UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

UN WOMEN

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TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2020

Executive **Summary**

Since the creation of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women in 1996, efforts to address aspects of violence against women and gender equality have seen significant changes and progress.

The landscape facing women and girls seeking to prevent or overcome violence is very different today, in large part thanks to the global movements for human rights and women's empowerment that have grown in strength and confidence over the past 20 years.

With that in mind, this Strategic Plan explains, in broad terms, how the UNTF will work towards supporting current and future global efforts to end violence against women and girls. Its key strategic pathways for the next five years, results, specific outputs and activities are defined in more detail in the Theory of Change Diagram and Results Framework.

The Strategic Plan has been developed in consultation with a number of the UNTF's current donors; current and past grantees; Member States that play a leading role at the international level in addressing violence against women and girls; members of civil society organizations; experts on tackling violence against women and girls; and members of the UNTF's Programme Advisory Committee.

Drawing on these invaluable sources of information and experience, as well as the analysis set out in this paper and the Theory of Change, the UNTF will seek *to fund innovative and impact-oriented programmes, generate knowledge to support evidence-based programming and mobilize financial support*. The focus of these efforts is to contribute to the global work on preventing and ending violence against women and girls in the context of the potential goal for gender equality and women's empowerment in the new Sustainable Development Goals.[1]

In contributing to these goals, the UNTF's mission will be to ***advocate for and finance innovative approaches for preventing and ending violence against women and girls, to catalyse learning from global evidence collected from the programmes funded by the UNTF and to leverage its unique mandate and convening power to foster global giving to end violence against women and girls (EVAW/G).***

GRANT GIVING FOR EVAW/G INITIATIVES:

mobilize, deliver and efficiently manage funds for EVAW/G initiatives that use resources efficiently and effectively, that monitor and achieve results and that generate evidence and knowledge. In this area, the UNTF will prioritize funding projects that contribute to three priority programme areas, selected on the basis of an analysis of the lessons learned set out later in this paper:

a. Expanding access to multisectoral services;
b. Preventing violence against women and girls; and
c. Strengthening the implementation of laws, policies and national action plans.

BUILDING A GLOBAL EVIDENCE HUB ON EVAW/G BASED ON THE EVALUATED RESULTS OF UNTF GRANTEES:

create a platform for harvesting, analysing and disseminating useful lessons from UNTF-supported projects that measurably inform EVAW/G policy and programming.

GLOBAL GIVING FOR EVAW/G INITIATIVES:

create partnerships and mobilize support for increased and effective global resourcing and strengthen commitments for efforts to prevent and end violence against women and girls, including for the UNTF.

The UNTF will centre its 2015-2020 Strategic Plan within the framework of ***Intersectionality and the existing obligations of States under international and national law.*** It will focus primarily on ***implementation*** at the ***national and local*** level**.**

The UNTF's work over the next five years will be underpinned by a new vision of sustainable development. Building on its understanding of future challenges and opportunities, the UNTF will shift its primary focus from trying to *close the gap between the funds available and demand on the ground* towards targeted funding of sustainable initiatives on the basis of their *potential to bring about specific results at the local and/or national level.*

In practice this will mean that in pursuit of results-based, sustainable and replicable initiatives, the UNTF will strive to assist governments, the United Nations system, policymakers and law-changers to be both pro-active and responsive in advancing the realization of women's human rights, working in partnership with civil society organizations. In this way, the UNTF will aim to leverage its role in order to support the broadest possible expansion of choice and opportunity for all women and girls.

Introduction

"Violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women... violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men."

DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (A/RES/48/104), PREAMBLE, PARAGRAPH 6

Artisans make the UN Trust Fund Soko bracelet.
Photo: Soko

The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women (UN Trust Fund, UNTF) was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996 (resolution 50/166). It is a global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that supports national efforts to prevent and end violence against women and girls. The UNTF is administered on behalf of the United Nations system by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), which provides a strong institutional foundation and field support through its regional, multi-country and country offices.

Established as a system-wide mechanism, the UNTF was grounded in the notion of United Nations partnership and this continues to be its core value. The first inter-agency consultative committee, the Programme Advisory Committee (PAC)[2], was established in 1996.

Since then, alongside non-governmental organizations and other experts, more than 20 United Nations agencies have been involved in grant-making approval processes, providing strategic input into UNTF grant-giving decisions and playing a vital role in driving forward collective United Nations efforts to engage the wider community in the work to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

The involvement of numerous United Nations agencies and members of the civil society in UNTF grant-making processes at the field and global levels ensures the transparency and rigor of the selection process. With their particular knowledge and expertise across a range of relevant issues and sectors, they have much to offer as regards strategic decision-making and providing targeted field support to selected grantees, as well as evidence and data gathering and impact monitoring.

The UNTF supports and strengthens the local and national efforts of UN Women and the entire United Nations system to prevent and end violence against women and girls by funding innovative projects. UNTF grantees include non-governmental civil society organizations, governments and, since 2008, UN country teams.

United Nations reform, emphasis on "delivering as one" and the United Nations Secretary-General's campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women, have played key roles in recent years in galvanizing United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to create partnerships across the system. They have also helped strengthen joint programmatic contributions to the work to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

In the past five years, the UNTF has ensured that its work integrates the Framework for Action of UNiTE to End Violence against Women. As its contribution to furthering the aims of this campaign, the UNTF has played an important role in supporting extended uptake of the campaign, for example by asking those responding to its Annual Call for Proposals to link their initiatives explicitly to the priority outcomes of the campaign.[3]

Since its inception in 1996, the UNTF has responded to evolving challenges and opportunities by adapting its focus to ensure its work has maximum impact. Every year, it raises and distributes funds to support the ultimate goal of preventing and ending violence against women and girls.

Since 1996, the UNTF has supported 393 initiatives in 135 countries and territories. At present, it is supporting 95 initiatives in 75 countries and territories with grants totalling US$56.8 million. Grants are currently awarded to civil society organizations, governments and UN Country Teams, to support initiatives to improve the lives of women and girls at the local, national, regional and cross-regional level.

The UNTF is the only global, multilateral, grant-giving mechanism that focuses specifically on violence against women and girls. The Association of Women in Development (AWID), a global network of women's civil society organizations, recently recognized the crucial role played by the UNTF, especially following the global financial crisis, in providing multilateral support for national and local organizations working to prevent and end violence against women and girls.[4]

This year is 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), and the 20th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, provide a unique opportunity to reposition the issue of violence against women and girls and ensure it is placed unequivocally at the centre of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. The UNTF is more determined than ever to turn public commitments by leaders into real improvements in the lives of women and girls. It is in this context that the UNTF 's Strategic Plan sets the course for the next five years (2015-2020).

This Strategic Plan is accompanied by a Results Framework that translates the plan into measurable results to enable the UNTF and stakeholders to monitor achievements, learn lessons and hold the organization accountable for the funds entrusted to it. Each year the Results Framework will be used to monitor and report progress against indicators representing the UNTF's key areas of work and contribution to real change in the lives of women and girls.

The data will be used to communicate achievements and lessons regularly in the UNTF's Annual Report, which will also include other essential evidence from evaluations, case studies and testimonies from beneficiaries.

UN Trust Fund **Achievements**

"Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ARTICLE 3

The vision of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women is very simple: **"A world without violence against women and girls".**

Human rights are at the core of the UNTF's work. Its mandate and implementing strategies are derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international human rights treaties and instruments that followed it. These include the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

The strategic focus of the UNTF has continued to evolve, influenced by long-standing partnerships and experience of supporting civil society organizations, governments, and United Nations partners, as well as the global movements for human rights and women's empowerment that have grown in strength and confidence over the past 20 years.

Similarly, the UNTF's vision and mission have also evolved since its inception in 1996. Initially its immediate aim was *"to support national, regional and international actions, including those taken by Governments and non-governmental organizations, to eliminate violence against women."* Over the years, the scope of the portfolio broadened and the group of grantees diversified. Funding increased considerably and special funding windows were launched (for example, violence against women and HIV/AIDS, in conflict and post-conflict settings and the experience of adolescent girls).

In 2016 the UNTF will celebrate its 20th anniversary. In preparation for this and to contribute to the Evidence Hub planned under pillar two of this Strategic Plan, the UNTF will be undertaking a review of a number of achievements and lessons learned from grants awarded over the last 20 years. The projects to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls that have been supported by the UNTF during that time have extended to every corner of the world. Many have undertaken pioneering and imaginative initiatives that have helped shape our understanding of what works and why. This evidence has been documented in grantee reports, UNTF Annual Reports, grantee evaluations and a 2009 external evaluation, all of which contributed to the analysis underpinning this Strategic Plan.

UNTF grantees currently implement a wide range of local, national, regional and cross-regional projects, either as stand-alone interventions or as part of broader local or national efforts. From Tonga to Ecuador and from Belarus to India and Nigeria, the UNTF has funded projects that have delivered real and lasting benefits to women and girls and successfully engaged a number of stakeholders – including men, boys, young people and religious and traditional leaders – as an important part of delivering our common goal of preventing and ending violence against women.

> "I am not afraid anymore and I will not go back to him anymore. I have received a lot of help and I know I can do it now. I have my own place, my daughter goes to kindergarten and now I only need a job. I can do anything now."
>
> Elvedina, a survivor of intimate partner violence from Gorazde, Bosnia and Herzegovina, who was the direct beneficiary of a UNTF grant in 2014

According to the 2009 external evaluation, the UNTF has: *"contributed to increased awareness among citizens of the gravity of violence against women and girls and [UNTF] projects responded to the needs of women affected by or survivors of violence and built capacity of duty bearers."* [5]

Responding to the priorities identified, the UNTF has provided support to critical and groundbreaking research; specific changes in laws, policies and practices; and innovative activism. It has encouraged the establishment of local and national services for survivors of violence and the creation of new local, national, regional and cross-regional partnerships.

THEY COUNT ON US
WE COUNT ON YOU

SUPPORT THE UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The United Nations Trust Fund supports organisations to:

CHANGE MINDSETS

Violence against women is **neither inevitable nor acceptable**

MAKE JUSTICE WORK FOR WOMEN

Promote **legal** and **policy reforms** that ensure justice and accountability

BRING SERVICES TO WOMEN

Including **legal assistance, counselling, health care** and **community-based services**

The UN Trust Fund grants are awarded annually through an open, competitive and transparent process that ensures quality programming and rigour in the selection of grantees.

Snaphot Of Evolution: **1996-2014**

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

While the UNTF has continued to focus on women and girls as the primary beneficiaries and on providing support to grantees, the scope of its work has expanded over time. The concentration on laws, national policies and service provision for survivors of the 1990s has evolved to include a greater emphasis on projects dealing with preventing violence against women and girls and strategic thematic priorities. Evidence of the success of this approach was highlighted in UNIFEM's 2009 *Evaluation Report*.[7] This found that in all the projects reviewed at that time (that is, the 37 projects implemented in the period 2005-2007) the "capacities of duty bearers and/or its rights holders were strengthened through UN Trust Fund grantee interventions." The report also noted that the projects contributed to changing or implementing legal or policy frameworks at the country and local levels and that most had integrated human rights and gender equality approaches.

In its funding analysis and strategies, the UNTF has also explicitly identified men's groups as organizations that are eligible to apply for grants and stressed the importance of greater awareness and understanding of the need to target men and boys as active agents of change. For example, the UNTF selected several projects in its 13th grant-making cycle (2008) that specifically targeted men. More than half the projects that have received UNTF support since then identify men and boys as secondary beneficiaries.

Some of the strategies and methodologies tested and implemented in the field of prevention and working with men and boys that were initially funded by the UNTF have subsequently been identified by external evaluators as examples of effective interventions to prevent violence against women and girls.

"Despite the limitations in the evidence base, overall this rapid review concludes that there is fair evidence to recommend: relationship-level interventions such as Stepping Stones; microfinance combined with gender-transformative approaches such as IMAGE; community mobilization interventions to change social norms; interventions that primarily target boys and men through group education combined with community mobilization; and parenting programmes."[8]

In response to the recommendations of the 2009 *Evaluation Report*, the UNTF has invested in building both its own and grantees' monitoring and evaluation capacity. The UNTF has introduced mandatory baseline studies and evaluations at the end of each project and developed mandatory training for all new grantees, with the aim of building their monitoring, evaluation and reporting capacity. And in 2014, the UNTF launched its **Grant Management System**, an interactive tool that provides easy public access to detailed information about UNTF's global grant-making mechanism.

