



The Government of  
the Republic of Korea



# PROGRESS REPORT 2021

ENDING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE  
AND ACHIEVING THE  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Executive Summary	01
Key Highlights	02
Introduction	05
Project Overview	07
Pilot Overviews	08
• Bhutan	09
• Indonesia	11
• Iraq	13
• Lebanon	15
• Peru	17
• Republic of Moldova	19
• Uganda	21
Communications	23
Looking Forward	25
Financial Report	27



Photo credit: @UNDP

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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In 2021, gender-based violence (GBV) continued to be the shadow pandemic of the COVID-19 crisis around the world. The crisis has disrupted vital support services and exacerbated risk factors for violence against women and girls, such as economic stress, job loss and social isolation because of lockdowns and other pandemic measures.

Even before the pandemic hit, globally 1 in 3 women experienced physical or sexual violence. These levels of violence have stayed at this alarmingly high rate over the last decade and may now be worse because of the pandemic. In crisis settings, the rise in GBV due to the pandemic is compounded with existing high levels of different forms of violence. In those settings, the proportion of women having experienced gender-based violence is as high as 70%.

In April last year, the UN Secretary-General called for a global ceasefire to end the shadow pandemic. While the global response to the pandemic has been largely blind to women's and girls' needs, the UNDP-UN Women COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker shows that 163 countries have enacted 853 policy measures to address violence against women.

In 2020, UNDP worked with its global partners to support over 80 countries to counter this surge in violence through adapting dedicated GBV services and integrating a GBV lens into COVID-19 efforts, including through the Republic of Korea (ROK)-UNDP project *Ending Gender-based Violence and Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals*.

This and other initiatives have had to swiftly adapt and adjust its interventions to ensure not only relevance and responsiveness but also creativity. This progress report outlines the quick and innovative solutions implemented by the joint RoK-UNDP project in 2021 to meet the growing and evolving challenges.

The following section provides an overview of the project's key highlights from 2021 around the areas of:

- SDG acceleration
- Expanding coalitions & galvanizing political will
- Sustaining change
- Ripple effects

# KEY HIGHLIGHTS

## SDG ACCELERATION

The project's general hypothesis – that innovative approaches to end GBV can accelerate progress towards other development goals – has been proven correct. More will be known about exactly how much and what are the key components to success at the project's end in June 2022, but even now it is clear that the project approaches are increasing knowledge and capacities to address and prevent GBV, while also positively impacting the following development areas.

### Sustainable livelihoods, poverty reduction & GBV

- In Iraq, the dropout rate of women participants in the intervention governorate was nearly half that of the control governorate.
- In the Republic of Moldova, seven new businesses were created as a result of the project and 20% of the GBV survivors receiving support services from the newly established Women's Safe Space found a job.
- In Lebanon, pilot activities contributed to safer workplaces for women, as eight employers drafted new policies to combat sexual harassment, in line with a new law.

### More responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making & GBV

- In Indonesia, the project exponentially increased women's participation in local planning and COVID-19 response.
- In Lebanon, 90% of women participants reported feeling more empowered and confident in taking on more decision-making roles in their communities.
- In both the Republic of Moldova and Peru, the project's participatory process has increased representation in decision making from diverse groups.

### Climate action & GBV

- In Uganda, formative research conducted by the project revealed the multiple ways that climate change programming relates to GBV, including its potential to inadvertently increase GBV risk factors. In response, UNDP Uganda developed a GBV Risk Mitigation Strategy and improved safeguards for participants of a large climate change project.

### Mental health and GBV

- In Peru, participants reported positive changes in mental health and wellbeing because of their participation in the *Justa* initiative.
- In the Republic of Moldova, the project's participatory planning process resulted in the establishment of the first safe space for women in region of Gagauzia. The Women's Safe Space offers a 'one-stop shop' of GBV services for women and their children and also offers counseling services to the broader community. The Safe Space's mobile unit conducted outreach to 59% of localities in Gagauzia, and provided support to 180 individuals.
- In Lebanon and Bhutan, participants reported feeling stronger social connections and positive coping mechanisms during COVID-19 related lockdowns.

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## SUSTAINING CHANGE

Many of the project's tools and approaches have been institutionalized into government and other actors' policies, processes and budgets, helping to ensure that many of the positive changes set in motion by the project will be sustained. For example:

- In Bhutan, Indonesia, the Republic of Moldova and Peru, the pilots led to additional financial resources for GBV. For example, because of the pilot in Indonesia, the intervention village fund allocated IDR 5 million to implement their Local Action Plan to end GBV.
- In the Republic of Moldova and Peru, the project's participatory processes led to new policies to end GBV. In both countries, it is the first time that national policies have been localized and implemented at the local level.
- Pilots in Indonesia, Peru and the Republic of Moldova have created new formal and informal structures capable of taking this work forward after the project cycle ends: including the government-funded Women's Safe Space in the Republic of Moldova, the women's Village Think Tanks in Indonesia and the *Justa* women's network in Peru.

Positive changes will also be sustained by strengthened across all pilots. For example,

- 10 staff from public institutions, NGOs and youth centers in the Republic of Moldova have been trained on the Common Elements Treatment Approach (CETA) to mental health.
- In Peru, a diverse group of 550 people – including family police, supermarket staff and waste collectors – were trained on GBV referrals, violence prevention, masculinities, co-responsibility of caregiving and domestic work.

## EXPANDING COALITIONS & GALVANIZING POLITICAL WILL

The project's overall approach has been effective in breaking down silos by fostering cross-sectoral collaboration and building support to end GBV outside of gender teams and machineries. For example:

- Pilots in Lebanon, Peru, the Republic of Moldova and Uganda all forged partnerships with the private sector. Notably, a partnership with the Natura cosmetics firm in Peru mobilized 100,000 salespeople and enabled the purchase of dignity kits for more than 2,000 women.
- The key partners in Uganda on the other hand, are "non-gender" government line ministries: Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and the Uganda National Meteorological Agency. Each ministry was initially skeptical about the linkages between GBV and their work, but they are all now integrating GBV risk mitigation and GBV prevention into their workstreams.

