

Results Summary: Survey of Women Humanitarians

Survey conducted from 25 June to 25 July 2019, as part of
OCHA's World Humanitarian Day Campaign

Analysis of results by the OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data

centre for humdata



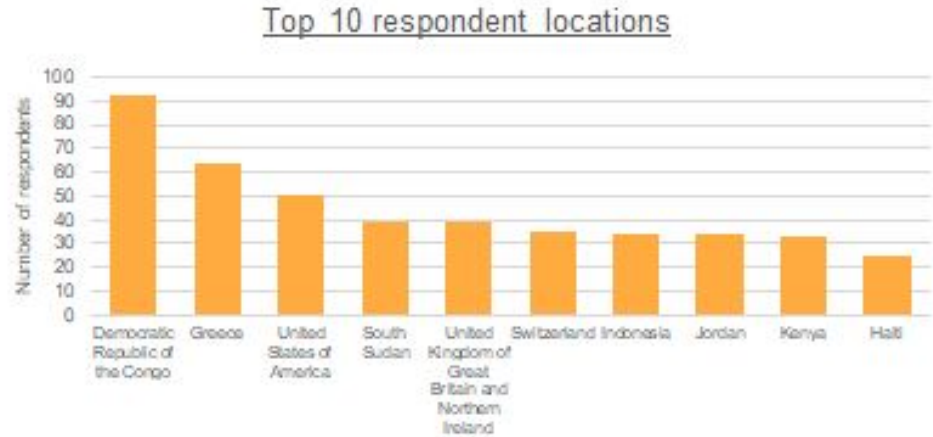
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Survey information

- Conducted from 25 June to 25 July 2019 to develop an understanding of women working in the humanitarian field and the challenges they face
- Respondents were women humanitarians working at all levels and locations.
- 16 questions in total
- 1,027 responses received

Question 1

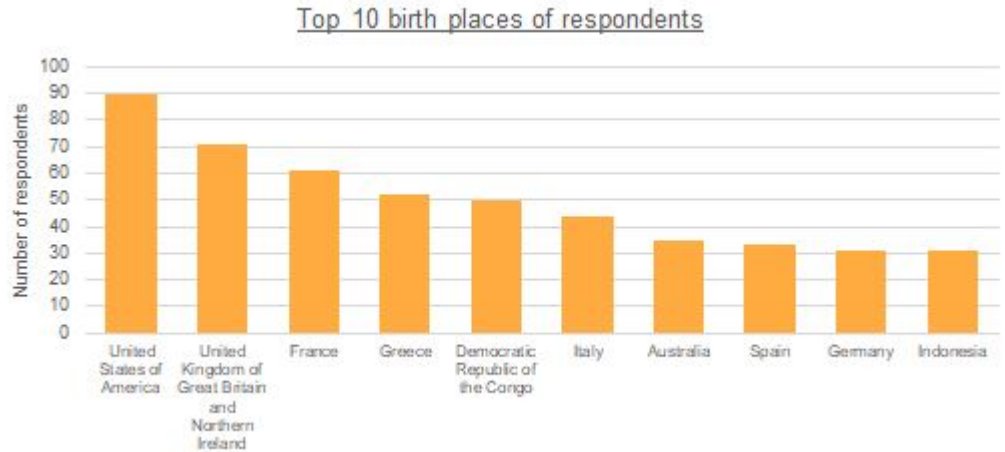
In which country are you based?



- Respondents were based across 115 countries (highlighted on map above)
- The most represented location of respondents was Democratic Republic of the Congo (9% of all respondents), followed by Greece (6%) and USA (5%)

