



BUILDING EVIDENCE AND RESULTS



YEARS

OF GRANT-MAKING

UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND TO
END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) is the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism dedicated exclusively to ending all forms of violence against women and girls. It was created by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996 (resolution 50/166) and is administered by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on behalf of the United Nations system. This report describes the impact and key achievements of the UN Trust Fund and its grantees in 2016.





**ONE BENEFICIARY
WAS REACHED
FOR EVERY US\$2
INVESTED IN 2016**

Comunicadoras, who are women's rights defenders, record programming for the radio show "Voices of the Women of Wangki Tangni" as part of a UN Trust Fund project in Nicaragua from MADRE.
Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Mildred Garcia

FOREWORD

Many events demanded the world's attention during the year; some we will all want to remember and celebrate; others will remain seared in our memories for many years to come.

From major humanitarian catastrophes, presidential impeachments and coups, to peace deals, referendums and national elections, the year was fast moving and full of surprise results and unexpected turns of events. As I look back and reflect on the year's momentous developments captured by mainstream media, three names in particular come to mind: Lady Gaga, Jean-Pierre Bemba and Hissène Habré.

The last two are both former government officials found guilty of rape. Jean-Pierre Bemba, former Vice-President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, was found guilty by the International Criminal Court under the concept of "command responsibility" whereby civilian and military superiors can be held criminally liable for crimes committed by troops under their control. In Senegal, a court convicted Hissène Habré, former President of Chad, of personally committing rape as an international crime. It took years of anguish, persistence and patience on the part of survivors, their families and women's and human rights

organizations to see these prosecutions through to convictions, to achieve justice.

Lady Gaga is a survivor of a sexual assault. At the 2016 Oscars, she highlighted this issue with her powerful song "Til It Happens to You", which she co-wrote for the *Hunting Ground* documentary about sexual assault on college campuses in the United States of America [USA]. Introduced by then US Vice-President Joe Biden, who led a nationwide initiative to combat sexual assault on college campuses, Lady Gaga appeared on stage with 50 other survivors. "It gets better, it gets better, in time," she sang.

The power and the greatest significance of this musical testimony was unquestionably each individual's tragic experience and their willingness to step onto that stage and tell their story to the world watching the Oscars that night. Such an act of bravery is exceptional in itself; we are well aware from all our experiences in working on ending violence against women and girls around the world that many survivors never do speak out because of stigma, life-changing trauma, institutional failures, cover ups, or fear of retaliation and re-victimization.

Lady Gaga did not win an Oscar that night but she did put the issue of violence against women and girls onto the world stage and bring it back home to the USA. She powerfully conveyed a principal message: "it" does not happen just "over there" or "to someone else". In homes, in

schools, at work or on campuses in New York, London, Addis Ababa, Port Moresby, Mexico City or my native Sarajevo, women and girls experience violence on a regular basis and in many different forms. One in five women will be sexually assaulted in the USA before they finish college and one in three women worldwide has experienced sexual or physical violence – most likely from their intimate partner. Living free from violence is a basic human right that all of us should enjoy, yet women and girls in every country are denied that right disproportionately.

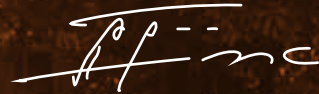
While the powerful musical performance at the Oscars may have been unique, the experiences of those on stage as well as of the survivors in the documentary *Hunting Ground* are unfortunately not. Sexual assaults on campuses, rapes in parks or in homes, female genital mutilation, acid throwing or sexual harassment at work are just a few forms of violence that women and girls around the world experience every day. At this very moment as I write, many of the women and girls who are crossing some dangerous sea in a tiny boat in search of refuge have already been raped in the country they are fleeing. When they arrive on new shores hoping for "safety", many of them will be "welcomed" by human traffickers who will use their vulnerability, lack of language knowledge and the desperate, desperate need for a better life, to lure them with false promises of security into the dark world of trafficking and sexual slavery.

This Annual Report is a testimony to the results and achievements of all of our grantees around the world who are striving to change this reality. They work to ensure prosecutions and justice and to create laws that are reflective of the best practices and not just minimum standards; it took 14 years to convict Jean-Pierre Bemba. Our grantees, like The Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice, an international women's human rights organization that advocates for gender justice through the International Criminal Court, have worked consistently and with unflagging

determination to ensure that justice is finally served.

Our grantees work with schools to make sure that girls and boys grow up not just knowing, but practising their own and others' right to live a life free of violence. They work with and for survivors to provide them with much needed services and support. As well as their knowledge, skills and national and local expertise, it takes time, patience, determination and adequate sustainable funding to achieve this.

So, where do we go from here? The facts are known. Speeches were delivered and most likely promises were made. The curtain has fallen. The Oscars have come and gone for another year. But the survivors are still "here" and "over- there". True, it will get better, in time. But, they are counting on us. Counting on you.



ALDIJANA SISIC

CHIEF, UN TRUST FUND TO END
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

UN TRUST FUND 1997—2016

1997

3

Donors

US\$1 Million

Total Grant Value

2016

25

Donors

US\$13 Million

Total Grant Value

106

Projects Supported

77

Countries and
Territories

Meeting with the Kankuamo indigenous community. The integral assistance route provides information on how to access protection and legal assistance in Valledupar, Colombia.
Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Mildred Garcia

LEAVING FEAR BEHIND

The Women's Justice Initiative (WJI) is working with Mayan women and girls in 16 rural communities in the municipality of Patzún, Guatemala. Combining a comprehensive legal literacy course with mobile legal outreach, WJI is the only organization in the country working to prevent gender-based violence specifically in rural Indigenous communities.

The project, supported with a small grant by the UN Trust Fund, is helping overcome key obstacles that Mayan women face in accessing justice; for example it provides legal services in Kaqchikel rather than in Spanish. The result has been an increase in the number of survivors of violence pursuing complaints and achieving positive outcomes for themselves and their families.

In baseline surveys for the WJI project, 4 per cent of the women surveyed reported having sought legal services in the past. During the first year of project implementation, 46 per cent of the project participants surveyed reported seeking legal advice from WJI. By providing legal services in Kaqchikel in Mayan women's communities, WJI is eliminating economic, linguistic and geographic barriers and greatly increasing women's access to justice.

The project achieved impressive results during 2016. For example, 187 survivors of violence sought assistance from the Justice of the Peace or the National Police during the year. Of these, 96 cases were reported to the Justice of the Peace and 91 to the National Police. This represents a 72 per cent increase in cases reported to the police and a 19 per cent increase in cases reported to the Justice of the Peace compared with 2015. WJI is now working with the police to identify what actions or strategies may have led to these increases.

WJI provided legal assistance to 288 women in cases linked to gender-based violence or securing economic rights. WJI believes this astonishing 136 per cent increase compared to the number of cases assisted in 2015 is due in large part to its mobile legal outreach in rural communities.

In addition, 256 Mayan women participated in legal literacy and skills-building courses and the overwhelming majority (96 per cent) completed the course. A further 270 women have signed up for courses in 2017.

As part of its work, WJI will incorporate the Population Council's Safescaping Methodology, which encourages participatory involvement in the identification of safe spaces and discussions of violence in a community.



“Before, [the WJI course] I almost never talked with other women. I was embarrassed to talk to them because I suffered violence and I was ashamed... But after participating, I began to talk with other women and I encouraged them and told them it was very important to love yourself.

I learned many things in the meetings... Every time I returned from the workshop, I shared what I learned that day with my children. My oldest son told me it was great that I was learning about these things and that I needed to share it with them.

The programme has helped me to improve my communication with my husband. It opened my mind... Through the programme, I started to value myself more and found the courage to talk to my husband about our problems. I told my husband that as a woman, I also have dignity and value and that he should treat me with respect, like I do with him.

I began to talk to my husband and tell him that I also have the right to leave the house and to learn... I know that what I do is for the good of my family, for example, in leaving my house to find work, so I can have an income and not always be dependent on my husband.”

—María Calcá, Legal Literacy Course Participant, in her home in Popabaj



OVERVIEW

In 2016, the UN Trust Fund marked 20 years of global, multilateral grant-making in support of efforts to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

IN THE LAST 20 YEARS, THE UN TRUST FUND HAS ACHIEVED GLOBAL REACH, PROVIDING SUPPORT TO 462 ORGANIZATIONS IN 139 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WITH GRANTS TOTALLING MORE THAN US\$129 MILLION.

Since its creation, the UN Trust Fund has increased its donor portfolio from three to 25 donors, enabling the total amount it is able to award in grants to rise from US\$1 million in 1997 to US\$13 million in new grants in 2016. This is a great achievement in an area that still struggles to realize the funding priority it deserves.

The 20th anniversary provided a key opportunity to reflect on the UN Trust



A circumciser and her daughter-in-law and grandchild in the Serengeti region of Tanzania where the project is aiming to end female genital mutilation. The circumciser expressed her wish to end the practice.

Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Gemma Wood

Fund's efforts and achievements in its three priority areas of work: improving access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multisectoral services; furthering implementation of legislation, policies, national action plans and accountability systems; and promoting the prevention of violence against women and girls.

As the *only* global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that is dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls, the UN Trust Fund aims to create sustainable change at the local and national level. It does so through its three strategic directions: catalysing learning from global evidence collected from its grantees; leveraging its unique mandate and

convening power to advocate for and foster sustainable financing; and supporting results-oriented approaches to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

During the year, projects supported by the UN Trust Fund reached over 6 million people. This represented **a six-fold increase in overall beneficiaries from the previous year**, the result of several large-scale awareness-raising campaigns, particularly in Africa. Up to 250,000 women and girls benefitted directly from services for survivors, empowerment activities and protection from violence. This included at least 31,000 female migrant workers, 10,000 Indigenous women, 3,400 lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and 1,300 women and girls with disabilities.