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## RIPPLE EFFECTS

The positive impacts of the project are also being scaled-up well beyond the intervention areas.

Five of the seven pilots have already secured funding, partnerships and political commitments to take the project's approaches to scale. For example:

- In partnership with the Ministry of Education, the pilot in Bhutan has been adapted for roll-out in three additional schools, with the goals of taking the project nationwide.
- Ten new localities in the Republic of Moldova have committed to using the project's local planning tool for ending GBV. The Moldova team has also secured USD \$75,000 from Romania to continue its intervention in Gagauzia throughout 2022.
- In Peru, USD \$225,728 was mobilized to replicate the *Justa* model to end GBV in three territories. The project has received interest from 12 local governments and a financial commitment from five, including the provinces of Cajamarca, Cajabamba, Cachachi and Cusco.
- The participatory approach to local planning and budgeting to end GBV tested in Indonesia will be replicated in 139 villages in Jayapura District. Discussions are ongoing to scale-up in another 29 districts and cities in Papua province, with a potential to impact over 3.4 million people.
- UNDP Uganda integrated the GBV pilot activities into the Gender Mainstreaming Activity Plan of the broader wetlands project. The Uganda pilot team also successfully integrated a GBV lens into the UNDP Uganda Country Office's gender capacity building action plan, including planned trainings on GBV-nature-climate-energy linkages for the Country Office's environment/climate teams and implementing partners.

Other countries are also interested in adopting the GBV and SDGs project's approaches and tools.

- In cooperation with UNDP's Gender and Crisis Engagement Facility and with the generous support from the Republic of Korea, two UNDP Country Offices will scale-up the approaches tested in the Lebanon and Iraq pilots.
- The pilot evidence is also being replicated in at least 12 other countries through the EU-UN *Spotlight Initiative*.





# INTRODUCTION

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Gender-based violence (GBV) is one of the most pervasive human rights abuses in the world. Defined as an umbrella term for "any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females," GBV is both a cause and a consequence of gender inequalities. It includes not only sexual and physical violence, but also emotional and socio-economic violence.

Even before the COVID-19 crisis, the World Health Organization's (WHO) estimated that 35% of women worldwide experience some form of physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. The numbers may be worse now, as the pandemic has exacerbated risk factors of GBV, such as economic stress, job loss and social isolation because of lockdowns and other pandemic measures. This has spurred increased reporting of GBV and leading many, including the United Nations Secretary-General, to call GBV the shadow pandemic.

Not only does GBV severely impact a survivor's physical, psychological, social and economic well-being, the impacts of GBV reverberate throughout society. For example, violence against girls in and around schools limits their access to education, attendance and completion rates.

GBV also promotes intergenerational cycles of violence, as boys who are physically abused, or who witness their mothers being beaten are more likely to abuse their partners later in life.

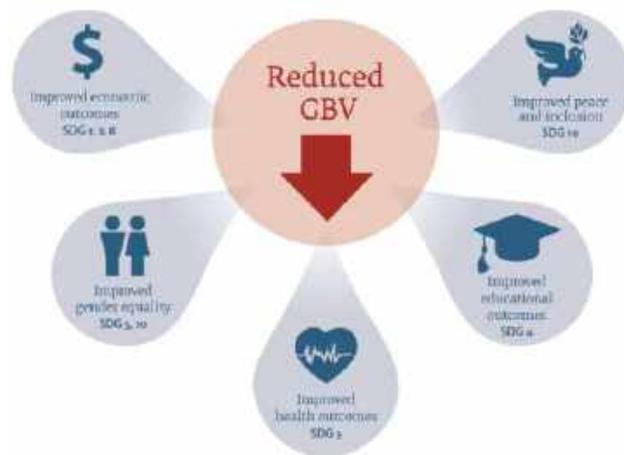
At the societal level, GBV lowers overall productivity, decreases tax revenues and strains justice, health and social services. Research indicates that the cost of violence against women amounts to roughly 2% of global GDP, equivalent to 1.5 trillion USD or the size of the economy of Canada!

Evidence, including that already garnered by the RoK-UNDP initiative, shows **GBV can and must be prevented.**



Aside from the human rights imperative to end GBV, there are numerous other motivations to prevent and address GBV:

**GBV undermines all development efforts.** For example, the physical and emotional toll of GBV on survivors and those who provide support services hinder efforts to eradicate poverty (SDG1). Research shows that rates of violence against women are a better indicator of state stability than measures such as wealth and the strength of institutions (SDG16).



**Eliminating GBV has multiplier effects and can accelerate progress on achieving the SDGs.** For example, addressing GBV risk factors such as substance abuse, expedites the realization of SDG3, focused on ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Evidence from UNDP and others also shows that GBV prevention programming can encourage better livelihood outcomes (SDG1 and SDG8) and more responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making (SDG16). Integrating GBV effectively allows practitioners to do more with less.

**Addressing GBV breaks silos and encourages collaboration.** The SDGs recognize the inter-related nature of development aims and call for whole-of-society approaches. GBV is a cross-cutting issue that requires cross-cutting, multi-sectoral solutions. Addressing GBV compels diverse sectors to work together, including within the peace-development-humanitarian nexus.

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

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It is in this context that UNDP and RoK launched the global project *Ending Gender-based Violence and Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (2018-2022)*. Through a portfolio of pilots in seven countries – Bhutan, Indonesia, Iraq, Lebanon, Peru, the Republic of Moldova and Uganda – the project is testing new tools and approaches to reduce GBV and intensify progress towards other development goals, such as economic empowerment, climate change and governance.

The project aims to narrow the gap between research and practice, and provide evidence on:

- What can be achieved in terms of value-for-money and impact through the integration of actions to address GBV within UNDP's large-scale sectoral programmes.
- How to ensure the most excluded groups and/or communities have access to the resources and opportunities needed to address and respond to violence within their unique circumstances.

In addition to providing new evidence, the project also equips decision makers and local partners with the tools, capacities and commitments to reduce GBV.

The portfolio of seven pilots was deliberately chosen in order to represent a diversity of contexts: from low-income to upper-middle-income, rural to urban, and crisis to politically, economically and environmentally stable. This portfolio approach was chosen as to glean context-specific lessons as well as more generalizable learnings that can be applied across the countries and thematic areas where UNDP operates.