	1996	2014
Grant making	US $841,746	US $8,600,000
Average grant size	US $80,000	US $350,000
Number of applications received	200	2,098
Number of donors	3	22
Number of UN entities participating in the selection process	5	15

Woman presenting a learning tool on street harassment as part of a project funded by the UN Trust Fund in Uganda.
Photo: UN Trust Fund

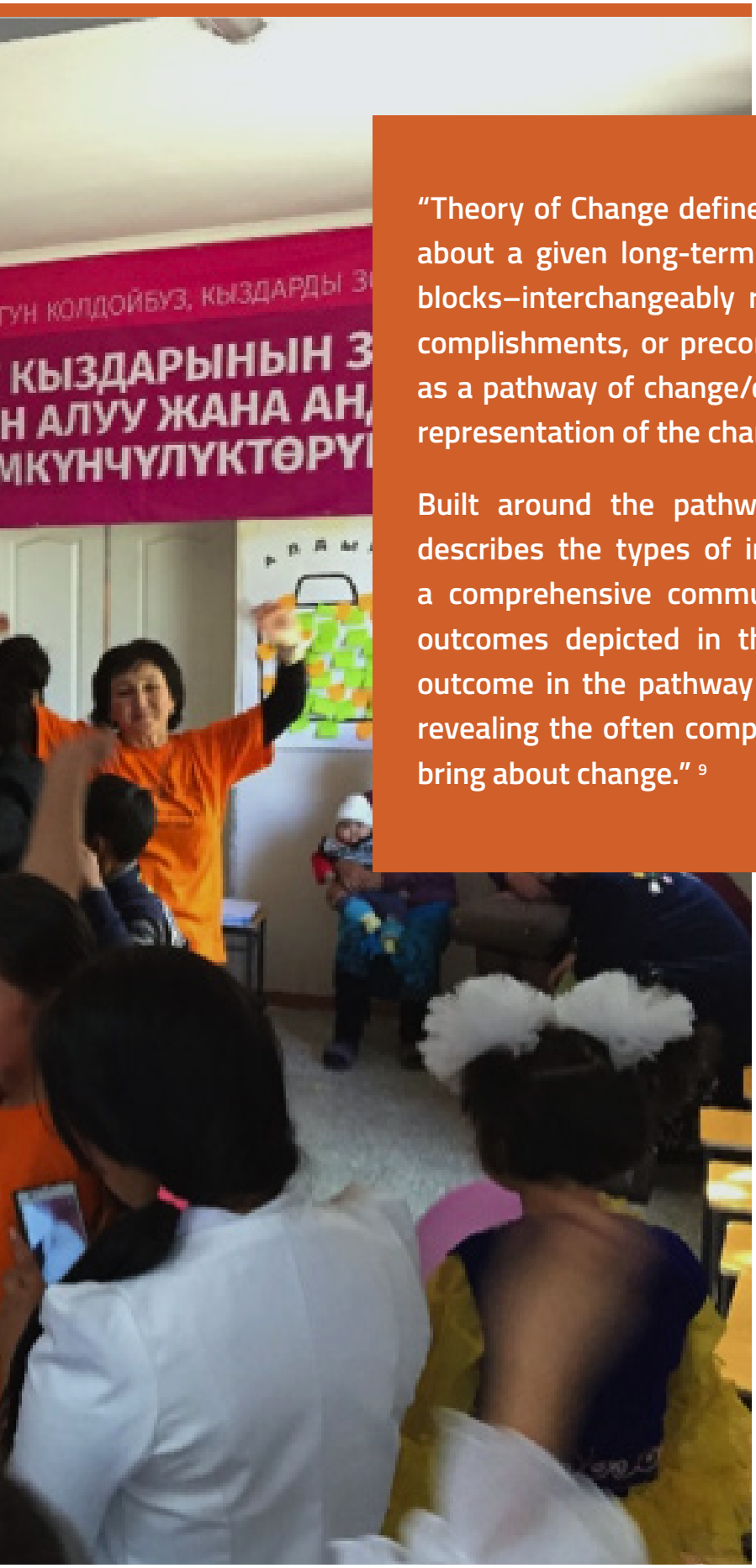
UNTF support for work with men and boys

In **Zambia**, Equality Now, with UNTF support, is empowering adolescent girls to prevent, identify and report sexual violence through the creation of safe spaces. Recognizing that engaging boys is critical to any prevention effort, the project has reached 1,500 school-age boys with messages aimed at challenging stereotypes that condone sexual violence against girls and at eroding the discriminatory attitudes and behaviours that have prevented them from becoming champions of girls' rights. The attitude change generated by the project became evident when more than 600 boys in four schools made a commitment to become agents of change to address sexual violence against girls, with an emphasis on becoming the next generation of partners in the fight against gender-based violence.

Instituto Promundo implemented a multi-country programme in **Brazil, Chile, India** and **Rwanda** that sought to test and evaluate an array of interventions to engage young and adult men in gender-based violence prevention, including community-based, sport-based, health sector-based and workplace-based interventions. A 2012 impact evaluation of the programme revealed a statistically significant change in attitudes towards violence against women and in self-reported use of violence against female partners. Qualitative results further affirmed that the programme decreased support for attitudes that condone intimate partner violence.

The Issue and **Lessons Learned**

Students participating in an interactive activity in a school in Kyrgyzstan to teach girls about their rights.
Photo: UN Trust Fund



"Theory of Change defines all building blocks required to bring about a given long-term goal. This set of connected building blocks–interchangeably referred to as outcomes, results, accomplishments, or preconditions is depicted on a map known as a pathway of change/change framework, which is a graphic representation of the change process.

Built around the pathway of change, a Theory of Change describes the types of interventions (a single programme or a comprehensive community initiative) that bring about the outcomes depicted in the pathway of a change map. Each outcome in the pathway of change is tied to an intervention, revealing the often complex web of activity that is required to bring about change." [9]

Violence is a major obstacle to women's and girls' development and to the welfare and development of communities and societies as a whole. Over the past decade, gender equality has become a core development objective in its own right, as well as a critical channel for reducing income and non-income poverty. Much progress has been made, however, there remains a significant *"gender gap".* Violence against women and girls is an expression of this inequality.[10]

The 2015-2020 UNTF Strategic Plan is guided by lessons learned from past and ongoing engagements and by upcoming opportunities. It is grounded in a "theory of change" that defines the building blocks required to fulfil women's and girls' human rights through the reduction of violence against women and girls.

This section summarizes the key lessons learned from global efforts, including those funded by the UNTF, to eliminate violence against women and girls. It then sets out the ***three strategic pillars and core pathways for change*** that the UNTF intends to pursue in order to fulfil its mission and mandate.

The Issue: Violence Against Women And Girls

Violence against women and girls is one of the most systematic and widespread human rights violations. It is rooted in gendered social structures; cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries; affects all societies; and is a major obstacle to ending gender inequality and discrimination globally.

PROGRESS

Progress has been made on the issue over the last two decades. At the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995 (just a year before the creation of the UNTF) violence against women was brought out of the shadows by the United Nations. The Beijing Platform for Action set out key commitments regarding violence against women, which it identified as "an obstacle to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace. Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms." Since this landmark initiative, much has changed.

Over the past 20 years, support for the movement to prevent and end violence against women and girls has made enormous strides in working with and engaging civil society organizations at the local, national, regional and international level. At the government level, legislation, policies and national action plans have been developed and strengthened. For example, violence against women and girls is no longer seen as a "private" matter to be kept behind the closed doors of the family home.

In 1995, only a handful of countries had laws and policies to address violence against women and girls. Today, national governments are moving towards a more comprehensive response to this worldwide pandemic and there have been many changes in the work on ending violence against women and girls, at the normative, policy and implementation levels. At the international level, conventions and protocols have been complemented by the development of policy instruments. These provide detailed guidance on the steps that States and other stakeholders need to take to prevent and end violence against women and girls. Some have taken the form of declarations and resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies and documents emanating from United Nations conferences and summit meetings.

Laws against domestic violence now exist in a large number of countries and politicians and other decision makers have made strong, public commitments to address this crime at the national and international level. Rape and sexual violence in war are now recognized, codified and prosecuted as constituting serious international crimes: war crimes, crimes against humanity and, in certain circumstances, the gravest crime of all: genocide.

The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) adopted by the world's leaders in 2000 took a clear position that gender equality is both a goal in itself (MDG-3) and a condition for the achievement of the other goals. However, the MDGs failed to address the issue of violence against women and girls specifically. This has been recognized as a key obstacle to the fulfilment of the MDGs, as well as other social and economic indicators.

In 2000, the United Nations Security Council adopted a landmark resolution on Women, Peace and Security (S/RES/1325). This highlighted the interconnection between women's empowerment, gender equality and the peace and security agenda. In 2013, the Security Council adopted two further resolutions (S/RES/2106 and S/RES/2122) which strengthened previous resolutions on sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations and on the role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflict. Also in 2013, more than 130 Member States endorsed the Declaration of Commitment to End Sexual Violence in Conflict and the 57th Commission on the Status of Women adopted the agreed conclusions on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls.

Definition of violence against women

The United Nations defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life".

(Article 1, Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993), available at www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm)

In line with the Declaration, its work and for the purpose of this Strategic Plan the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women includes violence against girls in the definition.

UN Trust Fund supported Grassroot Soccer SKILLZ Street Intervention at the Yomelela Primary School, Khayalitsha Cape Town, South Africa.
Photo: UN Women/Karin Schermbrucker

In recent years, the United Nations General Assembly has also addressed violence against women and girls in general, as well as specific forms and manifestations of such violence, including trafficking in women and girls, traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, crimes against women committed in the name of "honour", and domestic violence against women. In relevant resolutions, the General Assembly has routinely called on Member States to strengthen their legal frameworks.

The achievement of a life free of violence is absolutely indivisible from empowerment and the achievement of improvements in the life chances, choices and opportunities available to women and girls – this is the fundamental premise at the very core of the UNTF's mission. Work to prevent and end violence against women cannot be divorced from the broader work to achieve equality between men and women. All major global commitments over the past two decades have addressed gender equality considerations in the context of their various thematic concerns, as have a range of regional and national normative statements.

These provide a framework for action that embraces all men and women equally. As we enter the new era of global commitments with the SDGs, the most pervasive manifestations of inequality and discrimination – violence against women and girls - must be addressed as an integral part of development in every country. All of these changes have grown out of a greater political, community and individual mobilization to address violence against women and girls at all levels.

CHALLENGES

However great challenges remain: girls and women all over the world continue to be subjected to shocking levels of gender-based violence – quite literally from the womb to the tomb – regardless of class, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or culture. Discrimination in the law, particularly in the area of family law, persists in many countries. Many forms of violence against women and girls remain at worryingly high levels, both in public and private spaces, and national and local support systems for survivors continue to be underdeveloped.

Studies by various United Nations bodies and other organizations demonstrate that violence against women and girls remains a global phenomenon of alarming proportions. Research has shown that unless effective measures to tackle it are implemented, it will continue to increase over the coming decade due to a growing population, particularly in those areas with a high incidence of violence against women and girls, such as Africa, South East Asia and the Middle East. The most common form of violence experienced by women is intimate partner violence; a global study on homicide found that almost half of female homicide victims are killed by members of their family or intimate partners, whereas the equivalent figure for male victims is just over a fifth.[11] Current economic crises have exacerbated women's economic disadvantage and subsequent cutbacks in social spending on health and education have increased women's risk of exploitation and violence.[12]

A global review commissioned by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2013 estimates that 35 per cent of women worldwide have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. Moreover, some national studies show that up to 70 per cent of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime from an intimate partner. This already represents a large proportion of the world's women before taking into account the many other forms of violence that women may be exposed to. The WHO report also details the effects of violence on women's physical, sexual, reproductive and mental health. Women who have been physically or sexually abused by their partners report higher rates of health problems. According to the WHO review, the incidence of

A worker in a factory supported by Fair Wear Foundation, a grantee of the UNTF in India.
Photo: Fair Wear Foundation

low birth weight babies is 16 per cent higher. Survivors are more than twice as likely to have an abortion, almost twice as likely to experience depression and, in some regions, 1.5 times more likely to acquire HIV than women who have not experienced partner violence.[13]

It is also estimated that globally about 7 per cent of women have been sexually assaulted by someone other than their partner. Again, the consequences are profound with a significant increase in the likelihood of alcohol-related disorders and depression or anxiety. Regional estimates of the combined prevalence of rates of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence range from 27.2 per cent to 45.6 per cent.[14]

In addition, there are many other forms of gender-based violence, such as female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), forced and child marriage, trafficking, crimes committed in the name of "honour", elder abuse, dowry-related violence, femicide, female infanticide and economic abuse. In many cases more robust statistics on their prevalence are yet to be collected.