While much has been achieved over the past two decades in increasing awareness and developing strategies to prevent and end violence against women and girls, challenges remain. As many as 70 per cent of women worldwide have experienced intimate partner physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetimes.¹ At least 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone some form of female genital mutilation/cutting in the 30 countries where the practice is most prevalent. In the majority of cases girls were cut before the

1 World Health Organization, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, South African Medical Research Council (2013), *Global and regional estimates of violence against women: prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence*, p. 2.

No Ceilings



The UN Trust Fund joined a coalition of more than 30 core partners in making a commitment at the final Clinton Global Initiative Annual Meeting as part of the *No Ceilings: The Full Participation Project*. Photo: Clinton Global Initiative

In 2016, the UN Trust Fund joined a coalition of more than 30 core partners from the public, private and multilateral sectors at the 12th and final Clinton Global Initiative Annual meeting as part of the *No Ceilings: The Full Participation Project*, an initiative of the Clinton Foundation, to announce a series of Commitments to Action to advance the gender equality targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

These commitments will impact more than 900,000 people in over 60 countries. The UN Trust Fund committed to provide a minimum US\$1 million in grants targeting projects and supporting civil society organizations that address specifically violence against women and girls in the context of the current refugee crisis. This commitment is part of the “Girls, Women & the Global Goals”

coalition of multisectoral partners convened by No Ceilings, Vital Voices and WEConnect International.

By the end of 2016 the UN Trust Fund had allocated US\$2.5 million for new grants supporting work to address sexual and gender-based violence against refugee women and girls in Iraq and Jordan, countries that have been impacted by the ongoing refugee crisis.

age of five.² More than 700 million women alive today were married before their 18th birthday and about 250 million entered into union before the age of 15.³

These violations of the rights of women and girls have far-reaching and often devastating consequences, but they are not inevitable. The impact achieved by UN Trust Fund grantees in the past 20 years shows just how significant the return on often quite small investments can be in terms of sustainable change. For example, an analysis of supported projects showed that **the cost of reaching beneficiaries in 2016 was US\$2 per**

beneficiary, a significant reduction compared with 2015 when the equivalent figure stood at US\$12.

In 2016, the UN Trust Fund received 1,792 applications for funding from 117 countries and territories; 5 per cent of applications focused on measures to address violence against women and girls in the context of the current refugee crisis. The overwhelming majority (90 per cent) of applicants were civil society organizations. The total funding requested was more than US\$677 million.

In 2016, the UN Trust Fund awarded US\$13 million in 36 grants covering 30 countries and territories, with

grants going for the first time to programmes in Burkina Faso, Madagascar and Montenegro.

Grants amounting to US\$1.25 million were awarded in the form of small grants (less than US\$125,000) to 11 small organizations with an annual operational budget below US\$200,000. By adopting a strategic focus on smaller local organizations, the UN Trust Fund seeks to harness the enormous potential for fundamental and sustainable change embodied in grass-roots and women-led organizations.

² UNICEF (2016), *Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A global concern*.

³ UNICEF (2014), *Ending Child Marriage: Progress and Prospects*, pp. 2 and 4.



A factory in Sangkat Chaom Chao address violence against women in the workplace through the UN Trust Fund grantee project from Care Cambodia.
Photo: Care Cambodia/Charles Fox

Celebrating 20 Years of Grant-Giving

“Thanks to the UN Trust Fund, girls in Viet Nam have a safer learning environment. Violence survivors in Peru have access to justice. And survivors with disabilities in Tanzania have better services. This is just a snapshot of a diverse and important portfolio. I applaud the Fund’s donors for their generosity. But the true value of their gift is beyond measure. Life and liberty are priceless. On this anniversary, I call on everyone concerned to intensify efforts to address the serious challenges that remain.”

—Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations 2007 to 2016

In November, the UN Trust Fund held a 20th anniversary fundraising gala in New York to celebrate the successes and achievements of the Fund and its grantees.

The gala, which was hosted by UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman, brought together internationally renowned figures from the world of cinema, theatre, journalism and philanthropy and people directly involved in UN Trust Fund supported projects who shared their personal stories of the impact of these programmes to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

Beneficiaries at the gala gave compelling testimony of the life-changing impact that projects supported by the UN Trust Fund are having in a wide variety of contexts and countries. Among the attendees was 17-year-old Aiturgan Dzholdoshibekova from a small village in Chui Oblast, Kyrgyzstan. She and her friends are working with the National Federation of

Female Communities of Kyrgyzstan (NFFCK), an NGO awarded a small grant by the UN Trust Fund, to encourage and support other girls in rural areas to eradicate violence against girls and to promote gender equality. The NFFCK piloted a school-based education programme to empower girls and end bride kidnapping and early and forced marriage.



Richard Lui, Journalist MSNBC/NBC News, was the Emcee for the UN Trust Fund 20th anniversary gala in New York.
Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

“Tonight we celebrate the essential work done by the UN Trust Fund, paying tribute to our grantees, whose success stories embody the resilience of women and girls in the face of violence. We know that these vital investments in initiatives to end violence have high returns and have already made a difference to millions of women and girls.”

—Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Women Executive Director



UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman, and Patron of the UN Women for Peace Association, Mrs. Ban Soon-taek attending the UN Trust Fund 20th anniversary fundraising gala in New York.

Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

“I am here because I support the UN Trust Fund and I applaud and celebrate its 20 years of making a difference... When I became UN Women’s Goodwill Ambassador 10 years ago, my first mission took me to Kosovo, where I met with women and girls who had survived violence. That was when I first understood what the work of the UN Trust Fund really means... It was a life-changing experience for me and one that has inspired me ever since.”

—Nicole Kidman, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador

As part of the project, an expert team developed an educational package – Empowering Girls through Education, Art and Media – the first of its kind in the Kyrgyz language.

Also present at the gala was Tommy Clark, an award-winning paediatrician and former professional soccer player who is the inspiration behind Grassroot Soccer. The UN Trust Fund

is helping to fund the up-scaling of this innovative SKILLZ Street Plus sports-based intervention in South Africa. The initiative, which focuses on girls aged between 13 and 16, aims to encourage girls' empowerment, awareness of sexual and reproductive health and access to medical, legal and psychosocial services.



UN Trust Fund beneficiary of the NFFCK funded project from Kyrgyzstan, Aiturgan Dzholdoshbekova and her mother Aigul Alybaeva attending the UN Trust Fund 20th anniversary Gala. Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

UN TRUST FUND'S GRANTS TO DATE

462
Organizations
Supported

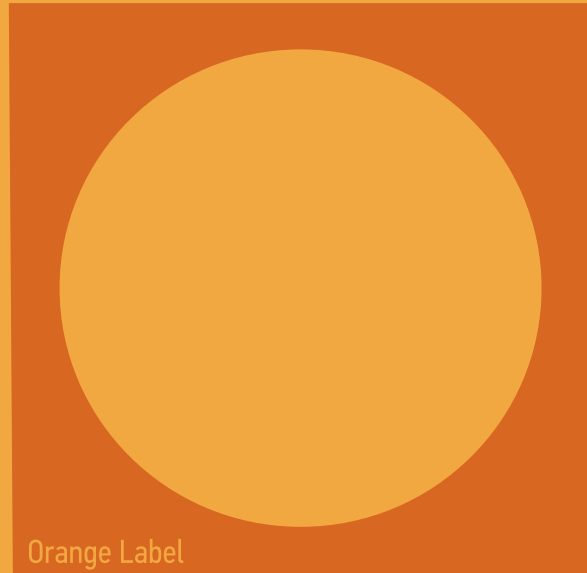
139
Countries
and
Territories

US\$129 Million
Total Grant Value

THE ORANGE LABEL

The fundraising gala was also the setting for the launch of the **Orange Label** initiative. The result of a partnership between the UN Trust Fund and the UK-based London College of Fashion and designed by students of the College, the Orange Label was created as a cause-related marketing initiative to benefit UN Trust Fund supported programmes, raise general public awareness and to engage young audiences with the issue.

By developing partnerships with socially responsible and forward-looking businesses, the UN Trust Fund seeks to demonstrate that ending violence against women and girls is a goal that we can all work towards and that the choices of consumers, entrepreneurs and philanthropists bring about significant, positive change. The UN Trust Fund understands the critical role of citizen engagement and the Orange Label has been created to enable consumers and businesses to make choices which will, through the work of UN Trust Fund grantees, support women and girl survivors of violence, empower women and girls and consequently change for the better entire communities.



The Orange Label aims to encourage participating companies to develop or commit a product to be marketed under the UN Trust Fund's Orange Label with the Orange Label Logo and to promote products and generate awareness through cause-related marketing and social media platforms. A percentage of the proceeds of the sale of the selected product, including a minimum guaranteed contribution, goes towards the UN Trust Fund's annual grant-making.

“This is our chance to turn a lens, a mirror, on our own industry. To change it from the inside out, to show students and graduates at this crucial point in their studies that they can use their creativity and passion to challenge stereotypes and create positive messages about equality.”

—Professor Frances Corner, Head of the London College of Fashion and Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Arts London, speaking about the Orange Label

The factory in Sangkat Chaom Chao, Cambodia where Chhun Srey Sros works is at the forefront in addressing and ending sexual harassment in the work place.

