



UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND TO  
**END VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN**



**ANNUAL REPORT 2014**

**“Previously, I was afraid to stand out  
of the crowd and wouldn’t dare  
to speak up.**

**But later, I got more confidence and am  
now able to discuss issues of violence  
without hesitation... I also educate young  
men in my community...**

**I organize regular committee meetings  
once a month and  
share my knowledge on violence, give  
advice and guide them  
as much as I can.”**

**Ma San San Yee,**

aged 23, community paralegal, Chaung Bawe Village, Rambre Township, Rakhine, Myanmar, on the impact of her involvement in a programme to increase access to justice in rural areas supported by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and implemented by Action Aid

The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women was created by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996 as a testament to the commitment of UN Member States to implement their legal and policy promises to end violence against women and girls. It is the *only* global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that is dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls. This report describes the impact and key achievements of the Fund in 2014.

Cover Photo: © Jaco Roets  
Girls' soccer team during an Intergenerational Tournament, November 2014, South Africa

In 2014, my Team and I undertook extensive monitoring missions to 13 countries in order to validate the results and effectiveness of UNTF-supported programmes. We visited seven grantees in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (in Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine); seven in Asia (in Cambodia, China and Thailand); four in Africa (in Nigeria and Uganda); and two in the Caribbean (in Belize and Grenada). During those visits we had the privilege of meeting a number of women, girls, men and boys who are directly and indirectly benefitting from our grants and who are the key drivers of change at local and/or national levels. And, as with all of our monitoring missions, we learned so much about them and from them.

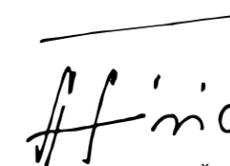
In Turkey, we met fathers who had responded to a call to take part in carefully developed family-focused programmes. Implemented by their children’s teachers, these initiatives build their knowledge and are helping to change attitudes about gender equality and different forms of violence against women and girls. In Thailand, we met community leaders who are building relationships between their community and service providers for survivors of domestic violence. In Serbia, we met a district attorney who is leading the work of a multisectoral group of service providers set up to ensure immediate access not only to the criminal justice system, but to legal, health and social welfare services.

All of our visits had two things in common: the wonderful hospitality of our grantees who went out of their way to show us their work, its results and lessons learned and, on the other hand, the bleak reality of the profound and widespread need to address this global pandemic and human rights violation.

Our Annual Report is coming to you at a critical crossroads for future efforts to prevent and end violence against women and girls. The decisions made now will set our direction for years to come. Current discussions about the Sustainable Development Goals provide a decisive opportunity to reposition the issue of violence against women and girls and ensure that it is placed at the centre of the new development agenda at all levels. However, for the commitments governments make to be transformed into real change in the lives of women and girls, they must be matched with an ambitious and robust financing package. Opportunities in the coming months could prove pivotal for reversing the trend of chronic underinvestment in initiatives to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

Our Fund is ready to meet the challenges and opportunities presented at this crossroads with determination and ambition. We will continue to support the implementation of national and international commitments so that they are translated into a real change. Consistent and trailblazing, the Fund has been investing in successful programmes for almost 20 years. Based on that unique body of experience, we believe that contributions to enable implementation of these programmes must go up dramatically. Therefore, our Annual Report is more than an account of our work and results in 2014: it is a witness to what can be achieved in a relatively short period of time and a direct call for an increase in global and national contributions for the work to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

Expectations are high and rightly so. They are founded in a conviction that human rights belong to all and in a shared vision of a world free of violence against women and girls. They are guided by collectively agreed promises and the voices of victims and survivors.



**Aldijana Šišić**

*Chief, UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women*

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# OVERVIEW

Every year the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTF) raises and distributes funds to support the ultimate goal of preventing and ending violence against women and girls.

## TRANSFORMING LIVES

Since its inception in 1996, the UNTF has responded to evolving challenges and opportunities, adapting its strategies to ensure its work has maximum impact. The landscape facing organizations and key stakeholders seeking to prevent and/or respond to violence against women and girls has changed considerably since the UNTF was created. While the challenges remain great, that should not overshadow the significant progress that has been made in that time in putting violence against women and girls squarely on the global political agenda and in furthering gender equality.

We are now at a critical juncture for the future of efforts to end violence against women and girls. The setting of the post-2015 development agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is a unique opportunity to ensure ending violence against women and girls is put unequivocally at the centre of development plans and programmes. The UNTF is more determined than ever to turn public commitments by leaders into real improvements in the lives of women and girls. And we believe as the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism dedicated to addressing violence against women and girls, we are ideally placed to drive forward efforts to make the promise of the SDGs a reality for women and girls the world over.

Growing international recognition of the UNTF as an important source of support to local and national organizations has led to an increase in the number and variety of proposals for funding received, as well as an increase in funds received by the UNTF from its donors.



© Trinh Thi An Binh  
A teacher and parent take part in a game during a school event for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Co Loa Secondary school, Viet Nam.

In 2014, the UNTF awarded grants worth US\$8.26 million to projects aimed at preventing and addressing violence against women and girls. The 25 new grantees, spread over 23 countries and territories around the world, include 22 civil society organizations, two governments (Kyrgyzstan and the Marshall Islands) and a United Nations Country Team (Solomon Islands). By the end of 2018, the impact of these grants is expected to reach more than 730,000 primary beneficiaries. Grants amounting to 8 per cent of the total (US\$700,000) were awarded to eight small organizations (those requesting less than US\$100,000) as part of the UNTF's new strategy to increase funding and capacity development support for smaller grass-roots organizations.

The total awarded in grants represents a fraction of the requests for funding received. In 2014, the UNTF received 2,098 applications from 147 countries. Most applications were from civil society organizations and the total funding requested was more than US\$788 million.

In 2014, the UNTF was supporting 95 projects in 75 countries and territories worldwide with grants totalling over US\$56 million.

**By the end of 2018, the impact of these grants is expected to reach more than 730,000 primary beneficiaries.**

# REACH AND IMPACT IN 2014



**22 million**

More than 22 million people were strategically reached by UNTF-supported programmes through awareness-raising, social media campaigns, radio and TV shows, theatre and other forms of education-entertainment (edutainment).



**90,000**

Almost 90,000 survivors of violence were involved in the programme activities of UNTF grantees.



**1 million**

1 million primary and secondary beneficiaries benefited from the work of UNTF grantees.



**200,000**

200,000 men and boys were engaged in UNTF-supported programmes.