A 2013 report by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) found that more than 125 million girls and women alive today have undergone some form of FGM/C in 29 countries across Africa and the Middle East. It also estimated that another 30 million girls are at risk of FGM/C in the next 10 years given the growing population in these 29 countries.[15]

UNICEF further estimates that around 120 million girls under the age of 20 (about one in 10) have been subjected to forced sexual intercourse or other forced sexual acts at some point in their lives.[16] Also, more than 700 million women worldwide alive today were married before their 18th birthday. More than one in three (about 250 million) were under 15 when they started to cohabit. Child marriage is particularly common in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.[17]

A body of work exists detailing the different facets and causal relationships that lead to and reinforce violence against women and girls.[18] Drawing on different sources, UN Women has summarized the key risk factors for violence against women and girls:

- Social norms and beliefs that reinforce female subordination and tolerate male violence (such as dowries, bride price and child marriage);
- Women's access to and control over property and land rights;
- Male control over decision-making and assets;
- Low level of education and limited economic opportunities;
- Limited legislative and policy framework for preventing and responding to violence (that is, lack of institutional support from the police and judicial systems and the failure to bring to justice perpetrators of violence);
- Dysfunctional, unhealthy relationships characterized by inequality, power imbalance and conflict;
- Alcohol and substance misuse; and
- Witnessing or being a victim of violence as a child.[19]

These findings demonstrate that violence against women and girls is a global human rights, economic empowerment and public health crisis requiring urgent action.

LESSONS LEARNED

The following section sets out the key lessons learned by the UNTF which have informed the Strategic Plan. It is based on the above analysis of the issue and challenges, as well as lessons learned from: UNTF grantee evaluation reports, monitoring missions, feedback from grantees and discussions with partners and donors. On the basis of these lessons the UNTF identified a number of strategic factors to guide the Fund's overall work to end violence against women and girls over the next five years: firstly on grant giving and the model for managing grants; secondly on generating evidence and thirdly on the UNTF's role in mobilising global giving for EVAW/G.

a. Grant Giving: Priority Areas

A brief overview of the work of UNTF grantees so far shows that broad areas where intervention is needed include:

- Influencing government policy and legislation to explicitly address primary prevention;
- Changing organizational practices to be more gender aware and put in place specific and proactive policies of zero tolerance;
- Fostering coalitions and networks;
- Mobilizing communities, education and social marketing;
- Changing individual knowledge and attitudes: reaching young people and engaging men and boys as allies; and
- Empowering women socially and economically.

This analysis of need, coupled with the assessment above of the current key risk factors led to further analysis in the further three priority areas: (i) prevention; (ii) implementation of laws, policies and national action plans and (iii) access to multisectoral services.

Supporting work on primary prevention

In the past three years, of the 6,221 applications from 131 countries submitted to the UNTF, the vast majority (6,105) have included a focus on prevention strategies in their proposals. This does not come as surprise given the wide recognition that work on the prevention of violence against women and girls is key and should be one of the priorities in international EVAW/G efforts. Prevention entails working at different levels of society to change institutions and implement targeted interventions with specific groups, as well as more generalized approaches for the population at large (such as campaigns, mass media messaging and other awareness-raising initiatives). For example, the development and implementation of prevention projects in schools and educational settings, in youth and local organizations and in partnership with all relevant key stakeholders (including ministries of educations, schools, teachers, religious leaders, parents and students) is an area that requires and deserves greater and long-term investment as we move into the next generation of EVAW/G programming.

Strengthening implementation of national laws, policies and action plans

Another key lesson learned through the UNTF's grant giving so far is that, despite the success in negotiating international instruments and standards and the visible increase in political will, there is often still a lack of political action and adequate resources to translate these into effective practices that make positive changes in women's lives. The gap between binding commitments, laws and policies and the lived experiences of the women and girls who should benefit from them is still far too wide. In addition, the World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development concludes that reducing domestic violence requires action on multiple fronts. The goal should be to prevent violence before it happens, through enacting laws that define different types of violence against women and girls, prescribing mandates and duties for enforcement and investigation, raising societal awareness and signalling government commitment. Relevant laws must be put in place in countries that lack them. In countries where such laws already exist, the authorities must exercise due diligence to ensure that they are fully implemented and that those responsible for enforcing them are accountable. Therefore the UNTF has identified a clear need for a greater focus on the implementation of national laws, policies and action plans and an urgent need to expand the focus from ensuring political will to ensuring specific and deliverable political action.

Increasing and improving support services for survivors of violence

In recent years, there has been some progress in introducing and expanding improved support services for women and girl survivors of violence. However, a number of applications submitted over the past three years requesting funding support for work on this specific issue (for example, for safe shelters, medical equipment, emergency physical and mental health care services, "safe spaces", high quality counselling, free legal assistance and court support services, and services geared towards the longer-term empowerment of victims/survivors) as well as a brief overview of evaluations of some UNTF projects show that progress is often slow and uneven across countries.

In preparation for the 57th Commission on the Status of Women, UN Women conducted a consultation on "Eliminating violence against women and girls gaps, challenges and strategic directions in prevention and multisectoral services and responses".[20] Key findings from the consultation were that in many cases:

- Services need to be better funded and underscored by comprehensive research;
- Staff and policymakers need to be better trained and sensitized;
- Services must be better designed for children and girls and for women subject to multiple forms of discrimination;
- More efforts must be made to ensure the social protection and reintegration of survivors;
- Services must be better coordinated and less bureaucratic; and
- Services need to be more broadly distributed and preceded by comprehensive outreach.[21]

The type and content of the proposals that the UNTF received in response to its Annual Call for Proposals in 2014 confirm this analysis. For example, the 2,098 applications received from 147 countries clearly demonstrated that there is a great demand for improved services for survivors. The need for a range of services for survivors of violence and their effective integration into the national response was clear, whether in relation to domestic violence, sexual violence, FGM/C or acid attacks. This need is particularly evident in relation to underserved groups of women and girls including women and girls living in poverty or rural areas; women and girls with disabilities; those who are stateless, internally displaced or refugees; indigenous women; and members of religious or ethnic minorities. The third and final priority programmatic area for UNTF's grant giving in 2015-2020 is, therefore, *"expanding access to multisectoral services"*.

b. Grant-Giving Model: ensuring adequate time and resources for local and national initiatives to change behaviours

Lessons learned from UNTF grantees evaluation reports have shown that in some cases longer-term support and funding is needed in order to secure sustainable change. Evidence suggests that specific results achieved by current grantees could provide a model that can be replicated elsewhere and in other cases, longer-term support is needed in order to achieve concrete change. For example, results from the work of one UNTF grantee "Raising Voices" which has developed an innovative methodology for social norm change to prevent VAW and HIV/AIDS show promise of replication and longer-term impact. An impact evaluation by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine concluded that the levels of physical partner violence occurring in the past year reported by women were 52% lower in the intervention communities compared to the control group. In the policy recommendations of the report, it states that: *"For organizations that work to prevent violence against women* the study has highlighted the value of investing in social norm change interventions at the community level. For *development partners* community mobilisation interventions require longer-term funding and support for this type of intervention should only be provided with this understanding in mind" [22]. Therefore, the UNTF will consider introducing additional funding modalities to ensure sustainable results and the generation of change over a longer period of time, up to five years, rather than the current two or three-year funding cycle. To date, the UNTF has established four Special Windows: three thematic windows with a focus on conflict/post-conflict contexts, HIV and violence against women and girls and violence against adolescent girls; and a Special Window, opened in 2014, for building the capacity of small organizations, with a specific focus on *small women's organizations* through the new allocation of small grants of between US$50,000 and US$100,000. The added value of the Special Windows in terms of the results and lessons learned will be included in the review of grants awarded over the last 20 years which is planned to take place by 2016. In the meantime the special window for small organisations will continue, in light of the evidence of need in this area.

Governments have the primary responsibility to implement internationally agreed instruments. However, insufficient funding remains a significant obstacle to the realization of the rights set out in such instruments. This is also true of the provision of adequate funds for women's and civil society organizations and others working to prevent and end violence against women and girls. In this context, a survey of women's organizations and their financing conducted through AWID in 2013 makes the point that: "the spotlight on women and girls seems to have had relatively little impact on improving the funding situation for a large majority of women's organizations around the world." AWID further argues that: "the 'leaves'– the individual women and girls – are receiving growing attention, without recognizing or supporting 'the roots' – the sustained, collective action by feminists and women's rights activists and organizations that has been at the core of women's rights advancements throughout history."[23]

The UNFT believes that this strategic focus on *smaller national organizations* will help harness an enormous potential for fundamental change. Building their organizational capacities by providing adequate resources and support will enable them to become sustainable catalysts for change and develop their own independent fundraising capacity.

Community members access free family planning at Nadi Town Market, Fiji.
Photo: MSP

c. Strengthening the evidence base

The UN Commission on the Status of Women has highlighted the importance of improving the evidence base for gender equality and the empowerment of women (including tracking a core set of violence against women indicators adopted by the Statistical Commission in 2013) and promoting best practices.[24] The *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development* made a similar point and suggested that the international development community support innovation and learning in three different ways. *First*, it can invest in rigorously evaluating ongoing initiatives and improving the quality of existing data. *Second*, it can help scale up those innovations that have worked. And, *third*, it can help test new approaches aimed at shifting norms regarding violence against women and girls.

The 2009 *External Evaluation* of the UNTF also noted that "while projects supported by the UN Trust Fund have helped increase the knowledge of ending violence against women and girls in individuals and organizations, the UN Trust Fund as a whole (at that time) had been less successful in managing and disseminating knowledge." In the past five years, however, the UNTF has focused on building its own monitoring and evaluation (M&E) capacity as well as that of its grantees in order to utilize a wealth of knowledge embedded in its large grants portfolio.

Since 2010, and as the part of "Phase 1", the UNTF has invested significant time and resources in building its M&E processes. This included setting up mandatory training for grantees on M&E concepts and tools, as well as required baseline and end-line studies for all grantees. In addition, in order to ensure the efficient management of its grant-giving process, the UNTF has developed the Grants Management System (GMS),[26] which is now being used as the main tool to track changes in the grant portfolio according to criteria such as the type of organization, region and country, funding in US dollars and type of intervention.

Going forward, and as part of "Phase 2", one of the priorities of the UNTF will be to make the knowledge and data acquired through its GMS and its M&E process widely available. The UNTF also plans to conduct a review of a number of achievements and lessons learned from grants awarded over the last 20 years. The aim is to contribute significantly to building a stronger knowledge base for scaling up global efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls over the next five years. The UNTF will also focus capacity-building efforts with grantees on improving data collection and M&E to ensure high quality knowledge and evidence is gathered and shared. The UNTF will be strategic in the dissemination of knowledge to ensure it is targeted to the right audiences and used to improve EVAW/G programming.

The UNTF, a United Nations system-wide organization with almost 20 years' experience of grant giving and direct access to specific examples of the challenges and developments in EVAW/G work, is in a unique position to acquire and share knowledge and help facilitate partnerships. One of the conclusions of the 2005 global review was the need to "create partnerships between government and nongovernmental agencies".[25] This is something that the UNTF has already been doing for some time through its grant-giving process and which it will seek to develop through strategic partnerships (and/or facilitating partnerships for grantees) on research, evaluation and knowledge generation, for example with research institutions and universities.

d. Leveraging partnerships and expanding global giving to accelerate progress

There is wide international recognition that working on preventing and ending violence against women and girls requires international, national and local cooperation, more effective partnerships and an increase in funding to accelerate progress. In its agreed conclusions in 2014, the Commission on the Status of Women highlighted the need to: *"Strengthen international cooperation, including the role of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, bearing in mind that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation, and invites all Member States to enhance South-South and triangular cooperation focusing on shared development priorities, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in government, civil society and the private sector, while noting that national ownership and leadership in this regard are indispensable for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls".*[27]

Ending violence against women and girls is an area of work that has long suffered from chronic underfunding.[28] There is no public, aggregated data on what percentage of bilateral and multilateral funding is allocated exclusively to ending violence against women and girls. However, a recent study by The Foundation Center on global human rights-related giving by private foundations found that 23 per cent of donations is allocated to organizations that work to advance women's rights, of which 9 per cent is assigned to initiatives to end violence against women. This means that *only 2 per cent of all human rights-related global foundation giving* is allocated exclusively to efforts that promote a society free of violence against women and girls.