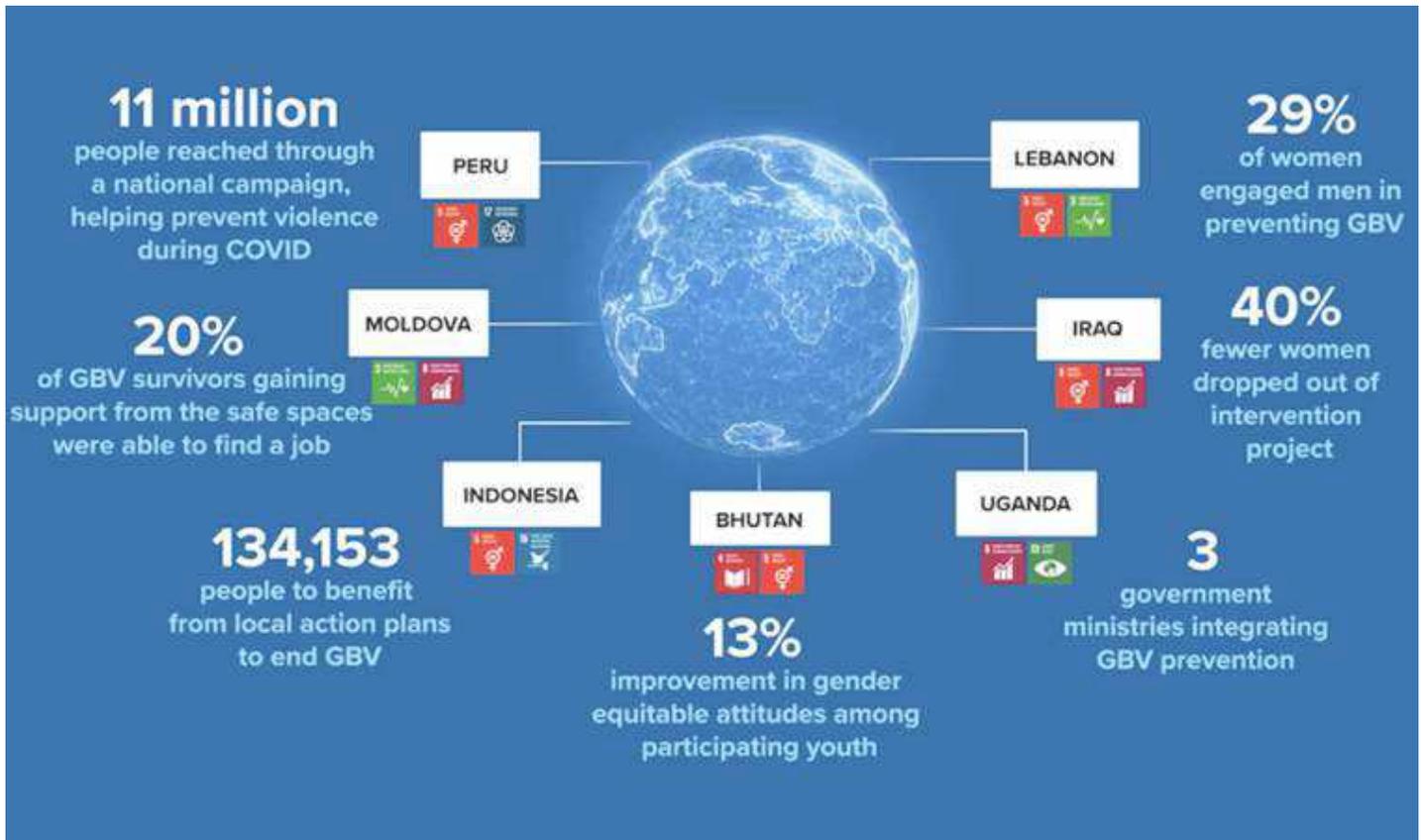
The project evaluates and costs the multiple returns of reduced violence in different sectors, testing which approaches are most impactful and identifying those with the highest potential for scaling-up. To lead this important research, the project has partnered with the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH) based in Kuala Lumpur, global leaders in the field of GBV costing and return on investment.

This project builds on UNDP's work in 170 countries and territories, 80 of which have dedicated programming to end GBV, including through the *Spotlight Initiative*, a multi-year partnership between the European Unions and the UN to end violence against women and girls.

As the UN's main development arm, UNDP is dedicated to ensuring that all human beings can fulfill their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment. As such, UNDP has a key role to play in supporting national, regional and global efforts to eliminate GBV and reduce gender inequalities to advance sustainable development.

This project is leveraging UNDP's unique integrator role and expansive development portfolio, particularly in livelihoods, governance and climate change, to integrate GBV into development programming. This is part of a broader effort to maximize impact and apply integrated approaches aimed at transformative change, per its new Strategic Plan (2022-2025).

# PILOT OVERVIEWS



	BUDGET	UTILIZED	TIMEFRAME
<b>BHUTAN</b>	\$240,000	98%	May 2018 - Dec 2021
<b>INDONESIA</b>	\$267,969	94%	June 2018 - March 2022
<b>IRAQ</b>	\$157,000	81%	July 2020 - Dec 2021
<b>LEBANON</b>	\$180,000	98%	June 2018 - March 2022
<b>PERU</b>	\$500,000	90%	March 2018 - March 2022
<b>REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA</b>	\$572,400	82%	March 2018 - March 2022
<b>UGANDA</b>	\$222,585	84%	June 2018 - March 2022

# BHUTAN

## *Gakey Lamtoen: Bhutan GBV Prevention Project*

The first ever intervention on primary prevention of GBV in Bhutan, *Gakey Lamtoen* is seeking to promote healthy relationships and equitable social norms and practices among adolescents and caregivers. Inspired by “Partners for Prevention”, a joint initiative of UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UN Volunteers, it used a school-based curriculum on topics such as gender equality, safe and happy relationships and community relationships and community activism, along with social innovation camps for adolescents, which aimed to empower youth to identify and present solutions to end GBV to community leaders.