In 2014,  
the UNTF was supporting

**95**

PROJECTS

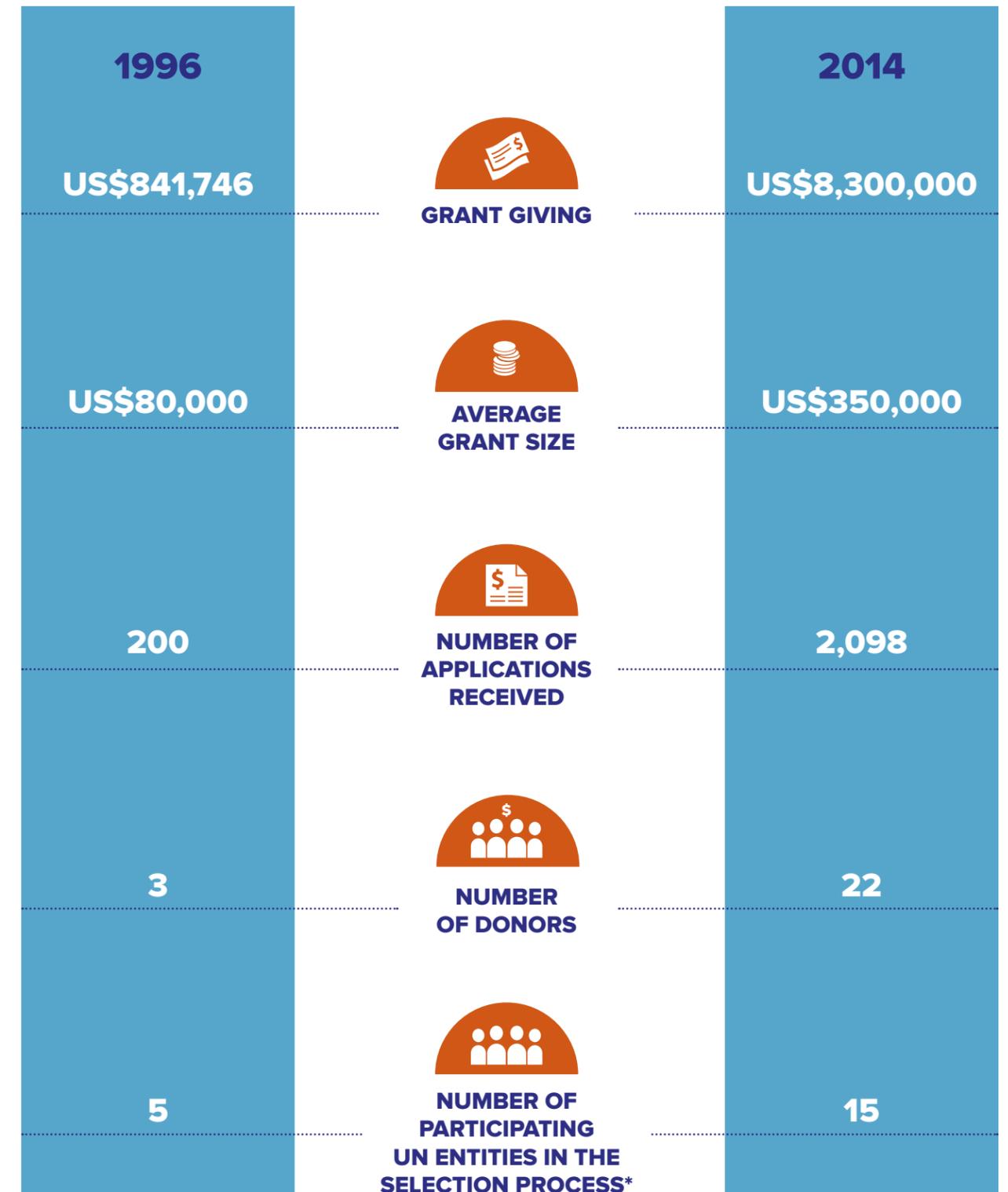
**75**

COUNTRIES  
AND TERRITORIES

**56**

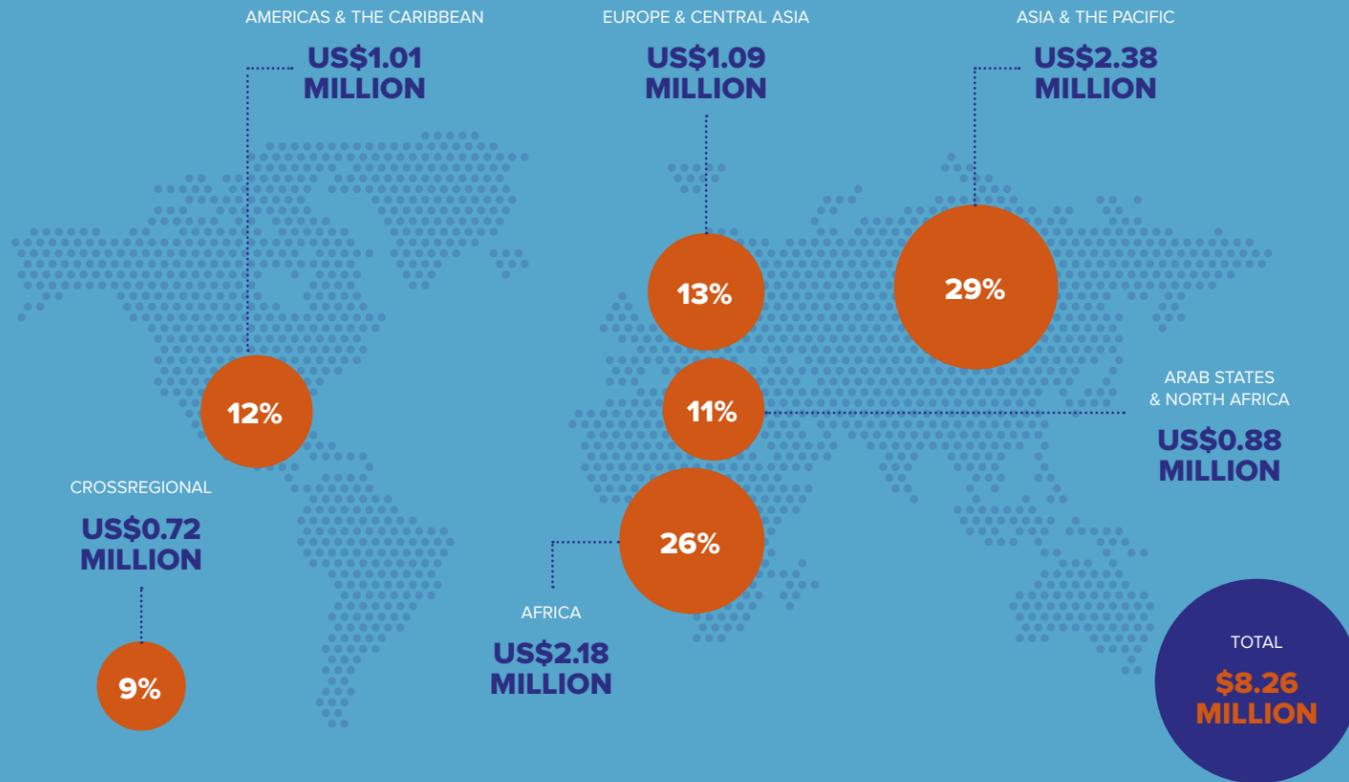
US\$ MILLION  
TOTAL IN GRANTS

**UNTF 1996-2014**

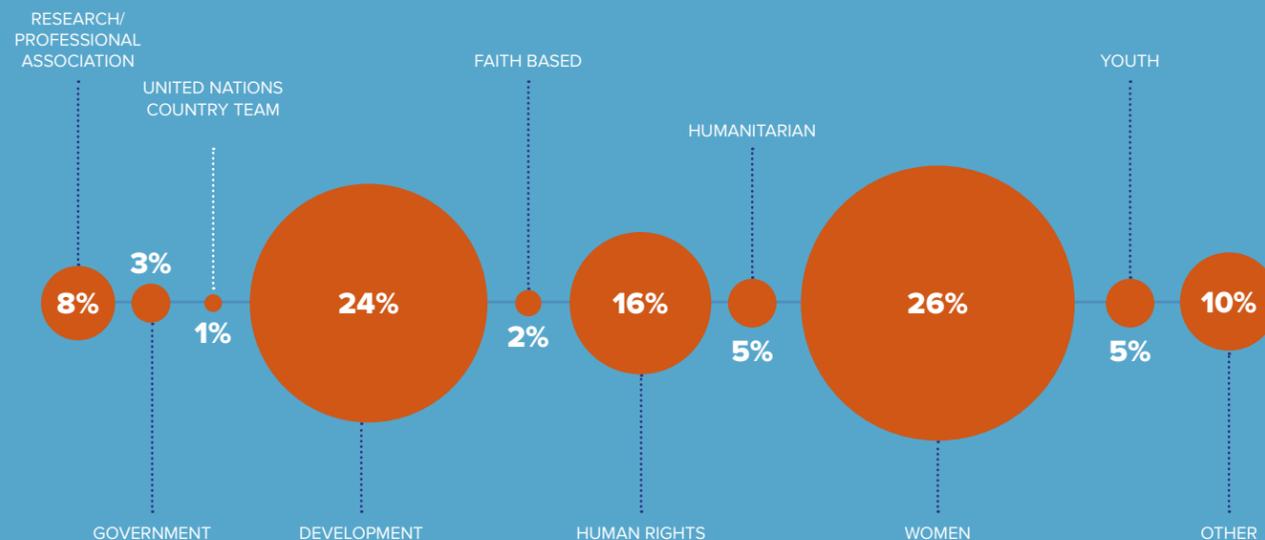


\* UN agencies participating in the UNTF's Programme Advisory Committee (PAC)

## UNTF grants awarded in 2014 by Region



## Breakdown of applications received in 2014 by type of organization



## DRIVING CHANGE

**The involvement of numerous United Nations agencies in its Programme Advisory Committee allows the UNTF to harness a vast wealth of knowledge and expertise across a range of relevant issues, sectors and perspectives. Alongside non-governmental organizations and other experts, more than 20 United Nations agencies have been involved in grant-making approval processes, playing a vital role in driving forward collective United Nations efforts to engage the wider community in working to prevent and end violence against women and girls.**

During 2014, the Fund continued to make important progress in strengthening its focus on monitoring and evaluation. The sustainability both of the programmes themselves and of the improvements in the lives of women and girls that they bring about are key criteria for the UNTF in assessing long-term impact. This in turn calls for building capacity among grantees to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of initiatives and methodologies and their potential for sustainability beyond the life of the grant.

## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

**“The workshop was very useful in terms of making our knowledge more systematic and helped me and our organization to take another look at our project and improve it.”**

**“This workshop helped us, not only to better prepare for the UNTF project but it helped us to strengthen our organization in general and especially project designing and monitoring and evaluation.”**

Participants' evaluations of the Capacity Development Workshop 2014

The Trust Fund's annual capacity-building workshop for new grantees took place in Istanbul, Turkey, this year. Thirty-four people from 17 organizations attended this key event in March. The overall purpose of the workshop is for the grantees to gain a global overview of evidence-based programming on ending violence against women and to enhance

their capacities in the areas of results-based monitoring and evaluation so that they can implement, monitor, report and evaluate their projects more effectively. The aim of bringing the grantees from the same grant-making cycle together is to enable participants to learn from each other by sharing their lessons and good practices.

# INTRODUCTION

**The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTF) plays a vital role in driving forward collective efforts that engage the wider community – women and men, girls and boys - with the ultimate aim of eradicating violence against women and girls.**

Since its creation, the UNTF has supported national, regional and cross-regional initiatives to prevent, address, respond to and, with persistence, eliminate this global pandemic. To date, it has awarded US\$103 million to 393 initiatives in 136 countries and territories.

The UNTF is administered by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on behalf of the United Nations System which provides the Fund with a strong institutional foundation and field support through its regional, multi-country and country offices. The Fund supports the work of UN Women to prevent and address violence against women and girls and works closely with the rest of the United Nations System through the members of its Programme Advisory Committee (PAC).<sup>1</sup> The UNTF works in synergy with United Nations agencies and entities, ensuring that its work integrates the Framework for Action of the United Nations Secretary-General's campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women.

The financial contributions and political support of a range of partners are critical to the UNTF's effectiveness. In 2014, the UNTF was able to increase its overall resources for grant making significantly and meet its target of raising US\$15 million. A key factor in its success in forging and sustaining these partnerships has been the commitment to ensuring that grants reach results-driven projects that have the potential for real impact in addressing the global pandemic of violence against women and girls.

**“The project has been the greatest story of the organization since its inception.**

**COWLHA [Coalition of Women Living with HIV/AIDS] is a relatively small civil society organization in terms of funding though with a big constituency of women living with HIV.**

**The UN Trust Fund project has helped COWLHA in reaching out to more women in the country... it has left a legacy in COWLHA that will never be forgotten.”**

**Steven Iphani,**

Programme Manager and Coordinator of the Coalition of Women Living with HIV/AIDS, Malawi

# CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

**The World Health Organization estimates that one in three women worldwide will experience either physical or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in her lifetime.<sup>2</sup>**

Intimate partner violence is the most common form of violence experienced by women. A global study on homicide found that almost half (47 per cent) of female homicide victims are killed by members of their family or intimate partners; the equivalent figure for male victims is less than 6 per cent.<sup>3</sup> Current economic crises have exacerbated women's economic disadvantage and cutbacks in social spending on health and education have increased women's risk of exploitation and violence.<sup>4</sup>

Gender inequality and discrimination, the root causes of violence against women and girls, are influenced by the historical and structural power imbalance between women and men that exists to varying degrees in all communities. Discrimination has resulted in women and girls facing difficult, precarious and disadvantaged economic situations that put them at heightened risk of exploitation or abuse by partners, relatives, employers and others in their communities. Economic disadvantage also prevents many women and girls from escaping violence and building new lives for themselves and their families.

Multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination deny many groups of women the right to live free of violence and also limit their access to treatment, care and support to overcome the effects of violence. For example, gender inequality is one of the factors exacerbating the HIV pandemic and those at greatest risk of new infections are adolescent girls and young women.<sup>5</sup> Key factors putting women at heightened risk in many contexts is their lack of

access to information and their inability to negotiate safer sex because of gender disparity, as well as the fact that women living with HIV/AIDS are often marginalized and stigmatized.

