



Global

# Annual Narrative Programme Report

UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
01 January 2020 – 31 December 2020

Initiated by the European Union and the United Nations:









#### **Programme Title & Programme Number**

Programme Title: UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

MPTF Office Project Reference Number: ¹Africa:

00117245

Latin America: 00117246

#### Recipient Organization(s)

Please see Annex C

#### Programme Cost (USD)

Total Phase I approved budget as per the Spotlight CPD/ RPD: USD5,660,378 for 5 target countries in Latin America

Phase I Spotlight funding: 2

USD20,636,792 for sub-Saharan Africa

**Agency Contribution:** 

Spotlight Funding and Agency Contribution by Agency:

Name of RUNO	Spotlight Fase I (USD)	UN Agency Contributions (USD)
TOTAL		

TOTAL: \$

# Priority regions/areas/localities for the programme

The UN Trust Fund is a global, pooled and demand-driven fund. The specific focus of the 2019 Call for Proposals, grant-giving and grant management under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative were to fund projects that strengthens women's movement building to address and end violence against women and girls (Outcome 6) in sub-Saharan Africa and five target countries in Latin America. Sub-Saharan Africa was the focus of subsequent 2020 COVID-19 response funding. UN Trust Fund grants reach civil society organizations in 25 countries.

#### **Key Partners**

A total of 55 civil society organizations (CSOs) are receiving EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funds through the UN Trust Fund:

35 CSOs (24 in sub-Saharan Africa and 11 in Latin America) were awarded a grant within the framework of the 2019 EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Call for Proposals (all 24 sub-Saharan Africa grantees also received additional support in 2020 from the COVID-19 response funding allocation); and 20 CSOs in sub-Saharan Africa from previous UN Trust Fund funding cycles were awarded additional support within the framework of the 2020 COVID-19 response funding allocation.

#### **Programme Start and End Dates**

Start Date: 01.01.2020\* End Date: 31.12.2022\*

\*Grants allocated by the UN Trust Fund will have a duration of 36 months: start date 1 January 2020 and end date 31 December 2022. The COVID-19 response funding was extended to UN Trust Fund grantee organizations in sub-Saharan Africa under funding cycles with varying grant start and end dates, but with no grant ending later than 31 December 2022.

#### **Report Submitted By:**

Name: Aldijana Sisic

Title: Chief of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence

against Women

e-mail address: Aldijana.sisic@unwomen.org

<sup>1</sup> The Multi-Partner UN Trust Fund (MPTF) Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as "Project ID" on the project's factsheet page the MPTF Office GATEWAY.

<sup>2</sup> The Spotlight Contribution refers to the amount transferred to the Recipient UN Organizations, which is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY.

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# **Abbreviation List**

AfA Alliances for Africa

Andhes Abogados y abogadas del Noroeste argentino en Derechos

Humanos y estudios sociales

**CBIs** cash-based interventions

**CEM-H** Centro de Estudios de la Mujer in Honduras

CIARENA Conservación Investigación y Aprovechamiento de los Recursos

**Naturales** 

CLADEM Comité de América Latina y El Caribe para la Defensa de los

Derechos de la Mujer

CSOs civil society organizations

**EU** European Union

FACT Family AIDS Caring Trust

FIDA International Federation of Women Lawyers

**GL** Gender Links

**GPAC** Global Programme Advisory Committee

**IDIWA** Integrated Disabled Women Activities

IYWD Institute for Young Women Development

PACs Programme Advisory Committees

PPE Personal protective equipment

**SOLIFE** Society for Life Changers and Good Parental Care

UN Trust Fund United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the

**Empowerment of Women** 

VAW/G Violence against women and girls

VSO Voluntary Service Overseas

WHO World Health Organization

WROs women's rights organizations

# **Executive Summary**

The EU/UN Spotlight Initiative is a global, multi-year partnership between the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) that aims to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls (VAW/G) by 2030. Demand-driven grant-giving by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) to civil society organizations (CSOs), especially women's rights organizations (WROs), is focused on resourcing and supporting strategic priorities under Outcome 6 of the Spotlight Initiative Theory of Change. The specific central focus of this collaboration is movement building within projects working to end VAW/G.<sup>3</sup>

A total of 55 CSOs/WROs are receiving EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funds through the UN Trust Fund:

- Originally, 35 CSOs/WROs (24 in sub-Saharan Africa and 11 in Latin America) were awarded a grant within the framework of the 2019 EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Call for Proposals (all 24 sub-Saharan Africa grantees also received additional support in 2020 from the COVID-19 response funding allocation); and
- In addition, 20 UN Trust Fund grantees in sub-Saharan Africa became recipients of additional support for institutional strengthening within the framework of the 2020 COVID-19 response funding allocation within the Spotlight Initiative. In total, 44 CSOs/ WROs received 2020 Spotlight Initiative COVID-19 funding for institutional strengthening. Throughout the report, the reference will be made to 44 CSOs/WROs recipients of 2020 funding for institutional strengthening.
- In total, USD24 million has been awarded to grantees under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative for these 55 CSOs and USD0.5 million was allocated to create a practitioner-based online collaboration platform to enhance the exchange of knowledge and information on the intersection of crisis response, organizational strengthening and ending VAW/G. The 35 CSOs/WROs awarded a grant within the framework of the 2019 EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Call for Proposals launched their three-year projects in January 2020.

The UN Trust Fund was set to re-launch a Call for Proposals for regional projects in sub-Saharan Africa in March 2020, but with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, in close coordination with the EU and the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat, it quickly adapted to respond to emerging challenges. The UN Trust Fund's ongoing monitoring of the impact of COVID-19 showed that there was a continued and significant increase in rates of VAW/G and an ongoing impact on the ability of CSOs/WROs to prevent and respond to this crisis. The overall impact was localized and complex, but grantees identified and shared key challenges and drivers of violence from March 2020

<sup>3</sup> UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, Call for Proposals for Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa: The EU/UN Spotlight Initiative: Theory of Change for Outcome 6, https://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20untf/publications/2019/spotlight%20cfp%20docs/english/untfevaw\_spotlight\_annex%201\_outcome6.pdf?la=en&vs=3542

onwards. They included a stark rise in sexual violence, online harassment and harmful traditional practices; a severe impact on marginalized communities and those most often left behind; and a lack of sustainable, structural and societal support for work on ending VAW/G, a gap which CSOs/WROs worked to fill as first responders to survivors of violence. To immediately respond to the needs of grantees, the UN Trust Fund implemented a 5-point action plan to support grantees during the COVID-19 pandemic.4

On 8 May 2020, in partnership with the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative, the UN Trust Fund announced a reallocation of USD\$9.1 million as immediate support focused on ensuring institutional sustainability and risk mitigation, as well as adapting existing programmatic activities to respond to the needs of women and girls affected by the pandemic. Funds went to 44 existing UN Trust Fund grantees in sub-Saharan Africa(lead partners), as well as 29 co-implementing partners, mainly WROs, thereby helping to further the aim of facilitating a resilient women's movement in Africa. As part of the reallocation, the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative and the UN Trust Fund decided on a minimum investment of USD0.5 million to set up an interactive, multilingual knowledge platform for all UN Trust Fund and EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantee organizations and countries/programmes, as well as other partners, to share best practices and lessons learned in real time. This collaborative hub will allow practitioners to exchange learning and ideas on how to adapt programming in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and preparations for recovery.

The UN Trust Fund also responded to the needs of EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantees in Latin America by promptly ensuring access for all 11 grantees to budget reallocations to implement targeted response activities.

All grantees, in both Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa, immediately put EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funding to work. In 2020 alone, the initial 35 projects under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative reached 25,312,951 people such as through awareness campaigns and directly served at least 85,219 women and girls. In 2020, these grantees reached at least 9,066 indigenous women, 2,121 women and girls with disabilities, and at least 804 refugee or internally displaced women and girls through the 35 projects.5

The 44 projects receiving COVID-19 related EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funding in sub-Saharan Africa reached 25,809,211 people including through awareness campaigns and directly served at least 142,005 women and girls, 14,162 survivors of violence and 5,824 women and girls with disabilities in 2020.

<sup>4</sup> The UN Trust Fund announced a 5-point action plan to immediately support grantees during the crisis by:

<sup>1.</sup> Acknowledging and approve delays in grantee reporting, including final and evaluation reports;

<sup>2.</sup> Exercising utmost flexibility to enable grantees to modify or delay project activities;

<sup>3.</sup> Sharing resources and guidance to help grantees navigate the public health crisis;

Accepting budget reallocation requests to meet core costs to ensure business continuity and minimize the negative impact of COVID-19; and

Approving no-cost extension requests for grantee projects.

<sup>5 33</sup> of the 35 cohort reported

# In total, 27,264,407 people were reached by UN Trust Fund grantees funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative in 2020.6

Grantees are creating change for these 27 million people. Grantees explored and implemented new ways of effecting change, despite restrictions on movement and activities imposed by the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grantees reported that, despite challenges, they are seeing the response to COVID-19 as giving impetus to women's movements grounded in survivors' needs. In addition, direct and immediate practical support to women and girls were provided in a variety of forms in response to the impact of COVID-19. These and additional themes are explored and unpacked in the "Results" section.

The COVID-19 pandemic created significant challenges for grantees during 2020. For example, quarantine measures and restrictions on movement, including public transport, severely limited access to beneficiaries; face-to-face, group-based, participatory programming; and direct service provision. However, CSOs on the front line provided an early warning system and quickly worked to adapt service provision and integrate addressing and ending VAW/G into COVID-19 response plans as the situation evolved. Grantees implemented a variety of methods, tailored to their context, to reach beneficiaries, taking into account challenges, including those related to shifting to online activities. Further, grantees saw the response to COVID-19 as providing an impetus to advance women's movements grounded in survivors' needs. This report details the mitigation and adaptation strategies adopted as well as the results achieved by UN Trust Fund grantees funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative during the year.

<sup>6</sup> All numbers are based on self-reported data, and account for double-counting as feasible.

# **Contextual Shifts and Implementation Status**

## New developments in the broader social, political or economic context

The 35 UN Trust Fund grantee organizations funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Call for Proposals are supporting women and girls in 20 countries, which were marked by different contextual developments in 2020, with and apart from the impact of COVID-19. Nevertheless, even given this diversity, some patterns emerged.

Several organizations observed **shrinking spaces for civil society** during the reporting period. For example, the Institute for Young Women Development (IYWD) in Zimbabwe explained that political tensions resulted in officials restricting spaces for civil society activities in communities. While Alliances for Africa (AfA) in Nigeria reported on the #EndSARS protests and attempts to curtail women's movements, with demands to end police brutality, bad governance and inequality.

Several organizations reported **volatile security environments**, which impacted the safety and security of all programme stakeholders and limited organizations' freedom of movement. For example, Scripture Union West Africa in Nigeria reported that the farmer-herder conflict in Kaduna State, where the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funded project is implemented, has resulted in attacks by unknown gunmen on at-risk communities, leading to loss of life and property. The International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) in Cameroon reported that the security issues resulting from the Anglophone Crisis, and compounded by the pandemic, exposed thousands of women and young girls, especially those internally displaced by the conflict, to high risks of violence and prevented FIDA from reaching some of its partner communities.

**Natural disasters**, such as hurricanes Eta and lota in November 2020, reportedly impacted the work of organizations in Latin America. For example, the Centro de Estudios de la Mujer in Honduras (CEM-H) reported on the lack of resources allocated to addressing the consequences of natural disasters and a lack of internal organizational capacity to deal with emergencies stemming from complex challenges.

Organizations also highlighted the negative impact of **inflation and rising costs of living** on project implementation. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated price fluctuations, impacting not only project budgets, but also the needs of women and girls as economic hardship heightened the risks of violence.

Several organizations stated that one of the take-aways from 2020 for them was the importance of a flexible programming approach and risk mitigation. For example, the IYWD in Zimbabwe reported: "Covid-19 challenged us to be innovative and devise new ways of working... At the end

of the year, all team members were equipped with agile mindsets that were alive to the need for being flexible. Staff wellbeing therefore became an imperative and thanks to UNTF [UN Trust Fund] and our alliances as we were able to learn from different processes and training."

## Effects of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic profoundly impacted the work of all UN Trust Fund supported organizations and led to corresponding shifts in the programming. At the UN Trust Fund Secretariat level, these included the reallocation of funds originally planned for a new Call for Proposals to COVID-19 response and the implementation of a 5-point action plan.<sup>7</sup> For EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funded organizations, programmatic adaptations were implemented to respond to rising levels of VAW/G and corresponding shifts in priority interventions. Tailored support was also provided to organizations that had to significantly change their strategies into the future (for example, it may not be feasible to implement school-based interventions within the foreseen timeframe).

"It is clear that the increased rate of violence against women and girls is a result of the effects of the pandemic. There have been increased reports of rape cases, including gang rape and child sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, domestic violence, [and] assaults by law enforcement agents, coupled with poor access to sexual and reproductive health care." Iheoma Obibi, Executive Director, Alliances for Africa

The UN Trust Fund worked closely with the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Secretariat on the launch of a new Call for Proposals for regional projects in sub-Saharan Africa. With a funding envelope of US\$ 9.1 million, these projects were expected to be catalysts for change across the sub-Saharan region. The Call for Proposals was due to be launched in March 2020 when the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic required a refocusing and shift in funding priorities.