Question 2

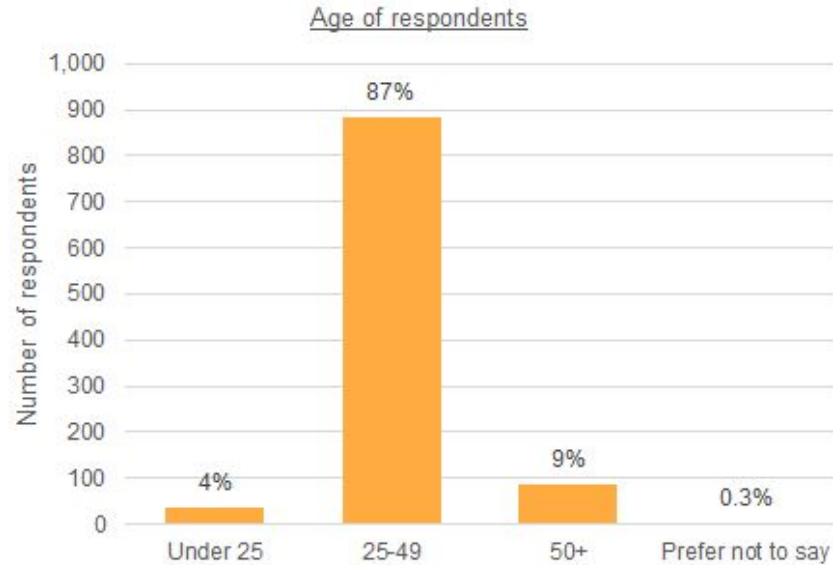
In which country were you born?



- Respondents were born across 128 countries (highlighted in map above)
- The most represented birth place in the survey was USA (9%), followed by UK (7%) and France (6%)
- 47% of respondents are based in the same country as where they were born

Question 3

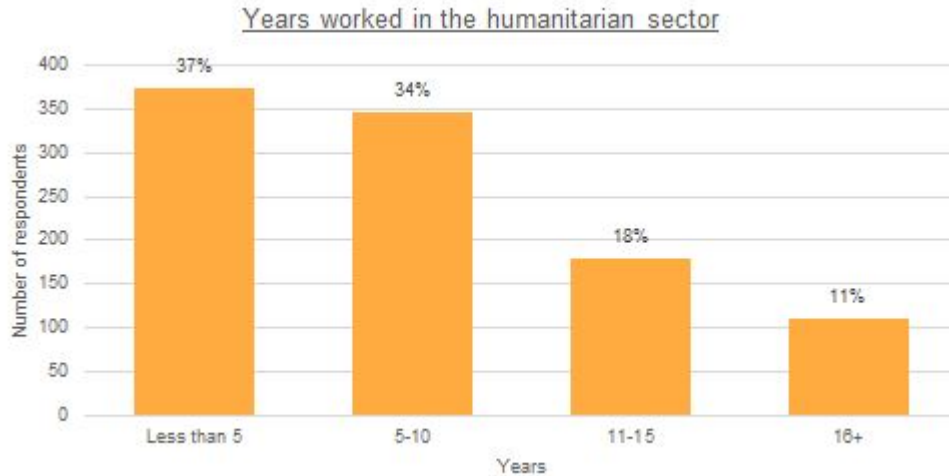
What is your age?



- The most represented age group in the survey response was 25-49 (87% of all respondents)

Question 4

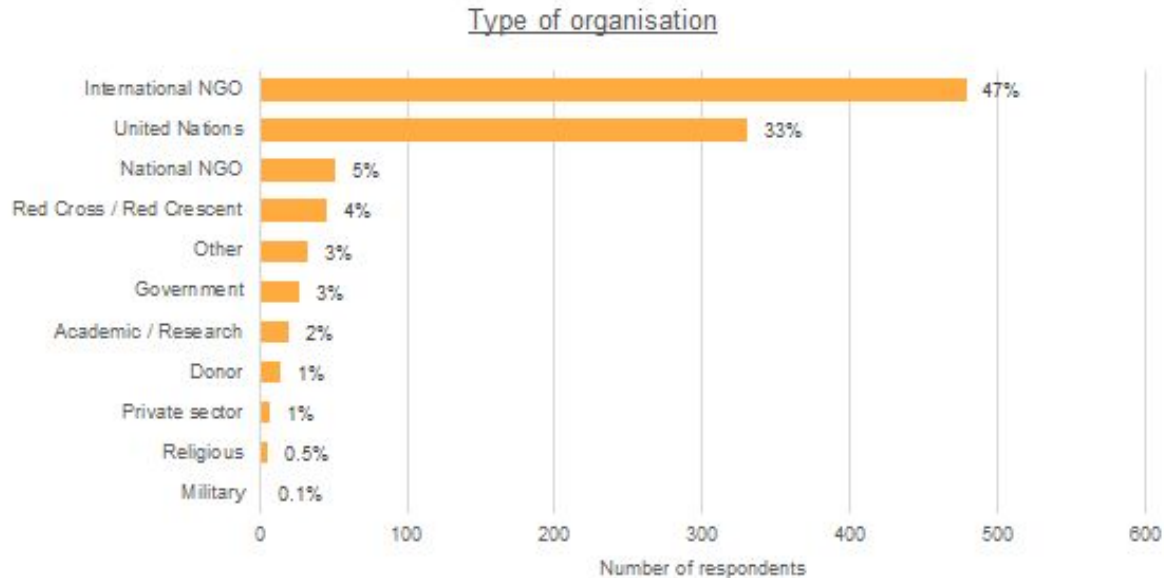
How many years have you worked in the humanitarian sector?