The *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development* called for a stronger leveraging of partnerships when addressing VAW/G, and particularly urged the international development community to continue to support initiatives such as the UNTF, acknowledging its value added in providing "funding to grassroots organizations devoted to the prevention of violence against women, including those in remote or excluded populations."[29]

The achievements of UNTF grantees make a compelling case for how much can be accomplished by providing strategic and direct grants to projects of high quality led by effective institutions. For example, in Bangladesh and India, a UNTF grant of less than US$500,000 supported the efforts of the Fair Wear Foundation to eliminate sexual harassment and violence against women in export-orientated garment factories. To date, over 3,500 workers have received direct training in 24 factories, while another 15,000 workers were trained via peer-to-peer education. In Fiji, a UNTF grant of less than US$150,000 enabled Medical Services in the Pacific to operate mobile clinics in seven rural market locations, providing 2,171 women so far with improved access to sexual and reproductive health care, sexual assault counselling and referral services.

The UNTF can therefore play a catalysing role in calling for a significant increase in overall global giving to address the issue of violence against women and girls at the national and local levels.

Girls in Guatemala engage in a skills activity with UN Trust Fund supported grantee, the Population Council.
Photo: Phil Borges

The UN Trust Fund's **Direction For 2015-2020**

Benefit Concert at Carnegie Hall for The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women.
Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

MISSION STATEMENT

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women's mission is to advocate for and finance innovative approaches for preventing and ending violence against women and girls, to catalyse learning from global evidence collected from the projects it funds and to leverage its unique mandate and convening power to foster global giving for EVAW/G.

The ultimate vision of the UNTF is a world without violence against women and girls that is fully aligned with international human rights and humanitarian law developed to protect the human rights of all and of which gender equality is an integral part. Ending violence against women and girls is central to achieving overall gender equality and vice versa. Over the past 20 years much progress has been made, but a great deal remains to be done to accelerate the implementation of relevant international agreements to end violence against women and girls and realize gender equality, as well as those that will be agreed in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

Addressing the complex root causes of violence against women and girls and its adverse socio-economic effects on women and society as a whole and providing effective and sustainable support to victims and survivors, requires integrated thinking and practice. This integration is crucial at all levels, from the global level of interaction, to national implementation through all relevant sectors (for example, in the areas of justice, health, education and work) to advocacy and interventions at the community and household levels.

The UNTF recognizes that to truly transform the existing social beliefs, practices and cultural models that fuel violence it is necessary to address and bring to an end the multiple and interconnected disadvantages, including all forms of discrimination and exclusion, that girls and women experience worldwide. As such, the work of the UNTF will be contributing to addressing challenges in **protecting human rights and promoting gender equality in the context of a broader global agenda through the lens of violence against women and girls.**

Therefore, all the UNTF's specific deliverables and results (as outlined in its Theory of Change and Results Framework, will be situated within the three key pillars of its 2015-2020 Strategic Plan:

1. **Grant giving to initiatives to end violence against women and girls**
2. **Building a global Evidence Hub on ending violence against women and girls based on the evaluated results of UNTF grantees**
3. **Advocating for global giving for work on ending violence against women and girls**

01 Grant giving to initiatives to end violence against women and girls

As mandated by its founding Resolution in 1996, the UNTF provides grants in *"support of national, regional and international actions, including those taken by Governments and non-governmental organizations, to eliminate violence against women."* Therefore, UNTF's grant making will remain one of the key strategic pillars of its 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. The process will continue to ensure the open, fair, transparent, competitive and results-based allocation of funds. The Global and Regional Programme Advisory Committees (comprising representatives of UN entities at UN headquarters and regional levels and experts from civil society) will continue to endorse the annual UNTF Call for Proposals and play a role in appraising applications and recommendations for final projects for approval for funding. This consultative and inter-agency mechanism ensures that allocation of grants is fairly applied (e.g. taking into account regional and global distribution), on the basis of the strength of each proposal against evidence-based criteria.

The UNTF's principal approach as a *pooled fund* and its *responsiveness to all forms of violence against women and girls* will be retained, enabling it to invest resources where they are most needed. Grants will be awarded to support projects at the national and local level only and on the basis of the quality of proposals and their focus on evidence-based programming. In this way, the UNTF will aim to ensure that resources are used efficiently with maximum results. Greater emphasis will be placed on the sustainability of projects and priority will be given to projects that adopt a multisectoral approach (for example, joint projects of civil society organizations and government institutions) and those with direct links to the specific implementation of a country's obligations under national and international normative frameworks.

As in the past, the UNTF will also periodically consider opening Special Windows for particular strategic areas that promise to yield sustainable results on the basis of need and evidence, for example a Special Window on projects in humanitarian settings is being considered, and the focus on building the capacity of small organisation, including women's organisations, will continue.

In line with its aim to secure concrete and more sustainable results, the UNTF will look to award **larger and longer-term grants** that allow sufficient resources for projects to be implemented and evaluated adequately and for results and their trajectory to be appropriately documented and disseminated.

Where the evidence suggests that specific results achieved by current grantees could provide a model that can be replicated elsewhere, the UNTF may consider directly re-investing in those projects. This new UNTF funding modality will be "by invitation only" in order to support projects that show promise for the next generation of evidence-based results and concrete change. Those grantees invited to submit a second proposal for a further funding cycle of between two and three years will be selected on the basis of specific, measurable criteria. These have yet to be devised, but are likely to include: evidence of specific results achieved to date; evidence of the sustainability of results beyond the life of the project; evidence of cost effectiveness and efficiency; the potential for replication and scaling-up of results; and innovative methodologies and approaches.

The UNTF will continue to provide support for capacity building in all grantee organizations to ensure that resources are used efficiently and effectively and that results are monitored and evaluated against quality standards in order to generate evidence and lessons learned.

Grant giving focus areas for 2015-2010

The UNTF will prioritize its funding for projects that contribute to three priority programme areas:

a. Expanding access to multisectoral services;
b. *Preventing* violence against women and girls; and
c. Strengthening the *implementation* of laws, policies and national action plans.

These areas have been selected on the basis of the analysis of the lessons learned set out earlier in this paper and analysis of previous trends in funding applications. Over the past three years, the UNTF has received 6,221 applications from 147 countries and territories. Of these, 4,964 planned to implement some aspect of service delivery for survivors. For example, 1,476 specifically included promoting and/or providing services such as psychological counselling, medical services and shelters, while 1,720 specifically listed promoting access to justice through measures such as legal aid, training for the police and lawyers and reparations.

This does not come as a surprise as all available global and national data points to the need to invest in *services for survivors*. The nature of the services may vary, depending on the form of violence experienced, but the need for a range of services that are effectively integrated is clear, whether in relation to domestic violence, sexual violence, female genital mutilation, acid attacks or violence in conflict and post-conflict settings. Furthermore, this need is particularly evident in relation to underserved groups of women and girls including women and girls living in poverty or rural areas; women and girls with disabilities; those who are stateless, internally displaced or refugees; tribal or indigenous women; and members of religious or ethnic minorities.

In the light of available global data and the extent to which funding applications to the UNTF focus on service provision and in order to support the national and local implementation of programmes such as the Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls subject to Violence,[30] *improved access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multi-sectoral services* will be one of the three priority areas for funding by the UNTF in the next five years.

Violence against women and girls is rooted in gender-based discrimination and social norms and gender stereotypes that perpetuate such violence. Given the devastating effect violence has on women and girls, efforts must focus on adequate and appropriate responses and services for survivors. However, the best way to end violence against women and girls is to prevent it from happening in the first place by addressing its root and structural causes.

Prevention should start early in life, by educating and working with young boys and girls and promoting respectful relationships and gender equality. Working with youth carries a promise of faster, sustained progress on preventing and eradicating gender-based violence in the longer term. Therefore, *prevention projects* in schools and in youth and local organizations – in partnership with all key stakeholders in the community, including men and boys – is an area that requires and deserves greater investment.

Male violence is a learned behaviour and men and boys are socialized in much of the world to be violent. Their use of violence is in itself often part of an affirmation of male norms and masculinities, in addition to being part of a power structure in which men with more power (for example, older boys and men or men in dominant social classes) subjugate younger boys and men with violence.

Violence and its acceptance are central to maintaining relations of inequality. Nowhere is this clearer than in the unequal relations of power between men and women. Male violence is used to produce and reproduce the subordination of women and girls and patriarchal norms and practices create the conditions that condone and even encourage such behaviours. It is therefore imperative to reach out to men and boys and to engage, partner and work with them in projects and initiatives focusing on preventing and ending violence against women and girls.

In the last three years, a sixth of all UNTF applicants proposed engaging men and boys for the purpose of developing prevention initiatives. Therefore, as its second focus area, the UNTF will provide funding to projects specifically addressing *improved prevention of violence against women and girls though changes in behaviours, practices and attitudes.* The priority focus will be on:

- Prevention projects in formal educational settings;
- National, local and community-based projects and initiatives targeting change in social norms, particularly through the active engagement of men and youth;
- Youth-led projects specifically targeting change in knowledge and behaviour.

Over the last two decades, international human rights instruments, decisions, and dedicated advocates have advanced the understanding of violence against women and girls as a human rights violation that States have a responsibility to address. The standard of "due diligence" has emerged and been recognized as standard to assess a State's response to violence against women and girls. This defines State obligations and accountability as relevant to the implementation of law, national action plans and policies. In the past three years, 4,114 of the applications received by UNTF (some 66 per cent of the total) propose employing various strategies to strengthen State institutional responses to violence against women and girls. It is in this context that the UNTF has set its third area of funding focus as *increased effectiveness of legislation, policies, national action plans and state accountability systems with increased national budgets to prevent and end violence against women and girls.* The main aim of the UNTF is to encourage not only greater political *will* but also enhanced concrete political ***action*** at the national and local levels.

02 Building the UN Trust Fund Evidence Hub on ending violence against women and girls

UNTF grantees, past, current and future, essentially represent a global, dynamic and highly knowledgeable community of practice. The impact of their work shows that – with sustained effort, strategies that increase engagement across all sectors of society and adequate resources – violence against women and girls can be reduced, prevented and ultimately eliminated.

The UNTF has built up a comprehensive body of knowledge about the kinds of solutions that carry a promise of positive impact and the contexts in which they will be most effective. However, the remaining challenge is how to effectively "harvest" this knowledge, first by analysing and evaluating the information and second by making it accessible to the global community. In order *to capitalize on this specific and unique body of knowledge and experience*, this second pillar of the UNTF's Strategic Plan will form a strong link between our first pillar, grant giving (including its existing monitoring and evaluation processes and activities), and the third pillar, namely identifying effective initiatives so that global resources can be allocated accordingly.

Under this Evidence Hub pillar, UNTF will implement a knowledge management strategy that extends beyond the usual methods of producing knowledge products, web articles, publications, discussion networks, conferences and panels. Over the next five years, the UNTF will aim to raise funds strategically to invest in learning more about *what results and impact* have been achieved by our grantees and critically *how*, including what has worked and what has not.

Firstly, the UNTF will seek to source and identify knowledge in the work and results of its grantees that is relevant to evidence-based programming and actively and strategically disseminate it in order to influence and guide national and global programming and policies to prevent and end violence against women and girls. For example, by

2016, the UNTF plans to conduct a review of a number of achievements and lessons learned drawing on a selection of the grants awarded over the its 20 years of operation.

Secondly, UNTF plans to enhance the quality of grantee evaluations and invest in impact evaluations that review the longer-term impact and sustainability of projects after initial funding has ended (for example by including this as a selection criterion for grantees invited to apply for a second round of funding). Lessons learned and evidence-based knowledge about what works and what does not work, drawn from grantee evaluations for example, will be made publicly available and widely disseminated.

Thirdly, the UNTF will explore how to support grantees to improve the research, data collection, monitoring and evaluation components of their projects by facilitating strategic partnerships with international and national evaluators, research institutions, universities and other partners working in this area (for example, the What Works Programme developed by the UK government's Department for International Development, DFID). This will be focused, where possible, on building national and grantee capacity in monitoring and evaluation.

The mechanism for disseminating this knowledge will primarily be a new UNTF Evidence Hub, situated on the UNTF website, which will comprise a coherent and linked set of collections and quality knowledge products *rooted exclusively in the work of UNTF grantees*. It will leverage a wealth of existing knowledge about what works and good practice through the UNTF's monitoring and evaluation processes. This Hub, alongside the UNTF's enhanced Grant Management System will be linked with existing United Nations knowledge systems, such as UN Women's Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls and Knowledge Gateway.

The primary aim of UNTF activities under this pillar will be to provide guidance for new grant applicants and other non-UNTF funded interventions, as well as to inform and assist global and national programming to prevent and end violence against women and girls. In addition, robust evidence about the scope of the problem, innovative solutions and the potential of results will strengthen the "case" for a request for an increase in funding and global giving to the work on preventing and ending violence of women and girls by governments, philanthropy, the corporate sector and non-profit organizations.