The countries in which grantee organizations work were impacted differently by COVID-19. However, CSOs across all regions reported an increase in VAW/G.8 At the same time, the pandemic and related social isolation measures made it harder, if not impossible, for some organizations, and especially small WROs, to continue their essential work, jeopardizing projects and, in some cases, organizations' institutional survival. In response, and in close consultation and coordination with the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Secretariat, funding initially earmarked for regional multi-country

<sup>7</sup> See footnote 4 for details.

<sup>8</sup> As part of its initial response to the COVID-19 crisis, the UN Trust Fund mapped its grantees to assess the impact of the pandemic and associated lockdowns. The replies confirmed the rapid rise in VAW/G and the challenges faced by struggling, often civil societyled, support systems. They also revealed how quickly and nimbly grantees were adapting to maintain key aspects of their projects while protecting the safety of beneficiaries and staff. Six months into the crisis, the UN Trust Fund's second assessment showed that the continued economic insecurity and movement restrictions were still driving increased violence. See "UNTF EVAW Briefing Note on the Impact of COVID-19 on violence against women through the lens of Civil Society and Women's Rights Organizations" and "UN Trust Fund EVAW Briefing Note on the Impact of COVID-19 on violence against women through the lens of Civil Society and Women's Rights Organizations" Part 2 – Six months on



VSO hosts an adolescent talk as part of project activities in Zambia. Credit: David Dawson/VSO

projects in sub-Saharan Africa was re-allocated for immediate institutional support to CSOs and a virtual practitioner-based collaboration and learning hub.

A total of 44 organizations in sub-Saharan Africa (24 funded under the 2019 EU/UN Spotlight Initiative and 20 from previous UN Trust Fund funding cycles) were invited to submit a request for additional funding. The additional institutional support equalled a maximum of 43 per cent of the organizations' initial grant amount. This additional financial support emphasized institutional strengthening, risk mitigation and recovery in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. These focus areas were directly informed by the requests for support voiced by grantees in virtual consultations.9 All 44 grantees submitted COVID-19 response funding proposals. These proposals focused on organizational survival and resilience and ensuring the survival of the women and girls they are working with during this crisis, with a special focus on at-risk primary beneficiaries, given that the pandemic aggravates the intersecting effects of VAW/G. During August and September

<sup>9</sup> https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/in-focus-covid-19#U8

2020 contracts were signed for grants totalling USD8.4 million; the remaining USD0.5 million was allocated to the virtual practitioner-based collaboration and learning hub.

In terms of institutional strengthening, repeatedly voiced needs included: funding for the development or review of organizational policies and procedures; funding for securing a safe and adequate work environment for staff; funding to support a shift towards digital programming; and funding to secure and enhance staff capacities. Grantees also made plans to adapt project activities to respond to the needs of women and girls in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic while remaining aligned to projects' original Theory of Change. For example, organizations planned to complement in-person legal counselling services for survivors of violence with phone hotlines; to bolster the economic empowerment components of their projects; and to enhance service providers' capacity to respond to women and girls' psychosocial needs which were exacerbated by the pandemic.

Between March and August 2020, all of the 11 funded organizations in Latin America concluded project modifications, allowing for a swift reallocation of available project funds to respond to newly emerging needs. These adaptations were carried out in alignment with the UN Trust Fund's 5-point action plan to provide immediate support to grantees during the crisis. Among other things, the plan outlined measures to exercise flexibility to enable grantees to modify project activities; to share resources and guidance; and for the acceptance of budget reallocation requests to enable organizations to meet core costs and ensure business continuity.

The COVID-19 pandemic also highlighted how grantee organizations were and are developing programming ideas that could be shared and tested in different contexts. Progress is being made with the design and implementation of a global online collaboration platform on EVAW/G for EU/ UN Spotlight Initiative grantees and partners (and beyond) to share knowledge, discuss key issues and collaborate on problem solving, with a focus on adaptations due to the COVID-19 crisis and institutional strengthening. The intention of the practitioner-based learning hub is to foster knowledge and information sharing among CSOs.

The work will include the development of a global online collaboration platform on EVAW/G for EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantees and partners (and beyond) to share knowledge, discuss key issues and collaborate on problem solving - with a focus on adaptations due to the COVID-19 crisis and institutional strengthening in the first half of 2021. It will also include capacity development and knowledge exchange activities between grantees, with a focus on South-South cooperation, for which an initial needs assessment for 2021 activities is being carried out now.

The UN Trust Fund invested in gathering data to track results across the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative portfolio. In late 2020 a set of standard indicators to measure the results of the institutional strengthening funds provided to grantees in Sub-Saharan Africa was devised. These indicators were developed through a bottom-up approach, firstly by analysing the range of results the 44 grantees applying for institutional strengthening funds aimed to achieve. These

results were categorised under two themes, (1) organisational results (ranging from health and safety measures to risk and change management) and (2) programmatic results (including direct support for beneficiaries in the pandemic and adaptation of programmatic methodologies). From this assessment the UN Trust Fund's monitoring and evaluation team devised a set of 20 example indicators which grantees could use in Results Frameworks to measure change, and the five most common were rolled out to all grantees to ensure the collection of data from the whole portfolio as an indication of aggregate results in institutional strengthening. A baseline assessment against these 5 indicators has been carried out, the results of which have been included in this report. Data on beneficiaries reached and results in programmatic areas have also been gathered in 2020. In addition, training provided in late 2020 for grantees included sessions on monitoring and data collection, including how to adjust to remote methods due to COVID-19.



IDIWA holding a community awareness raising session on ending sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities in Uganda. Credit: Elizabeth Kayanga/IDIWA

## **Programme implementation status**

While organizations funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative achieved important project milestones in a challenging context, it is clear that the COVID-19 pandemic has led to extensive programmatic adaptations and consequently to project implementation delays for many. For example, many in-person activities with women and girls and other project stakeholders had to be postponed and a shift to alternative – in some cases virtual – programming was not feasible in all contexts, or not deemed as the most promising means of achieving the intended results. In some cases, organizations adjusted their workplans to a different implementation options and timeframe. For example, in Nigeria, HACEY Health Initiative had to pause a number of its community outreach programmes, and redirected efforts into securing a partnership with a communications firm to support the development and promotion of content towards ending FGM/C. In South Africa and Eswatini, Sonke Gender Justice and its co-implementing partners used the time during strict lockdowns to refine and update the content of training manuals that would be used for their work with communities to challenge harmful social and cultural norms and examine their linkages to violence against women and girls. The organization reported that this review was highly beneficial to enrich their workshops, dialogues, events and trainings with most up-to-date information.

Several organizations also did see positive unintended results as a result of changing modalities, and have adopted mitigating measures detailed later in this report.

With continued or renewed COVID-19 related restrictions still hampering project implementation in many countries at the time of writing, organizations were not asked to accelerate the delivery of activities unless the context allows them to do so safely and delays were and are being approved. However, organizations are adapting resiliently to the shifting implementation context, and the UN Trust Fund is working closely with each organization to ensure that strategies and budgets can be adjusted as needed for each project. For example, Scripture Union West Africa in Nigeria used budget savings linked to COVID-19 related shifts from in-person to virtual monitoring and stakeholder advocacy meetings to cover project implementation costs induced by the previously referenced rising inflation rates. The report elaborates in detail on more examples in the sections covering COVID-19 adaptations.

Virtual exchanges and learning sessions with organizations were conducted in 2020 and the upcoming launch of the practitioner-based collaboration and learning hub, are also important means for CSOs/WROs to directly exchange on crisis adaptation measures in programming to end VAW/G and to determine the most promising means of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in their contexts.

# **Programme Governance and Coordination**

# Inter-agency coordination, technical committees and other governance mechanisms

The UN Trust Fund leverages its existing multi-stakeholder governance structure to inform EU/ UN Spotlight Initiative programming. It is an inter-agency mechanism that from its inception has been built on partnerships with the UN, civil society and technical experts. Within the framework of its Programme Advisory Committees (PACs), UN partners at global, regional and country office levels, alongside CSOs and experts in programming to end VAW/G, advise the UN Trust Fund on its strategic direction and are involved in the grant selection process. Specifically, the role of the inter-agency Global Programme Advisory Committee (GPAC) is to:

- Advise the UN Trust Fund Secretariat on a regular and ongoing basis on policy and programming issues, including as regards the UN Trust Fund's strategies and action plans, and priorities for grant making;
- Contribute technical expertise to the grantee selection process by appraising applications, recommending a shortlist of applications for the next stage of the selection process and/or recommending final projects for approval by UN Women's Executive Director (or delegate);
- Provide expert programmatic advice upon request on UN Trust Fund thematic and/or global evaluations, assessments and/or reviews in order to inform the strategic direction of the UN Trust Fund;
- Contribute to strengthening coordination and coherence on approaches to ending VAW/G by offering an additional venue for information-sharing; and
- Support the dissemination of UN Trust Fund documentation including its Calls for Proposals and knowledge products – across their respective networks.

During the 2019 EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Call for Proposals, the advice provided by the two regional PACs in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa respectively helped ensure that selected grants were grounded in local contexts and respond to local needs and realities. In 2020, the UN Trust convened the GPAC to inform the framing and award of the COVID-19 response funding allocation. On 11 June 2020, representatives from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Development Programme and the UN Population Fund and from civil society shared their insights on COVID-19 responses in the framework of programming to end VAW/G and approved the award of additional funding allocations to 44 organizations in sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat observed the regional PACs for the selection of grantees in Latin America and Africa.

The participation of various UN agencies and civil society in the grants review, selection and approval process is also testament to the shared value and commitment of the UN to funding civil society and bolstering collaborative working among movements to prevent and end VAW/G.



A meeting of a disability budget advocacy committee in Kamuli district, Uganda (before the COVID-19 pandemic). Elizabeth Kayanga/IDIWA

# **Programme Partnerships**

## **Civil society**

CSOs/WROs are the key partners in and drivers of the UN Trust Fund's programming within the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative.

Overall, through the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative 2019 Call for Proposals and 2020 COVID-19 response funding allocation, the UN Trust Fund was able support in total 55 organizations in 25 countries in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa. The supported grantees comprise of international (five), regional (five), local/grassroots (seven) and national (38) organizations (see Annex C).

Fifty-two organizations are women-led or women's rights organizations. Of the initial cohort of 35 grants, 33 organizations are new partners. The additional 20 that received COVID-19 funding in 2020 were all previously existing UN Trust Fund grantees.

These organizations are uniquely placed to reach women and girls who are subject to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence (see "Rights Holders" section). In line with Spotlight Initiative's key principle of leaving no one behind, the organizations funded are working to end VAW/G against women living with disabilities (16 grantees), indigenous women/women from ethnic groups (4 grantees), refugee and international displaced women (11 grantees).

The UN Trust Fund supports the implementation of programmes on ending VAW/G that were both developed and implemented by CSOs/WROs. It thereby recognizes CSOs/WROs as being the driving force in ending VAW/G, as well as being at the forefront of reaching at-risk women and girls and survivors at the grass-roots level, including those at risk of being left furthest behind due to intersecting forms of oppression.

Beyond the programmatic results conceptualized and achieved through grantee organizations (see following chapter), CSOs/WROs also directly inform UN Trust Fund programming strategies and are co-creators of and contributors to a body of practitioner-based learning on programming to end VAW/G. For example, the Call for Proposals for regional projects in sub-Saharan Africa, which aimed to enrich movement building at the regional level and enable women's rights groups and CSOs to advance gender equality and end VAW/G, was shaped by a close partnership with civil society.

In February 2020, the UN Trust Fund convened a consultative meeting with civil society, including Mama Cash, the Global Fund for Women, the Urgent Action Fund, the Association for Women's Rights in Development and Feminist Solutions towards Global Justice, to inform this Call for Proposals. During this meeting, partners advocated for an increase in flexible or core funding for WROs because this was felt to be an important contribution to strengthening women's movements. The meeting echoed views expressed during consultations with CSOs during the UN Trust Fund's 2019 grantee convention in Bosnia and Herzegovina. 10 Although this Call for Proposals had subsequently to be abandoned, the COVID-19 funding allocation, with its focus on organizational resilience, directly built in the recommendations that emerged from these consultative meetings.

The UN Trust Fund's partnership with CSOs/WROs under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative extends to the fields of knowledge creation and exchange, learning and capacity development. Although planned in-person workshops in 2020 had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, the 35 organizations funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Call for Proposals completed an online training on project management. Composed of 10 thematic modules, the training aimed to provide organizations with the tools and skills needed to respond to the requirements set out in the Project Cooperation Agreement, notably to enable organizations to be accountable for the grant and to achieve the expected results, as set out in the Project Document, in a safe and ethical way. The training covered areas such as project modification (96 per cent of attendees rated this as useful or very useful); cash-based interventions (80 per cent of attendees rated this as useful or very useful); and procurement and recommended procedures (94 per cent of attendees rated this as useful or very useful). In a post-training survey, all respondents indicated that the knowledge and skills gained from the training will be useful for them even beyond the management and implementation of the current project.11

Throughout 2020, the 35 grantee organizations received tailored support in the development of their resources and results framework, the review of data collection and monitoring tools, and in results-based and financial reporting.

In response to needs voiced by CSO/WRO partners, the UN Trust Fund also organized a series of webinars in English, French and Spanish in how to effectively manage the additional resources for responding to COVID-19. These reached 420 participants.

"We have incorporated the lessons learnt into the revision of the HIAS Procurement Policies and Procedures Manual", said Lucy Kiama from HIAS Kenya.