After piloting *Gakey Lamtoen* in one school, the Project Steering Committee, which includes the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, National Commission for Women and Children, Gross National Happiness Commission, Royal Bhutan Police, Thimphu Municipality, and civil society partners, agreed to roll out the intervention in three additional schools in 2022.

### **2021 KEY ACTIVITIES:**

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- Establishing a new partnership with the Career Education and Counseling Division of the Department of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Education, resulting from consultations with key stakeholders to galvanize broad political support for scale-up.
- Adapting the intervention for scale including: evaluating the original intervention; revising the intervention manuals based on lessons learned; integrating *Gakey Lamtoen* sessions into the Ministry of Education’s Guidance Counseling curriculum; and training the facilitators for roll-out in the three new schools.
- Developing an implementation plan for 2022 roll out.
- Contributing to the COVID-19 Impact on Women and Children Study, commissioned by the National Commission for Women and Children. Study findings, such as nearly 65% of adults felt that physical violence, against women in particular, increased significantly as a result of COVID-19, have been used to advocate for increased attention to GBV.



Photo credit: @UNDP Bhutan

## 2021 RESULTS:

### Strengthened resilience, healthier relationships and more gender equitable attitudes

- Adolescent participants (153 total, a mixture of 13-15 year olds in the eighth and ninth grades) adopted more gender equitable attitudes. Participants also reported increased confidence, communications skills and positive coping mechanisms, and the intervention created a support system and sense of belonging among adolescents during the COVID-19-related lockdown
- Caregiver participants (parents, relatives, teachers, etc.) reported improved communication and relationships with the children in their care.

### Government commitment to integrated GBV prevention in three schools

- The Department of Youth and Sports of the Ministry of Education will incorporate the *Gakey Lamtoen* methodology within their Guidance Counseling curriculum to roll out to three schools in 2022. This is the first step to nationwide scale-up and will be implemented on a cost sharing basis between the Ministry of Education, the National Commission for Women and Children and UNDP.

### School counsellors in three scale-up schools showed a 29% improvement in gender equitable attitudes following their training.



Photo credit: @UNDP Bhutan

# INDONESIA

## *Planning and Paying for Local Action Plans to Prevent GBV*

As part of a decentralization process in 2014, 74,000 villages in Indonesia were granted the power to develop their own plans and budgets based on local needs and priorities. The pilot in Papua, Indonesia has been working to establish GBV, which was previously treated as a private matter, as a priority agenda item for village planning and budgeting in two villages.

To advance this goal, the pilot created Village Think Tanks, community-based multi-sectoral mechanisms, that provide women with a forum to strengthen their leadership skills and develop a common platform, a Local Action Plan to End GBV.

This has been transformational. Before the pilot, women were not meaningfully engaged in public decision making and leaders were very reluctant to discuss GBV. Through the pilot women are participating not only in village planning and budgeting, but also COVID-19 response efforts. Furthermore, one Village Think Tank received IDR 5 million from its village fund to implement their Local Action Plan, including initiatives that promote women's economic empowerment and establishing support groups for survivors of violence. The other village is considering a new regulation for the village fund which, if passed, would allocate up to IDR 100 million for women's groups.

A surge in COVID-19 cases, including a more than 10-fold jump in daily cases between May and July, restricted mobility in and access to Papua, causing some delays in pilot implementation. As a result, the planned advocacy workshops to further engage the public and private sectors and mobilize their support to end GBV will take place in December 2021.

### **2021 KEY ACTIVITIES:**

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- Training key stakeholders on participatory planning, gender equality, GBV prevention and response, including Village Paralegal Training.
- Supporting partners to strengthen referral pathways, including developing guidance for community-based GBV case management.
- Strengthening women's capacity and influence in the village and district planning processes.
- Advocating for and institutionalizing Local Action Plans to End GBV, including within government processes, and exploring collaboration with the private sector. Presented best practices at the Regional Development Summit for Eastern Indonesia.
- Conducting situational analyses in two new villages. This is the first step for scale-up and will inform the formation of the Village Think Tanks, training, etc.
- Monitoring and evaluation, including conducting the end line survey and qualitative research in the two pilot villages.



Photo credit: @UNDP Indonesia

## 2021 RESULTS:

### Women's increased leadership and influence on public decision making

- Women were engaged in the development of the village government work plan and village and district-level planning, securing funds in Nembukrangsari village.
- Women created a farmer's group and marketplace to promote food security and reduce reliance on other villages.

### Increased government commitment to end GBV

- The approach will be replicated by 139 villages in Jayapura District, impacting 134,153 people (63,947 females and 70,206 males).
- The other 29 districts and cities in Papua province have also expressed interest in replicating this approach, with a potential to impact over 3.4 million people (1,633,217 females and 1,802,213 males).



Photo credit: @UNDP Indonesia

# IRAQ

## *Sustainable Livelihoods & Economic Recovery in Diyala Governorate*

Since the Government of Iraq declared official victory against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in December 2017, more than 4.3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) returned to the areas of origin. The most impacted governorates include Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Diyala (the location of the intervention).

In this context, UNDP Iraq initiated the *Sustainable Livelihoods & Economic Recovery in Diyala Governorate* project to develop livelihood opportunities for IDPs, returnees and host communities, with a focus on youth and women. Recognizing the links between poverty, sustainable livelihoods and GBV, the project integrated an adaptation of *Indashyikirwa*, a programme that reduced intimate partner violence (IPV) in Rwanda by engaging with couples and opinion leaders about gender equitable attitudes and behaviors.

Married couples who were beneficiaries of the livelihoods components of the project, such as cash-for-work, vocational training, and business support grants, were invited to attend bi-weekly couples' sessions that focused on healthy, equitable relationships. This intervention broke new ground, as prevailing social norms greatly discourage discussions between women and men about marital issues in public.