- The majority of respondents had worked in the humanitarian sector for 10 or less years (71%)

Question 5

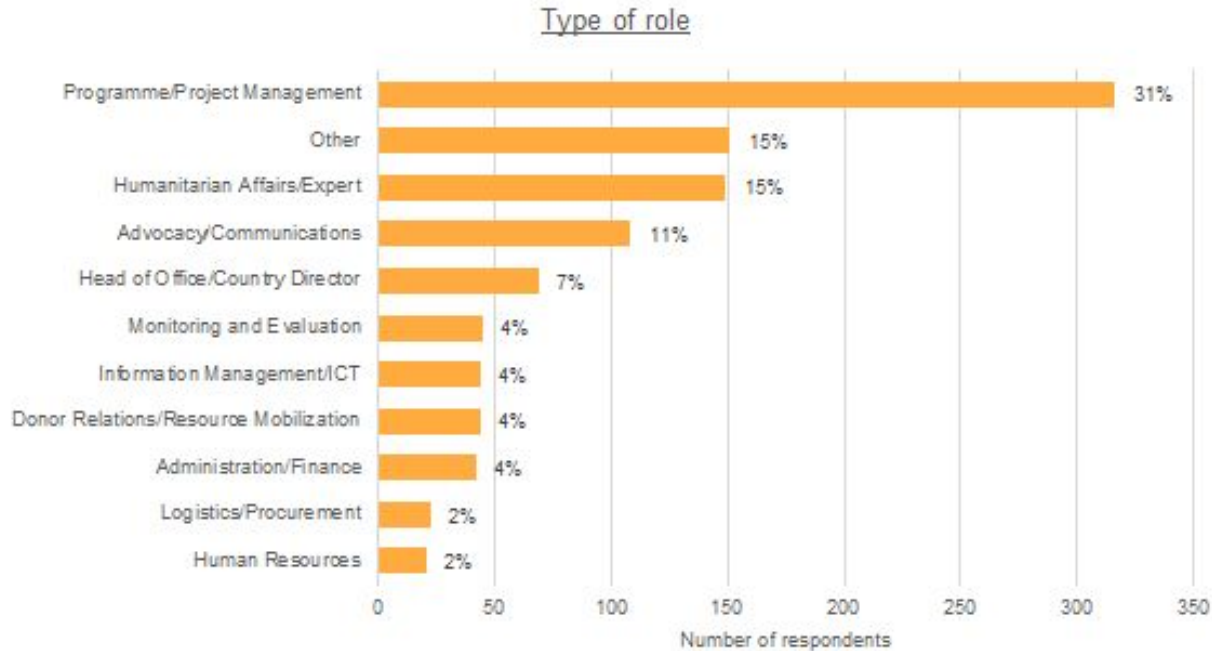
What type of organisation do you work for?



- Almost half of respondents worked for an international NGO
- A third worked for the United Nations