These included a webinar on project modifications for organizations and a learning session on cash-based interventions (CBIs). As part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to economic shocks experienced by at-risk women and girls, including survivors of violence, several organizations planned for CBIs to meet their needs. The UN Trust Fund developed a guidance note to support organizations in the operationalization of CBIs. This is based on the principle of do no harm, outlines operational aspects of cash-based programming and aims to support organizations' decision-making.

<sup>10</sup> In November 2019, an expert group of over 100 participants from civil society, government partners, the private sector and UN staff met in Sarajevo to discuss what works in the field on ending VAW/G. See https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/ stories/2019/10/first-un-trust-fund-grantee-convention-bosnia-and-herzegovina-2019

<sup>11</sup> The survey was sent to 161 staff members of organizations under the UN Trust Fund's 22nd, 23rd and EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funding cycles.

The 44 organizations that received additional COVID-19 response funds were invited to a refresher coaching session on data collection and the design of indicators and were provided with supplementary guidance on remote data collection - and corresponding ethics and safety considerations - in the context of COVID-19. These sessions also offered grantee organizations an opportunity to directly exchange experiences, challenges and opportunities and to offer peerto-peer advice in the spirit of horizontal-exchange and movement building.

## UN agencies, EU, and others

The UN Trust Fund works in close collaboration with the UN Women technical team at the global level and Spotlight Initiative Secretariat. For example, in June 2020 the UN Trust Fund contributed to a UN Women webinar on Movement Building in times of COVID-19. And in September 2020, through the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Secretariat, an information exchange took place between the EU, the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund and the UN Trust Fund to discuss reflections on advocacy for flexible funding for CSOs/WROs; these exchanges will now take place twice a year.

The UN Trust Fund amplified the voices and insights of grantees supported by the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative by actively advocating for effective recognition of CSOs/WROs as first responders in the COVID-19 crisis in the UN system's response. The impact of this can be seen in the integration of a call for support to CSOs/WROs, and specifically through the UN Trust Fund, in the Inter-Agency statement on violence against women and girls in the context of COVID-19, as well as the formal recognition of the role of CSOs/WROs as first responders in the UN Political Engagement Strategy to address VAW/G in the COVID-19 crisis.

The UN Trust Fund also created platforms to increase the visibility of the work of EU/UN Spotlight Initiative-supported grantees in several high-level fora, such as the UNiTE commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the High Level Event in conjunction with the UN General Assembly in September 2020, which featured UN Trust Fund grantees including the Rwandan Organization of Women with Disability, recipient of Spotlight Initiative funding for institutional strengthening during COVID-19 crisis. In addition, as a co-leads of the Gender Based Violence Action Coalition within the Generation Equality Campaign, UN Women/the UN Trust Fund actively advocate for the systematic inclusion of the attention to adequate resourcing of CSOs/WROs to enable them to exercise their expertise in ending VAW/G.

## Results

## **Capturing Broader Transformations Across Outcomes**

The UN Trust Fund conducted two assessments (an initial assessment in May 2020 and a second assessment six months later) drawing on the experiences of 144 CSOs/WROs (including all Spotlight-funded grantees) operating in 69 countries and territories worldwide, including grantees funded through the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative. These showed that VAW/G surged alarmingly, driven by economic insecurity and movement restrictions in the context of COVID-19. They also highlighted the urgent need to resource support services for survivors of violence provided by CSOs/WROs who are on the front line of community responses. The UN Trust Fund took immediate action including undertaking project reviews to enable the quick reallocation of existing funds so that grantees could respond efficiently to pressing challenges. The UN Trust Fund also recognizes the anticipated long-term needs of its grantees to best serve women and girl survivors of violence.

The following describes some of the achievements of and changes effected by grantees funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative in 2020. Results encompass those of the initial cohort of 35 grantees progress in 2020, as well as initial results from the 44 projects which received additional COVID-19 response funding. Because 24 of the original 35 grantees also received the additional funding, those results are often presented alongside reporting from the original grant, with mention of their COVID-19 adaptations and additional funding. A separate effort is also made to distinguish the results of 20 pre-existing projects funded by the UN Trust Fund in sub-Saharan Africa with the influx of funds for institutional strengthening. All projects were given the same COVID-19 accommodations for flexibility and project adaptation support, as described in previous sections.

Although projects encountered challenges, organizations made progress in building movements to respond to these challenges, in line with Outcome 6 of the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Theory of Change. The following section highlights key trends identified which cover information conveyed from all funded projects, and as specifically related to results achieved in 2020 related to building movements, institutional strengthening and project adaptations in response to the challenges of COVID-19 while keeping attention on the principle of leaving no one behind.

Common results and trends in reporting that were identified are in bold and separated into numbered sections. The examples provided are illustrative and non-exhaustive and aim to highlight common trend across the portfolio.

## Capturing Change at Outcome Level

1. EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantees reported that, despite the challenges, they are seeing the response to COVID-19 as giving impetus to women's movements grounded in survivors' needs.

In Imo state in Nigeria, grantee Alliances for Africa (AfA) quickly took steps to mitigate the surge in violence against women and girls during the pandemic. They mobilized support for the inclusion of women in all COVID-19 taskforce committees; ensured accountability in the distribution of government relief materials through close monitoring; and provided information by broadcasting reliable information on COVID-19, especially for those at risk of receiving misinformation, about effective prevention measures of how to protect themselves and help stop the virus from spreading. This swift action resulted in strengthened coalitions and increased trust between state and civil society actors to address violence against women and girls, in line with a key objective of the EU/ UN Spotlight Initiative (Theory of Change Outcome 6).

"Interestingly, the situation created an opportunity for the advancement of women's right as it glaringly exposed [infringements on women's rights]. It was also an opportunity that is currently changing narratives, as everyone is adding their voices towards holding the government accountable for injustices on women and girls across the country."

Alliances for Africa, working in Nigeria.

Organizations also recognized the need to invest in their capacity development to address the new context. For example, the Cameroon Association for the Protection and Education of the Child strengthened its capacity and that of its partners (five grass-roots WROs) to implement and advocate for sexual and gender-based violence services including building staff capacity to provide referral, counselling and case management services. The five grass-roots WROs now reportedly feel better equipped to serve the women and girls in communities that are considered hard-to-reach and remote by others. The organization also worked across sectors and created inclusive networks through and with communities.

The Centro de Estudios de Mujeres, a women-led organization implementing a project in Honduras in partnership with Platforma 25 de Noviembre, a network of 22 women's organizations, and CARE Honduras, reoriented its work to focus on virtual activities to raise awareness about increases in violence associated with lockdown measures. The organization engaged in advocacy efforts and created momentum to address this, including the introduction of emergency measures. It delivered an online campaign highlighting the increase in various forms of VAW/G as a result of confinement measures and drawing attention to initiatives by women in confinement to address the pandemic and the contacts that can provide support to victims/survivors of violence. They rallied to mobilize the feminist movement to pursue a common goal together. As a result of their consistent advocacy for an emergency law on VAW/G, the Honduras Parliament approved a new piece of legislation.

In Argentina, the Fundación Andhes (Abogados y abogadas del Noroeste argentino en Derechos Humanos y estudios sociales), a women-led non-governmental organization, in partnership with the Comité de América Latina y El Caribe para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer (CLADEM), an international network of women's organizations and activists, implemented a project to address violence against cisgender, transgender and lesbian women. A comprehensive advisory space was maintained through phone calls, WhatsApp and video calls: 328 women were assisted during 2020 and provided with referrals.

2. Grantees provided direct and immediate practical support to women and girls in a variety of forms in response to the impact of COVID-19. Specifically, grantees funded through the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative reached 56,915 right holders/beneficiaries with food, hygiene supplies, sanitation and/or with other emergency need parcels in order to ensure the stability of the project and reach those who were most marginalized and at risk.

In Cote d'Ivoire, Conscience et Vie distributed food packages to self-identified sex workers living with HIV who lost their income because of COVID-19. In Zimbabwe, the Bethany Project distributed dignity kits, including sanitary pads, for adolescent girls as well as setting up online community forums as safe spaces where girls could discuss sexual and gender-based violence to keep girls safe, healthy and well-informed so they could recognize, react and report incidents of violence Eighty eight girls and young women that could not be reached in-person received information on sexual and gender based violence via these online structures, and 4 girls were referred to Bethany Project for further support.



Bethany project in Zimbabwe working with young students to end sexual and gender-based violence against girls and young women. credit: Rebecca Gumbo/Bethany Project

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Fund for Congolese Women equipped focal points in the field with smartphones and internet access in order to facilitate their engagement with and work within the target communities. The project, which works to build an active and empowered civil society by mentoring and empowering girls as activists, designed their baseline study produced background materials to disseminate sensitization messages on gender equality and gender stereotypes in schools. These include ethics and safety guidelines for young girls in school areas and communications and advocacy strategies. Through the efforts of the project, at least 200 young girls (aged 14 - 17) in 10 cities from 20 school clubs against violence against girls acquired knowledge about their rights and started organizing among themselves on how to report violence. In addition, 450 spots with sensitization messages were disseminated. The 10 trained focal points collected and documented cases reported by girls in their schools and communities; 23 cases were documented and referred to care organizations/essential service providers. The cases are being investigated in different jurisdictions. In addition, 2,450 radio spots/messages were broadcast through local community radio stations, raising community awareness of gender-based violence and how to report it.

Grantees who received the 2020 COVID-19 allocation, also took action to provide immediate support such as cash-based or in-kind assistance, to ensure the survival of beneficiaries. For example:

In Ethiopia, Ethiopiad through its co-implementing partner Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD) provided relief items such as food and personal protection equipment (PPE) for low-income women-headed households in the community and for 35 former safe house residents who faced additional challenges. PPE materials including sanitizer and soap were also provided for 60 AWSAD staff to improve safety and allow staff to continue to work to reduce violence against women through expanded services and community referral systems.

In Liberia, United Funding and Development for Underage Mothers, which works through advocacy campaigns to prevent sexual and gender-based violence, supported 1,230 women and girls including women with disabilities, women survivors and their families to access food and nonfood items to cope and respond to challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project also activated 10 women's groups, which provide referrals in cases of violence, and 200 women in the groups have raised awareness and sensitized community residents on SGBV. Twelve project communities developed community by-laws to prevent and protect women and girls from SGBV.

In Uganda, the Integrated Disabled Women Activities, which works to eliminate sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities, provided 300 women and girls with disabilities with food and other relief items. The organization also trained members of 40 women's rights organizations with skills to end violence against women and girls with disabilities.

#### 3. Grantees provided economic support to mitigate the financial impacts that escalate VAW/G.

Grantees quickly recognized that the economic impact of the pandemic could fuel VAW/G and that existing economic empowerment programmes needed to be redesigned to help women and girls survive. For example, 21 women and girls in South Sudan were enabled to recover financially through the Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa. The grantee provided them training on producing face masks and reusable sanitary pads, thereby meeting local demand for both products and generating income. This initiative was created through the influx of EU/UN Spotlight Initiative COVID-19 funding in 2020.

In Mexico, Infancia Comun used reallocated funds from their original project budget to create a web page to disseminate information on sexual abuse and violence as well as COVID-19 prevention, with materials adapted for girls and women. While Conservación Investigación y Aprovechamiento de los Recursos Naturales (CIARENA), which works with indigenous women in remote rural areas of Mexico, incorporated a communal vegetable garden activity into its project in reaction to reports of increased food insecurity emerging as a result of the pandemic. This also further economically empowered women with skills to improve their livelihood and economic situation.



Infancia Comun, working with school communities (pictured before the pandemic), runs a prevention activity for young people in Mexico. Credit: Infancia Comun

4. Grantees explored and implemented new ways of effecting change, despite the restrictions on movement and activities imposed by the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During 2020 project adaptations, at least 1,904 staff and partner organizations engaged with UN Trust Fund support through funding from the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative reported improved knowledge and skills of how to integrate COVID-19 response into interventions to end VAW/G.

The IYWD development and JASS Southern Africa are implementing a project to build Zimbabwean women's local leadership capacity and enable them to safely and effectively build or strengthen response mechanisms for VAW/G. Due to the lockdown situation in Zimbabwe, gatherings with target beneficiaries could not be fully realized. However, the project leveraged virtual technology, such as a bulk SMS platform, which allowed the grantee to conduct virtual check-ins with women and provide support to women to report violence and refer them to the services they needed. In 2020, the organization reached at least 148 women and girls directly. In addition, organizations for project engagement were identified, including activist organizations representing marginalized groups and the grantee connected with local CSOs and networks to build alliances for collaboration for action on ending VAW/G. Five new allies were reached to build future engagements, including the Zimbabwe Elections Support Network, Diakonia, Msasa Project, the Elections Resource Centre and the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum.

COVID-19 posed a number of challenges to the project implemented by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) with its partner Women and Law in Southern Africa in Mashonaland Central, Zimbabwe, which required the project to adapt. Overall, the project reached over 3 million people through its innovative use of radio, TV, text and social media campaigns. For example, the grantee produced, with its partner, a video skit to address the issue of child marriage, which reportedly rose during the pandemic. This attracted 60,442 views on YouTube, and included comments of support. Following the skit, 300 more primary actors sought services from Women and Law in Southern Africa. The grantee also participated in radio programmes to address issues on psychosocial support, referral pathways and victim/survivor empowerment activities. In addition, 1,000 women and girls participated in community dialogues at the district level, and gained knowledge on laws and legal instruments that protect women against early/child marriage and sexual and genderbased violence. This also engaged the general community in a wider way than anticipated as they engaged with police, health workers and the Ministry of Women's Affairs and shared their challenges and concerns.