### **2021 KEY ACTIVITIES:**

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In close collaboration with local partners, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Protection Cluster and the GBV Sub Cluster, the pilot developed, implemented and is in the process of evaluating a community-based GBV prevention strategy, based on *Indashyikirwa*. This entailed:

- Developing the Couples' Curriculum and Opinion Leaders' training.
- Training of Trainers (ToT) to capacitate local facilitators to implement the Couple's and Opinion Leaders' Curriculums.
- Implementing the 17 sessions of the Couples' Curriculum with 40 couples (80 participants).
- Implementing the Opinion Leaders' Curriculum, including 10 dialogue sessions that trained 30 community leaders and influencers.
- Raising awareness on GBV and GBV services through 80 awareness sessions (reaching 920 primary stakeholders) and information, education and communication (IEC) materials, such as a map of GBV services and two billboards.



Photo credit: @UNDP Iraq

## **2021 RESULTS:**

### **Healthier relationships and more gender equitable attitudes and behaviours**

- Both male and female participants reported improved anger management and changed attitudes towards violence against children.
- Male participants reported increased participation in domestic duties and decreased attempts of marital rape.
- For female participants, the sessions were among the first of its kind in Iraq, as it enabled them to leave their homes and engage with other couples.

### **Enhanced livelihoods outcomes for women**

- The retention rate of women participants in UNDP's livelihoods activities (such as cash-for-work, vocational training, and business support grants) was nearly two times greater in the communities that engaged in the GBV prevention programming, compared with the communities that did not have this dedicated work to prevent GBV.
- Additionally, the livelihoods project in Diyala attracted a sizeable number of women participants (21%) in a governorate where women's roles are very restricted.

### **Capacity strengthening of partners**

- WAHO and Oxfam staff have strengthened capacities in the following areas, which they are able to apply in their future work: community mobilization; GBV case identification and referrals; anti-GBV communications; and workshop facilitation.
- Both partners plan to implement pilot approaches, the tools and trainings in their upcoming projects.

### **Increased awareness of GBV services**

- 1000 people received information on how to report and access GBV services.

# LEBANON

## *Integrating GBV Prevention within the Women's Economic Empowerment Project*

In 2021, economic hardship in Lebanon was exacerbated by ongoing financial, political and health crises, making the pilot, which is integrating GBV prevention into a broader economic empowerment project, all the more timely.

The Lebanon pilot supports couples, both from Lebanese host communities and Syrian refugees, to develop equitable and non-violent relationships. Women participants of the pilot were recruited from UNDP livelihoods activities. They then invited their husbands and male relatives to attend the sessions, which aim to fundamentally change the balance of power between women and men for greater equality. The approach is based on *Indashyikirwa*, a programme that reduced intimate partner violence in Rwanda, which has been adapted for the specificities of the pilot context.

Unlike mainstream livelihood projects which focus solely on providing economic resources and technical skills training, the pilot also creates safe, women-only spaces for women to discuss challenges, share their expertise and offer advice, and learn about local services and risks mitigation measures. The upcoming period will also engage municipal officers and opinion leaders and establish Gender Equality Cafes, where participants can work together to implement community action to end GBV.

### 2021 KEY ACTIVITIES:

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Implementing *Indashyikirwa*-inspired sessions

- 217 people participated in the online and in-person sessions (in light of COVID-19 restrictions, the programme was adapted and offered remotely).

Conducting gender audits of five municipalities

- UNDP and partners established partnerships with five municipalities in South Lebanon and completed gender audits to assess the extent to which the municipalities institutionalize gender equality in their policies, processes and budgets. The assessment showed considerable gender gaps and the results will inform upcoming work to reduce them.

Promoting the implementation of a new law on sexual harassment

- Over 102 participants attended a two-day workshop on implementing a new anti-sexual harassment law in Lebanese workplaces.
- Workshops aimed at advancing gender equality and non-discriminatory practices in the workplace were held with 92 participants from 14 businesses.
- A public campaign to End Sexual Harassment in the Workplace was launched, including a call-to-action for employers.

Raising awareness on GBV prevention

- Two webinars were organized to share the pilot's lessons and promising practices.
- Publication of a blog on "Emerging promising practices from integrating GBV prevention into economic empowerment initiatives in Lebanon."



29%

of women engaged men in preventing gender-based violence

Photo credit: @UNDP Lebanon

## 2021 RESULTS:

### **Healthier relationships and more gender equitable attitudes and behaviors among couples:**

- 92% of women reported feeling connected with other women and couples from their communities, including a mix of Lebanese host communities and Syrian refugees.
- 90% of women noted feeling more empowered and confident in taking on more decision-making roles and initiatives within the household and in their communities.
- 87% of women reported using more positive household communication techniques.
- 79% of men and women indicated increased awareness of preventing sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).
- 29% of women engaged male relatives or partners in social norm transformation work to prevent GBV and achieve gender equality.

### **Improved policy framework and increased commitment to end GBV in the workplace**

- Eight employers drafted policies to align with the new law to address sexual harassment.
- 17 employers made self-recorded pledges, publicly sharing their commitment to creating safe workspaces, free from sexual harassment.

# PERU

## *'Justa'. Planning and Paying for Local Action Plans to Addressing GBV*

2021 has been an eventful year for Peru. The country continued to grapple with the severe impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic - including high mortality rates and one of the longest closure of schools in the hemisphere - while the presidential election during the summer brought important changes in the political agenda.

This pilot has adapted a holistic approach to transformative community change in Villa El Salvador, a historically disadvantaged neighbourhood in Lima. This includes a participatory process to develop and budget a Local Action Plan to prevent GBV, along with empowering a network of women leaders, providing psycho-social support and mutual aid, ongoing outreach to the general public and working with the private sector and arts organizations to design public spaces for non-violence.

The project *Justa* has been quick to adapt to the changing circumstances and has inspired *No Estás Solo*, the most successful awareness-raising campaign on ending GBV in the country, with an estimated audience of 11 million people. The combination of strong partnerships with the public and private sectors and rigorous evidence about the benefits of a participatory local plan on mental health, economic empowerment, and GBV prevention, has inspired other districts to replicate the model, starting with the district of Cajabamba in the last quarter of 2021. The Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations has also adopted the model.

### 2021 KEY ACTIVITIES:

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#### Developing a new programme for mental health

- In partnership with the civil society organization Padma and the *Justa* network of women leaders, a new training programme for psycho-social support was developed and implemented with the first cohort of 20 women.

