



POSITION DESCRIPTION (Protection Rapid Responses Register)

POSITION DETAILS

Position Title:	Protection Officer (Gender Based Violence)
Location/s:	Various (Worldwide)
Commencement Date:	Immediate deployment
Duration:	Varies
Position Type:	Full Time

Short listed applicants will need to provide evidence of Permanent Residency or Citizenship in Australia or New Zealand.

RAPID RESPONSE REGISTER

Austcare's Rapid Response Register (RRR) is a roster of professional protection practitioners available for deployment to United Nations agencies for periods of 3-12 months. The RRR aims to enhance the capacity of the UN and humanitarian agencies in times of sudden or chronic emergencies. This register is the only mechanism in Australia focused solely on protection deployments. The register:

- *enhances the protection capacity of UN agencies* in emergencies and ongoing humanitarian crises through the quick deployment of professional protection practitioners; and
- *increases Australian expertise on protection issues* by developing a pool of specialists who can be called upon to assist in emerging and ongoing crises.

Deployment of experts through the RRR is part of the Austcare *Protect Now* Program that also includes research, looks at integrating a protection approach to Austcare's humanitarian and development programs, policy, advocacy and engages the Australian legal community through the Australian Protection Chapter.

Successful applicants will be included on the RRR for overseas deployment. Members of the Register also have the opportunity to work with Austcare in our country programs in protection positions.

MAIN PURPOSE OF POSITION

Seconded to humanitarian agencies in field locations abroad, the Protection Officer (Gender based violence) will work with the UN agency on programs related to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Key aspects of the position include monitoring and reporting, program support, advocacy and liaison, capacity building, and assisting aid delivery.

KEY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties of the Protection Officer will be specific to each context and may change throughout the length of assignment. Examples of Protection Officer (Gender based violence) include:

1. Providing technical advice and assistance on strategic, substantive and administrative matters relating to GBV;
2. Planning and developing information and education communications (IEC) materials and strategies collaboratively with counterparts and major stakeholders with the aim of preventing GBV
3. Promoting the respect of human rights; mediating between displaced persons and local authorities or political groups; and, negotiating confidence building measures between groups/persons.
4. Providing technical support to other sector staff to ensure development of technical capacity and increased understanding of the causes and responses to GBV for a multi-sectoral approach;
5. Providing technical assistance and strategic direction to partners, government authorities and NGOs;
6. Working closely with UN agencies, international and national NGOs, local authorities and service providers, individuals and communities on matters relating to gender based violence in projects, programs and other activities;
7. Conducting rapid field assessments to inform strategic approaches to address the needs of internally displaced people, refugees, returnees and communities affected by SGBV;
8. Providing technical assistance to support a comprehensive approach to protection issues, in particular those related to human rights abuse and SGBV and to develop strategies to address and prevent violations among populations affected by conflict;
9. Building capacity of local NGOs, UN agencies, and uniformed forces by formally or informally providing training on prevention of and response to gender based violence, as well as awareness raising on gender equity awareness;
10. Preparing periodic and annual reports on protection activities and GBV issues with succinct recommendations to intervene with appropriate authorities.

KEY INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS

- Members of the displaced community and host communities
- Staff at all levels within the agency and representatives of Austcare, UN agencies, international and local NGOs.
- Representatives of the government, local services such as police, administrative departments and health officials, and (depending on the context) armed elements.
- Delegations, donors, government officials and partners in universities and research institutes.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

Essential Criteria & Competencies

1. Two years relevant experience in gender-based violence, psychosocial, and/or protection including project management, training, and supervision, international or community development, human rights or related areas. Field experience in complex emergencies, including humanitarian emergency response an asset;
2. Advanced degree in law, gender studies, development, public health or related field;
3. Excellent knowledge of gender and refugee issues, the United Nations system, human rights and humanitarian law, post-conflict reconstruction and international development;
4. Demonstrated commitment to and understanding of protection and rights of refugees, displaced people and other conflict-affected people;

5. Excellent communication (spoken and written) skills – particularly the ability to effectively and sensitively communicate with people from diverse cultural backgrounds; ability to communicate information and ideas and share knowledge;
6. Planning and organisational skills – ability to coordinate the work of others, work to tight deadlines and handle multiple concurrent projects/activities;
7. Ability to work in a team – excellent interpersonal skills; ability to establish and maintain effective partnerships and working relations in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic environment with sensitivity and respect for diversity;
8. Fully proficient computer skills – strong competency in the use of relevant software and other applications, such as word processing, spreadsheets, internal databases, Internet, etc;

Desirable Criteria

9. Proficiency in two or more languages, including English (*French and Arabic are particularly desirable*);
10. Extensive experience working with international aid agencies overseas.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The key components of the recruitment process for being accepted onto our register are outlined below. Suitably qualified applicants are encouraged to submit an application.

- A.** You must be an **Australian or New Zealander** citizen or permanent resident to be considered.
- B.** You must submit (preferably by email) an RRR application that contains both:
 1. **Statement** (no more than 3 pages) addressing the essential and desirable **selection criteria** as outlined above.
 2. Brief **Curriculum Vitae** (please submit a regular CV rather than a UN P11 form).

Applications that do not contain both these components may not be considered.

- C.** Series of interviews/ discussions.
- D.** Humanitarian Security Training and Police Check.

Applications to be submitted to Austcare Rapid Response Register addressed to:

Austcare Rapid Response Register Applications
C/ Mary Fogarty
Locked Bag 5515
Camperdown NSW 1450
Australia

FAX: +61 2 9550 4509
EMAIL: register@ austcare.org.au

When submitting your application by email (and this is preferred) please complete the email subject line with: **RRR App. [your name]**. If you are applying specifically with Child Protection skills please also include **CP** in the subject line.

For enquires please consult our website www.austcare.org.au (the FAQ's about the RRR should be helpful) and/ or contact Mary Fogarty, Register Officer in the Sydney office on +61 (0) 2 9565 9137.

We look forward to receiving your application and thank you in advance for your time in applying.