The key audience for work under this pillar will be lawmakers and policymakers, programmers and implementers, United Nations country office staff and research and academic institutions. In the longer term, the knowledge generated will aim to provide evidence-based benchmarks for the selection process for future UNTF grantees. A monitoring and feedback mechanism will ensure that the UNTF undertakes an ongoing review of the value of its Evidence Hub by tracking the actual use of evidence provided.

03 Advocating for global giving for work on ending violence against women and girls

Despite the success in negotiating international instruments and standards on violence against women and girls and the visible increase in political will, resources to translate these into effective practices that make positive changes in women's lives remain woefully lacking.

Financing for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women was the key theme under review at the 56th session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2012, with the objective of assessing progress made against conclusions agreed in 2008. These earlier recommendations included the need to increase financing significantly for women's rights, gender equality and women's empowerment through Official Development Assistance (ODA), national government resources and other types of donor support. In spite of some important advances, the 2012 review found that little actual progress had been made in increasing funding for women's organizations and gender equality. Despite the growing recognition of violence against women as a public health and human rights pandemic and of the serious obstacle it poses to development, it continues to have an unjustifiably low priority on the international development agenda in planning, programming and budgeting. As a result, the work on preventing and ending violence against women and girls suffers from chronic underfunding.

The current spotlight on women and girls has had relatively little impact on improving the funding situation for a large majority of women's organizations. A recent study by The Foundation Center found that only 2 per cent of all human rights-related global giving by private foundations is allocated to EVAW/G, one of the most prevalent human rights abuses in the world. In 2010, the median annual income of over 740 women's organizations around the world was only US$20,000. The current trend of chronic underinvestment must be reversed.

Discussions about the post-2015 development agenda, including the SDGs, provide a pivotal opportunity to reposition the issue of violence against women and girls. Governments from all regions of the world have made achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls a central ambition of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. It is therefore clear that an ambitious and robust financing package will be needed to turn these commitments into reality for women and girls. The ambitious agenda for achieving gender equality and women's rights in the *post-2015 development framework must be matched by ambitious resources to prevent and address violence against women and girls effectively*. This needs to be specifically addressed by placing a high priority on gender equality in ODA and ensuring that national

A member of the Munipal Police, Bogata, delivers a presentation at the International Seminar, on policies and actions against gender-based violence, Santiago, Chile.

Photo: Ezequiel Catalan

budgets allocate sufficient resources. The UNTF – as the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that supports national efforts to prevent and end violence against women and girls – is uniquely placed to support and lead the global efforts in advocating for increased financing for EVAW/G initiatives.

To this end, the UNTF's *third pillar* – **global giving for work on EVAW/G** – will focus solely on advocacy for this goal as a key prerequisite for achieving gender equality. The UNTF intends to pursue a catalysing role in calling for a significant increase in overall global giving to address the issue of violence against women and girls at the national and local levels. It will urge countries to establish robust systems to track the allocation of funds to these efforts and to take action to address areas of underinvestment.

Some of the avenues that the UNTF intends to pursue in such advocacy would include stronger UNTF engagement in international high-level events to raise awareness about the need for funding for the work on EVAW/G, hosting a crowdfunding platform for UNTF Special Windows and working closely with donors and foundations. In particular, the UNTF will be focused on advocating for increased financing for EVAW/G initiatives (including but not limited to the UNTF) from donors (international aid); national governments (for national budgets); global foundations; and the corporate sector.

Risks And **Assumptions**

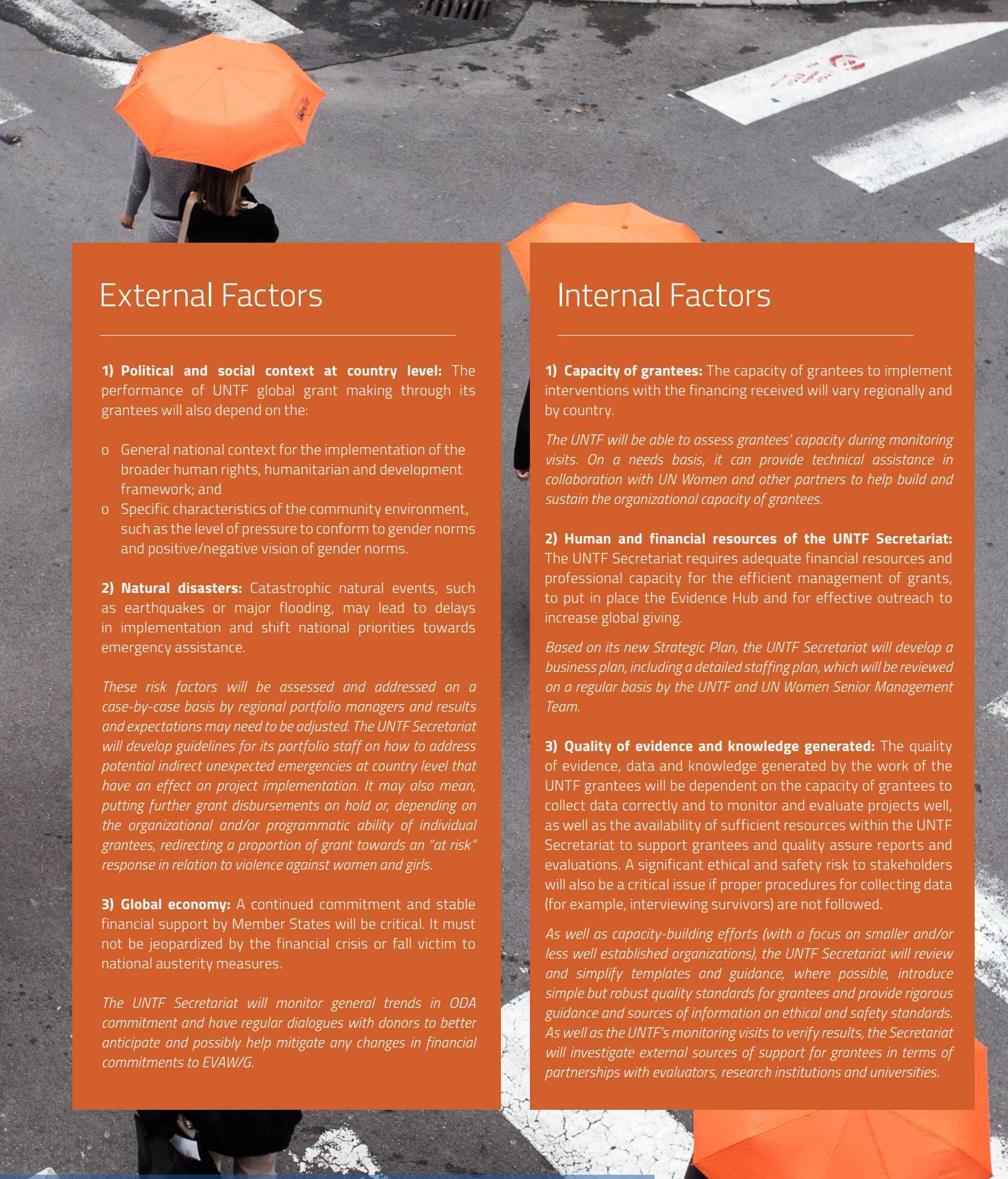
The success of this Strategic Plan is dependent on a number of *assumptions*, set out in the Theory of Change Diagram, and the effective management of *risks* that may hamper success.

Achieving success under each of the three pillars is critical as the three are interdependent. Without continued funding for the UNTF at current or greater levels there is a significant risk that applications for grants cannot be funded. Likewise, without the evidence generated from grantees the UNTF cannot advocate for continued support on the basis of effectiveness. The success of these interventions also depends very much on the capacity of the implementing organization. Therefore, the UNTF will continue to offer organizational strengthening to grantee organizations to enable and sustain better results.

Furthermore, as set out in the Theory of Change Diagram, the UNTF as a United Nations system-wide mechanism is dependent upon and contributes to United Nations EVAW/G efforts. The UNTF relies on the direction of the Global Programme Advisory Committee and on political commitment at all levels of the United Nations system and beyond. The UNTF expects that there will be a sustained global effort to mainstream questions of gender equality and gender-based violence in all relevant sectors. However, progress on the pathways of change outlined may vary regionally and over time as a result of both external and internal factors, which are set out below.

In order to monitor and manage these risks and assumptions the UNTF Secretariat will introduce a risks and assumptions log and routinely discuss and agree on actions to tackle them, as necessary, at Global Programme Advisory Committee and internal Secretariat meetings. This will be used as a key management tool alongside the Results Framework and Theory of Change to monitor and manage the progress of the Strategic Plan.

Orange umbrellas mark the Interna
Photo: UN Women



External Factors

1) Political and social context at country level: The performance of UNTF global grant making through its grantees will also depend on the:

- General national context for the implementation of the broader human rights, humanitarian and development framework; and
- Specific characteristics of the community environment, such as the level of pressure to conform to gender norms and positive/negative vision of gender norms.

2) Natural disasters: Catastrophic natural events, such as earthquakes or major flooding, may lead to delays in implementation and shift national priorities towards emergency assistance.

These risk factors will be assessed and addressed on a case-by-case basis by regional portfolio managers and results and expectations may need to be adjusted. The UNTF Secretariat will develop guidelines for its portfolio staff on how to address potential indirect unexpected emergencies at country level that have an effect on project implementation. It may also mean, putting further grant disbursements on hold or, depending on the organizational and/or programmatic ability of individual grantees, redirecting a proportion of grant towards an "at risk" response in relation to violence against women and girls.

3) Global economy: A continued commitment and stable financial support by Member States will be critical. It must not be jeopardized by the financial crisis or fall victim to national austerity measures.

The UNTF Secretariat will monitor general trends in ODA commitment and have regular dialogues with donors to better anticipate and possibly help mitigate any changes in financial commitments to EVAW/G.

Internal Factors

1) Capacity of grantees: The capacity of grantees to implement interventions with the financing received will vary regionally and by country.

The UNTF will be able to assess grantees' capacity during monitoring visits. On a needs basis, it can provide technical assistance in collaboration with UN Women and other partners to help build and sustain the organizational capacity of grantees.

2) Human and financial resources of the UNTF Secretariat: The UNTF Secretariat requires adequate financial resources and professional capacity for the efficient management of grants, to put in place the Evidence Hub and for effective outreach to increase global giving.

Based on its new Strategic Plan, the UNTF Secretariat will develop a business plan, including a detailed staffing plan, which will be reviewed on a regular basis by the UNTF and UN Women Senior Management Team.

3) Quality of evidence and knowledge generated: The quality of evidence, data and knowledge generated by the work of the UNTF grantees will be dependent on the capacity of grantees to collect data correctly and to monitor and evaluate projects well, as well as the availability of sufficient resources within the UNTF Secretariat to support grantees and quality assure reports and evaluations. A significant ethical and safety risk to stakeholders will also be a critical issue if proper procedures for collecting data (for example, interviewing survivors) are not followed.

As well as capacity-building efforts (with a focus on smaller and/or less well established organizations), the UNTF Secretariat will review and simplify templates and guidance, where possible, introduce simple but robust quality standards for grantees and provide rigorous guidance and sources of information on ethical and safety standards. As well as the UNTF's monitoring visits to verify results, the Secretariat will investigate external sources of support for grantees in terms of partnerships with evaluators, research institutions and universities.

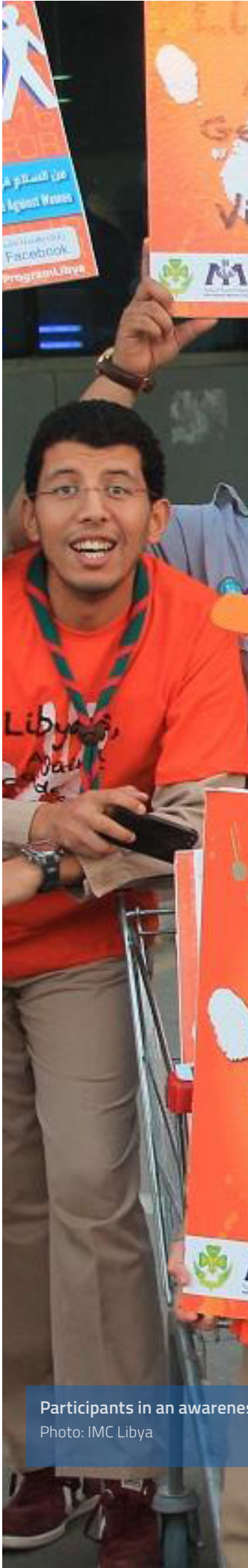
tional Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November 2015 in Belgrade, Serbia.