#### Establishing new partnerships

- The cosmetics firm Natura - with a sale force of over 100,000 vendors - signed an agreement with the project to promote the *Justa* model by sharing compelling stories of personal transformation of *Justa* members.
- Replication of the *Justa* model in the district of Cajabamba.

#### Disseminating knowledge products

- Launch of the advocacy brief: *Addressing gender violence through a Coordination Plus Instance* with over 200 local and parliamentary representatives. This document highlights the success factors of the *Justa* model and can be used to aid its replication.
- Launch with women leaders of Villa El Salvador of the manual *Local governance to address gender-based violence through community action: Case Study of the Justa Network*. The manual has been translated into English and will be widely disseminated, including through the EU-UN *Spotlight Initiative*.



Photo credit: @UNDP Peru

## 2021 RESULTS:

### Government-endorsed GBV plan with a new GBV referral pathway

- The Municipality of Villa El Salvador not only approved a plan drafted by the community in a participatory manner, but also an Ordinance that makes the new district referral pathway official.

**Increased funding commitments and awareness to end GBV**, particularly through the *No Estás Sola* campaign that was informed by the specific actions carried out in Villa El Salvador to respond to the rise in violence against women during the pandemic:

- USD \$225,728 was mobilized to replicate the *Justa* model in three territories. The project has received interest from 12 local governments and a financial commitment from five, including the provinces of Cajamarca, Cajabamba, Cachachi and Cusco.
- 11 million Peruvians have been reached through a campaign that started out local and became national.
- 2,122 supermarkets, including in Villa El Salvador, joined the campaign *No Estás Sola*.
- USD \$27,000 was mobilized by the *Natura* vendors to purchase dignity kits for 2,000 women of Villa El Salvador.

### Improved mental health

- Twenty women leaders became multipliers of the programme for psychosocial support. All of these women leaders reported strengthened self-care and emotional skills because of the programme.
- A mid-term assessment found that the participatory processes carried out by the *Justa* project made a positive impact on the mental health and wellbeing of the participants.

# REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

## *Addressing violence against women: exploring and learning from local solutions*

The Republic of Moldova has a strong policy and legal framework to prevent and address GBV, yet the high prevalence rate of intimate partner violence (73%) indicates a gap between policies and the lived experiences of women and girls. As a result, the pilot has effectively worked with diverse government and civil society partners to localize the National Strategy on Prevention and Combating Violence Against Women (2018-2023). It has designed, implemented and is evaluating a Local Action Plan (LAP) to address violence against women, in Chirsova, a multi-ethnic community in the Autonomous Territorial Unit (ATU) of Gagauzia.

Developed through a participatory process under the leadership of a multi-disciplinary team, the LAP committed to several concrete actions, including job creation and establishing a women's Safe Space where GBV survivors and impacted community members can access psychological, legal and social assistance services. Established in 2020 with government support, the Safe Space is the first center of its kind in ATU Gagauzia, which has a population of 140,000 people. The participatory local planning process to end GBV was institutionalized through a decree and represents the first time the National Strategy on Prevention and Combating Violence against Women (2018-2023) was localized.

### **2021 KEY ACTIVITIES:**

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- Improving accessibility and quality of GBV services. This included the creation of a mobile unit of the Safe Space and training 10 staff from public institutions, NGOs and youth centers on the Common Elements Treatment Approach (CETA), a trans-diagnostic mental health intervention that has been effective at reducing GBV and treating anxiety, substance abuse and other mental health ailments.
- Developing a Regional GBV Referral Mechanism to improve coordination, enhance capacities of key actors, and support 10 additional localities to develop local action plans to end GBV. As part of scale up throughout Gagauzia, the pilot is also developing a costing tool to support local authorities to fund their commitments to prevent and address GBV.
- Supporting key stakeholders to develop a Regional Action Plan on Preventing and Combating GBV (2021-2023). This included convening members of the Gagauzian government, such as Directors of Social Protection and Health, Economy, Finance, Justice, Police, Education, Bureau of the Ombudsman and other public institutions.
- Providing ongoing guidance to businesses that were established as part of the economic empowerment component of the LAP.



Photo credit: @UNDP Moldova

## **2021 RESULTS:**

### **Increased access to quality GBV services, including in rural areas**

- 28 women and children benefitted from shelter and legal, material, psychological and medical assistance from the Safe Space.
- The mobile unit of the Safe Space conducted outreach to 59% of municipalities in ATU Gagauzia and provided support to 180 people.
- Four specialists from the Safe Space and nine specialists from other counties were trained in CETA.

### **Government commitment to expand localization approach**

- 10 new municipalities in ATU Gagauzia committed to creating LAPs to end GBV. This represents a massive shift as before the project, local state agencies were almost inactive in identifying, referring and addressing GBV cases. Multi-disciplinary teams in the 10 municipalities have been created and extensively trained on GBV referrals and participatory planning.

### **Increased economic opportunities**

- 20% of the GBV survivors receiving support services from the Women's Safe Space in Chirsova found a job.
- Seven new businesses were created because of the project.

# UGANDA

## *Global Climate Fund – Gender Based Violence Integration Pilot Project*

There is a growing body of research on the intersections between two of the most pressing issues of our time: climate change and GBV. Research conducted by this project indeed revealed that in periods of prolonged drought, women and girls take more frequent and longer journeys to obtain food or water, which makes them vulnerable to sexual assault. Some families resorted to marrying off their daughters early to cope with food scarcity.

Poor harvests, livestock loss, lower earnings and food insecurity put pressure on men's traditional role as providers; some men turned to alcohol to cope and can become more violent, especially in disagreements with their wives. This research also found that climate change mitigation and livelihoods strengthening efforts may inadvertently exacerbate risk and casual factors of GBV.

This pilot is integrating GBV prevention and risk mitigation within two districts of a broader Green Climate Fund (GCF) *Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments* project in Uganda. With civil society partners, it created a GBV Risk Mitigation Strategy that has been approved by its three government partners: the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and the Uganda National Meteorological Agency (UNMA). These ministries are not the traditional partners for GBV work and through sensitization and capacity strengthening, the pilot has overcome their initial skepticism and garnered their support to end GBV.

