

SVRI Forum 2019

**Evaluating Government Responses to
Gender-Based Violence against
Refugee and IDP Women and Girls
A Multiple Case Study of Camp Conditions
in Developed and Developing Countries**

Christina Socci, Amanda Ekstein, Stephany Song, Lulu Arnold, and Yoorim Bang

Argument



Shifting the Narrative

Not about lack of resources alone

Incidence of GBV in refugee and IDP camps linked to how governments understand the nature of GBV and address it in legal structure

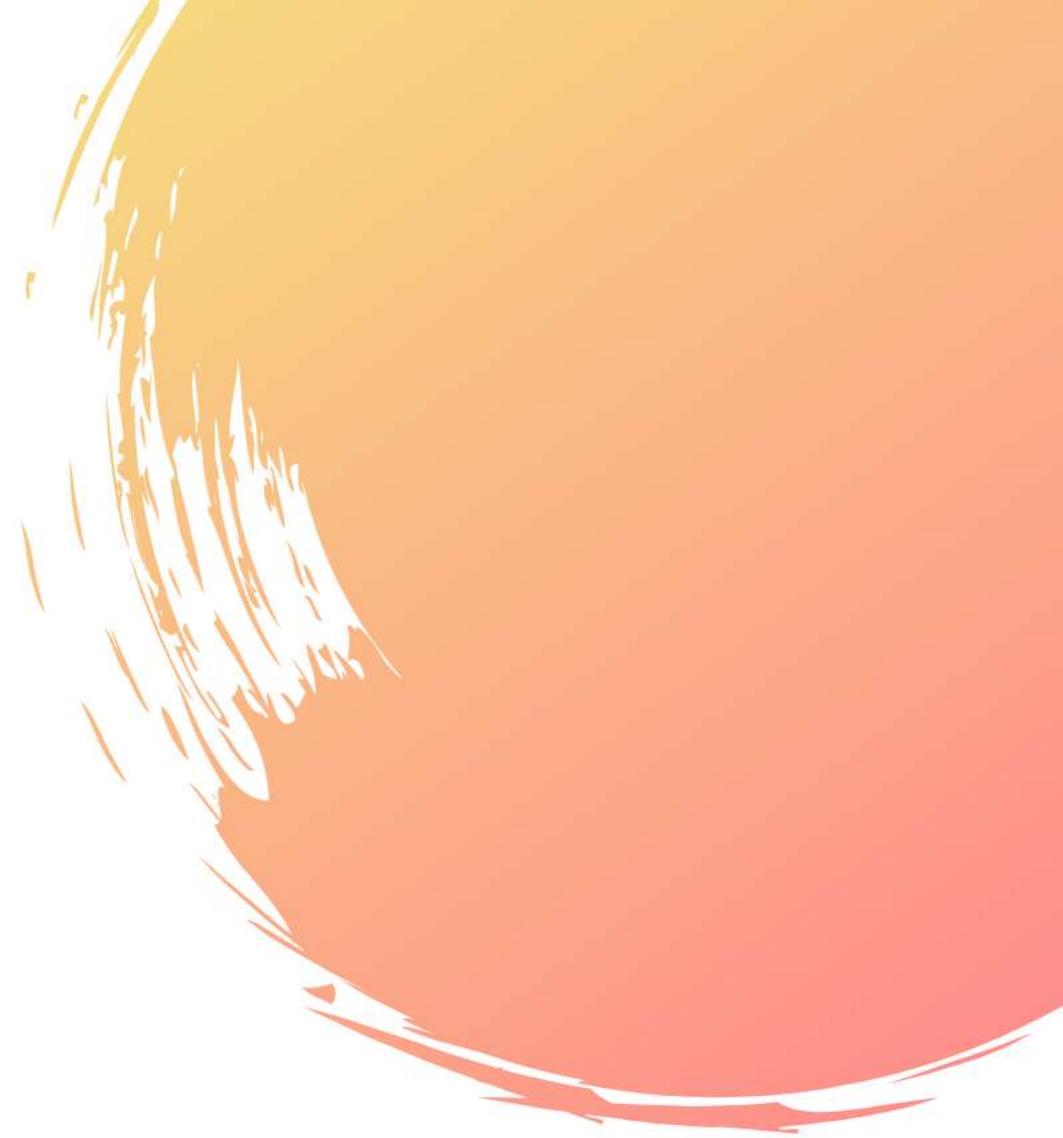
Need to put different legal frameworks in conversation

- Combines DRR best practices, int'l human rights law, humanitarian standards
- Bridges the gap between rights of refugees and IDPs
- Explores effect of gender-sensitive vs. gender-neutral laws

Goal of work

What is similar and different across different countries? Why?