Monitoring and Evaluating the UN Trust Fund's Strategic Plan

This Strategic Plan will be managed through the attached Results Framework, which translates the plan into measurable results. Each year the Results Framework will be used to monitor and report on the UNTF's progress against indicators representing its key areas of work and its contribution to effecting real change in the lives of women and girls.

This data will be used to communicate achievements and lessons learned in the UNTF's Annual Report and it will be further complemented by evidence collected from evaluations, case studies and testimonies of UNTF beneficiaries. The Strategic Plan will also undergo a mid-term review (2017) and final evaluation (2020) to inform the future direction of the UNTF.

The Results Framework is intended as a management tool and working document that will be adjusted and refined each year. Due to the competitive nature of the UNTF's grant-giving process, it is not possible to fully predict the results which future grantee organizations will propose in future years, which makes it challenging to set aggregate targets in some areas. To tackle this, the UNTF aims (for the first time) to develop a core set of common indicators over the next year for projects in similar thematic areas. Once in place, these indicators will enable the selected aggregation of results. However, any specific targets will be subject to modification as new grants are approved or extended each year.



Participants in an awarenes
Photo: IMC Libya

ss raising activity with IMC Libya for a project supported by the UN Trust Fund.

Endnotes

1. Pending the final and agreed text of the Sustainable Development Goals.

2. 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; the 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.

3. UNiTE Campaign priority areas:

   ▪ Adoption and enforcement of national laws to address and punish all forms of violence against women and girls, in line with international human rights standards.

   ▪ Adoption and implementation of multisectoral national action plans that emphasize prevention and that are adequately resourced.

   ▪ Establishment of data collection and analysis systems on the prevalence of various forms of violence against women and girls.

   ▪ Establishment of national and/or local campaigns and the engagement of a diverse range of civil society actors in preventing violence and in supporting women and girls who have been abused.

   ▪ Systematic efforts to address sexual violence in conflict situations, to protect women and girls from rape used as a weapon of war and to promote full implementation of related laws and policies.

4. Angelika Arutyunova and Cindy Clark, Watering the Leaves, Starving the Roots: The Status of Financing for Women's Rights Organizing and Gender Equality, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), 2013, p. 18, available at www.awid.org/Library/Watering-the-Leaves-Starving-the-Roots

5. *Evaluation Report, United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women*, UNIFEM, 2009, available at www.unwomen.org/~/media/Headquarters/Media/Publications/UNIFEM/evaluationUNTFfull.pdf

6. United Nations agencies participating in the UNTF Programme Advisory Committee.

7. UNIFEM *Evaluation Report*, op.cit.

8. Emma Fulu, Alice Kerr-Wilson and James Lang, *What works to prevent violence against women and girls? Evidence Review of interventions to prevent violence against women and girls*, June 2014, available at http://r4d.dfid.gov.uk/pdf/outputs/VAWG/ What_Works_Inception_Report_June_2014_AnnexF_WG23_paper_prevention_interventions.pdf

   In 2012 the grass-roots women's organization Coalition of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (COWLHA) in Malawi was supported by UNTF in using the successful Stepping Stones training and communication methodology to prevent intimate partner violence.

   The UNTF has supported many organizations working with men and boys in order to raise awareness. Among them were a programme led by Oxfam (UK) with its local partner KAFA in Lebanon (2010) and the Bel Bajaoo (Ring the Bell) campaign led by Breakthrough in India. Other programmes supported by UNTF have engaged in research about the issue, for example in 2012 the UNTF funded the Promundo study *Engaging men to prevent gender-based violence: A multi-country intervention and impact evaluation study.*

9. www.theoryofchange.org/what-is-theory-of-change, accessed 11 November 2014.

10. World Bank, *World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security, and Development*, available at http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDRS/Resources/WDR2011_Full_Text.pdf

11. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *Global Study on Homicide 2013*, p.14, available at www.unodc.org/documents/ gsh/pdfs/2014_GLOBAL_HOMICIDE_BOOK_web.pdf

12. 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).

13. 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 www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/9789241564625/en/

14. *Global and Regional Estimates of Violence against Women*, op.cit., p.20.

15. United Nations Children's Fund, *Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A statistical overview and exploration of the dynamics of change*, UNICEF, New York, 2013, available at http://data.unicef.org/corecode/uploads/document6/uploaded_pdfs/corecode/FGM_Report_Summary_English__23August_hi-res_94.pdf.

16. UNICEF global database, http://data.unicef.org/child-protection/sexual-violence#sthash.3hXivtw1.dpuf, last visited 21 March 2015.

17. UNICEF global database, http://data.unicef.org/child-protection/child-marriage, last visited 21 March 2015.

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1. Arutyunova, Angelika and Cindy Clark, *Watering the Leaves, Starving the Roots: The Status of Financing for Women's Rights Organizing and Gender Equality*, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), Toronto, 2013

2. Bott, Sarah, Andrew Morrison and Mary Ellsberg, "Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence in Middle and Low-Income Countries: a Global Review and Analysis", World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 3618, World Bank, Washington, DC, 2005

3. Deepali M. Patel and Rachel M. Taylor, Rapporteurs; Forum on Global Violence Prevention; Institute of Medicine, *Social and Economic Costs of Violence: Workshop Summary*, Washington DC, 2012

4. Morrison, Andrew R. and Maria Beatriz Orlando, *The costs and impacts of gender-based violence in developing countries: Methodological considerations and new evidence*, 2004

5. The Commission on the Status of Women, Agreed conclusions on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls, March 2013, available at www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw57/CSW57_Agreed_Conclusions_%29.pdf

6. Word Bank, *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development*, Washington, DC, 2011, available at https://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDR2012/Resources/7778105

7. United Nations Children's Fund, *Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A statistical overview and exploration of the dynamics of change*, UNICEF, New York, 2013, available at http://data.unicef.org/corecode/uploads/document6/uploaded_pdfs/FGM_Report_Summary94.pdf

8. UNICEF global databases, 2014, based on Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) and other nationally representative surveys, 2004-2013. See http://data.unicef.org/child-protection/sexual-violence#sthash.3hXivtw1.dpuf

9. United Nations General Assembly, Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2006 (A/RES/61/143), available at http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/docN0650301.pdf

10. UN Women, *Report on the online discussion on eliminating violence against women and girls - gaps, challenges and strategic directions in prevention and multisectoral services and responses, 23 July to 7 August 2012*

11. UN Women, Ending *Violence against Women and Girls: Program Essentials*, New York, 2013, available at http://www.endvawnow.org/uploads/modules/pdf/1372349234.pdf

12. UN Women, A Transformative Stand-Alone Goal On Achieving Gender Equality, Women's Rights And Women's Empowerment: Imperatives and Key Components, 2013, available at www.unwomen.org/~/mediaun%20women%20post-2015%20position%20paper%20pdf.pdf

13. World Health Organization, *Global and regional estimates of violence against women: prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence,* Geneva, 2013.

18. See Sarah Bott, Andrew Morrison and Mary Ellsberg, "Preventing and responding to gender-based violence in middle and low-income countries: a global review and analysis" (2005); the *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development*, available at https://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDR2012/Resources/7778105-1299699968583/7786210-1315936222006/Complete-Report.pdf; UNIFEM Evaluation Report, op.cit.; and publications by civil society organizations such as the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID).

19. UN Women, *Ending Violence against Women and Girls: Program Essentials*, New York, 2013, http://www.endvawnow.org/uploads/modules/pdf/1372349234.pdf

20. UN Women, *Report on the online discussion on eliminating violence against women and girls - gaps, challenges and strategic directions in prevention and multisectoral services and responses, 23 July to 7 August 2012.*

21. The participation broadly covered geographical and organizational sectors. The body of online discussion respondents were from government ministries, international non-governmental organizations, bilateral and multilateral organizations, United Nations entities and inter-agency entities, research institutions, private sector organizations and, predominantly, national and grass-roots level non-governmental organizations.

22. The SASA! Study: a cluster randomized trial to assess the impact of a violence and HIV prevention program in Kampala by LHSTM, p. 7; www.3ieimpact.org/media/filer_public/2014/08/21/ow31059_sasa_hiv_uganda.pdf

23. *Watering the Leaves, Starving the Roots*, op. cit., p. 17.

24. See *Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls: 2014 Commission on the Status of Women, Agreed Conclusions,* available at www.unwomen.org/~/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/58/csw58_agreed_conclusions.pdf.

25. See https://grants.unwomen.org/untf/project-summary?fundID=1.

26. See *Preventing and responding to gender-based violence in middle and low-income countries: a global review and analysis, op.cit.*

27. Para. B(ww), available at www.unwomen.org/~/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/58

28. See, A. Arutyunova and C. Clark, op. cit., pp. 16-17. See map at http://www01.awid.org/map/map_02_world_financials.html.

29. *World Development Report 2012*, op.cit., p. 368.

30. The Programme, which is co-managed by UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the WHO, aims to achieve greater access for all women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence to a set of essential quality and coordinated multisectoral services.

Appendix II

Results Framework 2015-2020

01. Introduction

This Results Framework translates the new Strategic Plan for the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund, UNTF) into measurable results. It is a tool to enable the UNTF and stakeholders to monitor progress and achievements, learn lessons and hold the organization accountable for the funds entrusted to it. Each year the Results Framework will be used to monitor and report on the UNTF's progress against indicators representing its key areas of work and the UNTF's contribution to real changes in the lives of women and girls. This data will be used to communicate achievements and lessons learned regularly in the UNTF's Annual Report and it will be further complemented by evidence collected from the evaluations, case studies and testimonies of UNTF beneficiaries.

The UNTF Results Framework is intended as a management tool and working document that will be adjusted and refined each year as data collection, monitoring and reporting improve. For example, due to the competitive nature of the UNTF grant-giving process, it is not possible to fully predict the results that future grantee organizations will propose to achieve, which makes it challenging to set aggregate targets in some areas. To tackle this, the UNTF aims (for the first time) to develop a core set of common, standardized indicators over the next year for projects in similar thematic areas. Once in place, these indicators will enable the selected aggregation of results. However, any specific targets will be subject to modification as new grants are approved or extended each year. Indicators under development are clearly marked as such in the tables

02. Outline of The UNTF Results Framework And Acciuntability For Results

The UNTF Results Framework has been structured into four tiers of results (impact, outcomes, intermediate outcomes and outputs). These are intended to represent the results chain set out in the Strategic Plan and how the UNTF's actions over time will contribute to the broader goal of ending violence against women and girls (EVAW/G). Its structure also reflects the core areas of work set out in the Strategic Plan: the three strategic pathways through which the UNTF can contribute (a) global grant giving (b) the Evidence Hub and (c) global giving for EVAW/G initiatives. In this way, the Results Framework is intended to enable monitoring of the UNTF's contribution to the impact over time as well as progress against each area of work.

o **Tier one (impact level)** is intended to monitor how UNTF funds are contributing to the overall vision of a world without violence against women and girls. It includes indicators to measure the incidence of VAW/G in areas targeted by UNTF projects (not population-wide) adapted from the World Health Organization (WHO) methodology and indicators recommended in Bloom's compendium. It is important to note that grantees will only monitor these indicators if logical and relevant to the project and if feasible, cost-effective and most importantly safe and ethically sound to do so (see the section on data collection below for more information). This data will be complemented

with qualitative evidence including the perspectives of women and girls on the impact of UNTF-funded projects on their lives. Impact level indicators may need to be adjusted once the Sustainable Development Goals have been agreed.

- **Tier two (outcomes)** refers to the results of UNTF-funded projects at the national and local levels under the three main areas of focus: (1) improved multi sectoral services; (2) effectiveness of legislation etc.; and (3) prevention. ***It is important to note that both outputs and outcomes of grantee projects will be monitored*** as our portfolio includes projects at different stages of the project cycle (from year one to year three) and therefore some will be unable to report on outcomes in the first year. The UNTF is not solely responsible for these results but it makes a substantial contribution to our grantees' success as well as that of our partners.

- **Tier three (intermediate outcomes)** is intended to bridge the results of the UNTF Secretariat at output level (tier four) and the results achieved by grantees, which will also be influenced by the contribution of partners. This level represents the added value of the UNTF to both grantees and United Nations system-wide initiatives on EVAW/G. It includes the key results UNTF aims to achieve under each of the three strategic pathways: (1) grant giving, (2) the Evidence Hub and (3) global giving.

- **Tier four (UNTF outputs)** represents the results directly attributable to the UNTF including its performance in establishing and maintaining the Evidence Hub, achievements in global resource mobilization and efficiency and effectiveness of UNTF operational management through UN Women and the UNTF Secretariat.