Question 6

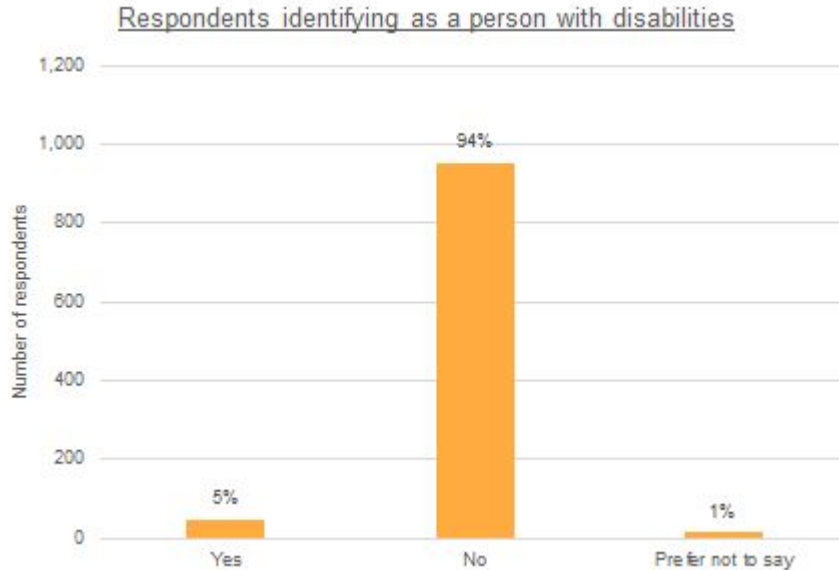
How would you describe your role?



- The most represented role was Programme/Project Management (31%)

Question 7 & 8

Do you identify as a person with disabilities?

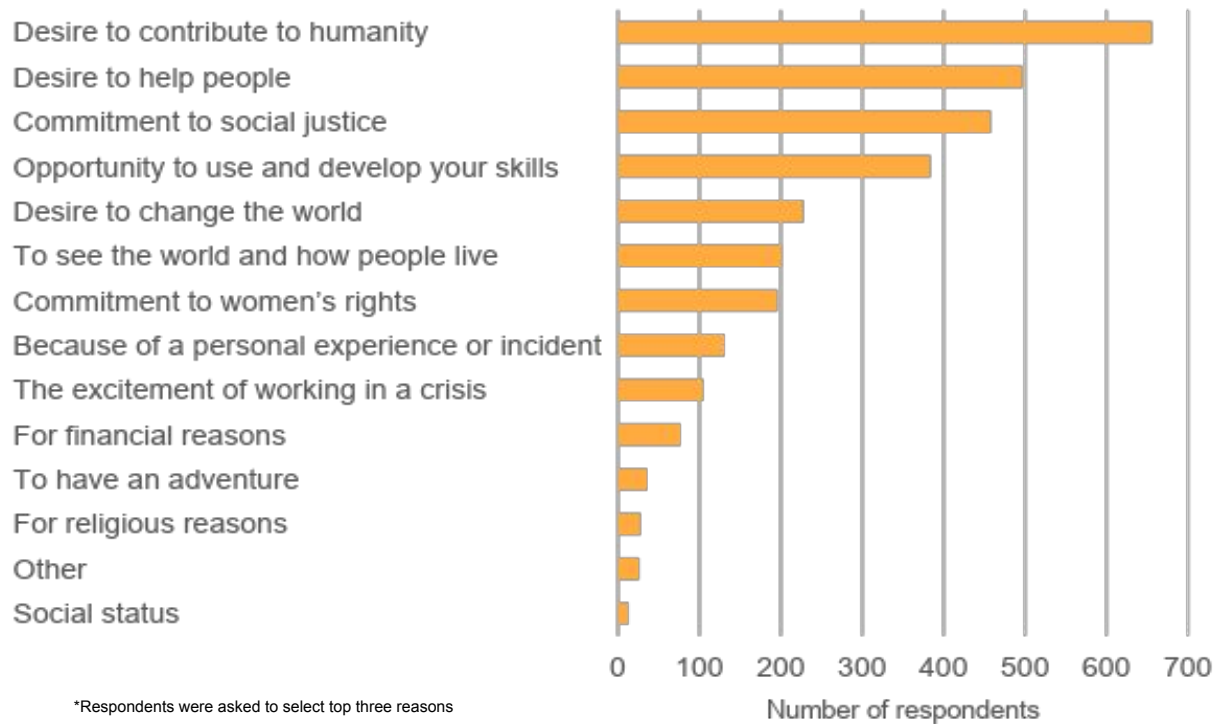


- 5% of respondents identified as a person with disabilities
- Of those who identified as a person with disabilities, 46% said that they felt they received the support they need, 41% said that they did not*

*Includes only those who answered 'Yes' to previous question asking if they identified as having a disability, 13% answered 'not applicable'.