Marginalized groups of women, such as women with disabilities, indigenous women, migrant women and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender women, are at particular risk of discrimination and violence. The interrelation between marginalization and gender inequality are clearly seen in the experiences of Indigenous women and women from minority ethnic groups who are frequently denied the same opportunities as their non-indigenous counterparts. Women and girls with disabilities are less likely to receive an education, vocational training or to find employment than boys and young men with disabilities or girls and young women without disabilities, while women in many parts of the world are also exposed to a wide range of "harmful practices" such as child marriage, female genital mutilation/cutting, so-called "honour" crimes and the maltreatment of widows.<sup>6</sup>

Together these many and interlinked forms of discrimination create a level of entrenched gender inequality that facilitates the normalization of violence against women and girls. By providing funds to its grantees across the world, the UNTF works to address these interconnected disadvantages, to engage in the long-term transformation of harmful beliefs, practices and behaviours that fuel violence against women and girls and to build sustainable change.

The many projects and organizations that the UNTF supports are at the forefront of challenging the prevailing norms that encourage violence against women and girls. Its grantees reflect the diverse and consistent civil society engagement that continues to help shape the struggle to end violence against women and girls.

**📍 The many projects and organizations that the UNTF supports are at the forefront of challenging the prevailing norms that encourage violence against women and girls.**

## NEW GRANTEES

Six programmes awarded UNTF grants in 2014 in the Gambia, Togo, the State of Palestine, Nepal, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan will address harmful practices. These cover a range of issues from legal initiatives to ban female genital mutilation/cutting in the Gambia to community-based initiatives to end widowhood rituals in Togo that put women at increased risk of HIV/AIDS.

New grantees will also strengthen the capacities of journalists and the media to raise awareness of the scale of violence against women and girls. For example, in the State of Palestine, the Community Media Centre will shed light on the pervasiveness of violence against women in Gaza and advocate for the creation of policies and procedures to protect women from violence.

# FOCUS ON IMPACT

**The overriding aim of all UNTF activities is to support initiatives that have a real, concrete and lasting impact on the lives of women and girls.**

Focusing on priority areas not only enables us to allocate resources more effectively, but also helps the UNTF and its grantees build a body of shared expertise, skills and knowledge that can be used to maximum effect.

During 2014, the UNTF focused its funding on three priority programme areas:

- preventing violence against women and girls;
- expanding survivors' access to support services; and
- strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and action plans.

The UNTF also continued to work through three Special Thematic Windows that it has identified in order to support global learning initiatives and to stimulate action in particular areas. Each of the Windows groups together grantees working on similar types of interventions in the areas of violence against adolescent girls; violence against women in conflict, post-conflict and transitional settings; and the intersection between HIV/AIDS and violence against women and girls.

The Special Thematic Windows help give sustained visibility to these issues, identify good and promising practices and generate knowledge about effective methods and approaches for eliminating violence against women and girls.

During 2014, the UNTF focused its funding on three priority programme areas:

**PREVENTING**

**VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN AND GIRLS**

**EXPANDING**

**SURVIVORS' ACCESS TO  
SUPPORT SERVICES**

**STRENGTHENING**

**THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF LAWS, POLICIES AND  
ACTION PLANS.**

# RELEASING THE POTENTIAL

This report draws on the UNTF monitoring missions carried out during 2014, annual evaluation reports from grantees and discussions with partners and donors.

The report highlights UNTF results in the following areas:

- preventing violence by working with young people through leadership development and education;
- implementing laws and policies to respond effectively;
- advancing transitional justice and addressing violence against women and girls in emergency settings;
- addressing violence and multiple/intersecting forms of discrimination: and,
- engaging the private sector in prevention and response efforts.

## PREVENTION: FOCUS ON YOUNG PEOPLE

Data on violence against young and adolescent girls at the national level remains scarce. However, a recent study carried out by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 42 countries found that the proportion of adolescent girls who reported experiencing some form of physical violence between the ages of 15 and 19 ranged from 4 per cent in Kazakhstan to more than 50 per cent in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda.<sup>7</sup> In countries where comparable data is available, up to 12 per cent of girls aged 15 to 19 reported incidents of sexual violence during the previous year.<sup>8</sup>

A core component of many UNTF grantees' initiatives is raising awareness on the issue among adolescents and youth, who are at a critical stage in life in which



A girl in Ngo Si Lien secondary school presents her class's booth with displayed products on the topic: Extending arms connection: giving equality receiving love during the school's trade-fair, Hồ Chí Minh City, Viet Nam. © Trinh Thi An Binh

values and norms about gender equality are instilled. Most of these initiatives also often place particular emphasis on providing girls with opportunities to build assets to protect themselves from and respond to violence through mentorship, learning and peer interaction in safe spaces. The UNTF is currently investing more than US\$9 million to support 18 grants that address violence against young and adolescent girls. Initiatives supported by the UNTF include the following key areas:

- programmes targeting young and adolescent girls in school and out-of-school settings;
- raising awareness of girls' rights among boys and girls;
- empowering girls through sports, leadership, capacity-building; and
- sensitizing teachers and administrators.

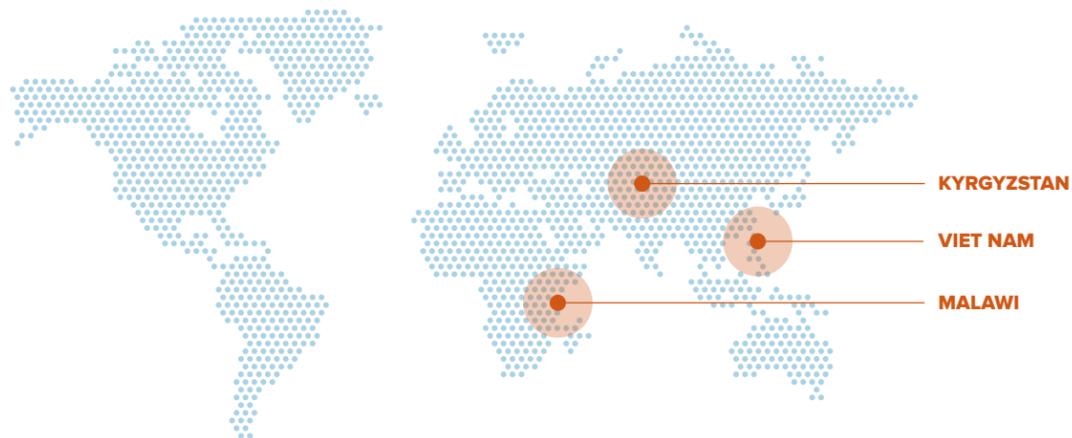
The following case studies of UNTF grantee projects illustrate a variety of key initiatives focusing on both girls and boys and on school-related projects supported during the year.

**“We believe that early interventions are extremely important... Each dollar invested in prevention – education, etc. – will save multiple dollars spent dealing with situations and damage control.”**

**Jelena Anokic,**

Coordinator of the B92 Foundation project, “Safe House Economic Empowerment”, working to strengthen the implementation of laws, policies and action plans in Serbia.

## Case studies



### VIET NAM

In Viet Nam, gender-based violence in and around schools is prevalent and is one of the main barriers to girls’ empowerment and gender equality. UNTF Grantee Plan Viet Nam, a children’s development organization, is promoting the Gender Responsive School Pilot Model. Working in 20 lower and upper secondary schools across Hanoi, the project aims to foster safe, accountable and child-friendly schools where adolescent girls and boys receive a quality education in an environment free of gender-based violence. The project has successfully engaged adolescent girls and boys using a gender transformative approach to enable them to recognize and challenge inequitable gender norms and the use of violence in their everyday lives. The curriculum is being developed with the active and meaningful involvement of students. To date, Plan Viet Nam has

trained 450 youth leaders on leadership and innovative communication skills. As a result, 20 school-wide events were initiated on school-related gender-based violence and were covered by 36 local newspapers and radio programmes.

Plan Viet Nam developed comprehensive manuals for teachers covering a range of issues concerning school-related gender-based violence. By September 2014, these were being used in the project’s 20 target schools and rolled-out in classroom sessions to over 16,000 adolescent girls and boys. Plan Viet Nam has also established school counselling services in the 20 schools and 366 students, including 200 girls, have visited the school counselling services to seek psycho-social support and assistance.

### MALAWI

In Malawi, the UNTF grantee and civil society organization Concern Worldwide is implementing a programme to ensure a safe school environment free from violence and discrimination in 17 primary schools in Nsanje Province. More than 6,800 girls and 7,200 boys are participating in Student Councils, peer-led spaces of reflection, to advocate for gender equality and an end to violence against girls. The project has also involved more than 5,233 teachers in developing positive discipline policies. In addition to focusing on raising awareness and increasing knowledge, the programme will also seek to ensure that girls have responsive structures where they can report abuse.

Last year, Concern Worldwide’s education programme conducted an analysis of the reasons why parents do not send girls to school to complete their basic education. Drawing on visits to a total of 90 families, half of whom did not send their daughters to school, several key issues emerged, including the influence of Chiefs over community practices. As a result, Concern Worldwide organized a Chiefs’ Forum for 20 Chiefs and Group Village Heads from the targeted zones to sensitize them on the importance of girls’ education.

### KYRGYZSTAN

In Kyrgyzstan, particularly in rural areas, girls are highly vulnerable to violence. Bride-kidnapping and early and forced marriage remain widespread, affecting countless numbers of girls. Despite legislative and policy advances, the problem remains entrenched and prevention efforts targeting young girls and boys have so far had little impact.

One of the UNTF’s new grantees, the NFCCK, aims to address violence against girls in rural areas of Kyrgyzstan by piloting a school-based education programme in two schools that will build leadership skills and teach girls how to prevent and respond to threats of violence. The proposed intervention will also work with boys to promote respectful relationships and gender equality and support girl survivors of violence through the establishment of self-support groups. Women, youth community groups and non-governmental organizations will also be trained in order to enhance their capability to implement prevention initiatives and replicate the programme in other rural areas of the country.

## IMPLEMENTING LAWS: WIDENING ACCESS TO SERVICES AND JUSTICE

Although states have progressively put in place laws and policies to prevent and respond to violence against women, implementation in many countries remains slow and uneven. An effective response strategy should not only criminalize violence against women and girls, but it should also provide preventative measures and support for survivors so that they can access justice.<sup>9</sup>

Studies have shown that the efforts that have seen the most significant success are those that involve:

- multisectoral strategies that include partnerships between governments and civil society organizations;
- effective prevention systems and support services for survivors;
- adequate budgets;
- extensive data collection and analysis;
- specific timelines and targets; and
- strong monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.<sup>10</sup>

These elements are, therefore, critical criteria for identifying initiatives that are likely to have greatest impact and are, therefore, a priority for UNTF support.