Photo: Care Cambodia/Charles Fox

BUILDING THE

FINDINGS FROM OUR EVALUATIONS

One of the key objectives set out in the UN Trust Fund's Strategy 2015–2020 is the creation of an evidence hub to collect and reflect the depth of knowledge and lessons learned through the work of its grantees. As a first step, the UN Trust Fund commissioned a meta-analysis of findings from evaluation reports of grants made between 2008 and 2012. This in-depth analysis of 23 independent and external evaluations provided a number of valuable insights into what makes UN Trust Fund supported projects effective.

Evaluations by external consultants found that UN Trust Fund projects focusing on the area of expanding access to multisectoral services were the most effective, **with an overall effectiveness score of 95 per cent** [the proportion of projects assessed by external evaluators as fully “effective” with evidence that the project delivered all intended outputs and completed all activities with only minor adjustments regarding progress made against all major outcomes].

Programmes aimed at the UN Trust Fund's second priority area, preventing violence against women, also achieved a high degree of

effectiveness, **with an overall score of 89 per cent effectiveness.**

These initiatives were found to be most effective when paired with projects that expand access to multisectoral services or strengthen the implementation of policies and laws. As with capacity building among service providers, prevention strategies that employ information, education and communication proved to be most effective if delivered at consistent intervals over an extended period of time.

Projects that strengthened implementation of laws, policies and national action plans – the UN Trust Fund's other key area of focus – were



EVIDENCE BASE

assessed as less effective but most sustainable, with a score of 83.3 per cent for both effectiveness and sustainability [the percentage of programmes that external evaluators assessed as potentially sustainable after the end of the project]. The meta-analysis found that projects in this area, by their nature, take longer to implement, however they also have the most potential to achieve a lasting impact at scale. The meta-analysis found that: *“the support of the UN Trust Fund; grantees and their partners laid the foundation for the eventual implementation of laws, policies and national action plans that address violence against women*

and girls. The creation of advocacy networks, improved transparency around protocols and budgets, and the strengthening of accountability mechanisms were all key strategies in this focus area. Grantees empowered survivors to advocate with their local communities for accountability and transparency in law and policy implementation”.

The analysis identified two key factors central to successful initiatives: collaboration and local grass-roots involvement in developing projects. Common features of UN Trust Fund supported projects are approaches that are highly collaborative, intersectional

and localized. Projects often began with grantees gathering women in informal discussion groups. These groups frequently went on to form the basis of ongoing networks and played an important role in, for example, building women’s knowledge and capacity regarding approaching and encouraging government officials to implement laws and national action plans to address gender-based violence against women and girls.

The emphasis on funding projects rooted in local communities coupled with the capacity building provided to grantees by the UN Trust Fund – from developing the project proposal, through its implementation

Building on Success for a Sustainable Future

“Women were verbally abused, sexually assaulted, their rights were not recognized by male traders and in most cases male traders did not settle their bills. Women did not know where they could access [services for] their violated rights and they lost hope... Now women know where to access their rights within and outside the market... I am better off economically, I am more confident and well informed in market leadership and women’s rights.”

—Betty Mteuele, a market trader and legal community supporter, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

With UN Trust Fund support, Equality for Growth, a local women’s organization in Tanzania, is implementing a project to ensure that women market traders can work without fear of violence and are properly protected by law. This programme builds on beneficiary recommendations gathered in a previous project implemented by the organization in five marketplaces.



Betty Mteuele, a market trader in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in her market stall which is now a safer place for women to conduct business. Photo: Equality for Growth

A network of 40 legal community supporters and paralegals has been established and 25 paralegals attended a two-day training session to gain greater knowledge about violence against women and women's rights and how to support women and girls in reporting gender-based violence.

In 2016, the paralegals and legal community supporters assisted 454 women to report cases to the market authorities or the police. All six markets have adopted and now implement new guidelines to end violence against women. In total, over 1,600 market traders and visitors to the markets have participated in various initiatives to end violence against women in the markets.



Community mobilization event held by UN Trust Fund grantee, Breakthrough, in Bangalore, Karnataka, India with auto rickshaw drivers taking a stand against sexual harassment. Photo: Breakthrough/ Ms. Kanmani

to regular reviews – contributed substantially to the overall impact and sustainability of each project. The meta-analysis of evaluations highlighted the way in which the UN Trust Fund's value was linked to the way it ensures projects align with the needs of local communities and engage and enhance local structures already serving survivors. This in turn is achieved by an approach that prioritizes collaboration, relevance and fosters greater access and ownership among stakeholders and within the community. Lessons are also being learned in areas that were assessed as less effective and sustainable; for example, longer-term grant periods of over three years are being considered in recognition of the time needed to

implement projects in a manner that can ensure impact and sustainability.

RESULTS FRAMEWORK

The UN Trust Fund's Strategic Plan 2015–2020 includes a Results Framework to translate the plan into measurable results. One of the key aspects of this is evaluating results attributable to the organizations awarded grants; that is, "grantee results" at impact, outcome and outputs level. This required the development of a core set of common, standardized indicators that grantees could apply and report on. A pilot project in late 2015 indicated that there was a need for an improved training curriculum for new grantees. Accordingly, in 2016, training included

a greater focus on data collection, developing indicators, methodologies and how to calculate baselines and targets. Guidance on counting beneficiary data was also improved.

Following the 2015 pilot, a new approach was tested in 2016 whereby the UN Trust Fund reviewed all progress reports against project-specific results frameworks and indicators to identify those grantees measuring and reporting on the same or similar indicators. This approach was more effective in terms of ensuring coverage across all active grantees. Building on this experience, a small set of standard, common indicators focusing on *effectiveness, quality and sustainability* are being developed.



MADRE, a UN Trust Fund grantee, at the the first radio station to focus on women's rights in the North Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua where the show "Voices of the Women of Wangki Tangni" is recorded. Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Mildred Garcia

MONITORING MISSIONS

Monitoring missions are another strategic way in which the UN Trust Fund works to enhance its role as a central facilitator for identifying and sharing best practices. During 2016 the UN Trust Fund team conducted 26 monitoring missions to projects in 16 countries.

In April, the UN Trust Fund team visited a project in **India** which uses media – such as video vans, wall writings and community radio – to raise community awareness about domestic violence. The team observed the activities of grantee Breakthrough's #Askingforit campaign, including a street play which was followed by a meeting with young volunteers, illustrating how Breakthrough is engaging young people on the ground, helping to forge a link between online and offline activities. Feedback from participants showed a 50 per cent increase in knowledge about gender issues among young boys after training.

In June, the UN Trust Fund team visited the Women's Support Centre in **Armenia** which runs specialized support services for women survivors, such as a shelter and an SOS helpline. The team visited the town of Metsamor, close to Yerevan, where previously the only social work support available was that provided by a voluntary organization, occasionally supported by the mayor's private donations. The grantee identified the stakeholders in the targeted communities and partnered with them, building on local efforts and thereby enhancing sustainability.

The UN Trust Fund team also visited a project addressing harmful traditional practices in **Tanzania**. Amref Health Africa is working in collaboration with the Legal and Human Rights Centre of Tanzania to promote a community-driven Alternative Rights of Passage model in communities in the Serengeti. The project is also engaging the health sector

through in-person, e-learning and mobile learning strategies to raise awareness of the consequences of female genital mutilation/cutting and to ensure that interventions are culturally appropriate, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community.

A focus on underserved communities, long at the heart of UN Trust Fund's activities, has been reinforced and given added impetus by the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Change of ensuring that "no one is left behind". Many grantees work to identify the needs of and support women in communities living in poverty born of systemic, entrenched discrimination. For example, two of the projects supported by the UN Trust Fund team in the Latin America and Caribbean region are working with Indigenous women.

In **Colombia**, the UN Trust Fund team was able to see first hand the



“We have lived here with a high level of sexual violence against young girls. But now with this project, we are talking daily about this issue in the schools, churches, in the home, when we are doing chores and in meetings, so that we can overcome this violence. We believe that we are already seeing less violence in the home and within families.”

—Valerie Carero talking about the impact on her community of a project by MADRE and Wangki Tangni to establish the first radio station focusing on women’s rights in the North Atlantic Coast area of Nicaragua. The innovative “Voices of the Women of Wangki Tangni” project, which was launched in June 2016 with the support of the UN Trust Fund, targets more than 63 communities in the region

impact of joint efforts to address the issue of violence against Indigenous women and girls in the context of armed conflict.

An external evaluation showed the project had greatly surpassed initial projections. Implemented by the Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia (ONIC), in collaboration with other domestic NGOs (Mujeres de la OIK – Organización Indígena Kankuama, the Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas del Norte del Cauca and the Corporación de Apoyo a Comunidades Populares, CODACOP), the project was able to provide support to 252 women survivors of gender-based violence in accessing socio-cultural, legal or psychological services during 2016. This represents an increase of almost 70 per cent compared to the previous year and brought the total number of women who received support during the two years of the project to 428 – more than four times the number envisaged at the outset.

In addition, 1,838 relatives of survivors of violence against women [1,185 and girls and 653 men and boys] were also reached. Again, this was more than four times the original target. The project also facilitated the documentation of 1,383 cases of violence against women and produced a variety of materials to raise awareness of gender-based violence, which reached more than 14,000 people, more than four times the original projection. Nine radio slots also outperformed the original target, reaching 17,500 people each year the project was active. The project also engaged 181 local officials at national and regional level in sensitization initiatives on the rights of Indigenous women, helping ensure that the progress achieved is institutionalized and sustainable after the end of the project.

The project was part of successful advocacy efforts for an enacting resolution, “Women, violence and

access to justice”. This resolution enables the organization to put into operation the National Council of Indigenous Justice System, guaranteeing the participation of women, as a national justice body responsible for establishing a strategy for prosecuting cases of violence.