Uganda experienced a surge in COVID-19 cases during the summer of 2021, limiting mobility and communication and ultimately resulting in delays in the broader GCF wetlands project. The pilot was able to redouble efforts by the autumn and finalize its technical support package and related capacity strengthening and M&E by January 2022.

### **2021 KEY ACTIVITIES:**

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- Mapping of GBV services and capacity assessment of GBV service providers in the two pilot districts.
- Strengthening Referral Pathways, including through strengthening the capacity of members to provide referrals to services that prioritize the safety and needs of GBV survivors, as well as bolstering the partnerships between the GCF project and service providers at the district level.
- Forming GBV core task teams at the district level and training them to adequately implement the referral pathway and the GBV Risk Mitigation strategy.
- Supporting implementation of the GBV Risk Mitigation Strategy, which included: field testing and implementation of new tools; workshops to build the capacity and commitment of national and district level government and UNDP colleagues; and increasing linkages between the Strategy and the wetlands project's Grievance Response Mechanism..



Photo credit: @UNDP Uganda

## 2021 RESULTS:

### **Multiplier effects in UNDP's Nature, Climate and Energy Portfolio**

- Building on the pilot experience and *Spotlight Initiative* in Uganda, UNDP Uganda integrated a GBV lens into its gender capacity building action plan. This includes planned trainings on GBV for the Country Office's nature-climate-energy teams and implementing partners, and targeted knowledge sharing and resources on GBV and environment linkages.

### **Institutionalization of GBV prevention and risk mitigation within the broader GCF-funded wetlands project**

- The gender-transformative trainings for the MWE, MAAIF, UNMA and the district teams created institutional readiness to implement the GBV Risk Mitigation strategy.
- The pilot successfully integrated its activities into the Gender Mainstreaming Activity Plan of the broader wetlands project.
- GBV risk mitigation tools have been developed to guide extension workers and other partners to design and implement their wetlands-related activities in a gender-transformative way.

# COMMUNICATIONS

One of the primary goals of the project is to translate evidence generated by the pilots into programme, policy and advocacy tools, equipping decision makers at local, national and international levels with practical recommendations.

In 2021, this resulted in the following:

- Impact video: [Ending Gender-based Violence and Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals: Snapshot of the seven pilots](#) (password: UNDP)
- Webinar: [Integrating GBV Prevention into Livelihoods Programming: Learnings from Lebanon](#) (Lebanon)
- Webinar: [Adapting GBV Interventions: Insights from Indashyikirwa](#) (Lebanon)
- Blog: [Emerging promising practices from integrating GBV prevention into economic empowerment initiatives in Lebanon](#) (Lebanon)
- Policy brief: [Addressing gender violence through a Coordination Plus Instancia](#) and launch event with over 200 local and parliamentary representatives (Peru)
- Intervention manual: [Local governance to address gender-based violence through community action: Case Study of the Justa Network](#) and launch event with women leaders of Villa El Salvador (Peru)
- Guidance note: Five steps to address domestic violence. Participatory planning at the local level (Republic of Moldova)
- Impact Assessment: Indashyikirwa pilot programme to end GBV in Diyala (Iraq)
- Impact Video of Gakey Lamtoen (Bhutan)
- Intervention manual for Gakey Lamtoen (Bhutan)
- Quantitative Assessment of Gakey Lamtoen (Bhutan)



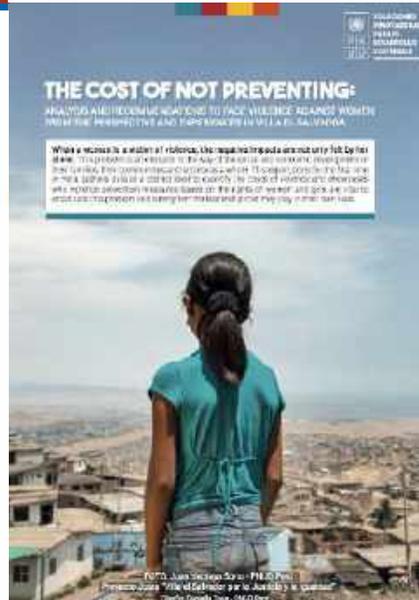
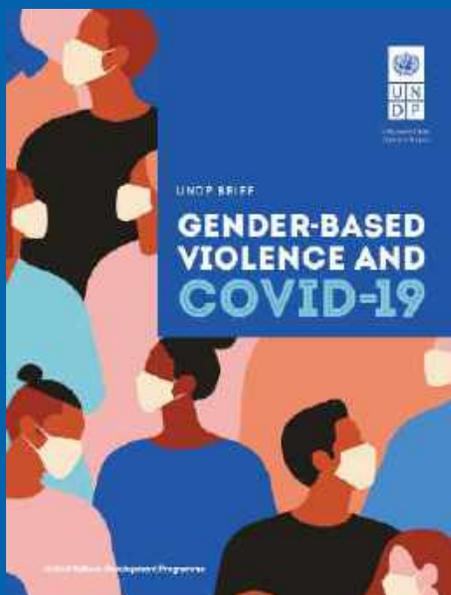
## Ending Gender-Based Violence and Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

A snapshot of the seven country pilots



Select knowledge products from 2018-2020:

- UNDP Brief: GBV and COVID (global)
- Guidance Note: Planning and Paying for Local Action Plans to Address Gender-based Violence (global)
- Blog: Why climate change fuels violence against women (global / Uganda)
- Costing research: The Cost of No Prevention: Analysis and recommendations to face violence against women from the perspective of Villa El Salvador (video available [here](#)) (Peru)
- Brief: Local Action to End Gender-based Violence (Republic of Moldova)
- Formative research: Livelihoods and GBV in Protracted Crises: Lessons from the Levant (Iraq / global)





# LOOKING FORWARD

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## *Phase II of the GBV and SDGs Project*

The RoK-UNDP project *Ending GBV and Achieving the SDGs* together with other initiatives implemented by UNDP and partners - such as the EU-UN *Spotlight Initiative* - have provided solid evidence and tools for decision makers to improve the content and formulation of policies to eliminate gender-based violence while contributing to meet other Sustainable Development Goals.