Question 9

What made you decide to work in the humanitarian sector and what motivates you to keep going?

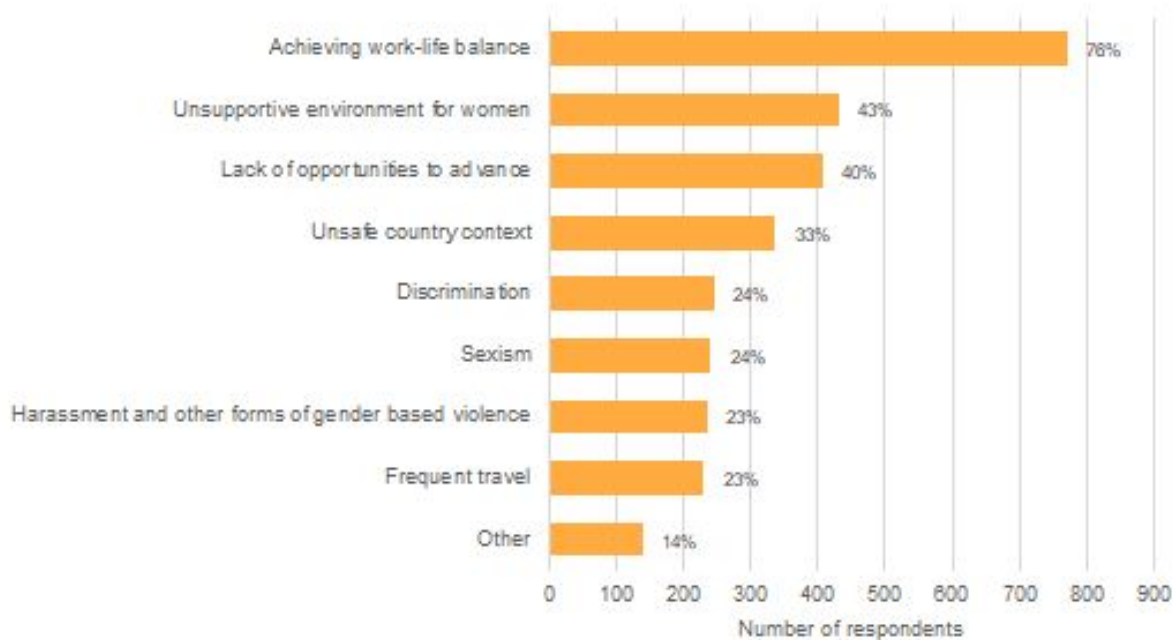


The top three reasons for working in the humanitarian sector were: **desire to contribute to humanity** (selected by 65% of respondents), **desire to help people** (selected by 49% of respondents) and **commitment to social justice** (selected by 45% of respondents)

*Respondents were asked to select top three reasons

Question 10

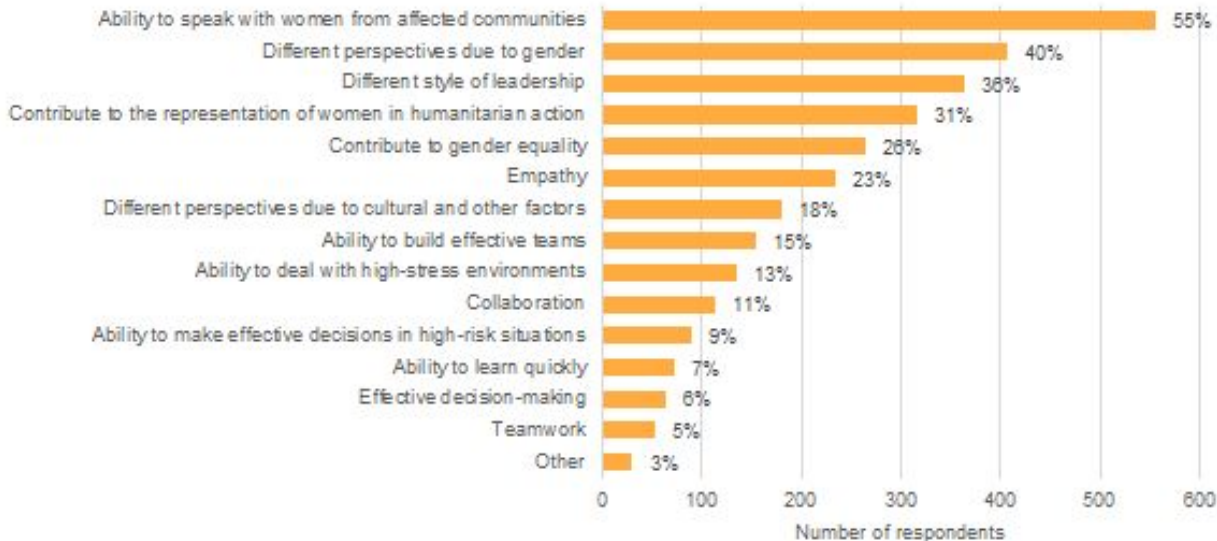
Which of the following do you see as the main challenge to working in the humanitarian sector?



