Spotlight Initiative

To eliminate violence against women and girls

AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

January 2020

CONTENTS

I. REGIONAL COMPONENT PROGRAMME DOCUMENT - COMMON SECTION 7
I. Situational Analysis 7
II. Regional Component Programme Coherence 9
III. Regional Component Governance and Coordination Arrangements 12
IV. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners 16
V. Spotlight Africa Engagement with AUC Departments 18
VI. Knowledge Management 23
VII. Communications and Visibility 23
II. REGIONAL PROGRAMME - STREAM I 27
I. Situational Analysis 27
II. Programme Strategy 32
III. Governance Arrangements 50
IV. Accountability 52
V. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners 54
VI. Partnerships 55
VII. Risk Management Matrix 58
VIII. Joint Results Matrix 59
IX. Intersectional Approach 59
X. Coherence with Existing Programmes 61
XI. Monitoring & Evaluation 61
XII. Innovation 62
XIII. Knowledge Management 62
XIV. Communications and Visibility 63
XV. Budgets – See excel document attached 64
III. REGIONAL PROGRAMME STREAM II - CHILD MARRIAGE 68
I. Situational Analysis 68
II. Programme Strategy 72
III. Governance Arrangements 88
IV. Accountability 90
V. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners 90
VI. Partnerships 93
VII. Joint Results Matrix 93
VIII. Intersectional Approach 94

IX. Coherence with Existing Programmes: 94
X. Risk Management 95
XI. Monitoring & Evaluation 100
XII. Innovation 101
XIII. Knowledge Management 101
XIV. Communications and Visibility 102
XVI. Budgets – See excel document attached 103
IV. REGIONAL PROGRAMME DOCUMENT- STREAM II - FGM 106
I. Situational Analysis 106
II. Programme Strategy 110
III. Governance Structure 126
IV. Accountability 127
V. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners 127
VI. Partnerships 130
VII. Results Matrix 130
VIII. Risk Management 130
IX. Coherence with Existing Programmes 130
X. Monitoring and Evaluation 130
XI. Innovation 132
XII. Knowledge Management 133
XIII. Communications and Visibility 133
XIV. Budgets – See excel document attached 134
XV. FGM JP Risk Management Matrix 135
V. ANNEXES 141

REGIONAL COMPONENT PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

<table>
<tr>
<td>Regional Component Programme Title: Africa's Response to Addressing VAWG, SGBV, HP, SRHR including FGM and Child Marriage</td>
<td>Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs):

Stream I: UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF

Stream II:
- FGM JP: UNFPA and UNICEF
- Child Marriage JP: UNICEF and UNFPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Contacts:
<u>Office for Africa Regional Programme Coordination</u>:
<u>United Nations Office to the African Union</u>
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<td>Programme Partner(s):
1) AU
2) UNECA
3) Academia
4) Regional Intergovernmental Entities
5) Regional NGOs, CSOs
6) Others (Media)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Component Programme Region: AFRICA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Component Programme Description: The Regional Spotlight Programme prioritises strengthening existing strategies and initiatives, such as the AU Gender Strategy 2017 -2027, Agenda 2030, Agenda 2063, the Maputo Plan of Action on the Operationalization of the Continental Policy Framework for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (2016-2030), The protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa(the Maputo Protocol) the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the AU Roadmap on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend, the African Youth Charter (2006); and the Common Position on Ending Child Marriage in Africa (2015) and others. The relevance of the Spotlight Regional Programme is ensured by being fully aligned to the Africa Investment Plan with common objectives, pillars, Theories of</td>
<td>Total Cost of Regional Component (incl. estimated Spotlight contribution, UN Agency contributions and Unfunded Budget): USD 40,801,711

Total Funded Cost of Regional Component (Spotlight Phase I[1] and UN Agency contribution): USD 26,982,280

Breakdown of Total Funded Cost by RUNO
<table>
<tr><th>Name of RUNOs</th><th>Spotlight Phase I (USD)</th><th>UN Agency Contributions[2] (USD)</th></tr>
<tr><td>UN Women</td><td>3,454,656</td><td>253,352</td></tr>
<tr><td>UNFPA</td><td>10,625,993</td><td>525,119</td></tr>
</table>
</td>
</tr>
</table>

[1] Funding from the Spotlight Initiative will be allocated by the Operational Steering Committee in two distinct phases: Phase I will entail allocating 70% of the funding envelope (for the first 24 months), Phase II will only be allocated depending on the Stream's overall needs and performance towards achieving results.