Tier 1 (Impact)
WOMEN AND GIRLS LIVE A LIFE FREE OF VIOLENCE

Tier 2 (Outcomes and Outputs)
GRANTEE RESULTS

Outcome One	Outcome Two	Outcome Three
Improved access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multisectoral services to end VAW/G	Increased effectiveness of legislation, policies, national action plans and accountability systems to prevent and end VAW/G	Improved prevention of VAW/G through changes in behaviours, practices and attitudes

Tier 3 (Intermediate Outcomes)
UNTF CONTRIBUTES TO THESE RESULTS

GRANT GIVING	EVIDENCE HUB	GLOBAL GIVING
Intermediate Outcome One Grantee organizations achieve, replicate and scale up results on EVAW/G through UNTF-funded projects	**Intermediate Outcome Two** UNTF projects generate evidence and knowledge that informs and shapes the EVAW/G agenda	**Intermediate Outcome Three** Increased global public and private funding and political commitment for EVAW/G

Tier 4 (Outputs)
UNTF DIRECT RESULTS

Outcome One	Outcome Two	Outcome Three
The UNTF mobilizes, delivers and effectively manages funds for EVAW/G initiatives that use resources efficiently and effectively, achieve results and generate evidence and lessons learned	The UNTF creates a platform for harvesting, analysing and disseminating useful lessons from the evaluated results of UNTF projects that measurably inform policy and programming	The UNTF creates partnerships and mobilizes support for increased and effective global resourcing and commitments to EVAW/G, including for the UNTF

03. Data Collection, Monitoring and Evaluation

This is the first time that the UNTF has developed a Results Framework and therefore many indicators, methodologies and systems are still in the process of being developed, adapted from a range of sources and best practice. The UNTF will work closely with partners – especially relevant United Nations agencies (for example, UN Women, UNICEF, the WHO, UNDP and UNFPA) and their EVAW/G data and research teams – to gather and share information. The UNTF is developing a set of common indicators over the next year for grantee projects in similar thematic areas, which, once in place, will enable aggregation of some of the results at impact and outcome level. These common indicators are based on a review of the indicators that grantees are already tracking in active projects and indicators recommended by other partners/agencies.

At impact level, many grantees have included indicators to measure the incidence of VAW/G ***focused on intervention sites*** (and control group sites) collected through small-scale surveys (questionnaires) of the women and girls targeted by UNTF-projects, especially in contexts where national prevalence data is not readily available. In order to ensure more rigor in the application of best practice and ethical and safety standards in such survey methods, the UNTF has included standardized indicators to monitor incidence of violence in the areas targeted by UNTF-projects ***(NOT population-wide)*** at community level through small-scale surveys. These indicators are based on those recommended by the WHO's multi-country study questionnaire, the DHS Domestic Violence Module and in Bloom's compendium. These indicators will be monitored in all UNTF-funded projects only where it is feasible, logical, cost-effective and ethically sound and safe to do so.

It is important to note that more or less reporting of VAW/G is not necessarily a good indicator of impact alone (given that incidence can go up when efforts to encourage more reporting are effective). Therefore, impact will also be measured through qualitative methods (interviews and focus group discussions with women and girls on their perspectives) and complemented with data collection and analysis at outcome level. It may not be possible to set targets and/or attribute change directly to UNTF projects at this level as change is unlikely to be noticeable within the period of the project (two to three years). However, this may be possible in future years as project lengths are increased and impact evaluations are introduced.

Ethical and safety considerations will be prioritized when supporting UNTF grantees to collect data on VAW/G in a way that respects confidentiality and human rights and does not jeopardize safety (that is, in accordance with WHO ethical and safety recommendations for researching violence against women). Technical support and capacity-building in this area will continue to be provided during annual training sessions for new grantees and the UNTF will promote existing methodologies, good practices and partnerships with research institutions to ensure that standards of excellence on data collection are met. The UNTF is also learning lessons and networking with other partners working on VAW/G with a focus on how to produce robust evidence and measure change – in particular DFID's What Works Programme.

At outcome level (grantee results), the selection (or "menu") of indicators under this section has been developed through a review of the most commonly used indicators by our active grantees and best practice in measuring change at the national level (in cases where the UNTF supports government/national efforts) and at the local level under the three main areas of focus: (1) improved multisectoral services; (2) effectiveness of legislation etc.; and (3) prevention. It is important to note that both outputs and outcomes of grantee projects will be monitored as our portfolio includes projects at different stages of the project cycle (from year one to year three) and therefore some will be unable to report on outcomes in the first year. The UNTF is not solely responsible for these results but it makes a substantial contribution to our grantees' success as well as that of our partners.

Grantees will be asked to include the indicators most relevant to their projects in their results frameworks following a standardized methodology for data collection and reporting (to be provided by the UNTF). This process will be developed over the next 6-12 months. Therefore, the exact wording of some of the indicators may be subject to change.

Developing common indicators so that findings can be compared between countries as well as across time is very challenging. However, it is important that all studies use the same criteria, methods, definitions, modes of interviewing and so on. These methodologies are under development (see endnotes attached to each relevant indicator). It may not be possible for all UNTF-funded grantees to implement these methodologies and therefore when monitoring and reporting results at an aggregate level the UNTF may only be able to report ***aggregate*** results for a sub-set of grants working in the same thematic areas, but not all.

At the level of UNTF results (intermediate outcome and output level), many of these indicators are under development as this is the first time systematic monitoring of performance at each level as been introduced. One important element is the development of a partnership survey (an online, anonymous questionnaire) to seek the perceptions of all partners (including grantees – new and old – donors and United Nations partners) on UNTF performance. This will include questions on the impact of the UNTF beyond the life of a project to assess if and how UNTF support helps boost grantee capacity and ability to mobilize support and resources. Lastly, we will also be developing measures to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of our portfolio.

Monitoring and evaluating the UNTF Strategic Plan: Monitoring progress against the UNTF Strategic Plan and Results Framework will be completed once a year for the Annual Report. The indicators in the Results Framework will not be the only source for reviewing progress; grantee project evaluations, UNTF research and other evidence will also be used to analyse and report on progress. All UNTF-awarded grants must undergo a final external project evaluation. The UNTF Strategic Plan itself will be subject to an independent external evaluation, to be commissioned by the last year of implementation. An internal mid-term review will also be carried out in 2017/18 to assess whether the Strategic Plan is on track or needs to be adjusted for the final two years.

United Nations Trust to End Violence Against Women Results Framework 2015-2020

IMPACT: WOMEN AND GIRLS LIVE A LIFE FREE OF VIOLENCE

The following indicators are intended to monitor incidence of violence in the areas targeted by UNTF-projects (NOT population-wide) at community level through small-scale surveys. UNTF grantees are, on occasion, already conducting similar small-scale surveys and the intention, therefore, is to standardize the approach based on best practice, in the most ethically sound and safe manner. These indicators are based on those recommended by the WHO (multi-country study questionnaire, DHS module on VAW) and in Bloom's VAW compendium. These indicators will be monitored in all UNTF-funded projects only where it is feasible, logical, cost-effective and, critically, ethically sound and safe to do so. More or less reporting of VAW/G is not necessarily an indicator of impact, given that reporting can go up when efforts to encourage more reporting are effective. Therefore, impact will also be measured using qualitative methods (interviews and focus group discussions with women and girls on their perspectives) and complemented with data collection and analysis at outcome level. It may not be possible to set targets and/or attribute impact directly to UNTF projects as change is unlikely to be noticeable within the period of the project (2-3 years). However in future years, as project length is increased and impact evaluations are introduced, this may be possible.

- The percentage of women and girls surveyed who report having experienced **physical violence from an intimate partner** during the last 12 months.
- The percentage of women and girls surveyed who report having experienced **sexual violence from an intimate partner** during the last 12 months.
- The percentage of women and girls surveyed who report having experienced **physical violence from someone other than an intimate partner** in the past 12 months
- The percentage of women and girls surveyed who report having experienced **sexual violence from someone other than an intimate partner** in the past 12 months

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS
GRANTEE RESULTS (AGGREGATED RESULTS FROM UNTF-FUNDED PROJECTS)

OUTCOME ONE

Improved access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multisectoral services to end VAW/G

The following indicators are examples only. Final indicators will be developed over the next 6-12 months with grantees. Therefore the exact wording may be subject to change.

- Percentage of VAW/G survivors surveyed who report satisfaction with services/care provided
- Number of women and girls using multisectoral services to end VAW/G (for example, hotlines or one-stop centres)
- Number and percentage of service providers that have improved service provision to end VAW/G
- Percentage of referred cases of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls that are (i) reported, (ii) investigated and (iii) sentenced
- Percentage of women and girls surveyed who demonstrate knowledge of available social welfare-based EVAW/G services (e.g. before and after awareness raising)
- Availability of social services within an accessible distance (number of women within reasonable accessible distance of a service to support survivors)
- Percentage of service providers (individuals) demonstrating best practice/skills for providing services for survivors and those at risk of VAW/G (e.g. before and after training)
- Number of multisectoral coordinated referral systems set up and proportion working effectively
- Total number of referrals provided between service providers (and/or from community organizations and other organizations) supporting survivors and those at risk of violence
- Percentage of women/girls referred and surveyed who report satisfaction with the referral system
- Percentage of women surveyed who know of a local organization that provides legal aid to VAW/G survivors

OUTCOME TWO

Increased effectiveness of legislation, policies, national action plans and accountability systems to prevent and end VAW/G

- Number of institutions that have increased their institutional effectiveness to prevent and respond to VAW/G with support from UNTF-funded projects
- Number (and types) of actions taken by national/local authorities/ policymakers to improve the effectiveness of (a) legislation (b) policies (c) national action plans and/or (d) systems to prevent and end VAW/G with support from UNTF-funded projects
- Number of (a) laws (b) policies (c) protocols and/or (d) national action plans improved to align with international standards on VAW/G (such as law enforcement protocols for dealing with reported cases of VAW/G) with support from UNTF-funded projects
- Number of assessments, diagnostic studies and reports completed and published on EVAW/G and; proportion which have evidence of influence on policymakers (for example, led to new or improved legislation/policies)
- Proportion of policymakers/public officials demonstrating new skills and knowledge in EVAW/G (e.g. before and after training)
- Number of (a) policies or (b) plans showing a clear, comprehensive evidence base on VAW/G with support from UNTF-funded projects
- Number of new or improved databases or systems to collect data on VAW/G
- Number of community/women/youth organizations actively participating in meetings, forums or networks on EVAW/G with the authorities and/or policymakers
- Number of functioning and effective platforms for mutual accountability created to prevent and end VAW/G
- Percentage of community stakeholders surveyed who report satisfaction with accountability mechanisms and structures

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OUTCOME THREE

Improved prevention of VAW/G through changes in behaviours, practices and attitudes

The following indicators are examples only. Final indicators will be developed over the next 6-12 months with grantees. Therefore the exact wording may be subject to change.

- Percentage of VAW/G survivors surveyed who report satisfaction with services/care provided
- Percentage of people surveyed (disaggregated by women, girls, men and boys) who say that VAW/G is unacceptable
- Percentage of men and boys surveyed who believe (a) that men can prevent VAW/G and (b) would take action to prevent it (for example by reporting cases)
- Percentage of people surveyed who say that female genital mutilation/cutting and other harmful practices are unacceptable
- Number of practitioners of harmful traditional practices seeking alternative sources of livelihood
- Percentage of women and girls surveyed who say they would report any experience of unwanted sexual activity and/or violence to the authorities
- Total number of schools with gender education including on EVAW/G included in the curriculum
- Percentage of individuals surveyed who (a) know any of the legal rights of women with regard to VAW/G and (b) know any of the legal sanctions for VAW/G
- Number of schools with functioning and effective policies and/or services in place to prevent VAW/G
- Number of community group leaders who advocate publicly for changes in behaviours, practices and attitudes towards EVAW/G
- Percentage of people surveyed who report that their community leaders discourage violence against women/girls
- Number of joint decisions/policies on EVAW/G agreed with community leaders, authorities and decision-makers that involve active participation from community stakeholders
- Percentage of individuals surveyed who report they heard or saw a mass media message or social campaign on issues related to sexual violence and youth
- Percentage of individuals surveyed who report that a mass media message or social campaign on issues related to sexual violence changed their attitude or behaviour

Intermediate Outcomes and Outputs (UNTF Results)