In Chad, some of the Public Interest Law Centre's work to eradicate harmful social norms, customs and practices and improve access to legal and psychosocial services for women survivors of violence was significantly affected by the pandemic. However, the grantee adapted and continued many of its activities. For example, it raised awareness of VAW/G using radio broadcasts that highlighted laws which punish perpetrators and encourage people to report violence. It set up a 24/7 helpline through which its trained paralegals will provide listening services and offer legal support and advice

on protection measures for survivors and those at risk of violence. It also provided emergency shelter for survivors through help centres for women survivors; provided sanitary kits and ration bags; and offered medical and psychological assistance to survivors of violence.

5. Many grantees were agile in turning to virtual programming and achieved successes despite challenging circumstances. Several grantees also saw unintended positive consequences in the changing modality of reaching women and girls and boosted organizational resilience in terms of operating remotely.

A shift to virtual programming was also identified as an opportunity to enhance women and girls' access to and engagement with digital technology and to give women access to new spaces. This enabled some projects to reach larger audiences through adapted modalities such as radio. Twenty-eight grantees funded through the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative developed and published COVID-19 and VAW/G integrated response messages (such as media stories and radio shows) with UN Trust Fund support.

In Eswatini and South Africa, SONKE, a women-led human rights CSO working with its implementing partners (the Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse and the MOSAIC Training, Service and Healing Centre) reached 2,672 individuals through telephone counselling services, particularly during the COVID-19 lockdown, to provide essential services to women and girls. In addition, a new Domestic Violence Amendment Bill was finalized, which included submissions from SONKE, and presented to Parliament in South Africa. SONKE reviewed the language of the Bill and submitted key recommendations which were taken up in the final iteration of the Bill, which is expected to be signed into law (as of March 2021).

The implications of the lockdowns also had unintended positive consequences for SONKE's work; the organization was able to reach many more people than their targeted beneficiaries due to changes in working modality, thus furthering goals to prevent violence against women and girls. SONKE reached at least 6,378,352 people through community radio, media and advocacy campaigns.

"We are grateful to UNTF for the seed funding to explore this part of the work with the organizational strengthening grant which will enable us to digitally migrate some of our workshop content."

#### SONKE

Projects receiving funding from the 2020 COVID-19 allocation also engaged in virtual programming modalities, which complemented efforts to build capacity and institutional sustainability.

In Nigeria, a project implemented by the Society for Life Changers and Good Parental Care (SOLIFE), which complements the implementation of reporting measures associated with the EMPOWER project, was able to create three new toll-free hotlines for reporting violence using

the influx of EU/UN Spotlight Initiative COVID-19 funding. The toll-free hotlines, requested by women and girls with disabilities who experienced difficulty in reporting cases because of the lockdowns associated with COVID-19, were publicized through weekly television programming, the SOLIFE website, social media and were through the Joint National Association of Persons with Disabilities. The weekly TV programme reached at least 745,000 people with reporting information through the hotlines.

"I was hopeless with my situation before I came across the hot line provided by SoLife during one of their television programme. I am a woman with disability with 3 children. My husband has never been responsible for my children and still physically abuse me when I turn him down for sex. I have been in this situation for 3 years before I was referred by a friend to watch the weekly television programme by SoLife. From the programme i got access to the toll-free line and contacted their human right staff who gave me directions of what to do until I got legal separation form my abuser. This programme is what most of women like me have been [waiting] for. I access all services for free and now I am also free from abuse", said Abe Mide<sup>12</sup>, a woman with a disability in Nigeria.

Also in Nigeria, the Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative trained the majority of its eight staff members in practical skills and knowledge to enable them to be first responders in cases of violence though a helpline and to make referrals in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The trained staff showed improved levels of knowledge and capacity to adapt interventions to end VAW/G.

In Cameroon, the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) held three capacity building workshops with staff and volunteers on organizing and managing virtual meetings, learning how to identify dangers online and preventive measures against COVID-19. As a result, members were sensitized to existing laws and to available legal and social services to refer survivors. This in turn had a multiplying effect with members spreading the information to others in the community.

6. The COVID-19 pandemic posed challenges in terms of organizational sustainability and resilience/burn out among staff, which grantees utilized EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funding, especially the influx of COVID-19 funding in 2020, to address.

In Eswatini and South Africa, SONKE offered staff members psychosocial support in the form of counselling services to address stress and anxiety brought on by the pandemic. SONKE also ensured similar measures were put in place for their partner organizations the Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse and the MOSAIC Training, Service and Healing Centre.

<sup>12</sup> Name changed to protect her identify

SOLIFE in Nigeria enrolled all project staff in a health insurance plan to ensure their access to medical treatment if necessary during the implementation of project activities. In fact, due to the provision of such services and tools to support staff and the organization, 100 per cent of project interventions which were previously on hold because of COVID-19 were able to resume by the end of 2020.

7. Grantees directed funds to ensure organizational resilience, including remote work modalities. At least, 515 staff/partners worked from home effectively, due to home working policies and modalities through UN Trust Fund-funding under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative.

In Chad, the Public Interest Law Centre used the additional funding from the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative for COVID-19 related responses to ensure staff well-being and enable remote working.

In Cote d'Ivoire, Conscience et vie used the additional COVID-19 funds, to create their own online portal, equip staff with necessary equipment to facilitate remote working and invest in monitoring and evaluation and accounting software.

In **Uganda**, Integrated Disabled Women Activities (IDIWA) procured equipment for virtual working, which enabled staff to continue working remotely even during the lockdown. To expand efforts in targeted districts, IDIWA also sourced an office to provide services for women and girls with disabilities and is in the process of procuring an organizational vehicle to ensure staff safety. In 2020, IDIWA reached 300 women with disabilities with services and over 230,000 with information through radio talk shows.

Grantees continued and intensified efforts to form alliances with civil society and 8. community-based organizations as a strategy to mitigate the effects of the pandemic on service and programmatic delivery. At least 19 grantees and co-implementing partners reported being able to exceed or fully able to maintain service delivery to beneficiaries under the UN Trust Fund project.

"The IYWD and JASS SNA reached out to WERDITT, a CSO which is based in Mashonaland East to form an alliance and enable joint partnerships for interventions to address VAW/G. In Manicaland, Platform for Youth and Community Development (PYCD) and Chiadzwa Community Development Trust (CCDT) are community based CSOs that we are working to monitor, document and assist women take action against violence. Cumulatively, 6 alliances with CSOs were built."

Institute for Young Women Development, Zimbabwe

The African Indigenous Women Organisation Central African Network is working with seven local community-based organizations in Cameroon on a project to end gender-based VAW/G. Its sensitization and information campaigns on the rights of women and girls has reached 861 beneficiaries, among them 474 indigenous women and girls. The sensitization and community engagement activities went ahead despite the COVID-19 pandemic and, although meetings in project communities have been limited, the project has been able to capture the willingness and excitement of authorities and other local stakeholders. For example, women and girls in Mbororo communities spoke out about the violence they faced in the presence of men at a meeting and in Ndokayo, the director of the Association Islamic du Cameroun clarified that nothing in Islam restricts women and girls from enjoying their rights to education, to own businesses or to engage in community activities and called on the men to support women and girls in the community. Traditional authorities from neighbouring Gbaya communities also reiterated this call to action to men in their community.

A project implemented by the Rural Women Center for Education and Development in the North-West Region of Cameroon is working to foster partnerships with local CSOs to advocate against VAW/G and for women's leadership in decision-making. The project has so far achieved the inclusion of four women on a traditionally all-male 16-member council. The project has also reached women and girls in all their diversity through their training and learning exchange activities on human rights, including 225 survivors of violence. It also reached 339 traditional/religious leaders, law enforcement and community level actors to communicate about the root causes of violence against women and girls. After delivering training on human rights and sexual and reproductive health and rights once a week for three months, the grantee received 753 reports of violence through its hotline, at the office or in surveys for which it provided services and support to women survivors. Services include access to a trained RuWCED doctor and nurse.



RuWCED raised awareness through sports to end violence against women and girls in Cameroon, before the pandemic. Credit: Glory Lueong/RuWCED

"Speak it Loud" is a project implemented by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) with its partner Women and Law in Southern Africa Zimbabwe in Mashonaland Central, Zimbabwe.

One of the focuses of the project is to improve networks, partnerships and opportunities among WROs/CROs to share knowledge and documentation and conduct joint advocacy on preventing and responding to violence against women. During the reporting period, VSO completed a mapping exercise and capacity assessments of 15 CSOs targeted for capacity development. The project was able to reach a wide range of women and girls. For example, it reached over 1,440 women and girls living with disabilities; 4,911 women and girls living with HIV/AIDS; and 80 victims/ survivors of sexual exploitation. It also engaged with a number of government officials in relevant ministries and the wider community, especially in rural areas.

United Funding and Development for Underage Mothers in Liberia is implementing a project to engage community leaders, youth groups, women-led organizations and women and adolescent girls across 20 communities in Montserrado and Cape Mount counties to address VAW/G. So far 10 women's rights groups at community level and 10 clubs at school level have been reactivated for engagement and advocacy and 200 women in the groups have used the knowledge gained in training sessions to raise awareness and sensitize community residents and members on sexual and gender-based violence. The project has also conducted dialogues/meetings with government officials, civil society and community-based organizations and women's rights groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination in communities in the two counties. The project has reached a total of 1,500 women and girls in communities and 600 community members, members of faith and community-based organizations, government officials and other project partners to raise awareness of VAW/G. The grantee has also provided sensitization and training to women's rights groups on relevant laws, policies and regulations, including the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement officers. Two interactive forums were held with girls and young women, and boys and young men and boys acting as Ambassadors for Change where they were able to acquire the skills and information necessary for awareness raising in their respective communities.

A project implemented by Scripture Union West Africa in Nigeria focuses on preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence, with a specific focus on violence in schools and early/child marriage. Scripture Union West Africa collaborates with key institutions on legal and health issues while building their capacity on a holistic approach.

"The door of the church and this community is wide open. This will enable us to break the silence around [sexual and gender-based violence]."

A pastor during one of the advocacy visits.

"Thank you Ma for choosing our School for this intervention; now we girls are more confident, will feel safer and be able to speak out."

Bridget Ameh, Methodist High School, Makurdi, February 2020.

The project implemented in Cote d'Ivoire by Conscience et vie, a women-led CSO, is working to address the intersecting forms of discrimination and marginalization faced by self-identified female sex workers and to promote their capacity to take action against rights violations. So far sensitization activities have reached 372 female self-identified sex workers, five of whom are living with HIV. With the new knowledge acquired about gender-based violence, 25 of the self-identified sex workers reached have benefitted from the medical, sanitary, medical or psychosocial services offered by the grantee. The project has also reached 18 duty-bearers ("men in uniform") and 25 community leaders who also indicated their support to put in place an alert system for genderbased violence. Additionally, training provided to four paralegals, two doctors, eight duty-bearers and 11 tutors are helping ensure greater accessibility to multisectoral services.



HACEY Health representative with the commissioner of health of Osun State, Nigeria. Rhoda Robinson/ HACEY Health

# Rights Holders ("Beneficiaries")

The total number of right holders/beneficiaries reached by UN Trust Fund grantees funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative in the reporting period from January 2020 - December 2020 is 27,157,967. This is further broken down in the table below by different cycles of funding including the initial cohort of 35 grantees funded, the 44 projects funded under the COVID-19 influx of funding as well as the total 55 organizations funded in the year.

Grantee cohort	Number	Primary <sup>13</sup> beneficiaries reached (women and girls)	Secondary <sup>14</sup> beneficiaries reached (change agents or duty bearers)	Indirect <sup>15</sup> Beneficiaries reached
1. All grantees receiving SI funds	55	143,940	106,440	27,014,027
2. Original 35 grantees (movement building cohort)	35	85,219	64,323	25,312,951
3. 44 grantees that received additional institutional strengthening funds	44 (inclusive of 24 out of the original 35 of the above)	142,005	100,241	25,809,211

The UN Trust Fund's work is guided by the United Nations Programming Principles which centre on the clear commitment to leave no one behind as well as the commitment to an intersectional approach. Grantees working on an intersectional approach to ending violence against women and girls are reaching those most marginalized and at risk of being left behind. For example, the Institute for Young Women's Development and Just Associates South Africa created safe spaces for LBT women, and used approaches such as storytelling using personal examples, to strengthen women's ability to recognize and address VAW/G in their personal lives and in their communities. The table below shows the reach of the initial cohort of 35 grantees, the 44 projects funded under

<sup>13</sup> Primary beneficiaries are defined as women and girls only, who have directly benefitted from the project goal or outcomes, there must be evidence that the women benefitted or received services that had a positive impact on their lives.

<sup>14</sup> Secondary beneficiaries are all those defined as change agents or duty bearers in the project, i.e. men and boys, government officials, community workers etc., who directly benefit from the project intervention.

<sup>15</sup> Indirect beneficiaries are defined as all people (men, women, girls and boys) who have been reached by the project either through information and awareness raising activities or through context with primary and secondary beneficiaries, e.g. family and community members. It is not feasible to disaggregate all beneficiaries reached by men and women in 2020.

the COVID-19 influx of funding as well as the total 55 organizations funded in reaching survivors of violence, women living with disabilities, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women as well as refugee and internally displaced women and girls.