These findings have incorporated both the diversity of contexts and the new challenges posed by the COVID-19 global pandemic. Most importantly, they are in alignment with the latest discussions at the global level.

The most recent global discussions on actions for countries to meet SDG 5.2 target on ending GBV have been spearheaded by the Group of Friends for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls, which has garnered the support of 91 United Nations Member States, including RoK.

The 'shadow pandemic' of GBV during the COVID-19 crisis has raised the visibility and influence of the group, which has spelled out specific priorities for countries to accelerate results around SDG 5.2.

Some of the priorities established by the Group are particularly relevant for the suggested way forward in the collaborative efforts by the RoK to meaningfully contribute to SDG 5.2. These include the scale-up of evidence-informed strategies and programmes across multiple sectors to prevent GBV, the reliability of GBV-related data and resources, and the continuous dialogue and partnerships to eliminate GBV.

The closing of the *GBV and SDGs* project (2018-2022) calls for a second phase for three main reasons. The first one is that the rigorous evidence gathered by the project is already informing new and ongoing policies, such as the national policy on GBV services in Moldova or the mainstreaming of GBV in the implementation of Green Climate Fund project in Uganda. It has also influenced the scale-up and replication of successful models, such as in Peru through the *Justa* model, in Indonesia through the expansion in Papua, and in other countries through the adaptation of the CETA and of the *Indashyikirwa* models applied in Moldova and Lebanon respectively. These successes need to be supported and disseminated even further to allow other countries to benefit from them.

The second reason is that the first phase has been successful in demonstrating the potential benefits of the integration of GBV into broader sectorial interventions. Without a deliberate effort, for example, the Ministry of Water and Environment in Uganda would



have not addressed GBV within its Green Climate Fund intervention. Integrating GBV not only saves lives but also makes overall interventions more impactful. UNDP is already working with those sectors and could further leverage its partnerships for the integration of GBV.

Finally, regardless of how robust the evidence is, resources are still scarce. In Peru, for example, the costing exercise applied to the *Justa* pilot demonstrated that a small reduction of 0,7% in the number of women affected by GBV would have justified the small investment made through the RoK-UNDP project. However, the pilot was not able to mobilize additional financial resources for Villa El Salvador. A second-phase project could focus more clearly on leveraging both subnational and national resources to end GBV.

Based on the above reasons and building on the ongoing support UNDP is providing in more than 80 countries across the world in partnership with governments, civil society and other UN agencies, it is suggested that Phase II of the joint RoK-UNDP Project on *GBV and the SDGs* should have two main objectives: i) Enhance the uptake of evidence to inform more impactful and multi-sectoral strategies, policies and programmes, and ii) Ensure the provision of data and resources for those policies and programmes to be sustainable.

The main suggested outputs will cover the following:

*Build on promising practices*

- GBV integration across sectors: UNDP has a unique advantage in the support it currently provides on the ground to a wide range of sectors -in the areas of governance, the environment and poverty eradication- that can contribute and benefit from the elimination of GBV.
- Public and private financing to end GBV: UNDP also has a distinct advantage in this area due to its ongoing support to countries on financing for the SDGs, including the *Tax for SDGs* initiative and upcoming Gender Themed Bonds, and as the lead of the UN cluster on alignment of both public and private finance with the SDGs.

*Address gaps magnified by COVID-19*

- Digitization and overcoming the digital divide and stereotypes: This area has been prioritized in UNDP's new Strategic Plan (2022-2025) through specific interventions and will continue to create new opportunities for improved services, more effective prevention, including online GBV, and reaching out to the furthest left behind.
- Data collection on GBV response and prevention: UNDP has been supporting partners across the world to improve the collection, analysis, and dissemination of gender-relevant data, including through the COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker, which has gathered information on 853 measures to respond to GBV launched by 163 countries. More efforts need to be geared towards capturing the prevention of GBV across sectors.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

The chart below details the project's actual expenditures from 2018 to 15 November 2021, along with forecasts for the remainder of 2021 and 2022.

OUTPUTS & ACTIVITIES	BUDGET BY YEAR						Total
	2018	2019	2020	2021		2022 Forecast	
				Actual	Pending		
<b>Output 1: Approaches to reduce GBV using evidence are documented, tested and integrated in selected country initiatives</b>							
Technical support and global formative research	\$261,897	\$102,698	\$68,302	\$182,003	\$29,996	\$72,000	\$716,896
Bhutan pilot	\$31,856	\$87,184	\$42,353	\$72,962	\$5,645	\$0	\$240,000
Indonesia pilot	\$4,344	\$120,442	\$35,464	\$92,899	\$14,819	\$0	\$267,969
Iraq pilot	\$15,011	\$28,333	\$9,894	\$73,712	\$30,050	\$0	\$157,000
Lebanon pilot	\$0	\$68,533	\$71,461	\$37,177	\$2,829	\$0	\$180,000
Moldova pilot	\$76,657	\$218,863	\$117,729	\$101,870	\$20,000	\$37,281	\$572,400
Peru pilot	\$58,051	\$141,762	\$123,182	\$88,675	\$48,329	\$40,000	\$500,000
Uganda pilot	\$13,325	\$31,791	\$55,090	\$86,252	\$0	\$36,127	\$222,585
<b>Output 2: Decision makers are equipped with and use enhanced policy recommendations to reduce GBV</b>							
Develop and implement communications and advocacy strategy	\$49,489	\$142,404	\$14,333	\$2,238	\$10,880	\$25,000	\$244,344
<b>Output 3: Local partners have new knowledge, skills and tools to reduce GBV</b>							
Capacity development & Programme Support	\$144,715	\$167,843	\$178,317	\$264,598	\$28,333	\$65,000	\$848,806
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$655,345</b>	<b>\$1,109,853</b>	<b>\$716,126</b>	<b>\$1,002,386</b>	<b>\$190,881</b>	<b>\$275,408</b>	<b>\$3,950,000</b>

As of 15 November, the overall project's total expenditure is \$3,483,710, and its utilization rate to date is 88%.

