible from the [DOAI GBV Challenge webpage](#).

In filling out the Expression of Interest (EOI) online, you will be expected to provide the following:

- Indicative funding requested from the HIF. At the EOI stage, we only require an estimate of the total amount. Successful applicants will be able to update this amount in the full proposal stage, and will be expected to provide a detailed budget and project plan.
- Brief details on your team and anticipated partners who will work on this project.
- Brief details about your Problem Recognition project including:
  - an overview of the problem and the context
  - the barrier(s) you plan to explore
  - approach to implementation (method)
  - a rough outline of intended activities and deliverables
  - details about possible setting(s) for implementation.

If invited to develop your EOI into a full proposal, you will be expected to adapt and expand on the EOI and answer a few additional questions about your plans for implementation, evaluation and dissemination.

For the full list of requirements and details about the application process, please register via the Common Grants Application platform.

- Already have an account? [Login to start an application](#).
- Don't have an account? [Sign up to open an account and start an application](#).

# GLOSSARY

Where a reference is given, these definitions are taken in whole from the source document.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Accessibility means ensuring that people with disabilities are able to have access to the physical environment around them, to transportation, to information such as reading material, to communication technology and systems on an equal basis with others. Accessibility requires forward thinking by those responsible for the delivery of private and public services to ensure that people with disabilities can access services without barriers.<sup>11</sup>

- Elrha understands this definition to be relevant and applicable for both people with disabilities and older people.
- See also ‘reasonable accommodation’.

## BARRIERS

Factors that prevent a person from having full and equal access and participation in society. These can be environmental, including physical barriers (such as the presence of stairs and the absence of a ramp or an elevator) and communication barriers (such as only one format being used to provide information), attitudinal barriers (such as negative perceptions of older people or people with disabilities) and institutional barriers (such as policies that can lead to discrimination against certain groups). Some barriers exist prior to the conflict or natural disaster; others may be created by the humanitarian response.<sup>12</sup>

## DISABILITY AND OLDER AGE INCLUSION (DOAI)

As a focus area for Elrha, DOAI is used in this context solely as an abbreviation of the full title. Within this title, we uphold that older people and people with disabilities are diverse and have diverse lived experiences, but that older age and disability do intersect with each other. We believe that this intersectionality and the potential commonalities in barriers-faced warrant further exploration.

## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

An umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person’s will and that is based on socially ascribed (ie, gender) differences between males and females. It includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering,

<sup>11</sup> CBM, (2017) “Disability-Inclusive Development Toolkit”.

<sup>12</sup> ADCAP, (2018) “Humanitarian inclusion standards for older people and people with disabilities”.

threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty. These acts can occur in public or in private.<sup>13</sup>

## INCLUSION

Inclusion means a rights-based approach to community programming, aiming to ensure persons with disabilities have equal access to basic services and a voice in the development and implementation of those services. At the same time, it requires that mainstream organisation make dedicated efforts to address and remove barriers.<sup>14</sup>

## INNOVATION

Humanitarian innovation can be defined as an iterative process that identifies, adjusts and diffuses ideas for improving humanitarian action. See more in our [Humanitarian Innovation Guide](#).

## INTERSECTIONALITY

This means the interaction of multiple factors, such as disability, age and gender, which can create multiple layers of discrimination, and, depending on the context, entail greater legal, social or cultural barriers. These can further hinder a person's access to and participation in humanitarian action, and more generally, in society.<sup>15</sup>

## OLDER PEOPLE

Older people are a fast-growing proportion of the population in most countries, but are often neglected in humanitarian action. In many countries and cultures, being considered old is not necessarily a matter of age, but is linked to circumstances, such as being a grandparent or showing physical signs of ageing, such as white hair. While many sources use the age of 60 and above as a definition of old age, 50 years and over may be more appropriate in many of the contexts where humanitarian crises occur.<sup>16</sup>

## OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS (OPAs)

OPAs are innovative community-based organisations of older people, aimed at improving the living conditions for older people and for developing their communities. OPAs utilise the unique resources and skills older people have, to provide effective social support, to facilitate activities and deliver services.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (2015) "Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery.", p. 5.

<sup>14</sup> IFRC. (2015) "All Under One Roof, Disability-inclusive shelter and settlements in emergencies", p. 10.

<sup>15</sup> ADCAP. (2018) "Humanitarian inclusion standards for older people and people with disabilities."

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> HelpAge. (2009) "Older people in community development."

## ORGANISATIONS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (OPDs)

OPDs are usually self-organised organisations where the majority of control at board level and at membership level is with people with disabilities. The role of an OPD is to provide a voice of their own, on all matters related to the lives of people with disabilities.<sup>18</sup>

## PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.<sup>19</sup>

- For the purposes of this Challenge, ‘people with disabilities’ is inclusive of women and girl survivors of GBV and male survivors of sexual violence.

## REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodation means necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.<sup>20</sup>

18 CBM, (2017) “Disability-Inclusive Development Toolkit”.

19 UN CPRD. “Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) Article 1 – Purpose”.

20 UN CPRD. “Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) Article 2 – Definitions”.



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# WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR EOIs!

Apply for the Challenge via our Common Grants Application platform by 23 June 2019 at 23:59 BST.

For any questions that are not covered by this Challenge Handbook, please email us at [hif@elrha.org](mailto:hif@elrha.org), referencing 'DOAI GBV Challenge' in the subject line.