Indigenous women were also the focus of another project visited by the UN Trust Fund in **Nicaragua** which seeks to ensure an inclusive approach in addressing the needs of previously underserved sections of the population.

Through this radio station and “community listener groups” organized by comunicadoras – women’s rights defenders – from Wangki Tangni, consistent information and a safe space have been provided for learning about women’s rights, human rights and indigenous concepts of peaceful living. It is the region’s only radio station that airs programmes in the local Miskito language.

WORKING ON MULTISECTORAL SERVICES IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA: UN TRUST FUND GRANTEES EXCHANGE THEIR KNOWLEDGE

One of the ways in which the UN Trust Fund aims to contribute to expanding the knowledge and evidence base on effective models to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls is a series of annual knowledge-exchange events. The first of these took place in October 2016 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and brought together 16 organizations from 10 countries and territories in the Europe and Central Asia region. All were involved in providing multisectoral services and had received UN Trust Fund grants between 2007 and 2016. The grantees also reflected the different types of recipients of UN Trust Fund grants: 11 non-governmental organizations, two governments at the regional level and three United Nations Country Teams. The following are some of the main conclusions and recommendations reached through this participatory process.



Participants from 16 organizations from 10 countries who participated in the knowledge exchange on multisectoral services in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund

1. Referral systems can form the basis for building more comprehensive coordination. Creating such systems develops individual relationships and builds trust and knowledge about the services and expertise of different sectors.

An evaluation of the **Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health** project, which built a referral system that incorporated cooperation with law enforcement agencies, provided an example of how such systems can contribute to effective collaboration:

“They provided her assistance there, worked with her, and then she was ready to come back to us and to listen about violence, that she has the right to address to police and we can support her, but nobody can bring the statement to the police instead of her.”

—Representatives of Lviv Regional Branch of the People Living With HIV Network recalling the referral to a social services centre of a girl who was repeatedly beaten by her male partner

2. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are in many cases leaders in creating and sustaining multisectoral coordination in service delivery at the local level. They are often both entry points for survivors seeking services and providers of long-term support as rights advocates, helping survivors to access other service providers, such as social services and the judiciary.

A grantee from **Armenia** described how a multisectoral team addressed the situation of a survivor when one agency alone was unable to do so. The survivor had a violent husband at home in her village, but the shelters were full and there was a distinct risk that she would have to go back to the perpetrator. Through a multisectoral case review process led by the NGO, the woman and her children were able to relocate to a village far from her home. The process included enrolling the children in school, addressing the survivor’s health issues and setting up meetings with other service providers in the woman’s new home.

3. Governance and legislation play a crucial and multi-faceted role in creating, supporting and maintaining multisectoral coordination. This begins with a firm commitment to ending violence against women and girls. It encompasses complying with international standards; adopting legislation that institutionalizes best practices; implementing that legislation through policies, procedures and sustainable funding; monitoring the effectiveness of laws and policies; and taking action to address gaps in the response to violence against women and girls.

A grantee from **Croatia** described how they brought cases before the European Court of Human Rights as a tactic to achieve compliance with international standards.

Collaboration between the state and specialist NGOs in **Serbia** was seen as a model for other countries. A framework protocol was adopted setting out the responsibilities of five ministries. Although the protocol has yet to be uniformly implemented in all parts of Serbia, it inspired other grantees, whose own governments have not made similar progress, to advocate for a similar arrangement in their own countries. One grantee described her reaction to learning of this positive example:

“It was refreshing to see how specialist NGOs in Serbia, for instance, are starting to synchronize their efforts with the state and are recognized as necessary to developing an integrated response to combat violence. It was also inspiring to see a key decision-maker speak eloquently and in a heart-felt way about combating domestic violence in Serbia.”

—UNTF Grantee

4. Workshop participants shared their experiences about the particular challenges they faced in providing services to women in marginalized and vulnerable groups. Most importantly, they discussed how creative and promising approaches are being adopted to address the particular needs of such groups, despite many obstacles, including rampant racism and discrimination.

In Kosovo [under UNSCR 1244/1999], where nine ethnic minorities are represented, young paralegal activists were identified from within minority communities and provided with training. The paralegals' goal was to gain the trust of their communities, identify women survivors of violence and provide a bridge to free legal aid for a variety of remedies. The paralegals initiated the multisectoral coordination process in Kosovo [Under UNSCR 1244/1999].



UN Trust Fund grantees from 10 countries in the Europe and Central Asia region participated in this Knowledge Exchange event in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Gemma Wood

5. A system that enables responders to share information is a vital part of effective multisectoral responses. Data collection and monitoring are, therefore, crucial.

A grantee from **Albania** identified the establishment of a database and tracking of each survivor as the greatest achievement of their UN Trust Fund-supported project. Each survivor is tracked throughout the process according to 10 indicators to capture what services she has received and her level of satisfaction with them. This system is currently operating in 19 municipalities. In each municipality, coordinators nominated by local authorities enter data into the system and the data enters the national network in real time. The system has been upgraded to operate at the national level and efforts are continuing to increase support among local mayors and enhance the human resources available.

6. The duration of projects was also a key point raised in terms of sustainable change. One grantee identified longer-term projects as key, stating that three years is the minimum time needed for activities to achieve stability and sustainability.

A project in **Serbia** implemented by Fund B92 is creating sustainability through the development of a small business producing organic food. The enterprise was initiated in cooperation with a safe house and several women beneficiaries have taken it forward. Some of the women were trained in running a small business and a number of women have initiated self-employment activities.

Our Annual Partner Survey

The opinions of grantees about the support the UN Trust Fund provides is very important, which is why an annual, anonymous and confidential partner survey has been instituted, starting in 2016, to elicit information that will help improve the support provided to current and future grantees.

Eighty-five active organizations representing a good cross-section of the UN Trust Fund's grants portfolio completed the survey in 2016. The overwhelming majority (97 per cent) of the organizations who took part in the survey stated that they would recommend the UN Trust Fund as a source of funding to others working in the field, stressing the value of the programmatic advice, guidance and monitoring and evaluation training provided.

The increased visibility and publicity provided by the UN Trust Fund was another major benefit cited by most respondents. The overwhelming majority of respondents (82 per cent) felt that securing UN Trust Fund funding would enable them to mobilize further funding at the end of the grant. The positive impact of UN Trust Fund support in terms of increasing recognition by other donors was particularly marked among small organizations, thereby contributing to the UN Trust Fund's strategic objective to help foster the organizational capacity of smaller entities.

For example, the Sindh Community Foundation in Pakistan, which works to reduce instances of child and forced marriage through human rights education and advocacy, was able to leverage UN Trust Fund support to win USAID funding. In Nepal, the Story Kitchen, which implemented the "SAHAS (Courage) for Justice" project in five districts and enabled 94 women survivors of conflict-related violence to share their stories, was awarded a grant to scale up a similar

project by the Governance Facility, a new initiative agreed between the Government of Nepal and the Embassies of Denmark and Switzerland and the United Kingdom Department for International Development.



95 PER CENT of respondents were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with their experience as a UN Trust Fund grantee (2%

were "no more or less satisfied than with other donors"; 2% were "not satisfied" due to concern about the Fund's restrictions on certain types of expenditure, such as international travel)



82 PER CENT of respondents said that securing a UN Trust Fund grant will enable their organization to mobilize additional resources for EAW/G projects during or after the grant (2% said no; 16% were unsure)



98 PER CENT of respondents were "very likely" or "likely" to recommend the UN Trust Fund as a source of potential funding

for other organizations working in the same field (1% were "no more or less likely than other source of finance"; 1% were "unlikely")

The Value of Evaluation: Guatemala Case Study

The UN Trust Fund supported a project implemented by the Fundacio Sida i Societat (FSiS) in Guatemala to prevent and reduce sexual violence against women sex workers in three key locations in Escuintla. FSiS has managed to secure additional funding to continue beyond the end of the grant and the initiative, called SAIRES (Sistema Articulado de Referencia Interinstitucional de Escuintla), a multisectoral referral mechanism, is expected to be rolled out nationally. An external evaluation showed not only the exceptional success of this initiative, but also reinforced some of the lessons learned about key factors in success; namely, a collaborative bottom-up approach to project design and a focus on forging strategic alliances to ensure sustainability beyond the life of the project.

The evaluation found that whereas at the start of the project, 54 per cent of women in the target group felt they had the necessary knowledge and confidence to report sexual violence, by the end of 2016/beginning of 2017, this had risen to almost 100 per cent. The project aimed to reach 750 women. In fact, nearly three times that number (2,165 women) benefitted from various project activities such as discussions, capacity-building workshops, support in dealing with officialdom to obtain identity documents, and face-to-face advice sessions. The project also reached 2,326 potential male clients via its capacity-building efforts, face-to-face engagement and HIV testing.

As part of the project, FSiS strengthened the multisectoral referral mechanism in Escuintla, creating a coordination and inter-institutional

care plan. A cooperation agreement was formalized with the authorities to implement SAIRES and 1,495 cases were recorded, referred and assisted in line with improved protocols and routes to services using SAIRES.

These results would not have been possible without exemplary and ongoing monitoring and evaluation, which enabled FSiS to develop an effective exit plan that ensures the sustainability of the successes achieved.

A major achievement towards establishing a coordinated interagency response was the establishment of referral routes. These routes were conceptualized and validated by those responsible for the care at each of the established steps and set out the roles and responsibilities of each of the service providers.