[2] These are mandatory and will have to be reported on.

Change and results framework, and also being fully aligned to continental priorities. The programme also adopts a strategy of harnessing the respective strengths of multi-sectoral, multi-level partnerships which will support the acceleration of transformative change. With government, the programme will work with the AU, with RECs (via the AU), the Pan-African Women Organization (PAWO) and with individual member states at national level (under Stream 2). Stream 1 will include VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR and aims at bridging global and country levels. Whilst Harmful Practices are addressed within the work on policy, data and CSO engagement taking place under Stream 1. Stream 2 responds to the priority the AU has placed on ending Child Marriage and FGM across the continent by supporting the African Union's Initiatives on these two issues. Linkages will also be established with the "State of the African Woman Campaign" (SOAW) (IPPF Africa -led consortium) and the other AU led campaigns on EVAW, ECM and Initiative on the elimination of FGM. Traditional leaders will be engaged in both Stream I and Stream II in view of their important role defying deep-rooted cultural practices thereby prevention of child marriage, FGM and other harmful practices. A number of elements have been built into the Regional programme design to ensure **efficiency and coherence** between the two streams Stream 1 and Stream 2.

Stream 1: will be supporting the overall regional response to addressing SGVB HP and SRHR

Stream 2: will be supporting the regional response to prevention of harmful practices focusing specifically on FGM and Child Marriage. **Scope**: Total number of countries covered through Stream II FGM component is 18 while Stream II Child Marriage component is 13 countries

Both Streams will focus on the following Pillars of the Spotlight programme: -
Pillar 1: Legislation and Policies
Pillar 5: Quality and Reliable Data
Pillar 6: Supporting the women's movement and relevant civil society organisations.

UNDP	2,134,478	196,000
UNICEF	9,404,872	387,810
TOTAL	**25,620,000**	**1,362,281**

Total Cost of Stream I Regional Component (incl. estimated Spotlight contribution, UN Agency contributions and Unfunded Budget):
USD 16,169,597

Total Cost of Stream II Regional Component (incl. estimated Spotlight contribution, UN Agency contributions and Unfunded Budget):
USD 24,632,112

Breakdown of Total Funded Cost by RUNO:

Name of RUNOs	Spotlight Phase I (USD)	UN Agency Contributions[3] (USD)
Stream I		
UN Women	3,454,657	253,352
UNFPA	2,084,140	67,219
UNDP	2,134,479	196,000
UNICEF	866,725	20,000
Sub-total:	**8,540,001**	**536,571**
Stream II: FGM Joint Programme		
UNFPA	5,480,778	396,670
UNICEF	3,059,221	290,225
Sub-total:	**8,540,000**	**686,895**
Stream II: Child Marriage Joint Programme		
UNICEF	5,478,925	77,585
UNFPA	3,061,075	61,230
Sub-total:	**8,540,000**	**138,815**
TOTAL (I+II)	**25,620,000**	**1,362,281**

Estimated No. of Beneficiaries (Stream I and II) (TBC)

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect
Women	**3853976**	**4515297**
Girls	**7358338**	**54322051**
Men	**3621844**	**4119709**
Boys	**1266144**	**5000881**
TOTAL	**16,100,302**	**67,957,938**

Start Date: 1 January 2020

End Date: 31 December 2022

Total duration: 36 months

The duration of the Country Programme should be maximum of 3 years.

[3]These are mandatory and will have to be reported on.

Recipient UN Organisation **United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA)** *Name* *Signature: _____ _____* *Date: _____*	**African Union Commission** *Name* *Signature: __ _____* *Date: _____*
Recipient UN Organisation **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)** *Name* *Signature: _____* *Date: _____*	
Recipient UN Organisation **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** *Name* *Signature: _ _____* *Date: _____*	
Recipient UN Organisation **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** *Name* *Signature: _____* *Date: _____*	
United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU) Hannah S. Tetteh, Special Representative of the Secretary General and Head, UN Office to the African Union *Signature: _____* *Date: _____*	