## Disaggregation of primary beneficiaries by at-risk groups<sup>16</sup>

Grantee cohort	Refugees/ Internally displaced women	Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender	Women with disabilities	Survivors of violence
1. All grantees receiving Spotlight funds	10,447	100	5,825	14,338
2. Original 35 grantees (movement building cohort)	804	100	2,121	7,639
3. 44 grantees that received additional institutional strengthening funds	10,447	78	5,824	14,162

<sup>16</sup> The UN Trust Fund only requests grantees to disaggregate primary beneficiaries (women and girls) by sub-group. It is not possible to disaggregate all beneficiaries (primary + secondary + indirect) reached in 2020, therefore the numbers above a likely to be a significant underestimate of the total number of people benefiting in these subgroups.

# **Challenges and Mitigating Measures**

Challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic were strongly felt by the civil society, especially women's rights organizations across the globe. Organizations noted significant increases in rates of VAW/G and at the same time experienced challenges in terms of adapting to the new circumstances to be able to respond promptly to this crisis.

Having launched their EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funded projects in January 2020, most organizations focused on engaging with and securing buy-in from project stakeholders in the first quarter of the year. Projects were introduced to communities, local governments and community leaders; stakeholder committees were formed; and women and girls were consulted on project objectives and on refining intervention tools. Organizations reported that they had successfully established foundational relationships with their constituencies that were expected to lead to inclusive project implementation. For most organizations, March/April 2020 was thus precisely when they would have been ready to start rolling out project activities and engaging closely with women and girls, men and boys, communities, schools, tribunals, religious congregations and other stakeholders. This was also precisely the moment that the COVID-19 pandemic forced them to pause and adapt their activities, leading to implementation delays.

COVID-19 response measures were often localized and differed both between and within countries. The challenges – and corresponding mitigation measures – reported by the 35 organizations are, therefore, context specific. However, common issues faced by more than one organization, in more than one country, included:

Quarantine measures and restrictions on movement, including public transport meant that women and girls were unable to access services and grantees were unable to reach women and girls. The face-to-face, group-based, participatory programming and direct service provision that was possible before COVID-19 was severely restricted. For example, Zambia National Women's Lobby reported that the implementation of school-based work with girls on sexual and reproductive health rights was impossible during school closures. It will also be difficult after schools reopen because the Ministry of Education has issued a circular directing school administrators to limit activities not strictly linked to the academic calendar as a way of responding to the loss of teaching time during closures. As a mitigating measure, Zambia National Women's Lobby produced radio programmes on sexual and gender-based violence that girls could listen to at home, and developed information and education material that was distributed in schools. Zambia National Women's Lobby capitalizes on the support the organization has galvanized for the project and remains in close contact with school authorities to discuss a roll-out of in-person workshops for school-aged girls once this can safely be done. The organization of virtual zoom meetings with school-aged girls is also being explored.

Some organizations found different entry points to engage with their beneficiaries. For example, Empowering Women For Excellence Initiative in Nigeria reported that by training staff in how to operate a telephone helpline, in the context of COVID-19, they were able to be first responders in cases of VAW/G and to refer women and girls to essential services.

- As national resources were diverted to COVID-19 response, some organizations faced difficulties engaging project partners and were often left to fill gaps in the provision of essential services. For example, the Cameroon Association for the Protection and Education of the Child reported that front-line health personnel previously trained as VAW/G focal points were redeployed to bigger hospitals and health facilities to be part of the COVID-19 response. With the assignment of health personnel being outside of the organization's control, the Cameroon Association for the Protection and Education of the Child continues to work closely with health centres and first responders to strengthen their capacity to safely support women and girls survivors of violence. The Public Interest Law Centre in Chad also reported that the provision of legal services to women survivors of violence was hampered by the closure of tribunals and courts.
- For many organizations, the collection of baseline data was planned for the first two quarters of 2020 and was thus severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Data collection challenges were mitigated by the UN Trust Fund through the provision of guidance on remote data collection and discussions around options for adaptations of programmatic indicators, where needed. The UN Trust Fund built on guidance developed by UN Women, in collaboration with UNFPA and the World Health Organization (WHO), on data collection on VAW/G and COVID-19.17
- While virtual programming offers the potential to reach and engage with stakeholders during periods of restrictions on movement and gatherings, organizations reported that the shift to online activities posed challenges. For example, digital toolkits were sometimes not available; staff were unfamiliar with the intricacies of safely engaging in digital programming; and local infrastructure also imposed limitations. Furthermore, and crucially, organizations indicated that some of the women and girls they are working with might not yet be able to engage through such technologies. On an organizational level, grantees addressed these challenges through various mitigating measures, including by providing capacity development and required equipment for staff. For example, the International Federation of Women Lawyers in Cameroon organized workshops with staff and community volunteers on organizing and managing virtual meetings. The engagement of community-based focal points and volunteers and equipping them with phones/tablets and data bundles was reported by several organizations as a means to start bridging

digital divides, and to ensure that contact with women and girls could be maintained while lockdown measures were in place.

Grantees adopted a range of mitigating measures, appropriate to their particular contexts. The following are some representative examples of such measures:

For example, in Zimbabwe, the Bethany project adopted online programming to implement a mentorship programme, using the additional funding from the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative. Moving to online programming was not without challenges. For example, many women did not have smartphones, others had smartphones but did not have data, some had network challenges and some did not know how to use smartphones. Bethany continues working to find solutions to these challenges in reaching beneficiaries, for example, focal points were provided with data bundles and trained on how to use the smartphones and are imparting the knowledge they gained during their training to other young women and girls. Bethany was still able to reach 744 girls in 2020.

In Burundi, Ghana and South Africa, the International Network of Religious Leaders Living with or Personally Affected by HIV and AIDS reported that, as governments channelled resources towards addressing health problems caused by COVID-19, gender-based violence was increasing and services to address it were shrinking. In response, the project in Burundi trained and engaged 178 women through dialogue and created a WhatsApp group to share information. In Ghana, a community radio talk show was broadcast in three local languages and had an estimated 2,000 listeners. During 2020, 5,109 women and girls were reached with information by the project; 2,697 reported changes in attitudes and behaviours to demand their rights; and 1,724 reported changes in their capacity to report and seek help about incidents of violence against women and girls.

In addition, outside of the COVID-19 context, grantees noted changes in some social, culture or religious beliefs that impacted their project implementation. For instance, in Nigeria AFA described how there was misinformation circulated related to the Violence Against Persons Prohibition bill. AFA leveraged its partnerships to educate religious leaders to defend the bill during a public hearing.

Overall, the uncertainty of the situation makes it difficult for CSOs to plan for the delivery of their services and programmes. Some organizations' plans to compensate for programmatic delays in 2020 through an accelerated implementation of adapted activities in 2021 require renewed adjustments due to the evolving dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic. For all organizations, the safety of staff and programme stakeholders is the priority that guides workplans and the UN Trust Fund is supporting organizations in adaptive programming both from an operational and a knowledge sharing perspective (see "Next Steps").

The additional COVID-19 funding allocation for 44 organizations in sub-Saharan Africa was linked to certain operational management challenges – and opportunities – for recipients. The additional funding focused on organizational resilience and integrated programmatic response to the pandemic. Several organizations strategically invested in equipment to promote a safe

work environment for staff and programme stakeholders and/or to ensure programme continuity through telecommuting, as well as in technology in support of virtual programming. Some organizations signalled challenges in understanding and applying UN procurement guidelines to such investments. As a way to mitigate the risk that expenses reported by organizations would have to be classified as ineligible due to missed steps in the procurement process, the UN Trust Fund organized virtual learning sessions on procurement requirements and recommended procedures for organizations. "The Procurement training has helped us to shape our procurement policy particularly in areas where there were gaps", said one participant. Furthermore, the UN Trust Fund, through an agreement with the UN Women Headquarters Procurement Team, directly facilitated the procurement of high-value assets (vehicles) in accordance with UN Women guidelines.

The COVID-19 pandemic greatly tested grantees' ability to operate effectively in a crisis. Organizations needed to be agile and make significant operational adjustments to ensure continued effectiveness. The UN Trust Fund provided support to grantees in a number of ways. For example, it developed an immediate action plan to safeguard completion of projects and allow grantees, among other things, to modify project activities, reallocate funds between budget lines, delay reporting submissions in order to ensure the stability of the organizations and subsequently the UN Trust Fund-funded project. To support this process, the UN Trust Fund approved the budget reallocations to strengthen support to grantees' core funds and management budget lines. Eleven (out of 55) Organizations receiving EU/UN funding have already relocated funds for this purpose. In addition, the UN Trust Fund conducted ad-hoc virtual consultations with grantees targeting specific areas of concern whenever operational or financial guidance was required.

The UN Trust Fund, in collaboration with the UN Women EVAW Policy team in New York, had planned to organize two foundational in-person workshops for funded organizations in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa. To mitigate resulting gaps, the UN Trust Fund offered virtual programme management training to EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funded organizations (see more information under "Partnerships"). In addition, the UN Trust Fund's virtual Collaboration Hub, will facilitate information sharing, knowledge exchanges and connections among CSOs (see more information under "Next Steps").

## **Lessons Learned and New Opportunities**

The UN Trust Fund leveraged the recognition across the UN system of the important role played by CSOs as front-line responders during the COVID-19 pandemic to mobilize flexible and core funds for CSOs, especially for WROs, working to end VAW/G.

The essential work of CSOs/WROs as front-line responders during the COVID-19 pandemic was recognized early on in the UN Secretary-General's April 2020 statement, Shared responsibility, global solidarity: Responding to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.18 In the UN Secretary-General's system-wide "Political Engagement Strategy on Gender-based Violence and COVID-19",19 he further called on Member States to fund women's organizations and services. This call for funding for CSOs was also echoed in the two briefs produced by the UN Trust Fund highlighting the urgent need to resource the work of CSOs and WROs on the front line of VAW/G response, including those supported by the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative.<sup>20</sup> A third brief is planned for Q3 2021 which will include case studies on EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantees.

Working closely with grantees to support their crisis response, the UN Trust Fund has learned about the importance of ensuring that its grant management mechanisms are responsive to CSOs' working realities in rapidly evolving contexts. Within the framework of its 5-point action plan, the UN Trust Fund supported financial and programmatic project adaptations. This support was welcomed by grantees and also informed the UN Trust Fund's further shaping of its grantgiving and management processes. For example, while the UN Trust Fund aimed for swift reviews and approvals of the reallocation of funds within organizations' project budgets, CSOs voiced the need to have funds at their disposal that would enable them to react immediately to unforeseen developments. The UN Trust Fund listened to this need and introduced a new contingency funds budget line into the UN Trust Fund Call for Proposals to address and respond to violence against women and girls in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic launched in September 2020.

The key lesson from COVID-19 crisis is about the importance of flexible and core funding to CSOs/WROs. In the time of crisis, this has proven to be the key to organizational resilience and institutional survival of civil society actors that are the backbone of the feminist movement infrastructure.

<sup>18</sup> UN Secretary-General report, Shared responsibility, global solidarity: Responding to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, March 2020, available at https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg\_report\_socio-economic\_impact\_of\_covid19.pdf

<sup>19</sup> https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/events/2020/09/event-high-level-side-event-on-gender-based-violence#view

<sup>20</sup> S. Majumdar and G. Wood, "UNTF EVAW Briefing Note on the Impact of COVID-19 on violence against women through the lens of Civil Society and Women's Rights Organizations", op.cit. and S. Majumdar and G. Wood, "UN Trust Fund EVAW Briefing Note on the Impact of COVID-19 on violence against women through the lens of Civil Society and Women's Rights Organizations" Part 2, op. cit.

The 55 organizations funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Call for Proposals reported on context-specific opportunities that emerged in 2020. Opportunities linked to COVID-19 that were highlighted by several organizations, and across countries and continents, included:

- The shift from in-person to virtual programming, while challenging (see "Challenges and Mitigating Measures"), enabled some organizations to reach more women and girls and other programme stakeholders through their work than originally planned. For example, SONKE Gender Justice, working in Eswatini and South Africa, reported: "The lockdowns made us realize that we could be reaching many more people than the targeted beneficiaries if we were to...digitally migrate some of our workshop content."
- A shift to virtual programming was also identified as an opportunity to enhance women and girls' access to and engagement with digital technology and new spaces. [This has been identified as a promising or good practice and further details are included in the following section]
- Core and flexible funding allowed projects to adapt and respond to the shifting priorities of COVID-19. For example, the importance of self-care and prevention of burn out came through as an important trend of lessons learned by grantees during the reporting period and funding adaptations allowed organizations to respond to these needs. For example, in Nigeria, Scripture Union West Africa increased staff salaries by 30 per cent and allowed the organization to cushion the effect of COVID-19 on their staff, which came at a time when prices increased on essential services and goods in the country. The result included an increased commitment by staff which has strengthened the institutional capacity to reach its goals.
- Inequalities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic reportedly acted as a rallying point and boosted momentum for organizations advocating for gender equality and women's empowerment. For example, in Nigeria, AfA reported: "Interestingly, the situation created an opportunity for the advancement of women's rights as it glaringly exposed [infringements on women's rights]. It was also an opportunity that is currently changing narratives, as everyone is adding their voices towards holding the government accountable for injustices on women and girls across the country."
- Grantees also reported learning lessons related to the importance of adaptive programming.