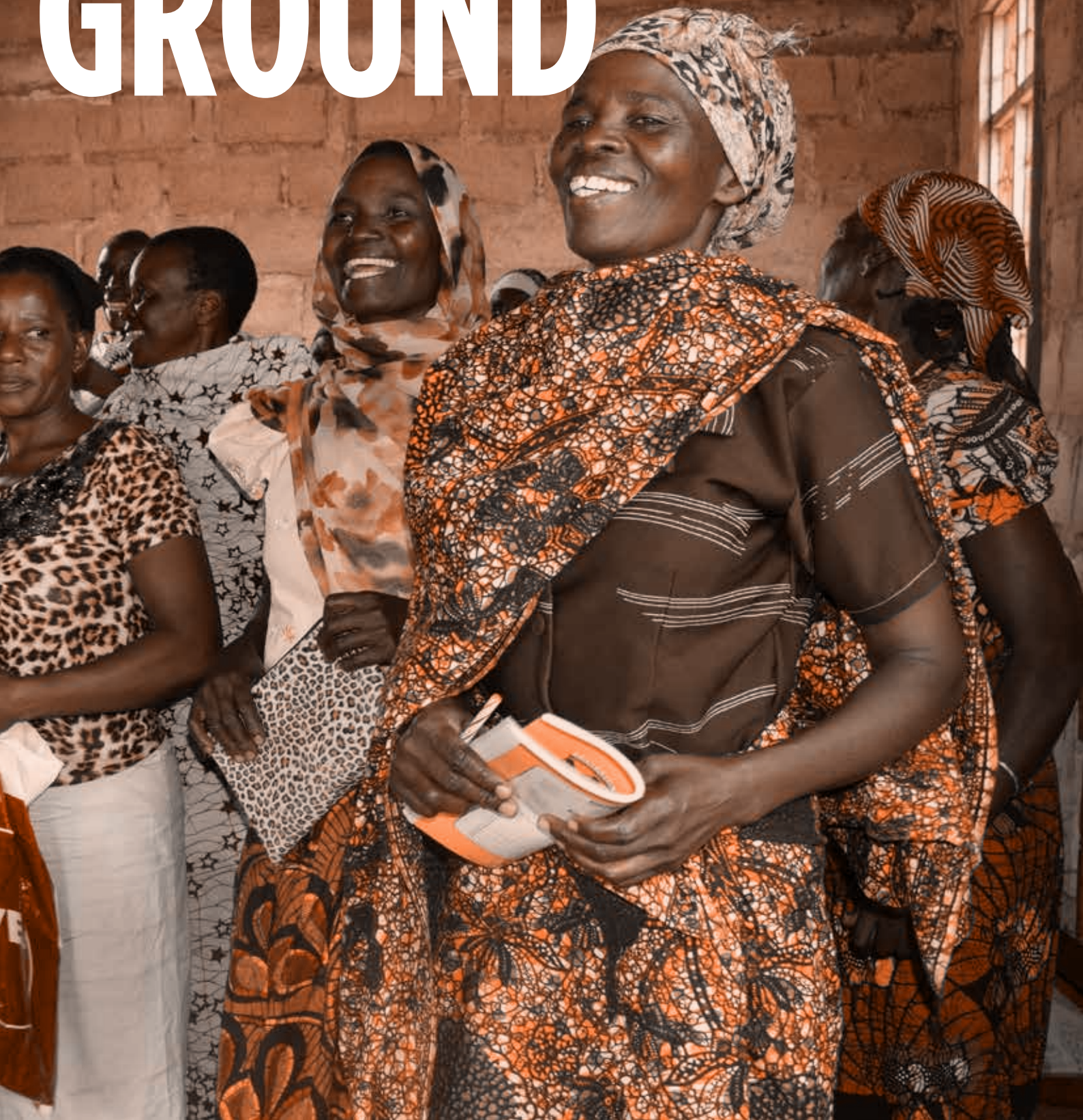
FSiS multisectoral referral network meeting held in Escuintla, Guatemala. Photo: UNWomen/UN Trust Fund: Mildred Garcia

GRANT GIVING = RESULTS ON THE



Participants in UN Trust Fund
grantee AMREF in Tanzania
working to eradicate Female
Genital Mutilation. Photo:
UN Women/UN Trust Fund:
Gemma Wood

GROUND



A training session for counselors working with the Psycho Social Counseling Center for Women held in Ramallah, State of Palestine, which also focused on the self care and wellbeing for professionals.
Photo: Psycho Social Counseling Center for Women/Raeda Ameerah



PREVENTION



Preventing violence against women and girls is a key element in most of the projects funded by the UN Trust Fund. Early intervention at a time when social attitudes are being formed is especially important for effecting change and many grantees implemented projects that focus on schools, educational settings and youth organizations.

ARMENIA

In **Armenia**, Societies without Violence worked to improve the educational aspect of the country's first National Action Plan to Combat Gender-Based Violence. The project achieved several crucial milestones:

- A training module on gender equality was produced in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science, the National Institute of Education, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Women's Resource Centre. This is now used by the National Institute of Education for training teachers.
- 10,000 social science teachers received gender-based education training from the National Institute of Education.
- A guidebook – *Woman and Man: Different, but Equal* – was published and approved by the Ministry of Education and Science. As of 2016, the guidebook had been distributed to 1,358 public schools across Armenia
- A series of two-day, skills-building trainings on gender and gender-based violence was delivered for approximately 100 social science teachers from Lori, based on the module and the guidebook.
- A comparative study was conducted which identified significant changes in attitudes between the start and the end of the project. For example, the proportion of people surveyed who said they believed intimate partner violence was a private issue fell from 66 per cent to 57 per cent.

“This book inspired students to spread equality.”

“Raised students’ awareness about their rights.”

“Boys have started to refer to girls as equals.”

—Teachers’ feedback on a guidebook produced as part a project implemented by Societies without Violence in Armenia

BANGLADESH

In **Bangladesh**, Nari Progati Sangha, a local women's organization, is working with 80 secondary schools in four districts to challenge harmful norms and attitudes that condone and promote violence against women. By the end of the project, 95 per cent of students in all the targeted schools had attended awareness-raising sessions, which are having a life-changing impact on students. Other activities implemented by the grantee included Skills Camps focusing on self-defence which were attended by 160 young people. These were so popular that schools have decided they will continue beyond the end of the project.

MONGOLIA

The Mongolian Women's Fund is working with Local Councils in **Mongolia's** Dornod Province and Baganuur District on awareness-

raising programmes in schools. The training was piloted in four selected schools and this confirmed that the classes were both very much needed and effective, as reflected in an improved understanding of gender-based violence and positive changes in the attitudes of both students and staff. The grantee also managed to secure funding from the municipal government to ensure the sustainable continued implementation of the piloted curriculum.

STATE OF PALESTINE

In the **State of Palestine**, the Community Media Center in Gaza worked to raise awareness of the pervasive nature of violence against women and to put pressure on decision makers to develop policies and procedures to protect women. A total of 114 media stories and reports were produced, 75 of which were published on the Center's website and Facebook page and on

other local news agency websites. Ten awareness-raising workshops were delivered in three governorates in Gaza attended by 449 women and 206 men.

SOUTH AFRICA

In **South Africa** the youth organization Grassroot Soccer implemented a girl-centred project, in coordination with its partners, to foster girls' empowerment and awareness of sexual and reproductive health. From January to December 2016, it engaged 976 boys and 1,010 girls in the Generations SKILLZ programme. Findings from an end-of-project study showed that adolescent girls were less likely to justify violence and more likely to disclose incidents of violence and seek support services when needed. They also showed an increase in knowledge about HIV, violence against women and girls and the community health services available.

“I feel I am a specialized journalist in women issues and violence against women. I helped the local radio in developing the women's issues programme which has a wide number of public listeners.”

—Doaa' Abu Jazar, a woman media graduate who participated in the project. Doaa' has reported that because of this significant experience and the greater knowledge acquired of violence against women and women's rights during the project as well as ongoing support from the Community Media Center, she now has a permanent job in local radio as a programmer specializing in women's issues

Students participating in football coaching and life skills activities at Shree Saraswati Higher Secondary School, Bhotechaur, Nepal as part of the UN Trust Fund-supported Skillshare Nepal project. Photo: Skillshare Nepal/Sujita Sigdel

IMPLEMENTATION OF LAWS, POLICIES AND ACTION PLANS



A key challenge addressed by many grantees is ensuring that states fulfil their obligations to enforce laws and implement fully national action plans and policies to prevent and address violence against women. Around two thirds of applications received every year by the UN Trust Fund seek to ensure effective implementation of laws against violence against women.

NEPAL

Restless Development **Nepal** is implementing its proven direct delivery methodology to provide 4,504 young people in 32 schools in Nepal with knowledge on sexual and reproductive health. These students organized 121 events against Chhaupadi, the harmful traditional practice of segregating menstruating women from their families and communities, which was outlawed by the Nepal Supreme Court in 2005. In addition, community leaders and traditional healers from four districts received training on sexual and reproductive health and six partner civil society organizations received technical assistance on how to mainstream work against Chhaupadi and gender-based violence in their regular programming.

STATE OF PALESTINE

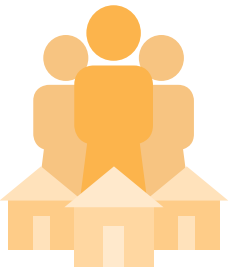
The Psycho Social Counseling Center for Women in the **State of Palestine** implemented a project to eliminate gender-based killings of women due to so-called “family honour”. The grantee began a training programme for government officials from the Ministries of Health and Social Affairs and the police in Hebron and Bethlehem to encourage them to implement the existing National Referral System. Forty workshops in 10 locations were held to raise community understanding of the justice system and how women can increase their access to services. In 2016, the organization referred 1,657 cases of violence against women to the police and services were provided to 5,852 survivors as part of the project.