Country cases



Context and legal obligations

Refugee/asylum-seeker cases

France

Germany

Sweden

Australia

IDP cases

Philippines

Haiti

International treaties ratified by all

Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951)

Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (1967)

CEDAW (1979)

Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990)

Universally accepted by UNGA

1998 Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

Methodology



Methodology

Iterative approach through legal framework of each country

Review of international conventions and national laws

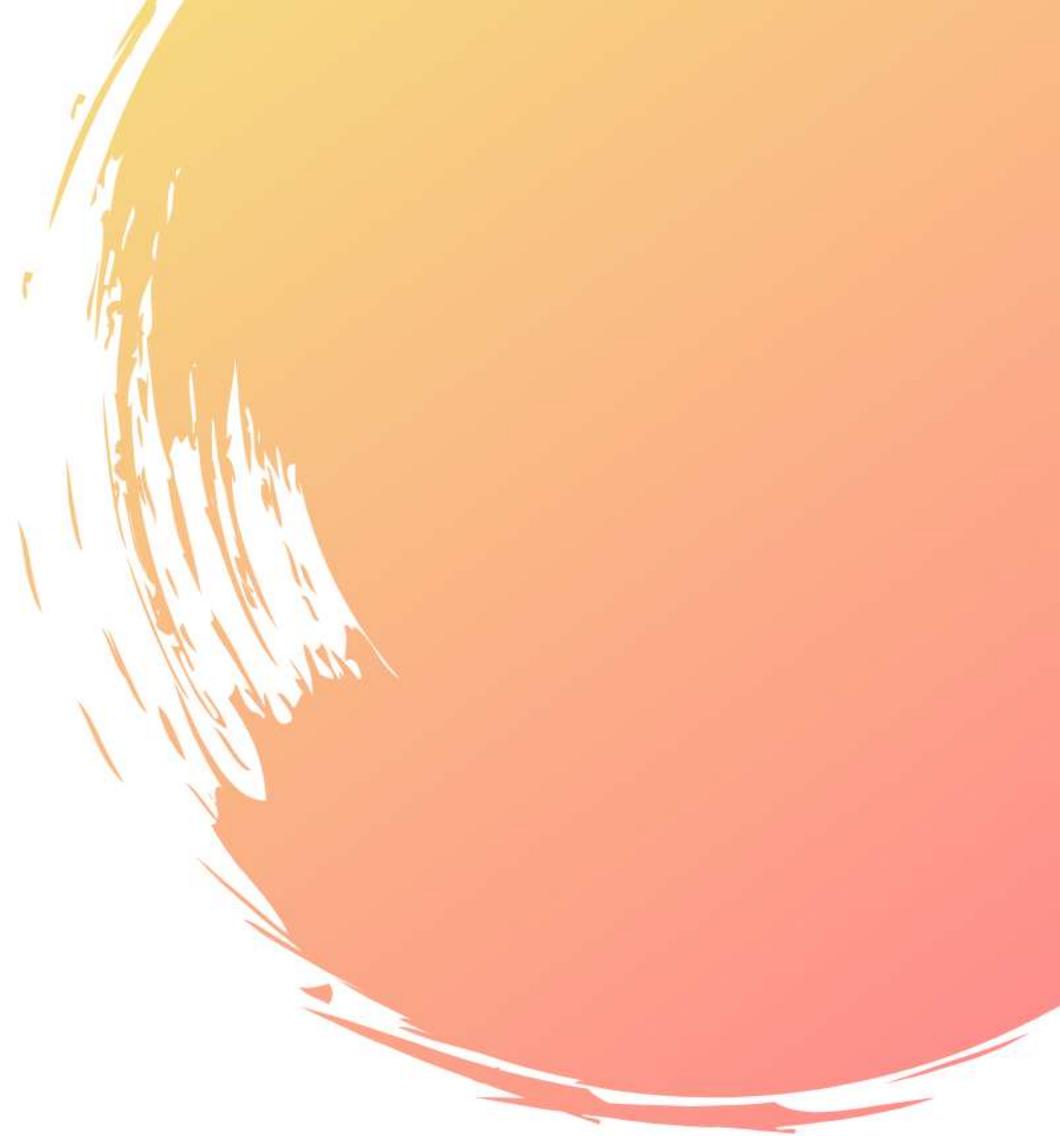
Government response to GBV explored via camp administration

Proxy for how protections and recourse to justice for survivors implemented

Experience of women and girls on the ground

- What risk factors created environment for GBV (sexual assault and DV)?
- Root causes of these factors?

