



#WomenHumanitarians

Story-Gathering Guidelines

This document is a guide for producing content that best tells the stories of women humanitarians for World Humanitarian Day 2019.

Deadline for submissions:

Monday, 3 June 2019 (For Global Campaign)

Monday, 1 July 2019 (For Asia-Pacific Campaign)

#WOMENHUMANITARIANS

In 2019 we honour the work of women in crises throughout the world. We focus on the unsung heroes who have long been working on the front lines in their own communities in some of the most difficult terrains, from the war-wounded in Afghanistan, to the food insecure in the Sahel, to those who have lost their homes and livelihoods in places such as the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen. And we salute the efforts of women aid workers from across the world, who rally to people in need.

Women make up a large number of those who risk their own lives to save others. They are often the first to respond to a humanitarian crisis and the last to leave. These women deserve to be celebrated. They are needed today as much as ever to strengthen the global humanitarian response. And world leaders as well as non-State actors must ensure that they – and all humanitarians – are guaranteed the protection afforded to them under international law.

STORY THEMES

This is an exciting opportunity to amplify some of the amazing woman working on the front lines, and share their stories with new audiences. We are looking for profiles of women from communities affected by crises, as well as national and international aid workers. These profiles should fall under these three themes:

Women civil society members and humanitarians working in the following contexts:

- Natural disasters
- Refugees/displacement
- Insecurity/access/protection

Each profile should feature one woman and can focus on a specific way in which a woman has contributed. Themes can touch on any aspect of humanitarian action – examples may include opening her home to displaced families; setting up an informal school for crisis-affected children; organizing soup kitchens; or managing an aspect of NGO or UN humanitarian response.

GUIDELINES

- 1) Deadline for submission: Monday, 3 June 2019
- 2) One strong profile based on an interview (300–700 words), with two profile photos
- 3) Interview should be from the past 12 months

STORYTELLING

A strong profile rests on a good interview and compelling photos. Please use the following interview and photo guidelines:

- Each story should include NAME, AGE, LOCATION. If the person has a powerful story but does not want to use the last, we can stick with first name. Or change the name as long as we say it.
- Make it personal and empathetic
- Use simple language that you would usually find on social media, and avoid all jargon



Remember these basic interview tips:

- As much as possible, get full name, age, location, occupation if applicable (if they wish to share), number of children
- Phone number so we can contact you or them for further detail
- Ask simple, clear questions
- Use open questions – *describe for me, talk me through*
- Pin down the details – (e.g., they travelled from where to where, when, and over how many days?) and ask simple, unambiguous questions
- Use quotes from interviewees to bring the story to life and show the personal impact of the story that you can't get in any other way; don't use quotes to communicate facts

Key questions to ask:

- What does being a Humanitarian mean to you?
- What is the most favourite part of your work
- What is the most challenging part of your work

PHOTOS

- Detailed caption: name, age, date and location
- Photos must be at least 800 pixels wide
- Try to use a real camera instead of an iPhone where possible
- Make sure the photo is dignified and portrays women as they are, i.e., strong and resilient 😊
- Submit at least two photos:
 - Portrait in high resolution and with good natural light (no flash please)
 - Action shot: showing the person in her daily work/environment/relating to the people she helps

Please send submissions to Pierre Peron: peronp@un.org



PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY:

- Strong gaze into the camera
- Good lighting
- Close-up of the face



ACTION PHOTOGRAPHY:

- Close crop on the subject
- Action takes up most of the frame
- Seeing some, if not all, of the face of the aid worker