The top three challenges for working in the humanitarian sector were: **achieving work-life balance** (selected by 76% of respondents), **unsupportive environment for women** (selected by 43% of respondents) and **lack of opportunities to advance** (selected by 40% of respondents)

Question 11

What do you think women bring to humanitarian action that is unique compared to male humanitarians?

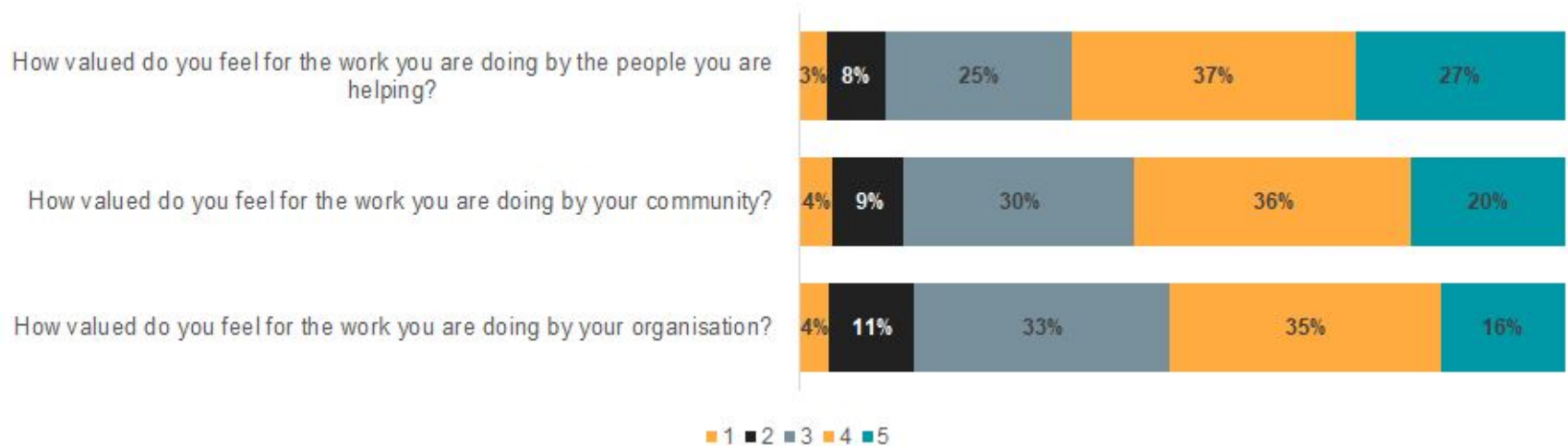


Respondents said that the top three unique attributes women bring to humanitarian action were: **ability to speak with women from affected communities** (selected by 55% of respondents), **different perspectives due to gender** (selected by 40% of respondents) and a **different style of leadership** (selected by 36% of respondents)