In **Zimbabw**e, for example, IYWD, learned the importance of being flexible in their approach to conducting activities in achieving their results and maximizing opportunities. COVID-19 challenged the organization to be innovative, and also enabled it to adapt to shifting environments. IYWD reached over 8 million people through their use of broadcast and newspapers through the COVID-19 pandemic.

# **Innovative, Promising or Good Practices**

In the programming, shifts that occurred due to the impacts of COVID-19 were a marked shift in terms of an increase of virtual programming, and thus an increase in individuals reached. For instance, through the influx of funding specific to COVID-19, as well as the flexibility provided for grantees to shift project activities, many projects turned to virtual and radio modalities to reach women and girls with prevention programming and information on where and how to report violence.

For example, in Cote d'Ivoire, Dignite et Droits pour les Enfants en Cote d'Ivoire, reached over 3.5 million individuals through a TV programme broadcast on the national channel in Abidjan. In Malawi, the Art and Gloval Health Center Africa, rolled out national awareness raising campaigns through radio, TV and social media reaching at least 2 million individuals. In addition, in Zimbabwe VSO reached 3.6 million people through a movement building project that engages and connects a number of CSOs/WROs through TV, radio and social media.

Further, in Zimbabwe the Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association recognized radio as one of the most effective means of transmitting information to large audiences. They found their prerecorded radio reached a large audience, particularly women and girls who spent more time at home. In Honduras, the Centro de Derechos de Mujeres reached an estimated 1 million people through their radio programmes focusing on the prevention of violence against women and girls and the establishment of local indigenous communities as safe spaces for women and girls. Also, in Honduras, CEM-H, worked to reach remote communities of indigenous women by beginning to broadcast a series of radio programmes focusing on preventing and addressing violence against women and girls as well as providing critical information on the availability of services and support for women survivors.

# **Communications and Visibility**

#### **Overview**

The importance of movement building was reinforced by EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantees in interviews collected in early 2020. They highlighted how strong and empowering movements are crucial in equipping women and girls with the skills and confidence to demand and ensure their rights. Some grantees expressed this in terms of working together towards a common goal, others stressed the vital role of movements in raising awareness, building relationships with other actors and stakeholders and strengthening communication and coordination.

In April 2020, all current UN Trust Fund stakeholders came together on a virtual platform to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on global systems to prevent and end violence against women and girls. The meeting welcomed over 280 participants representing small organizations, women's rights organizations, civil society actors, donors, government development agencies and UN partners from around the globe, including UN Trust Fund grantees funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative. This meeting and others such as a high-level meeting in September 2020 and UNITE event on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women featured UN Trust Fund grantees under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative, as part of UN Trust Fund regular activities.

During 2020, the UN Trust Fund regularly featured EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantee quotes on its social media channels with clear EU/UN Spotlight Initiative branding, produced a case study for its website and published an annex to its 2019 annual report on projects under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative. Impressions of people reached via the UN Trust Fund's Twitter regularly reached into the thousands of individuals and posts were pushed out consistently during 2020 (see Annex D for a full breakdown of post reach and web stories published). On the UN Trust Fund's website, seven articles were published focused on case studies of projects funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative. At the beginning of 2020, the UN Trust Fund conducted interviews with the cohort of 35 EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantees regarding the understanding of movement building and subsequent application to their project. Below is a selection of quotes from grantees regarding movement building.

"At the Andhes Foundation we understand the construction of movements as social and political phenomena that break into the daily routine of society. Movements question and challenge the reproduction of certain structures, with a clear message of criticism, emancipation and struggle, these discourses are representative of a group that constitutes itself as a political-historical subject. This political subject is dynamic and is the product of a synergy of different forces that come together for a common goal, which at the same time changes over time. It's very important that there be a relationship based on dialogue on the one hand contributing to the movements being able to attract people by reaching out and

challenging different actors and places where public policies are inadequate. On the other hand, donors should be able to look at the state and companies as key entities that need to listen to movements for social justice."

Fernanda María Marchese, Executive Director, Abogadas y abogados del Noroeste Argentino en Derechos Humanos y Estudios Sociales (Andhes), Argentina

"For the creation of movements, we consider that the diversity and heterogeneity of the organizational processes of Indigenous and non-indigenous women must be taken into account. An intercultural approach and intercultural dialogue... nurtures the creation of alliances. Spaces for dialogue, discussion and exchanging experiences with women's organizational processes should be promoted. We also believe that it is important to know the socio-economic, political and security conditions of the organization, as well as of the beneficiaries. In order to exercise the defence of rights with dignity, above all of those who we are in the territories."

Member of Conservación Investigación y Aprovechamiento de los Recursos Naturales (CIARENA), Mexico

"From IDIWA's perspective, movement building is about a group of people working together for a common goal. A social movement requires collective power beyond a small group organizing to build and sustain a long-term change. Movement building takes a number of steps...including understanding the actions to undertake and by who, educating ourselves about the concerns for the movement, rallying troops and setting up communication systems to make the movement popular."

Elizabeth Kayanga, Executive Director of Integrated Disabled Women Activities (IDIWA), Uganda

"Faced with the serious crisis in Mexico, working directly with girls, adolescents and women in the fight against violence becomes essential. The grant supports one of the main lines of work, which is the generation and strengthening of community networks for the protection of children and adolescents. Which means generating school community tools for timely detection from a human rights and gender perspective. This grant allows us to continue deepening the empowerment of girls and adolescents transforming their lives by being able to recognize situations of risk and child sexual abuse. The process that Infancia Común has established in Oaxaca is one of its priorities and the Spotlight grant represents the possibility of continuing a work process in the Central Valleys of Oaxaca with girls, boys and adolescents for the prevention of child sexual abuse. We also believe that the Spotlight grant is an opportunity to improve internally as an organization throughout the process of designing, planning, monitoring and following up on our projects. From our perspective, this grant represents the possibility of professionalizing ourselves in the work that we have done for several years: We know that we have highly efficient and committed personnel in the field, but we need to improve in the field of project management, from its design, until its systematization. In the long term, this represents an important step to continue carrying out our work for the rights of girls, boys and adolescents."

Mayra Rosalinda Rojas Rosas, Director, Infancia Comun A.C., Mexico

"To Bethany Project movement building with regards to this project is a process which consists of:

- Building a critical mass of girls and young women to push an agenda in order to achieve a clearly defined outcome;
- Mobilizing and equipping girls and young women on how to use their amplified voices to grab attention of decision makers so that they can influence them to come up with the desired change

Under this project we are therefore going to mobilize (build a critical mass) girls and young women then empower them (through mentoring, training, dialogues and peer to peer support) to report and raise awareness on sexual and gender based violence they face, hold service providers to account and support survivors."

Rebecca Gumbo, Project Director, Bethany Project, Zimbabwe

#### **Human interest stories**

During 2020, the UN Trust Fund published seven case studies about results from EU/UN Spotlight Initiative funded projects on its website. Communications products amplify the voices and stories of the demand-driven grantees of the UN Trust Fund to CSOs/WROs implementing projects under the strategic priorities of Outcome 6 of the Spotlight Initiative Theory of Change. The specific central focus of this collaboration is movement building within projects working to end VAW/G, with communication case studies published including the following excerpts:

Chad: Resourcing local organizations to mitigate risks of violence against women and girls during COVID-19

An article featuring the work of the Public Interest Law Center in Chad and quotes Senior Advocate, Delphine Djiraibe: "This pandemic casts a shadow on the issue of violence against women and girls in our communities... Women and girls suffer [from] impunity and utter indifference."

- Movement building: Joining forces to end violence against women and girls
  - This highlights the work of the Integrated Disabled Women Activities (IDIWA) in Uganda, quoting Elizabeth Kayanga, IDIWA's Executive Director, who noted: "A social movement requires collective power beyond a small group organizing to build and sustain a longterm change."
- Nigeria: Rapid response to protect women during COVID-19 lockdown
  - An article highlighting the work of Alliance for Africa (AfA) in the context of rising VAW/G in Nigeria and quoting AfA Executive Director Iheoma Obibi: "It is clear that the increased rate of violence against women and girls is a result of the effects of the pandemic. There have been increased reports of rape cases, including gang rape and child sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, domestic violence, [and] assaults by law enforcement agents coupled with poor access to sexual and reproductive health care."
- Movement building: Investing in women's movements to end violence against women This post focused on the increase in social mobilizations, powered by generations of grass roots CSOs as a defining feature of recent work to end VAWG. Gertrude Shumba, Executive Director of Family AIDS Caring Trust (FACT), which works with self-identified female sex workers and young women in Zimbabwe, explained the importance of this approach:

"This investment entails employing more long-term funding strategies [because] before real change can be realized, long-term funding is needed to allow community movements to become established."

#### 'ENOUGH IS ENOUGH': How a project can change lives

This article featured a project run by INERELA+ South Africa called "Strengthening the capacity of religious leaders to end violence against women and girls in South Africa, Burundi and Ghana". Munya Mandipaza, Deputy Director of Programmes at the INERELA+ Secretariat in South Africa, explained: "[The project] is working to strengthen the capacity of religious leaders in ending violence against women and girls through the training of female religious leaders on sexual and gender-based violence."

#### **Testimonials:**

"Donors need to support multi-stakeholder partnerships and networks at local, national, regional and global level with women's rights groups, social movements and CSOs, including groups young people and women facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, to influence, sustain, and advance progress on GEWE [gender equality and women's empowerment] and ending VAW/G, including influencing legislation and policies addressing specific issues." Elizabeth Kayanga, Executive Director, Integrated Disabled Women Activities (IDIWA), Uganda

"Movement building is the bringing together of individuals and organizations to lobby and advocate for change. GL [Gender Links] has worked to build the feminist movement in Southern Africa. We provide the secretariat for the Southern African Gender Protocol Alliance, a network of Southern African women networks that lobbied for the adoption of the Southern African Gender Protocol, the only sub regional instrument that brings together all global and continental commitments to gender equality and enhances these through targets, time frames, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms." Colleen Lowe Morna, CEO, Gender Links, South Africa

"Systematic and structural inequalities and dysfunctionalities that tend to sustain embedded cultural discriminations on which violence against women and girls' cannot be corrected by dotted interventions here and there. There is need for well-coordinated and synergetic efforts by actors from different spheres of the political, justice, socio-economic and cultural life of society to dislodge the societal injustice on which VAW/G is anchored." Glory Lueong, Founder, Rural Women Center for Education and Development, Cameroon

"In the context of ending violence against women we perceive social mobilization to mean purposeful and determined coming together of women and girls to challenge norms and practices that perpetuate violence against women and girls including patriarchal values, impunity and lack of accountability. In this regard we see our role as that of enhancing the capabilities of communities to both recognise and act against threats to their rights and wellbeing." Gertrude Shumba, Executive Director, Family AIDS Caring Trust (FACT), Zimbabwe

"During the training, I understood the girl's suffering in the school environment. I felt sad when I heard the facilitator talk about the suffering of the young girl who is a survivor of sexual and gender-based violence. This girl who resolves to silence carrying her burden alone for fear of reprisals, stigmatization and rejection. This is why I am committed to protecting and defending girls in my school", girl student participant, Fund for Congolese Women, Democratic Republic of Congo

"GBV is not only about physical or sexual abuse but is becoming wider than this because women bear the brunt of the inadequate service delivery. The lack of access to water is an issue for hygiene but also for women who must stand in long queues without social distancing, and while being pushed away by men – this is also gender-based violence. Women rely on transport to engage in informal jobs. Public transport is scarce, and they compete with men to access transport. This is gender-based violence. The weakness of the health system means that the nurses (who are in majority women) are on strike because their salary is far too low, and they are expected to risk their lives to take care of COVID 19 patients without proper equipment. And when the clinic is closed, women must take care of the sick people. This is gender-based violence. The context of violence became wider during COVID. Mainly because the care work (the traditional role of women) becomes more difficult." - Margaret Chavhunduka from the Anti domestic violence committee, Volunteer Service Overseas, Zimbabwe

"The door of the church and this community is wide open. This will enable us to break the silence around SGBV." - A pastor working with Scripture Union West Africe, Nigeria

"We talked about the conquest of the spaces in our neighborhoods, safe areas for walking, free spaces for everyone", said Deisy a rights holder, Fundacion para la Promocion de la Economia Social y Cooperativa

## **Next Steps**

In 2021, the UN Trust Fund will continue to focus on enabling the 55 CSOs in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa to carry out their work to prevent and respond to VAW/G by fostering adaptive programming, collective learning and knowledge exchange.

Recognizing the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on CSOs/WROs' work, the UN Trust Fund will continue to implement its 5-point action plan, adapted for 2021.21 This plan responds to the uncertainties organizations are facing in terms of their project implementation context and, within existing operational frameworks, provides CSOs/WROs with the flexibility to adjust their work. It provides organizations with space to take stock of the evolving needs and capacities of the women and girls they are working with, as well as of the needs and capacities of other programme stakeholders and their own organizations. The UN Trust Fund is thereby supporting organizations in reframing projects' Theories of Change, if and where CSOs/WROs indicate that the context necessitates changes in programming, and facilitating corresponding budget revisions.

In March 2021, the UN Trust Fund will co-host a virtual stakeholder exchange on the impact of COVID-19 on VAW/G and the CSOs/WROs front-line responders. The 55 grantee organizations funded through the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative will be invited to participate in and contribute to this consultation. Based on the inputs received from CSOs/WROs, the UN Trust Fund will review its COVID-19 response action plan to ensure it remains relevant to CSOs' needs and programming realities.