PERU

In **Peru**, Estudio para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer implemented a project to address impunity for sexual violence through improved application of the new Peruvian Code of Criminal Procedure. The project provided training to 4,721 officials, including judges and prosecutors. The city of Junín has approved a Protocol on the Constitution of a Unified Declaration Procedure for Victims of Sexual Violence, drafted by the grantee. In addition, 627 women leaders from 75 organizations representing 33,700 women received training, of whom 115 initiated proceedings with the authorities.

Training at a police academy as part of the Women's Support Center project in Armenia.
 Photo: Women's Support Center/Nina Kankanyan

ACCESS TO MULTISECTORAL SERVICES



Providing essential, safe and adequate multisectoral services to ensure survivors are protected and reintegrated into their communities is a key pillar of the UN Trust Fund's strategy and an important part of many of the projects it supports. Training for service providers and increasing their understanding and awareness of the needs of survivors are important areas of investment for the UN Trust Fund.

EL SALVADOR

A project implemented by the Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz in **El Salvador**, a country with the highest rate of femicides in the world, is working to improve institutional responses and coordination and to enhance oversight and advocacy skills among local women's and youth organizations. Thanks to the project's intervention, the first report on Violence against Women in El Salvador was published in

2016 by the National Data and Information System on Violence against Women, in coordination with the Ministry of Justice and Public Security and the General Directorate of Statistics and Censuses. This strengthening of existing national data collection mechanisms aims to improve police responses and increase awareness of violence against women in schools and communities.

The project has also provided specialist training for 60 police

officials in 17 municipalities on how to respond more effectively to cases of violence against women and at least 1,000 people have been made aware of the services available to those affected by violence against women and girls. A total of 511 women in three municipalities received treatment using an improved protocol, developed in conjunction with the specialist police unit on violence against women, which requires all police officials to receive specialized training in how to respond to women survivors of violence.

LIBERIA

In **Liberia**, a project implemented by Episcopal Relief and Development, working with Christian, Muslim and inter-faith leaders, has trained six youth faith leaders and facilitators in participatory methods appropriate to the issue of gender-based violence to prepare them for their roles as facilitators. In addition, 30 young people have become members of two national inter-faith coalitions against gender-based violence. School committees were launched in 30 different schools in the two target counties to facilitate discussion on gender-based violence in schools, the National Teacher Code of Conduct and the roles of various stakeholders. The 112 participants [56 per county] included school administrators [county and district education officers and principals],

teachers' representatives, parents, student council leaders, faith leader coalition representatives, representatives from the Ministries of Gender, Internal Affairs and Health at county and district levels; District Commissioners and the police.

MOROCCO

In **Morocco**, Initiatives pour la Protection des Droits des Femmes implemented a comprehensive intervention model to enhance women's access to protection and justice. Over the lifetime of the project, its Batha multifunctional centre in Fez received four times the number of users originally envisaged and provided over 2,049 women and girl survivors of violence with quality psychological counselling, health services and legal assistance. In

2016, at least 54 survivors accessed the economic livelihoods service, including workshops on income generating activities, offered by the Batha centre.

MYANMAR

Action Aid **Myanmar** implemented a comprehensive initiative to improve service delivery in Yangon. The project, which built on a successful work conducted in 2012, put special emphasis on promoting access to justice by providing legal aid services for rural women. Most of the paralegals interviewed reported greater confidence in dealing with cases of violence against women and girls as a result of project training and 196 women benefitted from consultations with paralegals who referred 11 cases to the Legal Clinic Myanmar for further case support.



Interaction on Chhaupadi, a harmful traditional practice in Nepal, with adolescent girls, providing information on nutrition, hygiene, and their rights during their menstruation period. Photo: Restless Development Nepal/ Jagadish Rana, Programme Officer

THEMATIC AREAS



The International Refugee Commission, and its partner the Karenni National Women's Organization, organized a community-based multi-sectoral project that works to end violence against women and supports survivors in one of the many Karenni refugee camps dotted along the Thailand-Myanmar border. Photo: UN Women/ Nuntana Tangwinit

FOCUS ON HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS



Refugees

In 2016 women and girls made up almost half of the world's 244 million migrants and half of the 19.6 million refugees worldwide.⁴ In response to the continuing and intensifying global migrant and refugee crisis, the UN Trust Fund has created a special funding window aimed at supporting

efforts to ensure that issues of violence against women and girls are addressed in the context of this humanitarian crisis and that effective strategies are developed, shared and built upon to contribute to a more sustainable and effective response worldwide.

In 2016, as part of its 20th funding cycle, the UN Trust Fund awarded grants totalling US\$2.5 million to five organizations under this window. Based in Iraq and Jordan, the projects aim to monitor, document and report sexual and gender-based violence against refugee and internally displaced women and girls; raise awareness of these crimes and improve access to support services; provide assistance to Yazidi women and girl survivors of sexual and gender-based violence; empower individual women and engage

multiple stakeholders to create a better environment to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq; and conduct outreach to highly vulnerable and isolated women and girls in Jordan with education about available support services, women's rights and violence prevention.

Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings

Several grantees implemented projects to address the particular needs of women and girl survivors of violence in conflict or post-conflict settings. Projects ranged from multisectoral service provision to access to justice, to information gathering and specialized training for service providers, to working with young people on attitudes to gender and violence.

⁴ See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-refugees-and-migrants#notes>

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, the Panzi Foundation is up-scaling its integrated human rights-based psychosocial, legal and socioeconomic support provision in one-stop centres in two districts. So far, 119 sexual violence survivors have received information on services available at Panzi. They received legal counselling from paralegals and were referred to the Panzi Legal Clinic after the initial legal counselling session. In partnership with Physicians for Human Rights, the programme will also train medical, legal and

psychosocial professionals on the principles of the Panzi model and on the adequate collection of forensic evidence of sexual violence.

BRAZIL/ DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Promundo is implementing a project that builds on its evidence-based experience to prevent violence against girls in the context of high urban violence (**Brazil**) and in conflict-affected settings (the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**). A combined total of more than 3,000 school staff, parents and community members have been reached in

the two countries and over 50 key stakeholders in education policy have been engaged. Working directly with adolescent girls and boys, including those who have experienced or witnessed violence, the project uses group education and counselling to foster critical reflections on their experiences and the adoption of healthy, non-violent attitudes and behaviours. Two Youth Living Peace Manuals were tested and a 16-hour training programme based on the manual is being delivered. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 32 students of clinical psychology and psychologists from local universities have been identified as facilitators.



The President of Timor-Leste together with women survivors of violence from the occupation lay stones for the construction of a monument. Photo: ACBIT

The grantee established Technical Advisory Groups and formed strategic relationships with school and government partners in both country sites. In 2016, in the project launched group education sessions in a total of 14 schools across the two countries, reaching 244 adolescents in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and 137 in Brazil.

TIMOR LESTE

Access to justice is the focus of a project implemented in **Timor Leste** by the Associação Chega Ba Ita (ACBIT) to empower women survivors of sexual violence under the Indonesian occupation (1975–1999) and engage with government officials to articulate survivors' needs. During 2016, ACBIT trained 42 women community facilitators, which included survivors, to lead a Participatory Action Research project. A total of 154 women survivors in all 13 districts of Timor Leste participated and one of the outcomes was a report on policy and programmatic

recommendations to address the persistent issues facing survivors of violence.

CAMBODIA

The achievements of the Victims Support Section of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of **Cambodia** (ECCC) during a previous project funded by the UN Trust Fund showed potential for significant and sustainable impact and the grantee was invited to apply for further funding. The current project, which will run until December 2018, aims to reinforce and enhance gender sensitivity among stakeholders and ensure the meaningful participation of women survivors of gender-based violence in the ECCC's proceedings regarding widespread human rights violations committed by the Khmer Rouge between 1975 and 1979.

Survivors of gender-based violence were given logistical support to participate in the ECCC's hearings and forums. During 2016, 476 civil parties in gender-based violence

cases were invited to participate in hearings at the ECCC and the Victim Support Section helped a further 84 take part in the Pronouncement of the Appeal Judgment issued by Supreme Court Chamber of the ECCC in November 2016. In addition, the project was able to organize a Civil Parties Forum and a Focal Persons Meeting in which reparations were discussed and the ECCC's judicial developments were disseminated.

Psychological support through Testimonial Therapy and community self-help groups confirmed that survivors, individually and as groups, have been effectively helped to cope better with their emotional reactions and improve their wellbeing in terms of sleeping and nightmares. In addition, they were supported in strengthening their communications with other survivors in the groups and communities.

A new component of the project is to connect women survivors with skills training for income generation in recognition of the financial impact such trauma has had on families.

“I never told this to anyone. I feel ashamed, being a woman, mother and wife... but at least I could tell this through the radio programme and I believe that more survivors will come out and tell about their painful experience during the past.”

—Ms Mao Kunthy, from Kampong Cham province, a female survivor of forced marriage under the Khmer Rouge, speaking on a radio programme aired on 13 June 2016

“Before Testimonial Therapy, I saw myself as a sick and a weak person that cannot do anything well. When I have my testimony compiled, I became impressively aware of my own strength and I am very proud of myself for struggling in life and raising 10 children alone. I am happy because my children are highly educated now.”

—Ms Mouny Prang, a 61-year-old survivor of gender-based violence under the Khmer Rouge

The UN Trust Fund grantee Alafia works to eradicate harmful traditional widowhood practices in Togo. Photo: UN Women/ UN Trust Fund: Vesna Jarić



FOCUS ON SMALL, WOMEN-LED ORGANIZATIONS



As part of its Strategic Plan 2015-2020, the UN Trust Fund has committed to taking an active role in the global conversation around financing for work to prevent and end violence against women and girls. The UN Trust Fund's analysis and experience has demonstrated the unique and critically important value of the work of women's civil society organizations operating at the grassroots and national level. Building on this evidence, it established a special window for small organizations and places a strong focus on accompanying organizations as they work to further develop their capacities and skills to access bilateral funding and up-scale their programmes.