*Respondents were asked to select top three

Question 12, 13 & 14

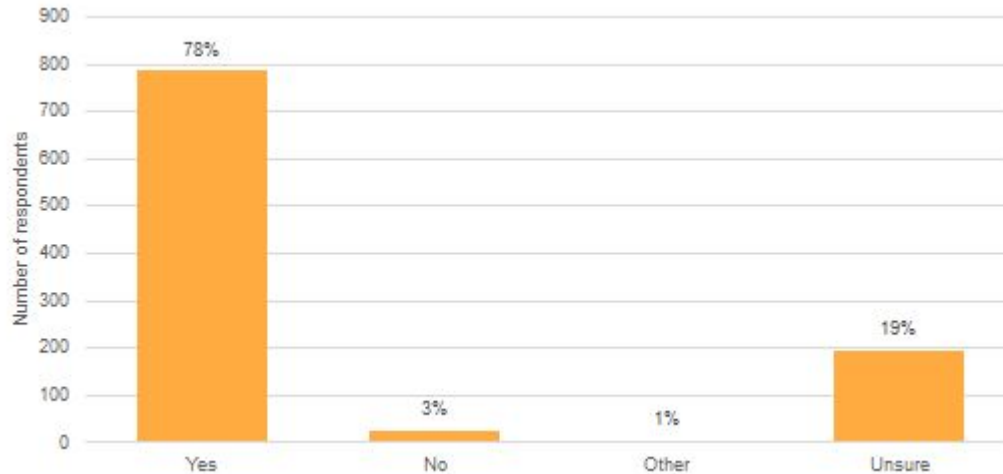
Respondents were asked to score the following on a scale of 1 – 5 (5 being highest)



- The weighted average score for how valued respondents felt by the people they were helping was **3.77**; for how valued they felt by their community, the average was **3.58**; for how valued they felt by their organisation, the average was **3.49**.

Question 15

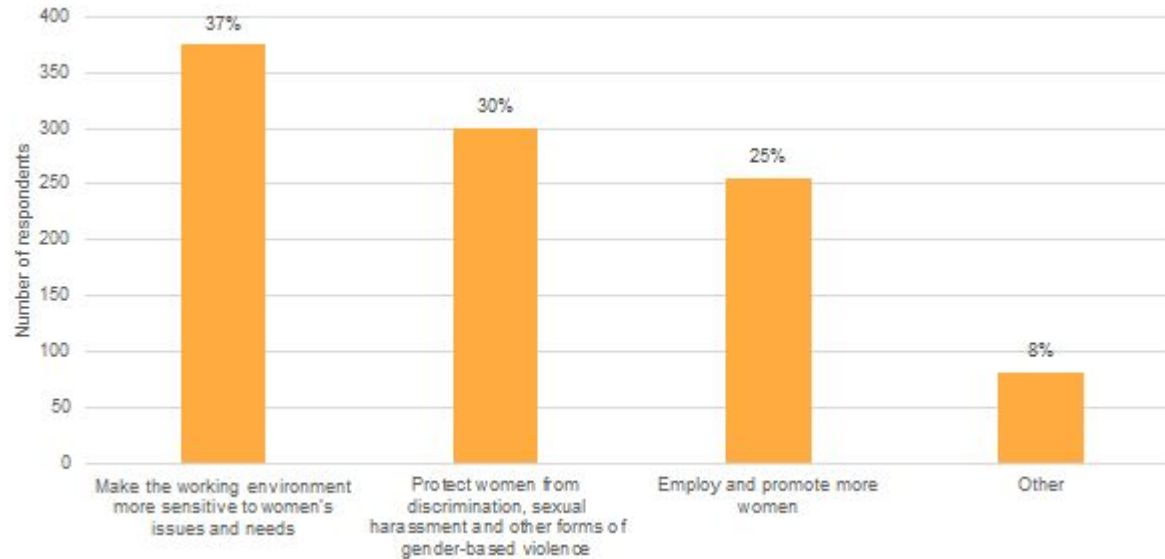
Are you planning on continuing to work in the humanitarian system?



- The majority of respondents said that they planned to continue working in the humanitarian system (78%)

Question 16

What can everyone do to promote gender equality, as well as support and protect women humanitarians?



Key messages

The respondents of the survey in general said that:

- Women humanitarian's **desire to contribute to humanity** made them decide to work in the humanitarian sector and motivates them to keep going (65% of respondents).
- **Achieving work-life balance** is the main challenge to working in the humanitarian sector (76%).
- **The ability to speak to women from affected communities** is the main unique attribute women brought to humanitarian action compared to men (55%).
- A majority plan to **continue to work** in the humanitarian sector (78%).

Thank you

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