Findings



Findings

Broad similarities in observed risk factors for GBV in camps

The Philippines had the most preventative and recourse-focused legal system in spite of weaknesses in resource allocation and local implementation

- Mechanisms to hold authority figures to account & improve resources
- Gender-sensitive procedures in camp administration
- Detailed gender-specific laws (participation, protection, recourse)

In the other countries studied:

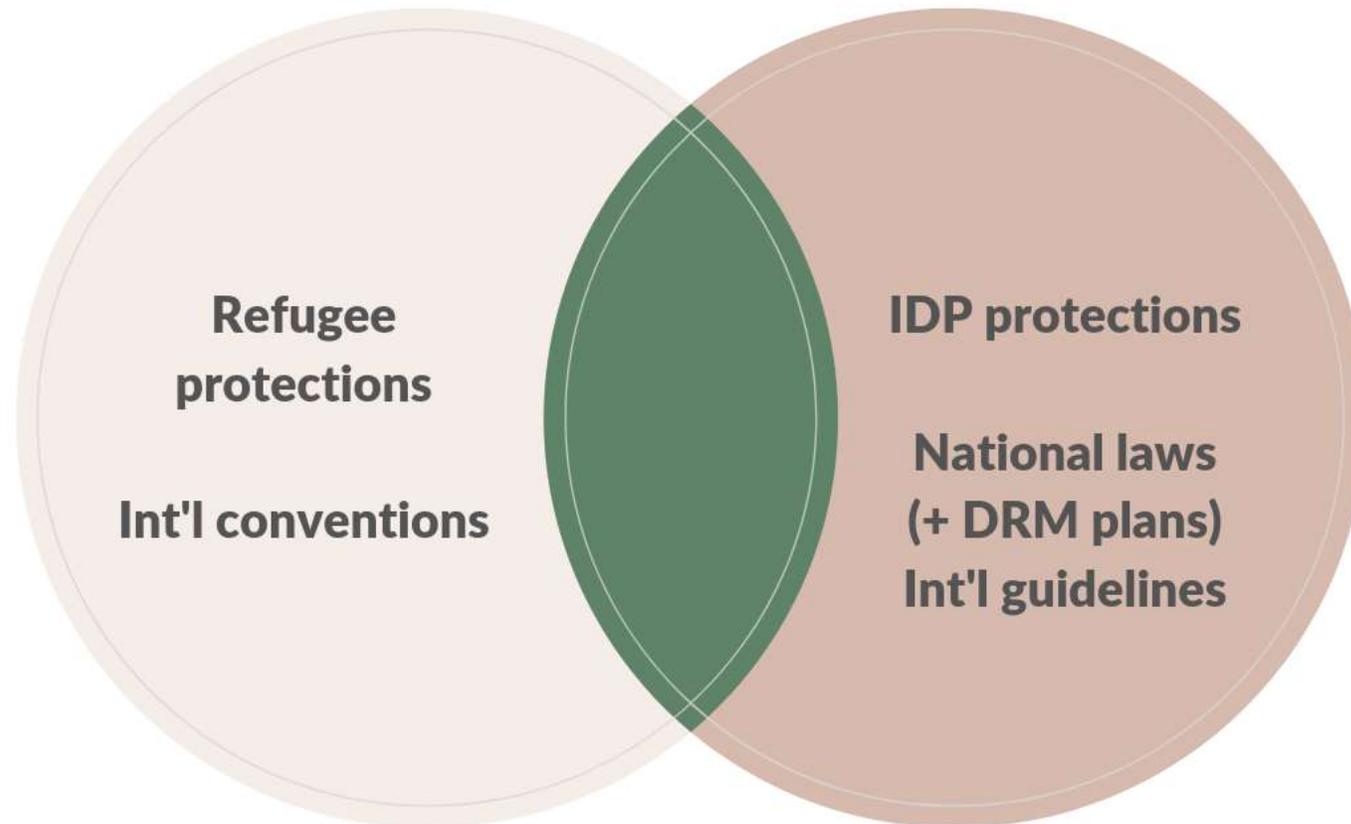
- Negligence by authorities and lack of accountability for their negligence
- Exclusion of female beneficiaries from policies that affect them

Conclusions



Policy implications

Rethinking whole legal framework to protect people experiencing forced displacement generally, but especially in context of GBV



Thank you



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