### Case studies



#### ALBANIA

In Albania, the Refleksione Association, a UNTF grantee, led a pilot multisectoral project by the Albanian Network against Gender Violence and Trafficking aimed at ensuring the effective implementation of new legislation in Albania on domestic violence. A referral mechanism for women experiencing domestic violence has

been established not only in the 10 municipalities targeted by the project, but also in 12 others where the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Refleksione Association had initiated similar projects; that is, in a total of 22 of Albania's 65 municipalities. A network of 12 shelters and counselling centres was also established to ensure the development and implementation of harmonized standards of services throughout Albania.

#### BELARUS

In Belarus, the UNTF supported a joint programme led by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF and the International Organization for Migration to strengthen capacity to prevent and address intimate partner violence through the creation of multisectoral teams and the development of Cooperation Protocols. In addition, referral mechanisms were established in three pilot sites (Minsk; the Moskovskiy district of Brest City; and the Kobryn and Kamieniec districts of Brest oblast) to strengthen access to social and legal services for survivors of intimate partner violence. More than 3,700 callers have benefited from a nationwide toll-free hotline for domestic violence which is staffed by five trained specialists who provide psychological, legal and social support.

#### GRENADA

In Grenada, the standard operating procedures for medical personnel and stakeholders were approved by the Cabinet in May 2014. These were developed by the Ministry of Social Development, a UNTF grantee, in collaboration of the Ministry of Health and the Pan-American Health Organization and were designed to facilitate the implementation of a multisectoral initiative to increase outreach to survivors and improve the quality of health and justice services.

#### EL SALVADOR

Five new grantee programmes will bolster the implementation of laws and policies to address violence against women. Among them is the grantee in El Salvador, the Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz (Cooperation for Peace Assembly), which will work to improve the coordination and institutional response of relevant stakeholders at the national and municipal levels and help local women's and youth organizations to develop their oversight and advocacy skills. The intervention will also seek to strengthen existing national data collection mechanisms, improve police response and increase awareness of violence against women in schools and communities.

#### TAJIKISTAN

New grantee programmes will also provide critical support to women and girls experiencing violence. For example, in Tajikistan, the civil society organization Najoti Kudakon will use community-based interventions to improve access to services for rural women living in mountainous areas. The programme will establish women's support groups in underserved communities and enhance the only existing safe house offering comprehensive services in the region.

## CAPE VERDE

In Cape Verde, more than 2,000 survivors of violence were reached in 2014 by a project implemented by the Cape Verde Institute for Gender Equality and Equity (Instituto Caboverdiano para a Igualdade e Equidade de Género, ICIEG), a UNTF grantee. Support centres for survivors were opened in Santiago, Fogo and Boavista and further centres are under discussion with the Ministry of Justice. In March, the project

was featured by the Cape Verde Music Awards, an important cultural event in the country. This was a significant step in ensuring wider publicity for issues of gender, gender-based violence and effective responses to intimate partner violence. ICIEG partnered with the National Police and as of 2014 courses on gender equality and violence against women and girls are an integral part of the National Police School's curriculum.



©Ezequiel Catalan  
A member of the Municipal Police, Bogota, delivers a presentation at the International Seminar, on policies and actions against gender-based violence, Santiago, Chile.

### COLOMBIA, CHILE AND EL SALVADOR

In Colombia, Chile and El Salvador, the civil society organization SUR Corporación de Estudios Sociales y Educación (South, Centre for social studies and education; SUR Corporación) is working with the police, one of the key actors in enforcing laws and policies to address violence against women and girls.

SUR Corporación focused on addressing the need to strengthen the police response, as well as on the registration and follow-up of reports of violence against women. It developed and rolled out face-to-face and on-line courses on policing and women's right to live a life free of violence. From the start of the project, the high level of commitment on the part of the various institutions was reflected in attendance, participation and engagement. In total these courses have engaged almost 700 police officers, enhancing their knowledge of the different types and modalities of violence against women. There have also been exchanges between police forces in these countries to share lessons learned and promising practices.



## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN CONFLICT AND EMERGENCY SETTINGS

Increasing research on gender-based violence during conflict has provided data on the extent of these crimes.<sup>11</sup> While studies vary in their findings – some research suggests that sexual violence affects between 4.3 per cent and 22 per cent of women, while others suggest the figure is up to one in three – they clearly attest to the prevalence of the problem.<sup>12</sup> Sexual violence may be used as a tactic of armed conflict or as a form of sexual exploitation by peacekeepers or humanitarian staff. Such violence may also be opportunistic, a result of the exploitation of increased vulnerabilities. Increased sexual violence may also be the result of the weakening of social structures and judicial systems that exacerbate underlying family or community violence.<sup>13</sup>

Access to justice and support services remains beyond the reach of many women and girl survivors of violence. Among the obstacles they face are limited awareness of their rights and multiple social and institutional barriers that prevent them from exercising their human rights.<sup>14</sup> These obstacles can be present in all contexts. However, in conflict, post-conflict and transitional settings, the challenges faced by women and girls in obtaining justice and accessing psychosocial, health-care and legal services are even greater. In such contexts, women and girl survivors often have to contend with weakened community bonds, law enforcement agencies that have been undermined and eroded and justice systems that are almost non-existent or that have been rendered ineffectual. The result all too often is entrenched impunity for gender-based violence.

Violence against women and girls in emergency settings continued to garner international attention in 2014. A global summit held in June and co-chaired by the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Angelina Jolie, Special Envoy for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, resulted in the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict: Basic Standards of Best Practice on the Documentation of Sexual Violence as a Crime under International Law. A current Trust-Fund grantee, Physicians for Human Rights, was instrumental in designing the Protocol.<sup>15</sup>

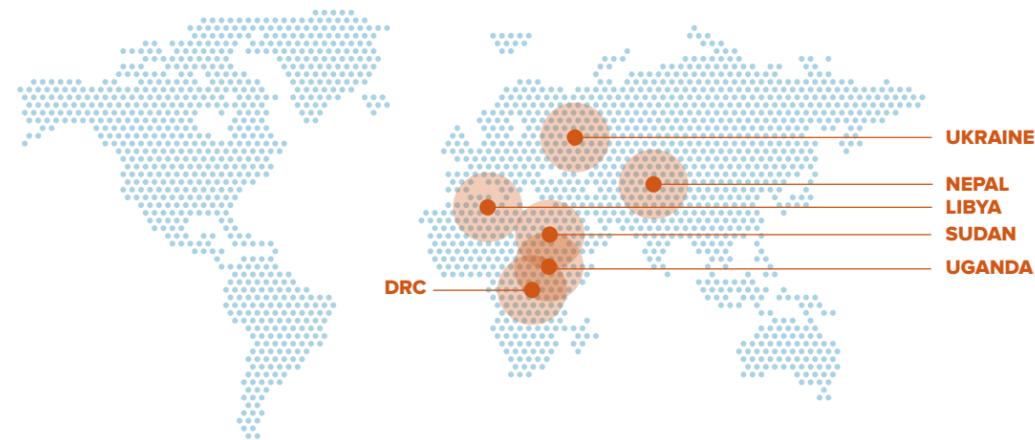
Also in June, the United Nations Secretary-General issued a Guidance Note on Reparations for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence that develops policy and operational guidance for United Nations action.<sup>16</sup> The Note mentions that the UNTF has been a key resource for funding reparations for sexual violence survivors in Sierra Leone.<sup>17</sup>

**📍 Violence against women and girls in emergency settings continued to garner international attention in 2014.**

**“The best thing that I can say is to work as a team. This team work was not done before. We were working like a medical body and we knew that this was how it had to be done. But they trained us together with police officers, magistrates, lawyers and now we understand that the collection of proofs regarding forensic data needed all of us to work together.”**

Congolese physician who took part in training offered by Physicians for Human Rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo on sexual violence in conflict zones

## Case studies



### UKRAINE

The conflict in Ukraine has fuelled increased instability and violence resulting in a heightened need for services for survivors. The UNTF supported a project “Violence Free: Empowering Disadvantaged Women and Girls”, implemented by the Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health (UFPH), to improve access to care and support for women and girls living with HIV and street-involved women and girls.

Nearly 300 state and non-governmental service providers engaged in training on responding to cases of violence against women, with a special focus on girls and young women living and working on the streets and HIV-positive women and girls. In addition, a protocol drafted by UFPH was approved by members of a multisectoral working group, partner agencies and the Ministry of Social Policy. A total of 306 survivors of violence against women – 117 in Kyiv and 189 in three up-scale cities – were identified, referred and received assistance. The number of clients receiving programme services rose to 329 and 176 survivors of gender-based violence, including HIV-positive and/or street-involved women and girls, were engaged in the empowerment training programme. An independent external evaluation of the programme points to significant changes in the social acceptability of violence and both male and female project participants reported a reduction or elimination of violence in their lives as a result of their participation in the project. One of the most significant lessons identified in the evaluation report was the importance of a longer timeframe for project implementation.

### NEPAL

One of the new UNTF grantees addressing conflict-related violence is a women’s organization in Nepal, the Story Kitchen, which aims to ensure access to justice for women survivors of violence in conflict. In an innovative approach, the programme will pair women conflict survivors with women human rights defenders to reach more survivors through local radio networks as part of efforts to break the culture of silence around conflict-related violence against women.



A newly refurbished transit house run by Actions des Femmes Pour les Droits et le developpment in collaboration with Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice, DRC. © Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice

### DRC, LIBYA, SUDAN AND UGANDA

In the DRC, Libya, Sudan and Uganda, UNTF grantee the Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice (WIGJ) is implementing a project to advance gender justice in countries under investigation by the International Criminal Court (ICC). Working with a wide range of local partners, WIGJ’s documentation data and advocacy directly contributed to the gathering of evidence that supported the prosecution of sexual and gender-based crimes in nine cases relating to the four project countries. In 2014, the project reached 4,959 women and girls and 31,612 secondary beneficiaries across the target countries.

In Uganda, Parliament adopted a landmark resolution calling for reparations for war-affected women and other victims of the Lord’s Resistance Army. The resolution followed years of advocacy by the women’s movement, including WIGJ, their partners, and the International Center for Transitional Justice. In the DRC, local partners highlighted the continued improvement in the documentation, thanks to the WIGJ project. The documentation material has been used to strengthen the domestic legal framework prohibiting all forms of violence against women. Documentation data has also been used to support

the inclusion of sexual violence charges in ICC cases. At least 774 survivors of gender-based violence who would otherwise not have had access to medical support were referred through the WIGJ-supported Transit House project in North and South Kivu, DRC; 70 per cent went on to receive specific medical treatment including surgery for rape-related injuries.