CSOs' substantive work in adapting their projects, programme strategies and organizational policies to COVID-19 and other crises will be supported by the UN Trust Fund through the 2021 launch of the online Collaboration and Learning Platform. This multilingual platform will support collective learning and direct knowledge exchange between practitioners working on ending VAW/G and allows for a real-time dialogue on emerging practices in the intersection of COVID-19 and ending VAW/G.

In 2021, the UN Trust Fund will consolidate its approach to collecting, documenting and sharing learning that emerged through projects funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative. It will collect lessons on the progress and challenges of CSOs, with a specific focus on work on Outcome 6 of the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Theory of Change (movement building). This will enable the UN Trust Fund to reflect on contributions to women's movements through this portfolio and on options for measuring progress on this work over the next two years.

<sup>21</sup> UN Trust Fund 5-point action plan in response to COVID-19 (April 2020): (1) Acknowledge and approve delays in grantee reporting, including final and evaluation reports; (2) Exercise utmost flexibility to enable grantees to modify or delay project activities; (3) Share resources and guidance to help grantees navigate the public health crisis; (4) Accept budget reallocation requests to meet core costs to ensure business continuity and minimize the negative impact of COVID-19; and (5) Approve no-cost extension requests for grantee projects.

The UN Trust Fund is working on a lessons learned review from EU/UN Spotlight Initiative grantee reporting to inform future reporting and knowledge management work. This is intended to inform the final years of project implementation under the Spotlight Initiative portfolio and what additional support or learning activities the UN Trust Fund could put in place on the two themes of support for women's/feminist movements and institutional strengthening in response to COVID-19 (and interlinkages between the two) in efforts to end violence against women and girls. In addition, the UN Trust Fund will complete a review on how to better measure, monitor and evaluate grantee contributions to women's/feminist movements. This will be based on data set against the indicators for movement building (Outcome 6) and specific indicators on COVID-19 response and institutional strengthening.

The UN Trust Fund will continue to provide learning opportunities for UN Trust Fund grantees funded under the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative. The UN Trust Fund will thereby pinpoint specific needs for this particular cohort of organizations for 2021 and will conduct a learning needs assessment with options also for organizations to provide knowledge sharing and capacity development sessions themselves (South-South cooperation). In light of the cancellation of inperson networking and learning events in 2020, the UN Trust Fund will assess the feasibility of organizing such events in 2021/2022.

Building on its well-established communication channels and advocacy reach, the UN Trust Fund will in addition continue to amplify the voices of CSOs and women and girls, strategically disseminating the results of the work of organizations funded within the framework of the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative and highlighting how such work contributes to global efforts to end VAW/G.

Throughout 2021, the UN Trust Fund will continue to coordinate its work closely with UN Women, the EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Capacity Development and Knowledge Management Team, and other EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Partners.

# **Annex B**

## Risk Matrix

Risk Assessment			Risk Monitoring How (and how often) did your programme monitor th	e risk(s) during the reporting period?		
Risk Please include new risks, if any, denoting these with [New Risk]	Likelihood: Almost Certain – 5 Likely – 4 Possible – 3 Unlikely – 2 Rare – 1	Impact: Extreme – 5 Major – 4 Moderate – 3 Minor – 2 Insignificant – 1	Periodicity	Source for monitoring	Addressing the Risk Please include the mitigating and/or adaption measures taken during the reporting period.	Responsible Person/Unit
Contextual risks						
The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic risked impacting project implementation and delivery. Continued risks may include ongoing safety and security risks for grantees and beneficiaries	4	3	Frequent check-ins with grantees as well as flexibility provided to grantees through the UN Trust Fund's five point action plan.	UN Trust Fund Portfolio Managers	The additional COVID-19 allocation to 44 sub- Saharan Africa projects funded under the EUN/UN Spotlight initiative helped mitigate operational management challenges and focused on organizational resilitinece and integrated programmatic response to the pandemic.	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
Programmatic risks						
Organizations had challenges in reaching women and girls in 2020, and may continue to in 2021. Due to quarantine measures and restrictions on movement, face to face programming may still be impacted into 2021 [new risk].	4	3	Funding from the COVID-19 2020 allocation as well as budget allocations enabled organizations to invest in equipment to promote a safe work environment for staff and beneficiaries.	UN Trust Fund Portfolio Managers	Organizations implemented different entry points such as through virtual programming, as well as training staff for such modalities (such as implementing helplines).	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
In 2020, organizations faced difficulties in engaging project partners and filled gaps related to essential services as well as in collecting baseline data. Projects shifted some activities to virtual programming, where possible; which may continue into 2021. Though projects increased the indirect beneficiaries reached through the project through adaptations such as radio programmes.	3	3	Frequent check-ins with grantees as well as flexibility provided to grantees through the UN Trust Fund's five point action plan to ensure staff and beneficiary safety were prioritized.	UN Trust Fund Portfolio Managers	The UN Trust Fund instituted a five point action plan to provide flexibility for grantees responding and adapting to COVID-19.	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
Institutional risks		,				
Expenses reported by organizations could be classified as ineligible due to misunderstanding in the procurement process.	3	3	The UN Trust Fund, in an agreement with UN Women HQ procurement, facilitated the procurement of high-value assets directly in accordance with UN Women guidelines.	UN Trust Fund portfolio managers	The UN Trust Fund organized virtual learning sessions on procurement requirements and recommended procedures. 94 per cent of those who attended found the webinar useful.	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
Fiduciary risks						
In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the capacity for organizations to absorb and deliver funds may be limited, especially small organizations and those receiving additional funds (e.g. all Africa grantees under the Spotlight Initiative). These factors may potentially increase the risk of ineligible expenditures by partners, improper use of grants and delays in the reporting of expenditures.	3	3	Regular check-ins with grantees; training and webinars on grantees on effective financial management; strengthened financial oversight of grantees demonstrating weak reporting.	UN Trust Fund portfolio managers and Operation Team	Strict adherence to UNW supporting documentation verification policy coupled with annual audit exercise as part of financial risk management  Host webinars on project modification to support the grantees through the processes, and create conducive conditions for grantees to request nocost extensions due to force majeure early on to facilitate proper planning and financial delivery.	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

Assumptions:
2021 will continue to see challenges and mitigation efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the UN Trust Fund will continue to work closely with projects through the UN Trust Fund secretariat to provide support against the challenges, including through a revised five point-action plan.

# **Annex C**

# **CSO Engagement Report**

Outcome	Output	Name of Civil Society Organisation (CSO)	Type of CSC (see definition be		Total Award Amount (USD) (see definition below table)	Name of Recipient UN Organisation (RUNO) funding the CSO	Modality of Engagement (see definition below table)	Is this CSO woman-led and/or women's rights organisation (WRO)/ feminist CSO? (see definition below table)	Is the CSO a new or existing partner?Please indicate if the RUNO has/has not partnered with the CSO prior to the Spotlight Programme start.  (see definition below table)	Primary Vulnerable/ Marginalised Population Supported by Award (see explanation below table)
	OUTCOME 6: Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and ending VAWG.									
Output 6.1: \ sub-national	Women's rights I, national, regi	groups and relevant CS onal and global levels.	SOs have increa	sed opportunit	es and support to s	hare knowledge, netv	work, partner and	jointly advocate for GEWE a	nd ending VAWG, more specifically, v	vith relevant stakeholders
6	6,1									
6	6,1									
Output 6.2:	Women's right	s groups and relevant C	SOs are better	supported to us	e social accountabi	ility mechanisms to su	pport their advoc	acy and influence on prevent	ion and response to VAWG and GEW	E more broadly.
6	6,2									
6	6,2									
			UN Trust Fund type	Spotlight Initiative type						
				туре						
6	6,3	Rural Women Center for Education and	Women	Local/ Grassroots	\$211,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Center for	Women	I	\$211,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Center for Education and Development  African Indigenous	Women	I	\$211,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	
	6,3	Center for Education and Development	Women	I	\$211,000.00 \$212,980.00		Grantee Grantee	yes	new	
6		Center for Education and Development  African Indigenous Women Organisation Central African		Grassroots				,		women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Center for Education and Development  African Indigenous Women Organisation Central African Network	Women	Grassroots  Regional  Local/	\$212,980.00		Grantee	yes	new	

Outcome	Output	Name of Civil Society Organisation (CSO)	Type of CSO (see definition below	ow table)	Total Award Amount (USD) (see definition below table)	Name of Recipient UN Organisation (RUNO) funding the CSO	Modality of Engagement (see definition below table)	Is this CSO woman-led and/or women's rights organisation (WRO)/ feminist CSO? (see definition below table)	Is the CSO a new or existing partner?Please indicate if the RUNO has/has not partnered with the CSO prior to the Spotlight Programme start. (see definition below table)	Primary Vulnerable/ Marginalised Population Supported by Award (see explanation below table)
6	6,3	ONG DIGNITÉ ET DROITS POUR LES ENFANTS EN CÔTE D'IVOIRE (ONG DDE-CI)	Human Rights	National	\$315,286.00		Grantee	yes	new	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	United Funding and Development for Underage Mothers (UFDUM)	Women	National	\$324,011.00		Grantee	yes	new	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) CAMEROON	Women	National	\$326,550.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	Scripture Union West Africa	Faith Based	National	\$341,670.00		Grantee	yes	new	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	Alliances for Africa	Women	Regional	\$357,497.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Art & Global Health Center Africa (ArtGlo)	Other	National	\$380,297.00		Grantee	yes	new	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Centre for Women Studies and Intervention	Women	National	\$386,737.00		Grantee	yes	new	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Cameroon Association for the Protection and Education of the Child (CAPEC)	Women	National	\$399,819.00		Grantee	yes	new	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	Integrated Disabled Women Activities	Women	National	\$417,560.00		Grantee	yes	new	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Zambia National Women's Lobby	Women	National	\$632,075.00		Grantee	yes	new	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	HACEY Health Initiative	Development	National	\$667,663.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Family AIDS Caring Trust (FACT) Zimbabwe	Faith Based	National	\$701,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Public Interest Law Center	Human Rights	National	\$950,098.00		Grantee	yes	new	

Outcome	Output	Name of Civil Society Organisation (CSO)	Type of CSO (see definition below	ow table)	Total Award Amount (USD) (see definition below table)	Name of Recipient UN Organisation (RUNO) funding the CSO	Modality of Engagement (see definition below table)	Is this CSO woman-led and/or women's rights organisation (WRO)/ feminist CSO? (see definition below table)	Is the CSO a new or existing partner?Please indicate if the RUNO has/has not partnered with the CSO prior to the Spotlight Programme start. (see definition below table)	Primary Vulnerable/ Marginalised Population Supported by Award (see explanation below table)
6	6,3	Fund for Congolese Women	Women	National	\$985,146.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	International Network of Religious Leaders Living with or Personally Affected by HIV and AIDS	Faith Based	International	\$1,030,060.00		Grantee	yes	new	Indigenous women/ women from ethnic groups
6	6,3	Institute for Young Women Development	Women	National	\$1,072,450.00		Grantee	yes	new	Lesbian, bisexual, transgender
6	6,3	Sonke Gender Justice	Human Rights	Regional	\$1,363,665.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Voluntary Service Overseas	INGO	International	\$1,359,526.00		Grantee	no	new	women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Gender Links HQ	Women	Regional	\$1,430,000.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Lesbian, bisexual, transgender
6	6,3	Fundación para la promoción de la economía social y cooperativa	Women	National	\$124,047.00		Grantee	yes	new	Lesbian, bisexual, transgender
6	6,3	Centro de Intercambio Subregional Cono Sur Alahua CISCSA	Women	National	\$665,790.00		Grantee	yes	new	Lesbian, bisexual, transgender
6	6,3	Asociación Mujeres Transformando	Women	Local/ Grassroots	\$300,806.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Centro de Estudios de la Mujer - Honduras (Cem-H)	Women	National	\$500,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Catolicas por el Derecho a Decidir A.C.	Women	National	\$685,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Fundación Abogados y Abogadas del Noroeste Argentino en Derechos Humanos y Estudios Sociales	Hman Rights	National	\$150,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	Lesbian, bisexual, transgender

Outcome	Output	Name of Civil Society Organisation (CSO)	Type of CSO (see definition below	ow table)	Total Award Amount (USD) (see definition below table)	Name of Recipient UN Organisation (RUNO) funding the CSO	Modality of Engagement (see definition below table)	Is this CSO woman-led and/or women's rights organisation (WRO)/ feminist CSO? (see definition below table)	Is the CSO a new or existing partner?Please indicate if the RUNO has/has not partnered with the CSO prior to the Spotlight Programme start.  (see definition below table)	Primary Vulnerable/ Marginalised Population Supported by Award (see explanation below table)
6	6,3	Asociación Colectiva de Mujeres para el Desarrollo Local	Women	National	\$900,000.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Asociación de organizaciones de mujeres para la defensa de los derechos individuales y colectivos-IXTZ`UNUN	Women	National	\$974,667.00		Grantee	yes	new	Indigenous women/ women from ethnic groups
6	6,3	Centro de Derechos de Mujeres	Women	National	\$880,711.00		Grantee	yes	new	Indigenous women/ women from ethnic groups
6	6,3	Infancia Común A.C.	Other	Local/ Grassroots	\$144,708.00		Grantee	yes	new	
6	6,3	Ciarena Conservación, Investigación y Aprovechamiento de los Recursos Naturales, AC	Women	Local/ Grassroots	\$146,259.00		Grantee	yes	new	Indigenous women/ women from ethnic groups
6	6,3	African Partners for Child Poverty (APPCO)	Women	National	\$71,811.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Centre for Rights Education and Awareness	Human Rights	National	\$405,398.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	
6	6,3	Episcopal Relief & Development	Faith Based	International	\$188,436.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	
6	6,3	Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe	Disabled People's Organization (DPO)	National	\$172,040.50		Grantee	No	Existing	Women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda	Women	National	\$68,800.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Refugee Consortium of Kenya	Human Rights	National	\$369,140.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women