GRANT GIVING

RESULTS STATEMENT	INDICATORS	BASELINE (2015)	ANNUAL MILESTONES (ACTIVITIES)	TARGET (2020)
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 1: Grantee organizations achieve, replicate and scale up results on EVAW/G through UNTF-funded projects	**1.1. %** of grantee projects with a positive end-of-project evaluation (e.g. that the project goal was assessed as achieved or mostly achieved) **1.2. %** of grantee projects with evidence of innovation, feasibility for scale up and/or replication of results (e.g. evaluation evidence) **1.3. %** of grantee organizations that report (through a partner survey) that the UNTF grant has helped them mobilize more support and/or achieve additional results **1.4. %** of grantee organizations that report (through a partner survey) that project results have been sustained after the project end (to be verified through impact evaluations when possible)	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**	**2015:** 1.1. & 1.2. Review of project evaluations to assess quality and evidence of results from previous years and set baseline; improve UNTF approach to evaluation to enhance quality and introduce impact evaluations (post-project end) 1.3 & 1.4. Develop UNTF partner survey to assess the perceptions of all partners (grantees, donors and stakeholders) about the performance of the UNTF, effectiveness of support and the impact of funds after the projects' end; set baseline	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**
OUTPUT 1: UNTF's effective management of grant giving ensures strategic and innovative solutions are funded and the capacity of grantee organizations improves to achieve EVAW/G results	**1.1.1. %** of grantee projects on track to achieve project output targets (monitored every six months) **1.1.2. %** of grantee projects in portfolio that are rated as satisfactory or higher for performance (new portfolio quality measure, composite indicator measuring financial, programme and audit performance for example), monitored every six months **1.1.3.** (a) Number of grantees invited to submit a second proposal in future cycles on the basis of ability to scale up or replicate results achieved and (b) Number of applicants awarded larger and/or longer-term grants (on the basis of potential for greater impact/ reach). **1.1.4.** Number of small organizations supported (disaggregated by type, e.g. women's organizations) **1.1.5. %** of grantee organization members trained by the UNTF each year that report improved knowledge and skills and ability to apply these **1.1.6. %** of grantee organizations surveyed who report improved capacity to achieve results and manage projects due to UNTF support	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**	**2015:** 1.1.1. & 1.1.2: Develop methodology to track project performance and set a baseline 1.1.3: Criteria currently under development for (a) and baseline will be set by mid-2015 for Cycle 19. Criteria for (b) to be developed for Cycle 20 call 1.1.4: Small Grants Portfolio Manager recruited, to start April 2015; strategy and specific capacity development support for small grants to be devised mid-2015 1.1.5 and 1.1.6: Baseline survey to be devised and ready by mid-2015	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**

Intermediate Outcomes and Outputs (UNTF Results)

EVIDENCE HUB

RESULTS STATEMENT	INDICATORS	BASELINE (2015)	ANNUAL MILESTONES (ACTIVITIES)	TARGET (2020)
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2 UNTF projects generate evidence and knowledge that inform and shape the EVAW/G agenda	2.1. % of partners surveyed who report that evidence from UNTF projects (e.g. from evaluations, papers) has informed or shaped policies, programmes or action on EVAW/G 2.2. Evidence of knowledge from UNTF projects informing significant policy, research or other knowledge products (e.g. citations in significant papers) **2.3. %** of grantee organizations partnering with research institutions and/or other partners on research and evidence gathering on EVAW/G either during or after the project as a direct result of UNTF funds	**To be developed by mid to end 2015 (NEW PARTNER SURVEY)**	**2015:** 2.1. and 2.2. Create partnership survey to set baseline by mid-2015; devise strategy for improved dissemination of knowledge and evidence from UNTF projects (including through outputs below) 2.3. To be devised on the basis of outputs below	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**
OUTPUT 2: EVIDENCE HUB The UNTF creates a platform for harvesting, analysing and disseminating useful lessons from the evaluated results of UNTF projects, that measurably informs policy and programming	2.1.1. (a) Number of site visits to the Evidence Hub (b) Number of publication downloads (c) Number and type of registered users (e.g. on mailing list for updates) 2.1.2. Number of knowledge products (on lessons learned from grantees) produced by the UNTF (by type) per year 2.1.3. Number of partnerships brokered by the UNTF for grantees with research institutions, universities and other partners for research and evaluation 2.1.4. (a) % of total grant-making budget used for impact evaluation and (b) number of impact evaluations of UNTF grants produced	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**	**2015:** 2.1.1. Create an Evidence Hub (web-based global repository of data and evidence) from UNTF grantees on evidence-based programming on EVAW/G 2.1.2. Two knowledge products on results (e.g. on results and lessons by region and/or theme) in addition to the Annual Report 2.1.3. Strategy and contacts to be developed for research partnerships 2.1.4. Strategy on improving the quality of grantee evaluations, including the introduction of impact evaluations, to be devised	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**

Intermediate Outcomes and Outputs (UNTF Results)

GLOBAL GIVING

RESULTS STATEMENT	INDICATORS	BASELINE (2015)	ANNUAL MILESTONES (ACTIVITIES)	TARGET (2020)
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 3 Increased global public and private funding and political commitment for EVAW/G	**3.1** % increase in global giving for EVAW/G (in US dollars per year) disaggregated by donor type (public vs. private) **3.2.** Number and type of statements/ pledges made by key actors (donors, national governments, corporate partners etc) on EVAW/G **3.3** Extent and type of media coverage on EVAW/G around key events (e.g. positive statements about the importance of EVAW/G)	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**	**2015:** Develop baselines and/or partnerships with others to develop the baseline surveys (e.g. discuss 3.1. with OECD/ DAC and other interested partners)	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**
OUTPUT 3: GLOBAL GIVING The UNTF creates partnerships and mobilizes support for increased and effective global resourcing and commitments to EVAW/G, including for the UNTF	2.1.1. (a) Number of site visits to the Evidence Hub (b) Number of publication downloads (c) Number and type of registered users (e.g. on mailing list for updates) 2.1.2. Number of knowledge products (on lessons learned from grantees) produced by the UNTF (by type) per year 2.1.3. Number of partnerships brokered by the UNTF for grantees with research institutions, universities and other partners for research and evaluation 2.1.4. (a) % of total grant-making budget used for impact evaluation and (b) number of impact evaluations of UNTF grants produced	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**	**2015:** 2.1.1. Create an Evidence Hub (web-based global repository of data and evidence) from UNTF grantees on evidence-based programming on EVAW/G 2.1.2. Two knowledge products on results (e.g. on results and lessons by region and/or theme) in addition to the Annual Report 2.1.3. Strategy and contacts to be developed for research partnerships 2.1.4. Strategy on improving the quality of grantee evaluations, including the introduction of impact evaluations, to be devised	**To be developed by mid to end 2015**

Endnotes

1. World Health Organization, *WHO Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence Against Women,* 2005, available at http://www.who.int/gender/violence/who_multicountry_study/Introduction-Chapter1-Chapter2.pdf; and Shelah S. Bloom, *Violence Against Women and Girls; A Compendium of M&E Indicators*, 2008, available at http://www.prb.org/igwg_media/violenceagainstwomen.pdf

2. Ibid.

3. In line with United Nations definitions, the UNTF uses the term children (girls) to denote all those under the age of 18; special care and provisions must be applied by grantees if interviewing children.

4. "Satisfaction" will be defined and a qualitative assessment tool created to enable grantees to apply and monitor this indicator in a standardized manner, applicable to different contexts.

5. "Improved" will be defined and a qualitative assessment tool created to enable grantees to apply and monitor this indicator in a standardized manner, applicable to different contexts.

6. Indicator currently proposed in the UN Strategic Results Framework on Women, Peace and Security 2011-2020; http://www. un.org/womenwatch/ianwge/taskforces/wps/Strategic_Framework_2011-2020.pdf.

7. "Reasonable accessible distance" will be defined by grantees according to context and measured through a standardized methodology (e.g. example survey question).

8. A standardized methodology will be devised for grantees to monitor whether or not best practice / new skills have been demonstrated for different scenarios / services.

9. A qualitative assessment tool will be developed with recommended criteria for measuring institutional effectiveness for grantees to use in different contexts.

10. This indicator will be developed further through a more thorough review of grantees' focus of work, for example, for work on legal frameworks a more specific indicator could be developed such as whether the legal framework reaches minimum standards with respect to gender equality and violence against women, including whether or not customary laws are in line with the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

11. This will be based on a definition of an "effective" database; that is, the number of "effective" databases or systems to collect data on VAW/G based on a recommended and standardized qualitative assessment that takes into account how data is entered/validated, frequency of data reporting, accessibility of results, etc.

12. Recommended guidelines and a methodology for defining and measuring "active participation" will be developed, for example, criteria such as "proportion of agenda items that are community-led" or "proportion of actions that are follow-up at subsequent meetings" and so on.

13. A definition of "function and effective" and methodology, including qualitative criteria to assess whether or not the platforms are effective and functioning, will be developed.

14. Indicators on people's attitudes towards VAW/G will be developed from a recommended standardized survey methodology and questions that generate a composite score across questions on attitudes which can be relevant to different contexts

THEORY OF CHANGE DIAGRAM

UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 2015-2020

SUPER IMPACT:
Women and girls are able to realize and enjoy all their human rights

IMPACT:
Women and girls live a life free of violence

Year 2030+

PARTNER RESULTS

(Multiplier effect of UNTF)
*PAC decisions over who gets a grant ensures results complement the work on EVAW/G by other partners, for greater impact.

*Evidence gathered from UNTF projects increases knowledge for improved EVAW/G partner programming
*UNTF advocacy and resource mobilization increases financial and political support for all EVAW/G partners.

UNTF Grantee results (Year 2020):

OUTCOME 1:
Improved access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multi-sectoral services to end VAW/G

OUTCOME 2:
Increased effectiveness of legislation, policies, national action plans and accountability systems to prevent and end VAW/G

OUTCOME 3:
Improved prevention of VAW/G through changes in practices, behaviours and attitudes

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 1:
Grantee organizations achieve, replicate and scale up results on EVAW/G through UNTF-funded projects

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2:
UNTF projects generate evidence and knowledge that inform and shape the EVAW/G agenda

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 3:
Increased global public and private funding and political commitment for EVAW/G

UN (system-wide) results, which UNTF enhancesand contributes to:

Enhanced effectiveness of UN system-wide efforts on EVAW/G through strategic direction by the global inter-agency and regional UNTF Programme Advisory Committees (PAC) which ensures complementarity of UNTF grants with other programmes on EVAW/G*

Improved access to international evidence-based practices on EVAW/G through the generation and dissemination of knowledge, including through data collection and research (UN Women Virtual Knowledge Center)

IIncreased public awareness and political will and resources for preventing and ending all forms of violence against women and girls through the UN Secretary-General's Campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women

UNTF Mission (2015-2020): *to advocate for and finance innovative approaches for preventing and EVAW/G, to catalyze learning from global evidence collected from the projects funded by the UNTF, and to leverage its unique mandate and convening power to foster global giving for EVAW/G. This will be achieved through three strategic pathways (outputs):*

OUTPUT 1 Grant Giving
Mobilize deliver and effectively manage funds for EVAW/G initiatives that use resources efficiently and effectively, monitor and achieve results and generate evidence and lessons

OUTPUT 2 Global Evidence Hub
Create a platform for harvesting, analyzing and disseminating useful lessons from the evaluated results of UNTF projects that measurably inform EVAW/G policy and programming

OUTPUT 3 Global Giving
Create partnerships and mobilize support for increased and effective global resourcing and commitments to EVAW/G, including for the UNTF

Activities – Grant Giving

- Manage portfolio of grants and call for proposals efficiently
- Support PAC to make strategic evidence-based decisions
- Support grantees to improve capacity and build partnerships in evidence-based programming (esp. small and women's organizations)

Activities– Evidence Hub

- Create a platform to generate and disseminate knowledge on good practices from grantees, including excellence in EVAW/G data collection and research
- Form partnerships with others working on EVAW/G evidence to maximize use and impact

Activities – Global Giving

- Global advocacy campaigns to raise awareness and increase political will to EVAW/G
- Resource mobilization campaigns to increase global giving to the UNTF and other EVAW/G initiatives (national and global)

Problem statement EVAW/G:
Magnitude, prevalence and incidence of violence against women and girls prevents the full realization of their human rights and negatively impacts on their right to participate fully in society. Resources for response by state, international, non-governmental and women's organizations remain insufficient to tackle the problem.

Problem statement for the UNTF (institutional):
Evidence and data from grantee projects have not been fully exploited. Some grantee organisations do not yet have the capacity to plan, monitor and evaluate projects and this can reduce impact. Lack of resourcing prevents the UNTF from maximizing its potential to support innovative solutions and sustainable results on EVAW/G.

* In 2014 the Programme Advisory Committee members at the global and sub-regional levels included: ECLAC, ILO, UNHCR, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UN Women, UNICEF, UNODC, UNFPA, the Office of the Special Representative of the SG on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the World Bank and civil society representatives from the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, Equality Now, the Open Society Institute and IOM.