## FOCUS ON MARGINALIZED GROUPS

As the report of the UN Secretary-General on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action highlighted, “progress has been particularly slow for women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.”<sup>18</sup> Groups such as women with disabilities, indigenous women, members of ethnic minority groups, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender women are more likely to live in poverty, to be at greater risk of violence and to have very limited access to justice, redress and to the integrated services they need to overcome violence. UNTF-supported projects focus on empowering marginalized women to be the agency for change in order to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

## Case studies



### EGYPT, JORDAN AND MOROCCO

In Egypt, Jordan and Morocco, a three-year project to formulate a regional holistic response to eliminate trafficking of women is being implemented by the Jordanian Women’s Union, a UNTF grantee, in partnership with the Centre for Egyptian Women’s Legal Assistance and Union de l’Action Feminine (Union for Women’s

“The [UNTF’s] support allows the IRC to strengthen capacity and enhance knowledge of our community-based organization partner, the Karenni National Women’s Organization, and other community-based service providers to apply best practice of gender-based violence prevention and response services, ensuring increased safety and dignity of women and girls in the target refugee camps.”

**Anabelle Mubi,**

Women’s Protection and Empowerment Manager, International Rescue Committee Thailand, Mae Hong Son Office

Action) in Morocco. In addition to the training of 35 organizations in providing services to trafficked women, shelters and hotlines were able to ensure that 388 survivors of trafficking were given access to psycho-social and legal support, with the overall objective of reintegration into their families and communities. More than 1,000 women in Egypt and Morocco participated in awareness-raising sessions on the risks associated with trafficking and their rights under the law. These focused particularly on those living in areas targeted by traffickers, primarily in rural and poor communities.

Other key results of the project included establishing effective coordination and networking among partners and coalitions, including local and national non-governmental organizations and government, judicial and law enforcement representatives. Anti-trafficking model laws were also drafted that incorporated the definition of trafficking as set out in the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children. And 120 police officers, judges and prosecutors were trained on trafficking as a human rights issue.

### **ZIMBABWE, SERBIA AND STATE OF PALESTINE**

Three new UNTF grantees will focus their efforts on addressing women and girls with disabilities. In Zimbabwe, the Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust will provide logistical support, including transport, food and shelter and sign-language classes, to girls with disabilities and women survivors of violence in order to facilitate their access to justice. In Serbia, the Association of Women Sandglass will raise community awareness and foster increased collaboration and coordination among local level stakeholders to improve and expand the support provided by an SOS hotline, with a focus on Roma women and women living with disabilities. And in the State of Palestine, the Psycho Social Counseling Center for Women will seek to mainstream the rights of women with disabilities within the national women's rights agenda.

### **ALBANIA, COLOMBIA, EGYPT, GUATEMALA, SERBIA, THAILAND AND ZIMBABWE**

Seven new grantees will work to address and prevent violence against women who face discrimination and exclusion. For example, in Colombia, the Organización Nacional de Indígenas de Colombia (Indigenous Peoples National Organization, ONIC) will document and research violence against indigenous women, raise awareness among the community and authorities, train indigenous women as rights advocates and provide cultural, social, legal and psychological support to indigenous women survivors of violence and their families.

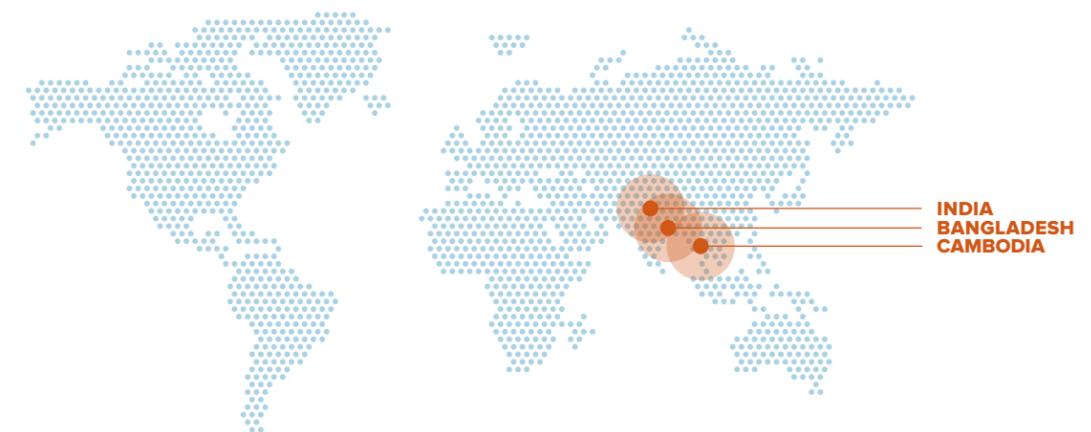
Two new programmes will address violence against lesbian, bisexual and transgender women. For example, in Thailand, the Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand will implement a proven Community Life Competence model to empower communities in four provinces to address issues of human rights, violence, stigma and discrimination against lesbian and transgender women.

## **THE PRIVATE SECTOR – A KEY STAKEHOLDER**

Globally, 53 per cent of women are employed in jobs that are either self-employed or unpaid.<sup>19</sup> This type of employment, which is particularly widespread in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, can put women at increased risk of violence. In addition, in 2014, 79 countries still had laws that restrict the types of jobs women can perform.<sup>20</sup>

A recent publication commissioned by the World Bank asserts that the private sector has been insufficiently involved in efforts to prevent and address violence against women.<sup>21</sup> In order for this situation to change, workplaces need to adopt anti-harassment codes and guidelines to make the workplace a safe space for women and establish alliances with women's rights organizations.<sup>22</sup> The UNTF invests in programmes that address these challenges and that aim to fully integrate the private sector as a key stakeholder in ending violence against women.

### **Case studies**



### **BANGLADESH AND INDIA**

In Bangladesh and India, the Fair Wear Foundation adopted a holistic approach, including awareness raising and training, to address harassment and violence against women in export-orientated garment factories. Over 3,500 workers in India and Bangladesh received direct training in 24 factories, while another 15,000 workers were trained via peer-to-peer education as part of the preventing workplace violence project. Twenty anti-harassment committees, composed of workers' representatives, factory management and representatives of non-governmental organization, were operational in Bangladesh and India in 2014.

**“Working conditions for women have changed dramatically after the intervention of Anti-Harassment programme in our factory... After the Anti-Harassment awareness training, I am able to analyse sexual harassment of many kinds. Some are explicit and some remain implicit...**

**if a woman does not feel comfortable working in a factory, productivity must suffer. For the sake of the industry, we should work together to prevent sexual harassment in all workplaces, so that more women join at work.”**

**Ms Morsheda,**

aged 26, a senior operator and Anti-Harassment Committee President in India speaking about the impact of the Fair Wear Foundation programme to address harassment and violence against women in export-orientated garment factories in Bangladesh and India

One of the project's major achievements was the higher level of reporting of harassment cases in the anti-harassment committees and via a telephone helpline. There are also signs that the initiative may be changing the way in which women are perceived within the factories. Since taking on the additional responsibility of participating in anti-harassment committees, women have become a more vocal presence on the factory floor and an increasing number of women have been promoted to supervisory roles since the start of the project.

### **CAMBODIA**

In Cambodia, CARE International is building on a successful initiative to promote safer workplaces, which had previously been supported by the UNTF, to scale-up effective participatory community and workplace interventions in the garment, tourism and hospitality industries. The project focused on initial engagement methods with workers in the garment industry in order to create effective policies within factories to reduce sexual harassment and gender-based violence and to ensure that workers can report abuse if it does occur. A curriculum for garment factory workers, adapted from an International Labour Organization manual, was piloted with 71 garment factory workers and 87 hospitality workers and the Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia has agreed to support CARE's efforts to end harassment in the workplace.



© Thomas Cristofolletti/CARE Cambodia  
Peer educators in a garment factory unrolling a banner for an event for the 16 days campaign, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

# CREATING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

“FASH UNITED is proud to be an official partner of the United Nations Trust Fund. We are committed to the campaign to End Violence Against Women and to being part of the solution!”

Expanding and diversifying its range of donors was a key strategic focus for the UNTF in 2014. Harnessing the potential of new partnerships with the corporate sector, with an immediate focus on fashion and the arts, enabled the UNTF to raise its visibility, extend its outreach and begin to build an individual giving portfolio.

In September, in partnership with the UNTF, *Yuwei Designs*, a jewellery company based in the United States of America, launched a specially designed jewellery collection to raise awareness of the work of UNTF grantees.

In November, in partnership with *Music for Life International* and the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, the UNTF hosted a benefit concert in India as part of the Scheherazade Initiative, a global concert project that brings together leaders in the artistic, music, corporate, and diplomatic communities to raise funds for and increase public awareness of violence against women and girls. The Delhi concert featured the UNTF grantee Breakthrough and included distinguished artists from the New York Metropolitan Opera Orchestra.

On 25 November, the UNTF launched a partnership with *Soko*, an ethical fashion brand. This partnership provides employment and training for marginalized women artisans in Kenya to create a unique pair of bracelets. Every bracelet sold helps empower an underprivileged artisan community economically and, at the same time, supports UNTF programmes to prevent and respond to violence against women around the world. We Are {The Collective}, a communications and marketing partnership based in London, conceptualised and developed the global microsite for the Soko bracelet campaign and galvanized support from the fashion sector in the United Kingdom.

The UNTF also launched a partnership with FASH UNITED, a California-based non-governmental organization, to promote the UNTF's initiatives through the fashion and entertainment sectors.



Posted @giseleofficial  
Gisele Bündchen wearing the UNTF/Soko bracelet



@UN Women/Ryan Brown  
Actress Teri Hatcher wears the UNTF/Soko bracelet for the lighting ceremony of the Empire State Building, New York City



Posted @Martina  
Martina Navratilova wearing the UNTF/Soko bracelet



# 2014 EVENTS

During 2014, the UNTF co-organized a number of events, with the participation of its grantees, in order to promote their efforts and work to prevent and end violence against women. For example, at a lunch briefing organized in April and hosted by the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations, the founder and president of UNTF grantee Breakthrough, Mallika Dutt, shared insights on how the organization uses media, arts, pop culture and technology to challenge harmful norms that condone violence against women and girls.

A breakfast briefing in October hosted by the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations in partnership with the UNTF focused on the issue of Addressing the Needs of Survivors of Gender-based Violence in Fragile Settings. Brigid Inder, Executive Director of the Women's Initiative for Gender Justice and Special Advisor on Gender to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), provided on-the-ground insights of their UNTF-supported programme working to ensure accountability for gender-based crimes in countries under ICC investigation including the DRC, Sudan, and Uganda.