Outcome	Output	Name of Civil Society Organisation (CSO)	Type of CSO (see definition below)		Total Award Amount (USD) (see definition below table)	Name of Recipient UN Organisation (RUNO) funding the CSO	Modality of Engagement (see definition below table)	Is this CSO woman-led and/or women's rights organisation (WRO)/ feminist CSO? (see definition below table)	Is the CSO a new or existing partner?Please indicate if the RUNO has/has not partnered with the CSO prior to the Spotlight Programme start. (see definition below table)	Primary Vulnerable/ Marginalised Population Supported by Award (see explanation below table)
6	6,3	Rwanda Organization of women with disabilities (UNABU)	Women	National	\$58,394.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	The Strategic Initiative for Women in The Horn Of Africa (SIHA) Network	Women	Regional	\$206,769.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	Women Challenged to Challenge	Disabled People's Organization (DPO)	National	\$63,692.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Forum For Women in Development and Democracy and Justice	Women	Local/ Grassroots	\$64,500.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	HIAS Refugee Trust of Kenya	International NGO	International	\$196,164.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse	Human Rights	National	\$430,000.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Women and girls with disabilities
6	6,3	Dynamique des Femmes Juristes	Women	National	\$383,650.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	
6	6,3	Empowering Women for Excellence Initiative (EWEI)	Women	National	\$63,015.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	Ethiopiaid	Women	National	\$199,513.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	
6	6,3	Facilitators of Community Transformation (FACT)	Human Rights	Local/ Grassroots	\$64,345.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	International Solidarity Foundation (ISF)	International NGO	International	\$429,312.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Refugees and internally displaced women
6	6,3	Society for Life Changers and Good Parental Care	Women	National	\$60,679.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Women and girls with disabilities

Outcome	Output	Name of Civil Society Organisation (CSO)	Type of CSO (see definition below	ow table)	Total Award Amount (USD) (see definition below table)	Name of Recipient UN Organisation (RUNO) funding the CSO	Modality of Engagement (see definition below table)	Is this CSO woman-led and/or women's rights organisation (WRO)/ feminist CSO? (see definition below table)	Is the CSO a new or existing partner?Please indicate if the RUNO has/has not partnered with the CSO prior to the Spotlight Programme start. (see definition below table)	Primary Vulnerable/ Marginalised Population Supported by Award (see explanation below table)
6	6,3	STEWARDWOMEN	Women	National	\$215,000.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	
6	6,3	WOMEN'S LEGAL RESOURCES CENTRE	Women	National	\$371,278.00		Grantee	yes	Existing	Women and girls living with HIV/AIDS
PROGRAM	ME MANAGE	MENT COSTS (inclu	ıding pre-fundi	ng)						
N/A	N/A									
			TOTAL AWARI	OS TO CSOs	\$24,062,446.50					
Type of CSC	)s	- Rec par - Nat - Loc	gional CSOs oper ticular region wit tional CSOs oper tal and grassroot	rate in two or n thin one count ate only in one s organisations	nore countries with ry. particular country. focus their work a		e. Africa, Latin Am unity level and do	not have a national scope. Th	ic). In this case, a regional CSO is not ney tend to have a small annual operat	·
Award Amo	unt	In thi	is context, an "Av	vard" is any fin	ancial grant, contra	ct, or partnership ag	reement with a CS	SO.		
Type of Eng	agement	- Gra	ntee: Programm	es may issue a	broad Call for Prop	out particular activiti osals to which CSOs a procurement proce	submit proposals	for grant funding.	· hiring a CSO for a training or other a	ctivities.
	and/or Wome n (WRO)/Femi	en's Rights nist CSOs state addr Pleas	To be considered a "woman-led CSO," the organisation must be headed by a woman. To be considered a "women's rights or feminist organisation," the organisation's official no statements must reflect its commitment to addressing multiple/intersecting forms of discrimination and advancing gender equality and women's rights. The organisation shouly address the underlying drivers/systems/structures, including patriarchy and gendered power dynamics, that perpetuate EVAWG and gender based violence and work to transt Please select "No" if the above definitions do not apply to the CSO.  Please select "No information available" if no information is available on or it's not known if the CSO is headed by a woman or is a WRO/feminist CSO.						anisation should aim to	
New or Exis	ting Partner	To be	he rational behind this question is to undersand the extent to which RUNOs are expanding their outreach to CSOs beyond usual partners, giving opportunities to new CSOs) be considered a "new partner", the RUNO has not engaged the CSO in any partnership modality, prior to the start of the Spotlight Programme.  be considered an existing partner, the RUNO has engaged the CSO in any partnership modality, prior to the start of the Spotlight Programme.						to new CSOs)	
	nerable/Margi Supported by A								nerable and marginalised groups, inc one population that is primarily serve	

# **Annex D**

### Communications and social media report

### UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women: EU/UN Spotlight Initiative social media activities

- More frequent features from Spotlight Initiative & UN Women, which has helped increase the visibility of grantees and their work. The "Movement building" series has been performing well, drawing from UN Trust
- Fund's interviews with grantees, helping amplify the voices of grantees and expand the reach of what it means to build and support women's movements.
- Though graphic designs have been diverse, we have been recycling ones that have performed well as well. This area will improve in the coming period by expanding the frequency of posts focused on EU/UN Spotlight funded grantees with the results and case studies from 2020. The results highlighted in the narrative report will be used for social media and communications purposes to amplify and expand the reach of those results.

Date	Title	Facebook		Twitter	
		Link	Insights*	Link	Impressions*
01/29/2021	Spotlight promo (RM)			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1354942338095751180	207/2
01/28/2021	INERELA+	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2753157921617686/	201/10	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1354836636643819525	1259/18 (RT by Spotlight)
01/26/2021	Spotlight promo/RT UNTF			https://twitter.com/GlobalSpotlight/ status/1353963136399925251/retweets/with_comments	381/3 (RT from Spotlight)
01/21/2021	Spotlight promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1352314915747459073	278/1
01/08/2021	Movement building	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2739751146291697/	871/32	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1347553881702739976	1793/31
01/06/2021	PILC	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2738531636413648/	496/17	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1346916952221081601	372
12/21	INERELA+			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1341007947636346880	328/3 (RT from UN Women)
40/46	INERELA+	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/	700/40	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1339203181167988738	633/8 (RT from Spotlight)
12/16	INERELA+	posts/2723213394612139/	309/10	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1339165876881330177	333/4 (RT from UN Women)
12/14	Mayor and building	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2722035921396553/	402/17	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1338597130651353088	422/8
12/08	Movement building	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2716719098594902/	492/22	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1336294456815878146	185/4
12/10	Spotlight promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1337105735944183809	388/4

Date	Title	Facebook		Twitter	
		Link	Insights*	Link	Impressions*
12/1	World AIDS Day/INERELA+	https://business.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ videos/136064361358710/	249/13		
11/27	INERELA+	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2708965076036971/	358/16	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1332315741341638657	359/15
11/17	Spotlight promo/RT			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1328688086486822912	460/4
11/10	CAPEC	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2694913254108820/	1025/27	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1326147599968169990	627/30
11/2	Spotlight promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1323248526374150144	379/2 (RT from EU in Mexico on Spotlight grantees in Mexico)
10/15	CAPEC/ Rural Women's Day	https://business.facebook.com/1547551982178292/ posts/2671967763070036/	663/34		
10/14	Spotlight promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1316395529379745794	343/5 (RT UN Women)
10/08	PILC/CfP C24	https://business.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/posts/2666321820301297?tn=-R	821/24	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1314246366764380161	355/9
9/30	Amplifying voices: RuWCED	https://business.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ videos/665654470992393/	1243/60		
				https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1310982710735888386	334/6
9/29	Spotlight mention (UNGA side event)			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1310959318871793669	270/1
				https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1310947284193075200	297/7 (RuWCED grantee)
9/23	Spotlight & AJ segment	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2653921274874685	369/25	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1308853641990733824	450/8
9/16	PILC	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2647909938809152	230/15	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1306314158766395392	214/5
9/17	AfA			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1306573489902678016	172/6
9/9	IDIWA	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2642126739387472	990/72	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1303779205235142661	1224/29
9/6	#WIthHer promo			https://twitter.com/europeaid/status/1302554636927332353	

Date	Title	Facebook		Twitter	
		Link	Insights*	Link	Impressions*
9/3	Spotlight promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1301530319674318854	347/8
8/27	Femicide	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2631120390488107	387/25	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1299048619648180224	1338/36 (RT by Spotlight)
8/21	#WithHer promo	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2626081020992044	155/1	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1296867554250690560	288/11
8/20	IDIWA	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2625305597736253	298/17	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1296529938527342592	258/3
8/13	Andhes	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2619363171663829	127/9		
8/13	#WithHer promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1293918764363374593	368/6
8/7	CWSI	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2614207085512771	204/15	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1291714051173744640	1503/27 (RT by Spotlight)
7/30	Ciarena	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2607512026182277	430/28	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1288920799756328965	555/33
7/27	NA	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2606018696331610	951/59	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1287808595929726979	344/2
7/23	Movement building	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2602898833310263	5407/190	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1286380812955291648	320/10
7/18	Nelson Mandela Day	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2599145047018975	803/47	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1284570737827864576 and https://twitter.com/GlobalSpotlight/ status/1284485372442038272	412/12 (liked by Spotlight)
7/16	RuWCED	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2597656807167799	1799/61	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1283846614474346496	1524/33 (RT by Spotlight)
-10	Gender Links	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2592361767697303	238/5	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1281304866137096192	512/9
7/9	Spotlight \$9M/Africa	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2592158601050953	391/20	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1281204706329743361	255/2
7/2	Sonke	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2586872084912938	310/13	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1278772932467142656	325/5
7/1	#WithHer promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1278364077866319872	281/NA
6/29	#WithHer promo			https://twitter.com/GlobalSpotlight/ status/1277568023042367493	

Date	Title	Facebook		Twitter		
		Link	Insights*	Link	Impressions*	
6/25	FACT Zimbabwe	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2581419922124821	611/38	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1276229481246724098	572/16	
6/18	CHRDA	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2575983259335154	3386/87			
6/16	#WithHer promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1272900314224562179	413/2	
6/11	UFDUM	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2570570413209772	336/20	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1271421945897193473	399/6	
6/5	#WithHer promo	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2565659000367580	312/19	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1268934251656945665	357/2	
6/4	AfA	https://www.facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2564572827142864	372/32	https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1268493951985692673	484/10	
5/14	#WithHer promo			https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1260890845168820224	590/13	
5/12		https://facebook.com/UNTrustFund/ posts/2547163365550477	407/13			
5/8	Spotlight \$9M announce	https://facebook.com/UNTrustFund/photos/a.1548375718 762585/2544520599148087/?type=3&tn=-R	587/50	https://twitter.com/GlobalSpotlight/ status/1258855705685213189 and https://twitter.com/UNTrustFundEVAW/ status/1258865809432158210	1723/65	

Date	Title	Link
12/4	Movement building: Investing in women's movements to end violence against women Web story during 16 Days of Activism, highlighting theme "Fund", featuring two grantees FACT (Zimbabwe) and IDIWA (Uganda)	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/ stories/2020/11/investing-in-womens-movements-to-end- violence-against-women
11/24	"Enough is Enough": How a project can change lives Web story during 16 Days of Activism, highlighting theme "Respond" (in the series of "Orange the World: Fund, Prevent, Respond, Collect!"), featuring grantee INERELA+ (multi-country Spotlight Initiative grantee, story of INERELA+ South Africa)	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/ stories/2020/11/enough-is-enough-how-a-project-can- change-lives
9/29	Highlighting grantee RuWCED (Cameroon) at the high-level event alongside the UN General Assembly	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/in-focus-covid-19
9/16	Chad: Resourcing local organizations to mitigate risks of violence against women and girls during COVID-19 Web story on grantee PILC (Chad)	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/ stories/2020/09/resourcing-local-organizations-to- mitigate-risks-of-violence-against-women-and-girls-in- chad

Date	Title	Link
7/22	Movement building: Joining forces to end violence against women and girls Web story on movement building (citing IDIWA and RuWCED)	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/ stories/2020/07/building-movement-and-joining-forces- to-end-violence-against-women-and-girls
6/3	Nigeria: Rapid response to protect women during COVID-19 lockdown Web story on grantee Alliances for Africa (Nigeria)	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/ stories/2020/04/nigeria-afa-rapid-response-to-protect- women-during-covid19-lockdown
5/7	PRESS RELEASE: Spotlight Initiative, European Union and UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women announce additional USD9 million for women's organizations during COVID-19 pandemic	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/ stories/2020/04/announcement-of-additional-usd9- million-for-women-organizations-during-covid19-pandemic
2019	Grantees, Spotlight Africa and Latin America (2019)	https://untf.unwomen.org/en/grant-giving/untf-grantees/ grantees-spotlight-af-lac-2019