The UN Executive Office of the Secretary General

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed

Signature: _____

SIGNED COPY ON FILE (AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

Date: _____

Acronyms

ACHPR	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
ACRWC	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
AFCHPR	African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights
AIDOS	Italian Association for Women in Development
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
ACERWC	African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
CoP	Community of Practice
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DFA	Data for All
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
ECOSOCC	Economic, Social and Cultural Council
EU	European Union
FBO	Faith-Based Organisation
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment
HP	Harmful Practice
HQ	Headquarters
JP	Joint Programme
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
RECS	Regional Economic Communities
RUNOs	Recipient UN Organisations
SDGEA	Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
UNOHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Women Empowerment and Gender Equality
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOAU	United Nations Office to the African Union
VAWG	Violence against women and girls

Definitions

For the purpose of this programme**, Vulnerable Groups** is defined as "Groups facing discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnic group, color, sex, language, religion or political opinions or other status." This definition is in line with the 2030 Agenda, the principle of leave no-one behind and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol).[4]

[4] SDG 2030 (preamble, articles 9, 19, 23, 25, 39), and African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (preamble, article 2), Maputo protocol (preamble)

I. REGIONAL COMPONENT PROGRAMME DOCUMENT - COMMON SECTION

This section provides an overview of the situational analysis for the region, shows how coherence across the two streams of the Spotlight African Regional Programme will be ensured, including the overall governance arrangement that will be in place to ensure smooth delivery of the Africa regional programme. Programme documents for each stream (three components) have been developed with detailed situational analysis, programme strategy, key interventions, joint result framework, and other key sections following this common section of the programme document.

I. Situational Analysis

Violence against women and girls is a global pandemic and the most pervasive and widespread human rights violation. More than 1 in 3 women (36.6%) in Africa report having experienced physical, and/or sexual partner violence or sexual violence by a non-partner.[5] Across Africa, 125 million girls and women alive today were married before their 18th birthday. Overall, over one in three young women in Africa were married at childhood, and one in ten before their 15th birthday. It is particularly severe in West and Central Africa which is home to 6 of the 10 countries with the highest child marriage prevalence levels in the world, all of which have a prevalence over 50%. Niger has the highest prevalence of child marriage in the world at 76%. Central African Republic (CAR) has a prevalence of 68% with Chad at 67%. The prevalence of child marriage below the age of 15 years is also very high at 14% for the region, with Chad, CAR and Niger all having prevalence rates over 25%.

An estimated 200 million girls and women alive today are believed to have been subjected to female genital mutilation (FGM). Recent UNFPA data estimates that about 68 million girls will be at risk of FGM by 2030, if current levels of intervention remain in place. For Africa, this number represent 50 million girls at risk. In 2015, 66% of all maternal deaths occurred in sub-Saharan Africa. 85,637 women still die of maternal causes every year; this is partially explained by the fact that only 56% of deliveries are attended by skilled personnel.

There have been significant improvements in the adoption of Human Rights (HR) instruments and policies both at the continental and regional level by Member States, [4]progress remains limited due to the lack of capacities and resources needed to translate legislation and policies into action and tangible benefits for women/girls. To date, the African Women's Rights Protocol has not secured universal ratification. Only 36 countries have signed and ratified, 15 have signed but not ratified and 3 have not signed or ratified. By 2017, more than 80% of AU Member states had ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol), which guarantees comprehensive rights to women including the right to partake in political processes, social and political equality with men, reproductive health and an end to FGM. The major challenge is implementation (enforcement of the standards), only 4-member states have submitted their report to the Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights in Africa; the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights (AfCHPR) has not received any cases on women's right while cases have been submitted to the ACEWRC and the Banjul Commission; the ECOWAS Court became the 1stcourt to uphold the Maputo Protocol on the rights of women in Africa in a judgement[6] whereby only 38 countries have ratified. Some of the persisting challenges are the slow ratification, domestication, and implementation of international and regional conventions and instruments on women's rights; lack of awareness of HR instruments; insufficient enforcement of national legislation and the rule of law; insufficient resource allocation to implement VAWG/Harmful Practices(HPs) laws, policies, and programmes; lack of action plans, national planning frameworks, and allocated budgets for VAWG and HPs; weak monitoring and reporting; Other challenges are social norms that perpetuate discrimination VAWGs, HPs, limited availability of essential services for VAWG survivors, and failure to prosecute and punish perpetrators, thereby promoting impunity. Addressing conflicts between customary and statutory

[5] Source : https://oneworldcenter.eu/violence-against-women-in-africa/
[6] Source: AU Strategy for GEWE 2017-2027

law in line with the international and regional frameworks is also critical for the protection of women's rights. With these daunting challenges, there is need for continued and renewed effort to engage the African Union Commission and Regional Economic Communities, and to use regional frameworks to effectively influence national laws and policies to end VAWGHPs and promote SRHR.