In 2016 grants amounting to US\$1.25 million were awarded in the form of small grants (less than US\$125,000) to small organizations with annual operational budgets below US\$200,000. The following examples highlight just some of the projects being implemented with small grants from the UN Trust Fund in Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Tajikistan and Togo.

SERBIA

A project implemented by the Association of Women Sandglass in **Serbia** worked to strengthen prevention and response services in Rasina county, one of the most underdeveloped districts in the country. In the first half of 2016, 75 new women survivors of violence called Sandglass' SOS Hotline and accessed support services from partner organizations. Beneficiaries reported that they felt more empowered after turning to Sandglass and that the organization had provided them with essential information that they could trust. Roma beneficiaries also reported that they felt safer, better informed about their rights and more empowered to demand them. The grantee provided essential services to 13 new Roma women, twice the 2015 number. Training has also been provided to 16 counsellors and nine activists working to support women in situations of violence.

TAJIKISTAN

Najoti kudakon, which runs the only shelter for women survivors of violence in **Tajikistan**, is working to improve access to services for rural women in the mountainous Kulob region. In the project coverage areas, 135 women, 61 of whom are survivors of domestic violence, completed training to acquire the skills to assist other women. The project supported the establishment of 12 women's support groups in villages in the Kulob region, which became referral mechanisms to the shelter and other essential services provided by Najoti Kudakon. During the first year of implementation, 51 survivors were referred to support and legal services, 38 of whom had experienced domestic violence.

TOGO

In **Togo**, Alafia, a small, young and committed organization, is working to eradicate harmful traditional widowhood practices that increase the risk of HIV infection. Although a 2012 law grants widows the right to refuse such practices, most communities are not aware of this law and the practice remains widespread, especially in rural areas. Between March and April 2016, two capacity-building workshops were organized across 24 villages involving 1,960 community leaders and village chiefs, of whom 1,193 were women. By the end of these workshops, 95 per cent of village chiefs and 90 per cent of community leaders demonstrated better knowledge and understanding about women's rights and committed to continue sensitizing their peers to help eradicate this harmful traditional practice.



A meeting of a women's support group established by UN Trust Fund grantee Najoti kudakon in Tajikistan. Photo: Najoti kudakon/ Kurbangul Kosimova

Success Story: Kyrgyzstan

In Kyrgyzstan, a UN Trust Fund grant helped the National Federation of Female Communities of Kyrgyzstan (NFFCK) develop the operational concept of the School of Life Without Violence (SLWV) Programme to teach girls living in rural areas vital skills to prevent and respond to threats of violence in the family, school and society.

4,275
Beneficiaries
reached in two
communities

1,930
Girls

1,375
Boys

970
Parents, teachers,
local authorities
and other community members

More than 72 per cent of the 130 boys interviewed noted that the SLWV programme has made it possible for girls to live without violence and increased the potential to enjoy their human rights.

“The project has changed the lives of the girls in our school. Many of them not only became activists in the life of our school and municipality, but became leaders of the movement for the rights of girls throughout the country.”

—Staff member at the Alybaev school, Otogon village, Kyrgyzstan

“The programme SLWV, changed my destiny. After attending the seminar, my father began to communicate with me. I used to talk through my brother. I was afraid that I, as well as my sister, would be married at the age of 16... My father promised that I would study. Mom is also happy for me. I'm happy!”

—Fifteen-year-old girl who participated in the SLWV programme

“We can see how consciousness, awareness and behaviour of our girls and boys are changing before our very eyes after taking the course.”

—One of the boys interviewed

A survey reflected this assessment of the positive impact of the programme in the target communities.



MORE THAN 93 PER CENT of the girl respondents indicated that the programme met their needs, helping them to understand their rights, increasing their confidence and self-esteem, and imparting skills that helped them prevent and respond to violence.



MORE THAN 87 PER CENT of the boy respondents noted the relevance of the programme for them, helping them to abandon patriarchal attitudes and reject violence against girls.



MORE THAN 28 PER CENT of the girl respondents noted that the programme had expanded their opportunities to develop leadership, public speaking, coaching, acting and artistic skills.



MORE THAN 72 PER CENT of the parents and relatives of girls who participated in the programme acknowledged its relevance for their family. They reported that they began to openly discuss the issue of violence and were better placed to prevent violence in the family in a timely manner. The programme has become important and relevant for the eradication of violence not only for girls, but for all members of the family.



MORE THAN 91 PER CENT of adult respondents from local government, community structures and community leaders noted that the programme was effective in helping develop a new generation of activists in the women's movement, promoting the rights of girls and women.



A young girl participates in a UN Trust Fund project implemented by NFFCK to end bride kidnapping and early marriage in Kyrgyzstan.

Photo: NFFCK/Kyrgyzstan



A workshop on violence against lesbian and transgender women in Thailand as part of the grantee Rainbow Sky's project to end violence against LBT women. Photo: Rainbow Sky/Thipupsorn Sasi

FOCUS ON UNDERSERVED GROUPS



The UN Trust Fund is investing more than US\$22 million to support underserved and marginalized women and girls to ensure that no one is left behind. Among the groups benefitting from these grants are migrants and refugees; women with disabilities; Indigenous women; domestic workers; women sex workers; women living with HIV; lesbian, bisexual and transgender women; and elderly women.

ALBANIA

In **Albania**, the Alliance Against LGBT Discrimination implemented a project to improve the quality of response services available for lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LBT) women experiencing violence. Initially, the project focused on research, analysis, training and raising awareness throughout the

country, and published the first-ever nationwide research on discrimination and violence targeting LBT people and the gaps in institutional responses. The grantee conducted its research through a participatory methodology involving local stakeholders and national public institutions to increase the level of ownership and ensure that the findings would be acted on. The project included a nationwide

awareness-raising campaign and was implemented in six regions: Tirana, Shkodra, Vloora, Elbasan, Pogradec and Diber where it reached 2,540 women and girls. It improved the delivery of specialized services for LBT women in five cities by increasing the capacities of local women's NGOs to better recognize and respond to cases of violence among the LBT community.

“I would consider a success the fact that thanks to this programme people contact us about special cases when LBT victims of violence need help, without contacting their family who often do not accept them or kick lesbians or transgender people out of their family houses.”

—Ana, 25, social worker, Vlora

[AALGBT, Albania, Ending violence against LBT Women]

“In the past, my husband treated me badly, he did whatever he wanted to me and treated me like an animal. Because I was so afraid of him, I endured all of this. Since I didn’t know about the laws and what they meant, I put up with everything he did to me. When WJI arrived in my village and invited us to join the programme, I went and I learned that we could do something against everything that they do to us, against the violence that they exert on us women.”

—Claudia Aju, Xeatzan Bajo

[WJI, Guatemala, Ending violence against Indigenous women]

MAURITANIA

In **Mauritania**, UN Trust Fund grantee SOS-Eslaves supported 44 women and children survivors of slavery. The project also delivered two workshops on female leadership training and monthly sensitization meetings led by women mentors. More than 1,260 people, the majority of them women, attended these meetings. The National Coordinator of SOS-Eslaves attended the eighth session of the United Nations Forum on Minority Issues in Geneva and gave a presentation on the systematic discrimination faced by Haratine and Afro-Mauritanians in the criminal justice system in Mauritania. SOS-Eslaves secured the convictions of two slave owners from a very influential and powerful tribe – the first-ever convictions by the country's special courts for slavery.

ZIMBABWE

The Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust is implementing a project in eight districts in **Zimbabwe** to improve access to

justice for girls and women with disabilities who experience gender-based violence.

During 2016, 141 survivors were given practical assistance to access services. They included 95 survivors with mental disabilities, 29 survivors who have hearing or speech impairments, three survivors with physical disabilities and two blind or visually impaired survivors. Most people are referred to the project when the police and courts either request disability expert services or logistical support.

In 2016, workshops and sessions were held with judicial officials, police officers, health personnel and women's and children's organizations to sensitize them on how different disabilities put girls and women at higher risk of gender-based violence. The workshops also highlighted legal, attitudinal, cost and environmental barriers that hinder survivors with disabilities from accessing services. As a result of these workshops, there have been notable changes in

attitudes and skills among justice actors in Zimbabwe. For example, 32 Victim Family Unit officers who were trained on sign language now have basic skills in communicating with Deaf or hearing and speech impaired people. The feedback from survivors with disabilities, caregivers and stakeholders confirms that the project has brought the issues of violence against girls and women with disabilities to the public's attention and greatly empowered survivors to stand up for themselves.

It is also encouraging to note that local authorities, in project districts have responded positively to the need to support and involve girls and women with disabilities in their areas of jurisdiction. For instance, in Gwanda District, the Rural District Council has employed two women with disabilities in their maintenance department while in Chikomba District the council conducted budget consultations through the established support groups and the Leonard Cheshire Disability Trust was invited to facilitate the process.



Community awareness campaigns were held in the Chikomba District, Zimbabwe in order to end violence against women and girls with disabilities. In attendance were community members, girls and women with disabilities, caregivers and community leaders. Photo: Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust / Christabel Nyakanyanga

Jamaica

Jamaica AIDS Support for Life (JASL) is the only NGO providing clinical services to people living with HIV and other key populations in the country and has consistently been part of the best practices submission to the Global AIDS Response Report. An external evaluation at the end of the project found that it had vastly exceeded expectations in a number of areas. While numbers cannot tell the whole story of the very real improvements in the lives of women living with HIV affected by violence, the findings of the final survey are nevertheless striking. The following gives a flavour of the measure of success achieved over the project as a whole.