On 24 November, the UNTF held a high-level event to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Among those who attended were representatives of United Nations Missions, celebrities and civil society organizations. One of the speakers at the event was a UNTF grantee from Turkey, ACEV Mother Child Education Foundation. The reception was supported by the United Colors of Benetton who chose the occasion to launch a global multi-media advertising campaign with UN Women.



# GENERATING KNOWLEDGE: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

**UNTF grantees, past, current and future, represent a unique global community of practice.**

Our grantees are an invaluable resource for all those working to prevent and end violence against women and girls. Identifying and sharing this important body of knowledge, skills and experience so that it can inform current and future evidence-based programming is an important area of focus for the UNTF, particularly in its new Strategy for 2015-2020. It goes to the heart of ensuring that projects take forward effective and sustainable approaches to improve the lives of women and girls.

For example, in order to strengthen the evidence base on the funded projects and to assess whether a programme fulfils its goal, all UNTF grantees are mandated to develop baseline studies at the beginning of the project and independent evaluations to help quantify the results reached at the end of the project. Baseline studies and final - participatory - evaluations not only help manage the implementation of grants and their results efficiently, but they also stimulate dialogue between stakeholders and provide “food for thought” for policymakers, investors and grass-roots organizations as they advocate for reform and social change in their country. Robust evidence about the scope of the problem, innovative solutions and potential results strengthen the “case” for an increase in funding and global giving to the work on preventing and ending violence against women and girls by philanthropy, non-profit organizations and the corporate sector.

As part of its monitoring activities, throughout 2014, the UNTF undertook extensive missions to 13 countries in four regions in order to validate the results and effectiveness of UNTF-supported programmes. Countries visited included Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Turkey, Cambodia, China and Thailand, Nigeria, Uganda, Belize and Grenada.

These missions included meetings with grantee organizations, partner organizations, primary and secondary beneficiaries and key stakeholders and visits to key project sites.

**“Overall course content was very valuable and informative. It extensively widened our knowledge on all the relevant issues. I don’t think we would have managed to effectively monitor, evaluate and report on results, if we had not attended this workshop.”**

Participant at the UNTF Capacity Development Workshop

# 2014 EXTERNAL EVALUATIONS

## SKILLZ STREET PLUS PROJECT – SOUTH AFRICA

A clear understanding of the context, nature and drivers of violence against women and girls is crucial for devising effective strategies to prevent and address gender-based violence. The findings of a baseline study of a sample of 200 girls, therefore, provided invaluable information for evaluating and developing Grassroot Soccer's SKILLZ Street Plus project, supported by the UNTF. The grantee used a sports-based approach to address violence against women and HIV among adolescent girls in South Africa. The baseline sample of 200 girls aged between 11 and 16 were from four schools from the Soweto informal settlement in Johannesburg.

The most important aspect that emerged from the analysis is that younger girls reported higher levels of self-efficacy and gender equitable attitudes than girls aged 14 and above. These parameters are very important to consider at the intervention level and need to be addressed with the higher age group. The study also provided insight into the lack of safe spaces for adolescent girls who reported the street, school and home as unsafe spaces almost throughout the day and night and especially over the weekend.

## SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE UNDER THE KHMER ROUGE – CAMBODIA

The Victims Support Section of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), a UNTF grantee, uses dialogue and the sharing and dissemination of survivors' testimonies to raise awareness of the extent and impact of gender-based violence under the Khmer Rouge. The project offered both local and national awareness raising, information and truth-telling activities on gender-based violence under the Khmer Rouge and its approach has been instrumental in reaching a wider audience in more rural areas of Cambodia.

An external evaluation of the project found that it had contributed to substantial progress in ensuring that female survivors of the Khmer Rouge regime, in particular survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, can enjoy and exercise their transitional justice rights. The project's logistic, legal, and psychological support services ensured the meaningful participation of 1,153 civil parties in the ECCC. Monitoring and evaluation results indicate a high level of satisfaction among women civil parties and survivors of gender-based violence with their visits to the ECCC and the increased legal knowledge gained through the project's legal counselling approach.

**The project's logistic, legal, and psychological support services ensured the meaningful participation of 1,153 civil parties in the ECCC.**

## HARNESSING THE POWER OF TECHNOLOGY

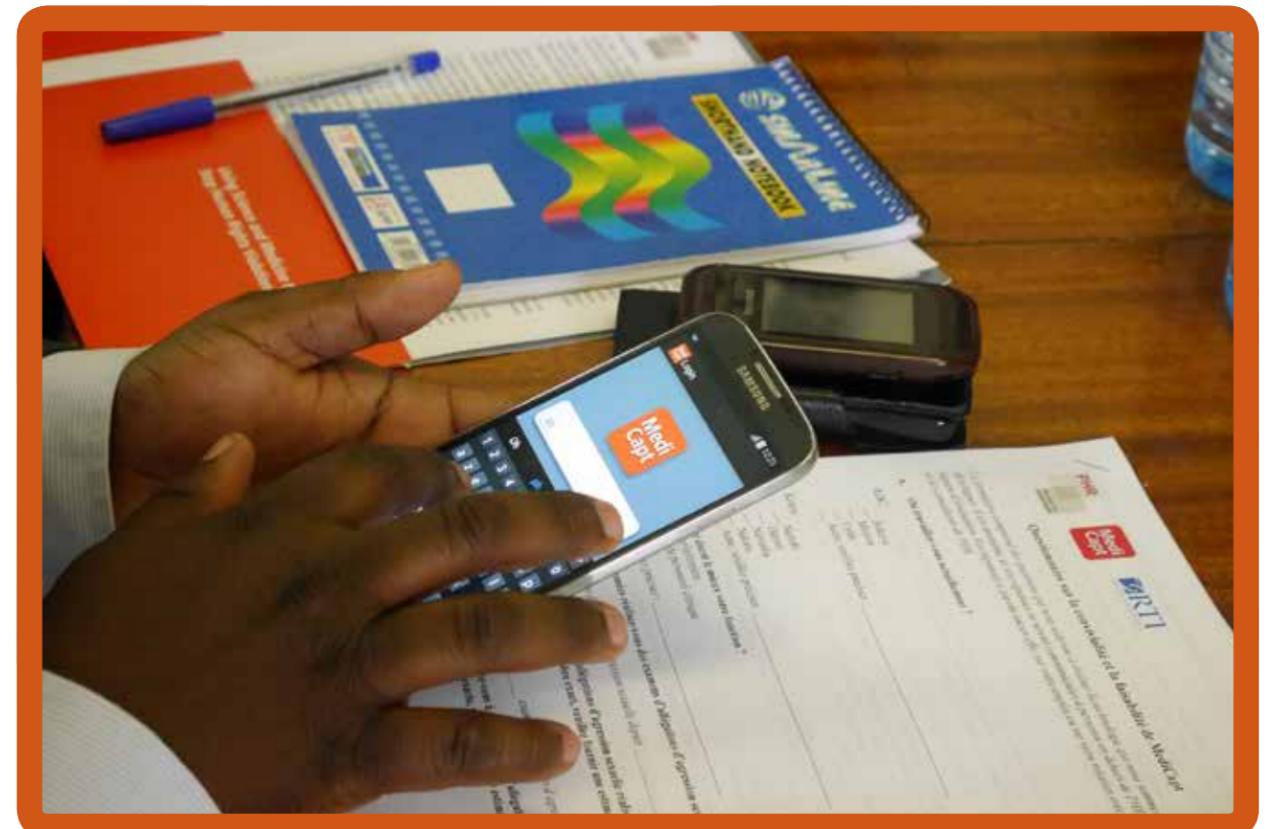
### PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

In January 2014, Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) launched a pilot programme of its mobile phone application Medicapt with seven physicians in South-Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo. The app equips doctors and nurses with tools for collecting, documenting and preserving court-admissible forensic evidence of mass atrocities including sexual violence. The richness of the potential information transmitted – video and still images meaningfully collated with recorded medical information – will enable the data to be used to maximum effect in the prosecution, and possibly the early detection, of mass atrocities. In 2013, PHR was awarded the first prize in the USAID-Humanity United Tech

Challenge for Atrocity Prevention Competition for Medicapt.

### BREAKTHROUGH – INDIA

Building on the success of Bell Bajao, their award-winning public service announcement, Breakthrough has expanded the use of media to take forward the organization's innovative anti-violence work in India. It is creating animated films on sexual harassment and developing videogames and apps. A particularly innovative component of the UNTF-supported project will be the development of an app that will help raise gender-sensitivity of police stations in target areas and increase accountability within law enforcement agencies for responding to violence against women and girls.



©Physicians for Human Rights  
Practitioners at a training to use the MediCapt app, Bukavu, DRC.

# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS IN 2014



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Australia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



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# GRANT RECIPIENTS FOR PROJECTS INITIATED IN 2014

## AFRICA

### Panzi Foundation DRC

 **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Scaling the Holistic Panzi Model to Ensure Vulnerable Women and Girls' Access to Quality Psycho-social and Legal Services"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$601,512

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Expanding survivors' access to support services

After more than 15 years of conflict, the health infrastructure of the DRC was all but devastated. Some 70 per cent of the DRC's population live in rural areas, which are particularly affected by the lack of health services and especially of sexual and reproductive health services.

This programme aims to upscale the internationally recognized holistic Panzi model in one-stop centres and affiliated facilities in the Walungu and Minova districts. The Panzi model provides integrated, human rights-based medical, psycho-social, legal and socio-economic support. In partnership with Physicians for Human Rights, the programme will also train medical, legal and psycho-social professionals on the principles of the Panzi model and how to collect forensic evidence of sexual violence effectively.

### Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the health of Women and Children (GAMCOTRAP)

 **GAMBIA**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Advancing Women's Rights and Ending Harmful Traditional Practices through Rights Education"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$93,501

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and action plans

It is estimated that 76.3 per cent of women and 42 per cent of girls have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting in Gambia. Together with early marriage, this practice contributes to maternal mortality and morbidity in the North Bank region. GAMCOTRAP aims to advocate for a law to ban genital mutilation/cutting in Gambia. It will also promote women's sexual and reproductive health and rights through rights education and raise awareness of the pernicious effects of such practices. The project will engage those who perform genital mutilation/cutting in an alternative employment opportunity programme.