5,901

beneficiaries were reached,
more than four times the original target.

2,102

people accessed services,
more than three times the original target.

8,143

primary and secondary
beneficiaries were reached
through the project, including members of civil
society organizations [20], members of the
judiciary [36] and law enforcement officials [58].

328,550

indirect beneficiaries were reached
through media campaigns [TV, radio and print].

98%

of primary beneficiaries surveyed
indicated that they were satisfied
with the services provided by JASL.

97%

of beneficiaries surveyed
reported that they intended to apply the knowledge
and skills gained from the training to better respond
to HIV and violence against women and girls.

89%

of people surveyed

said that they had benefitted from access to JASL's
expanded services, including in terms of access to
doctors, receiving medication, personal development,
training and information on violence against women.

89%

of primary beneficiaries surveyed

rated the services provided by service providers at
JASL as being "above average" or excellent.

79%

reported that they are provided
with better options

as a result of the expanded services approach
and 56 per cent referred to the facility as a "one-
stop" shop to access several types of services that
catered to the entire individual.

78% and 77%

respectively indicated


that JASL staff were warm and friendly and
knowledgeable and professional.

The number of women with an HIV positive
status who said they were

experiencing good health rose by

32.4%

between the start and the end of the project.



Staff and volunteers of SOAR Initiative during a community mapping visit to identify potential partners in Wumba Community to assist SOAR in the UN Trust Fund-supported project which will address sexual violence against girls in the community. Wumba, Nigeria

Photo: SOAR Initiative

LOOKING TO THE

The results highlighted in this report underscore the UN Trust Fund's unique position as a global driver for the evaluation and assessment of effective strategies and methodologies for ending and preventing violence against women and girls.

THE UN TRUST FUND IS HELPING IDENTIFY AND SUPPORT GOOD PRACTICES THE WORLD OVER, AN INVALUABLE RESOURCE WHICH IT IS COMMITTED TO EXPANDING AND STRENGTHENING, BOTH IN TERMS OF CONTENT AND DISSEMINATION.

A key ongoing challenge is to encourage and support governments to meet the standard of due diligence and ensure that they fulfill their obligations to enforce laws and implement and allocate adequate resources for national action plans and policies to prevent and address



FUTURE

all forms of violence against all women and girls. At the heart of the UN Trust Fund's work is a vision of sustainable development and the aim of changing the funding model relationship from a "donor dependent" one towards creating sustainable national programmes of work embedded into broader State institutional responses.

The ethical imperative to ensure that "no one is left behind" at the core of the Sustainable Development Agenda will continue to inform the priorities of the UN Trust Fund. This underpins a continued and strengthened investment in current thematic focus areas, namely: funding projects to address

the needs of women and girls facing violence in a humanitarian context, funding small women-led organizations involved in grass-roots projects and a focus on certain specific underserved groups of women and girls.

As part of its investment in projects for underserved groups of women and girls, the UN Trust Fund will seek to highlight the needs of women and girls with disabilities. In June 2016, women and girls with disabilities took part in a series of events in New York around the Conference of State Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The aim of these events was to highlight the crucial importance

of ensuring the participation of women with disabilities in efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They provided an important focus for discussions among stakeholders about how obstacles to effective participation can be overcome. For its part, the UN Trust Fund has committed to opening a thematic window for funding organizations working to prevent and end violence against women with disabilities in 2017. This will help ensure that best practices and lessons learned are effectively garnered in order to enhance future projects in this area.

The UN Trust Fund will continue to strive to assist policymakers and law changers to be both pro-active and responsive in advancing the realization of women's human rights, working fully in partnership with Member States, the UN System and civil society organizations.

The UN Trust Fund remains committed to identifying, through careful and consistent evaluation, effective methodologies and practices that generate sustainable change in the lives of women and girls who are at risk of or have experienced violence. Its extensive experience, expertise and reputation mean the UN Trust Fund is uniquely placed to support creative, innovative and transformational projects to address and end violence against women and girls.

Advocating effectively for sustainable financing for the many inspirational projects that can make a real change to the lives of women and girls around the world is a great responsibility – and one that the UN Trust Fund – with the support of its partners and donors – is determined to fulfill.

Aiming for Best Practices: Raising Voices Case Study

A firm focus on identifying, sharing and scaling up good practices is central to the UN Trust Fund's strategic investment in the next generation of projects. For example, from 2010 to 2012, the UN Trust Fund supported Raising Voices' first cohort of organizations across Eastern and Southern Africa to up-scale SASA!, a community mobilization methodology to prevent violence against women and HIV infection.

A randomized controlled trial conducted in Kampala demonstrated the effectiveness of SASA! and organizations, funding agencies, governments, United Nations agencies, faith-based groups and others are setting policy, earmarking funding and implementing SASA! in communities across sub-Saharan Africa and beyond.

Replicating and up-scaling best practices is the focus of a new cross-regional project of Raising Voices which is funded by the

UN Trust Fund from 2016-2019. This new project will enable Raising Voices to systematically study the challenges and struggles that groups implementing SASA! have experienced in order to propose clear guidelines to overcome them. Raising Voices has teamed up with the University of California, San Diego, to collaborate with four partner organizations in rural Tanzania, refugee camps in Kenya, a Caribbean community in Haiti and a refugee and IDP camp in Iraq.



Men participating in a poster discussion on SASA! from Raising Voices in order to change mindsets and prevent violence against women and HIV infection. Photo: Raising Voices

UN Trust Fund grantees said:

“The organization has been able to utilize the UN Trust Fund grant to scale up our work and to mobilize other resources from the Australian Government to reach more women.”

“With the support and help of the UN Trust Fund in terms of results-based project management we expect to achieve our results with even more beneficiaries than expected.”

“I will recommend [the UN Trust Fund] as a source of funding because of the possibility of learning through cooperation particularly about monitoring and evaluation.”

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF 2016 FUNDS ALLOCATED:

29%

Africa

26%

Arab States
& North
Africa

24%

Asia & the
Pacific

14%

Latin
America
& the
Caribbean

7%

Europe &
Central
Asia

Students participating in a session on preventing violence against women and girls at a school in Mongolia. Photo: MONES



Caption: Journalist and Reporter Ann Curry interviews UN Trust Fund grantees Tommy Clark, Grassroot Soccer, and Aiturgan Dzholdosbekova, NFFCK, Kyrgyzstan at the UN Trust Fund 20th anniversary Gala dinner. Photo: UN Women/ Ryan Brown

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

The UN Trust Fund is grateful to our partners for their generous support which enables us to pursue our mission and work towards a world free of violence against women and girls.

As of December 2016, the Governments of the following countries had contributed to the UN Trust Fund's 20th grant-making cycle:

Australia
Austria
Germany
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Kazakhstan

Liechtenstein
The Netherlands
Switzerland
Trinidad and Tobago
The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Support was further received from:

The UN Women National Committees of Finland, Iceland, Japan, Singapore, and the United States

The Swedish Postcode Lottery Foundation

UN Women for Peace Association

Our private sector partners:

Avon Products, Inc., the Harbers Foundation, Soko, Verizon, 3M Inc., and the Perry Foundation

Special thanks to UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman for her ongoing support of the UN Trust Fund and helping make our 20th anniversary Gala dinner a memorable event.

FURTHER THANKS GO TO:

Emcee: **Richard Lui**, *Journalist, MSNBC/NBC News*

Christine Andreas, *Musician*

Jayna Brown, *Musician*

Ann Curry, *Journalist, Reporter*

Nehassaiu deGannes, *Actress*

Honorary Host Committee

Gillian Anderson, *Actress*

Juju Chang, *Journalist, ABC News*

Ann Curry, *Journalist*

Danai Gurira, *Actress and playwright*

Mariska Hargitay, *Actress and advocate*

Kelly Le Brock, *Actress and advocate*

Richard Lui, *Journalist, MSNBC/NBC News*

Kweku Mandela, *Philanthropist/social advocate*

Pat Mitchell, *Activist for women and girls*

Scott Seydel, *U.S. Board, Ellen MacArthur Foundation*

Sir Patrick Stewart, *Actor and activist*

Meredith Vieira, *Host/executive producer*

Fran Weissler, *Broadway producer*

Ruth Wilson, *Actress*

Benefit Committee

Donnetta Campbell

Dana Conroy

AnneMarie Kane

Elise Knutsson

Cindy Warner

Samantha Witters

London College of Fashion

Frances Corner, Head of London College of Fashion and Pro Vice-Chancellor of University of the Arts London, and her amazing team.

Students in the college of Communication at LCF who designed the Orange Label:

Betty Chen

Cristina Mazzoni

Alex Syniukov

The Generalists

Reeme Idris and Zapher Idris for all of their in kind support.

“I am not afraid [of bride kidnapping] because now I know my rights. I know if someone kidnaps me, they are violating the law and I can appeal to the court. It is important that girls know their rights. I want us all to be feminists and work together to stop violence against women and girls.”

—Aiturgan Dzholdoshbekova, beneficiary of NFFCK, Kyrgyzstan

**“I will never go back
to the period when
I feared attending
my business.”**

—Evah Kakobe, vendor at
Mchikichini market, Illala district,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



220 East 42nd Street
New York, NY, 10017, USA
@UNTrustFundEVAW | #UNTF
www.untf.unwomen.org



Planet 50-50 by 2030
Step It Up for Gender Equality