### Episcopal Relief & Development

 **LIBERIA**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Engaging Faith-based Organizations to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls and Increase Survivors' Access to Services"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$680,216

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

Gender-based violence is prevalent in Liberia and intensified during the country's 14-year conflict in which sexual violence was widely used as a weapon of war. A 2013 report by the Ministry of Gender and Development identified significant barriers to reporting violence and accessing justice. The report also found that 75 per cent of reported cases were filed by girls under the age of 18.

Episcopal Relief & Development focuses on the underutilized platform of Christian, Muslim and interfaith organizations in six districts of the Grand Cape Mount and Rivercess counties. The programme will train and equip faith leaders with the knowledge to question violence against women and to promote new behaviours, particularly new visions of masculinity that promote gender equality.

### Equality for Growth

 **TANZANIA**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Give Payment, Not Abuse: Protecting Informal Women Traders in Dar es Salaam from Violence against Women"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$350,440

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

A study conducted by Equality for Growth among women traders in Dar es Salaam indicated that 40 per cent had experienced sexual harassment, 32 per cent verbal abuse and 24 per cent other forms of violence from male traders and customers.

Equality for Growth, a local women’s organization, aims to bolster women’s economic rights and reduce the risk of violence by creating safe environments in six markets in two districts of Dar es Salaam, where 80 per cent of public markets are located. They plan to engage with local government councillors, local government officials, police gender desks, market committee leaders and market traders in order to change attitudes and behaviours that normalize and reproduce violence against women in the public sphere. This programme builds on beneficiary recommendations gathered in a previous project implemented by the organization in five marketplaces.

## ALAFIA

-  **TOGO**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
“Elimination of Harmful Customary Practices that can lead to the Spread of HIV/AIDS”
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$54,232
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

In many regions of Togo, the death of a spouse requires surviving wives to undergo a widowhood ritual that often involves sex with strangers in order to “cut the link” with the deceased husband. A 2012 law grants widows the right to refuse this ritual. However, most communities are not aware of this law and the practice remains widespread, especially in rural areas. Through a participatory method based on indigenous beliefs, ALAFIA will advocate for the abandonment of the widowhood ritual. ALAFIA will upscale the programme in the Haho prefecture that engages government representatives, village chiefs and community-based associations.

## Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust

-  **ZIMBABWE**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
“Access to Justice of Girls and Women with Disabilities”
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$400,452
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Expanding survivors’ access to support services

A pilot project by the Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust found that violence against women and girls with disabilities remains shrouded in silence, as their impairments are not taken into account in mainstream evidence-gathering and judicial policies. This dramatically limits their access to justice.

The project aims to improve access to justice in 10 Zimbabwean districts for at least 900 women and girls with disabilities who have survived violence and/or are currently involved in legal proceedings either as complainants or witnesses. It will provide specialized services and offer logistical support – including transport, food and shelter and sign-language classes – to disabled girls and women. The programme expects to engage disabled people’s organizations, the police, the Judicial Services Commission and the Ministry of Education. This project up-scales the organization’s current Child Protection and Access to Justice Project.

## AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN

### Organización Nacional de Indígenas de Colombia (ONIC)

-  **COLOMBIA**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
“Indigenous Women, Gender-Based Violence and Access to Justice”
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$417,601
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and action plans

Indigenous women in Colombia face high levels of violence; some studies indicate that up to 70 per cent of Indigenous women have experienced some form of violence in their lifetime. Most of those responsible for such violence are not brought to justice, in large part owing to the lack of harmonization between national and indigenous jurisdictions and the absence of data on the magnitude and forms of violence experienced by indigenous women.

The Organización Nacional de Indígenas de Colombia (ONIC) aims to document and conduct research on violence against indigenous women, raise awareness among community leaders and the relevant authorities, train indigenous women as advocates of indigenous women’s rights and provide psycho-cultural, social, legal and psychological support to indigenous women survivors of violence and their families.

### Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz

-  **EL SALVADOR**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
“Improving Women’s Access to a Life Free of Gender-Based Violence for Women in El Salvador”
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$370,220
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and action plans

El Salvador has the highest rate of killings of women (femicides) in the world. Despite legislative and policy advances, institutional coordination is lacking. Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz aims to enhance institutional responses and improve the coordination of relevant stakeholders at the national and municipal levels. It will

also help increase the capacity of local women's and youth organizations in terms of oversight and advocacy skills. Other key project goals include: strengthening national data collection mechanisms and improving police response.

## Fundacio Sida i Societat

-  **GUATEMALA**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Prevention and Reduction of Sexual Violence against Sex Workers in Guatemala"
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$220,872
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and action plans

Large numbers of migrant workers arrive in the Department of Escuintla in Guatemala during the agricultural production season. This seasonal population change brings with it a dramatic hike in demand for sex workers, who are mostly young, indigenous migrant women. Sex workers are at high risk of sexual violence and HIV. However, stigma and discrimination on the part of service providers means that many sex workers do not receive inadequate support. Fundacio Sida i Societat aims to strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of organizations working on violence against women and HIV, promote sex workers' access to justice and raise awareness among clients and sex workers through peer education.

## ARAB STATES

### Al Shehab Institution for Comprehensive Development

-  **EGYPT**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Community-based Intervention to Alleviate Different Forms of Violence against Women and Women's Vulnerability to HIV"
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$367,712
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

A 2013 survey by the National Council of Women in Egypt found that almost a third of the women questioned had experienced domestic violence as well as violence and harassment in public spaces. The project will work with women and girl survivors of violence, domestic workers, and sex workers and women living with HIV in the marginalized informal communities of Ezbet El-Haggana and El-Marg in Cairo and will engage community-based organizations, male partners, health professionals as well as National AIDS programmes. The project plans to establish a community service centre to improve access to essential services, raise awareness about the intersection of violence against women and HIV/AIDS, provide vocational training for sex workers and strive for the economic empowerment of women living with HIV.

## Psycho Social Counseling Center for Women

-  **STATE OF PALESTINE**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Combating Gender-Based Violence"
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$356,667
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and action plans

Recent years have seen a steep increase in rates of gender-based killings and sexual harassment and violence in public spaces. Women living with disabilities are often at particular risk of violence. The Psycho Social Counseling Center for Women (PSCCW) and its implementing partners aim to increase the capacity of relevant ministries, legislators and policymakers and to improve the performance of the police Women's Protection Units. They also propose to engage with community-based organizations and university students and to raise the awareness of communities through theatre.

## Community Media Center

-  **STATE OF PALESTINE**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Stop Violence against Women"
-  **AMOUNT**  
US\$158,350
-  **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

In Gaza, 76 per cent of women have been subjected to emotional violence, 34 per cent to physical violence and 14 per cent to sexual violence. Levels of violence are further exacerbated by violent conditions related to the occupation, discriminatory legislation and the deteriorating economic situation. The Community Media Center aims to raise awareness of the pervasiveness of violence against women in Gaza and to put pressure on decision makers to issue policies and procedures to protect women from violence. To achieve these aims, the organization will focus primarily on the media and work to increase knowledge about the issue and skills among journalists and women media graduates. It will also engage with community-based organizations and women to increase knowledge as well as implementing strategies such as awareness-raising campaigns.

## ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

### Ministry of Internal Affairs, Republic of the Marshall Islands

-  **MARSHALL ISLANDS**
-  **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Aeneman" - Stop Domestic Violence against Women in RMI"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$263,500

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

In 2011, the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act was adopted in the Marshall Islands. However, insufficient funds and technical assistance have hampered its implementation. Key project activities will include: integrating violence-related education into the national education curriculum; capacity development among the police, judiciary and health professionals; setting up a telephone hotline; and establishing a multisectoral referral and reporting mechanism.

## Mongolian Women's Fund

 **MONGOLIA**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Securing State Investment in Awareness Raising on Domestic Violence in Schools"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$100,000

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

One in three women in Mongolia experiences domestic violence, with women in low-income rural families particularly at risk. The 2004 Law to Combat Domestic Violence requires local authorities to develop and fund programmes for the prevention of domestic violence. However, implementation of the Law remains weak.

The programme will work with Local Councils in Dornod Province and Baganuur District to fund awareness-raising programmes in schools through the Local Crime Prevention Council budget. Key activities include intervention in selected high schools, awareness-raising among Local Crime Prevention Councils and the empowerment of grass-roots women's groups to advocate for and monitor local budgets through a partnership with elected female representatives.

## The Story Kitchen

 **NEPAL**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"SAHAS (Courage) for Justice: Sharing and Amplifying Her Allegorical Stories for Justice"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$80,910

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

During Nepal's decade-long internal armed conflict, women and girls were routinely tortured, raped, detained and killed. This programme will work towards ensuring access to justice for women survivors of conflict-related violence in 10 districts. In an innovative approach, the programme will pair women survivors with women human rights defenders to reach more survivors through local radio networks, helping break the culture of silence around conflict-related violence against women. The

Story Kitchen aims to increase the knowledge and confidence of women survivors to testify at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and to seek justice and to improve the sensitivity of media reporting of gender-based violence in Nepal.

## Restless Development Nepal

 **NEPAL**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Towards the Abolition of Chhaupadi in the Far and Mid-west Regions of Nepal"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$417,880

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

The chhaupadi system is a social tradition in Nepal whereby menstruating women are segregated from society and forbidden from entering their own homes and interacting with others. They are often prevented from bathing, using the toilet or going to school and are deprived of basic facilities such as clean water, sanitation and shelter. Using Restless Development Nepal's proven peer-led direct delivery methodology, the proposed programme will deliver education on sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence to young people, both in and outside of school, as well as to the wider community, in four districts. The programme will also seek to influence district and national levels of government in terms of their planning and investment in chhaupadi-elimination activities, as well as building the capacity of civil society organizations as service providers and advocates against chhaupadi and gender-based violence in a further three districts.

## UN Country Team (UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA)

 **SOLOMON ISLANDS**

 **PROJECT TITLE**  
"Keeping the Promise in the Solomon Islands: From Policy to Action"

 **AMOUNT**  
US\$619,920

 **FOCUS AREA**  
Expanding survivors' access to support services

The Solomon Islands has one of the world's highest documented rates of violence against women. A 2009 study found that nearly two in three women aged between 15 and 49 who had been in a relationship reported experiencing physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner. The proposed project aims to draw on international best practice to establish mechanisms for case management to increase accountability and effective health, justice and social responses to violence against women. It will focus on quality service delivery and, given the significant correlation between childhood and adult experiences of violence, it will address violence against women and children together. Improving data collection, monitoring and information sharing is a significant component of the project, which will also seek to identify models of best practices that can be replicated by other countries in the Pacific.

## Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand



**THAILAND**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“The Empowerment and Capacity Building of Lesbian and Transgender Women to Mitigate Violence, Stigma and Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity”



**AMOUNT**

US\$600,000



**FOCUS AREA**

Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

Lesbian and transgender women in Thailand face violence, stigmatization and discrimination. The National Social Welfare Act 2012 recognizes people with sexual diversity, but the law faces implementation gaps, as does the National AIDS Strategy, in addressing the needs of transgender and lesbian women. The Rainbow Sky Association project will use the proven Community Life Competence model to empower communities in four provinces to address issues of human rights, violence, stigma and discrimination. The programme will support community organizations monitor and record incidents of violence, stigma and discrimination against lesbian and transgender women in order to help develop reliable evidence to support policy development to address the needs of lesbian and transgender women.

## Associacon Chega Ba Ita (ACBIT)



**TIMOR-LESTE**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“Strengthening Women Survivors of Violence in Timor-Leste”



**AMOUNT**

US\$300,000



**FOCUS AREA**

Expanding survivors’ access to support services

Sexual violence was pervasive under the Indonesian occupation (1975-1999) of Timor-Leste. A truth commission found that rape in occupied Timor-Leste was systematic and widespread and constituted a crime against humanity. ACBIT was established to promote the findings and recommendations of the commission’s report and believes that impunity for gender-based violence during the conflict is linked to the country’s current context where violence against women is pervasive. This project will work directly with groups of women survivors in the 13 districts of Timor-Leste and a national women’s NGO in order to engage policy makers and parliamentarians in creating and implementing specific policies for women survivors of human rights violations, including implementing the recommendations of the truth commission.

## EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

### Alliance against LGBT Discrimination



**ALBANIA**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“LBT Rights are Women’s Rights”



**AMOUNT**

US\$95,000



**FOCUS AREA**

Expanding survivors’ access to support services

Information from pilot studies reveals that lesbian, bisexual and transgender women in Albania experience high levels of violence. The Alliance against LGBT Discrimination aims to improve the quality of response services available for LBT women experiencing violence. The intervention intends to develop a manual for women’s organizations, the police and education and health sector service providers giving guidelines on how to better respond to the specific needs of LBT women. A series of training sessions with relevant stakeholders and women’s organizations will also seek to build the capacity of service providers.

### Ministry of Social Development



**KYRGYZSTAN**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Kyrgyzstan through a Coordinated Response of the State and Civil Society”



**AMOUNT**

US\$719,195



**FOCUS AREA**

Strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and action plans

Gender-based violence is widespread in Kyrgyzstan; recent studies indicate that over 80 per cent of women have experienced some form of domestic violence and that every year 12,000 women are kidnapped for forced or early marriage. The Ministry of Social Development aims to support the implementation of national legislation on domestic violence by spearheading the first comprehensive response to gender-based violence. The project aims to strengthen institutional coordination and collaboration among relevant stakeholders by establishing multisectoral coordination mechanisms at the national and local levels.

### NFCCK



**KYRGYZSTAN**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“Expanding Opportunities of Rural Girls to Prevent and Respond to Threats of Violence”



**AMOUNT**

US\$80,215



**FOCUS AREA**

Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

Girls in Kyrgyzstan, particularly those living in rural areas, are highly vulnerable to violence. Bride-kidnapping and early and forced marriage remain widespread, affecting countless numbers of girls. Despite legislative and policy advances, the problem remains entrenched. The NFCCK aims to pilot a school-based education programme in two schools that will build leadership skills and teach girls how

to prevent and respond to threats of violence. The proposed intervention will also work with boys to promote respectful relationships and gender equality and support girl survivors of violence through the establishment of self-support groups. Women, youth community groups and non-governmental organizations will also be trained in order to enhance their capability to implement prevention initiatives and replicate the programme in other rural areas of the country.

## The Association of Women Sandglass



**SERBIA**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“Local Communities in Central Serbia against Gender-Based Violence”



**AMOUNT**

US\$86,546



**FOCUS AREA**

Expanding survivors’ access to support services

Although Serbia has ratified a body of laws and policies to reduce and eliminate gender-based violence, implementation remains a challenge. The project aims to strengthen prevention and response services in Rasina, one of the most marginalized and impoverished districts of the country. The proposed intervention will foster increased collaboration and coordination among relevant stakeholders at the local level. Capacity building will also seek to improve and expand the violence hotline support provided by SOS hotline, focusing on Roma women and women living with disabilities.

## Najoti kudakon



**TAJIKISTAN**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“Creating Women Support Groups and Strengthening the Shelter in Kulob Region”



**AMOUNT**

US\$106,295



**FOCUS AREA**

Expanding survivors’ access to support services

Tajikistan recently adopted legislation on domestic violence. However implementation and access to services remain a significant challenge, particularly in rural and isolated areas. In the Kulob region, many women have been driven to suicide and self-immolation as a result of the high levels of violence experienced and the absence of any support. The NGO Najoti kudakon aims to establish 24 women’s support groups in underserved communities and enhance the only existing safe house in the region offering comprehensive services. It also plans to mobilize and engage communities in remote districts and increase awareness about violence against women among the general public and decision makers.

## CROSS-REGIONAL PROJECTS

### Promundo – US



**BRAZIL AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)**



**PROJECT TITLE**

“Engaging Youth to End Violence against Women and Girls in Brazil and the Democratic Republic of the Congo”



**AMOUNT**

US\$722,821



**FOCUS AREA**

Preventing and addressing violence against women and girls

This cross-regional project aims to build on the evidence-based experience of Promundo and its partners in preventing violence against girls in situations of high urban violence (Brazil) and in conflict-affected settings (DRC). Numerous studies show that experiencing or witnessing intimate partner violence against one’s mother as a child is one of the most powerful determinants for using violence against a female partner later in life. This intervention aims to work directly with adolescent girls and boys who have experienced or witnessed violence. Through group education and counselling, the programme seeks to foster critical reflections on experiences and the adoption of healthy, non-violent attitudes and behaviours. As part of this cross-regional programme, Promundo aims to work together with local universities in Brazil and the DRC in order to develop a unique model to break the inter-generational transmission of violence in conflict and violence-affected settings.

## NOTES

1. In 2014, Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) members at the global and regional levels included: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; the United Nations Development Programme; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; the United Nations Children's Fund; the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; the United Nations Population Fund; the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict; UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict; the World Health Organization; World Food Programme; and the World Bank. Leading civil society organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other experts at the global and field levels – including representatives from the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, Equality Now, and the International Organization for Migration – were also actively involved in the grant-making process.

2. World Health Organization, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, South African Medical Research Council, Global and regional estimates of violence against women, prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence, (Geneva, 2013), p. 2. Available at <http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/9789241564625/en/>.

3. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Global Study on Homicide 2013, p.14, available at [http://www.unodc.org/documents/gsh/pdfs/2014\\_GLOBAL\\_HOMICIDE\\_BOOK\\_web.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/gsh/pdfs/2014_GLOBAL_HOMICIDE_BOOK_web.pdf).

4. Report of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice to the Human Rights Council, 1 April 2014, (A/HRC/26/39).

5. According to UNAIDS, in 2013, almost 60 per cent of all new HIV infections among young persons occurred among adolescent girls and young women. Quoted in <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/hiv-and-aids/facts-and-figures#notes>

6. <http://www.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2012/12/unw-legislation-supplement-en%20pdf.pdf>

7. UNICEF, Hidden in plain sight: A statistical analysis of violence against children, September 2014, p. 48. Available at: [http://www.unicef.org/publications/index\\_74865.html](http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_74865.html).

8. The UNICEF report, Hidden in plain sight: A statistical analysis of violence against children, found that only 8 per cent of children worldwide live in countries that prohibit corporal punishment in all settings (see pp. 110-111). Available at: [http://www.unicef.org/publications/index\\_74865.html](http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_74865.html).

9. Report of the Secretary-General on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/69/222), 1 August 2014, para. 10, available at <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N14/491/72/PDF/N1449172.pdf?OpenElement>.

10. Report of the Secretary-General on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/69/222), 1 August 2014, para. 22, available at <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N14/491/72/PDF/N1449172.pdf?OpenElement>.

11. See the evolving Sexual Violence in Conflict Dataset available from <http://www.sexualviolencedata.org/dataset/>

12. Jo Spangaro and others, What is the evidence of the impact of initiatives to reduce risk and incidence of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict zones and other humanitarian crises in lower- and middle-income countries? (London, EPPI-Centre, Social Science Research Unit, Institute of Education, University of London, 2013), p. 17. Available from [http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=jGcUl\\_oxGng%3d&tabid=3405](http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=jGcUl_oxGng%3d&tabid=3405)

13. Jo Spangaro and others, What is the evidence of the impact of initiatives to reduce risk and incidence of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict zones and other humanitarian crises in lower- and middle-income countries? (London, EPPI-Centre, Social Science Research Unit, Institute of Education, University of London, 2013), p. 1. Available from [http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=jGcUl\\_oxGng%3d&tabid=3405](http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=jGcUl_oxGng%3d&tabid=3405).

14. UN-Women, Progress of the World's Women 2011-2012, (New York, 2012), pp. 52-53.

15. International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict: Basic Standards of Best Practice on the Documentation of Sexual Violence as a Crime under International Law, June 2014. Available at: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/319054/PSVI\\_protocol\\_web.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/319054/PSVI_protocol_web.pdf).

16. Guidance Note of the Secretary General on Reparations for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, June 2014. Available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Press/GuidanceNoteReparationsJune-2014.pdf>.

17. Guidance Note of the Secretary General on Reparations for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, p. 10. Available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Press/GuidanceNoteReparationsJune-2014.pdf>.

18. Report of the Secretary-General, Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2015/3) p.1, available at [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=E/CN.6/2015/3](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/CN.6/2015/3).

19. UN Women, Progress of the World's Women 2011-2012: In pursuit of justice, p. 35. Available at: <http://progress.unwomen.org/pdfs/EN-Report-Progress.pdf>.

20. The World Bank and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Women, Business and the Law 2014: Removing Restrictions to Enhance Gender Equality, London, Bloomsbury Press, 2014, p. 8. Available at: <http://wbl.worldbank.org/~media/FPDKM/WBL/Documents/Reports/2014/Women-Business-and-the-Law-2014-FullReport.pdf>.

21. Ibid.

22. Jennifer L. Solotaroff and Rohini Prabha Pande, Violence against Women and Girls: Lessons from South Asia, DC: World Bank Group, 2014, p. xxxiv and p. 217. Available at: <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/20153>.



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