Despite the importance of data and statistics to inform policies, programs monitoring and accountability systems, not more than 5% of African countries, are able to generate and use vital statistics from their civil registration systems or routine administrative records related to SGBV /HP for programme planning, periodic and systematic performance reviews, quality assurance and accessibility to public investment is limited. The use of population and housing censuses, Demographic and Health Surveys Violence against Women and Children studies, Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys and other data sources that provide continuous demographic intelligence for decision-making is weak in Africa. The perceived lack of data has led to overreliance on periodic, large-scale, expensive surveys and assessments to get a sense of the prevalence of violence, abuse and exploitation, and harmful practices like child marriage and female genital mutilation. At the same time, statutory administrative systems for data collection remain under-resourced, under-utilized and data coordination systems are weak. Lack of sex and age-disaggregated data particularly for boys and girls aged 10-14 years, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, has been noted as a critical data gap related to VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR. In addition, rigorous measurement of social norms change remains a gap in the global development community.

The African Union (AU) Gender Observatory and the Gender Scorecard has been playing a key role in strengthening the availability and use of quality and reliable data, however these initiatives need to be strengthened and better tailored to include systematic data on VAWG and SGBV/HP and SRHR. Key challenges in this regard are the lack of uniform data collection tools and standardized methodologies to collect, analyse and promote utilization of data on above topics, including on evidence-based interventions that impact the lives of women and girls and their communities.

While progress has been made by civil society in the adoption of continental, regional and sub-regional women's rights laws and policy frameworks to advance women's rights in Africa, implementation of the agreements and policies have been slow and uneven. Regional CSOs and networks face several challenges in effectively monitoring progress and advocating for women's rights. The potential of women's rights networks has not yet been fully harnessed to support the AU in the implementation and monitoring of gender equality and women's empowerment programmes based on existing commitments. There is need for sustained advocacy beyond the AU summit and meetings in order to enhance collective action and direct engagement with the AU and Member States. Moreover, limited information flow between the AU and women's CSOs and networks hampers opportunities for women's rights advocates to shape AU policy agendas, decisions and programmes.

Studies reveal that traditional leaders can play a meaningful role in defying deep-rooted cultural practices thereby prevention of child marriage. Despite their key role in society especially at the grassroot level traditional leaders were not fully engaged in the legislation, policy and programme development on child marriage. Through the Spotlight Programme, partnerships will be built, and support will be extended to the regional network of traditional leaders, through strengthening partnerships with relevant AUC directorates, Pan-African Women Organization, CSOs and the heads of states and recognition for their commitment and work on ending child marriage, FGM and other harmful practices. Linkages will also be established with the **"State of the African Woman Campaign**" (SOAW) (IPPF Africa -led consortium) and the other AU led campaigns on EVAW, ECM and AU Initiative on the Elimination of FGM including the recently launched Saleema Initiative for ending FGM.

In addition, certain groups and issues (youth, disability, minorities, migrants, rural women and girls etc.) remain vulnerable and need to be supported in policy dialogue initiatives and harnessing new and innovative forms of engagement in the public sphere. CSOs and women's rights networks require institutional and technical assistance to strengthen their presence and support to the AU to bridge the gap between policy commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment and the actual implementation and delivery of these commitments to women and girls.

II. Regional Component Programme Coherence

The Regional Spotlight Programme prioritises strengthening existing strategies and initiatives, such as the AU Gender Strategy, the Gender Observatory and the AU campaigns to end Child Marriage and African Union Initiative on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation. This will ensure increased **effectiveness** of the programme as the focus will be on accelerating implementation. The programme has a commitment to evidence-based practice, and the data arising from the work under Pillar 5, Stream I and the 'what works' research under Stream II will ensure the most effective approaches to ending VAWG. The programme also adopts a strategy of harnessing the respective strengths of multi-sectoral, multi-level partnerships which will support the acceleration of transformative change. The programme will work with the AU, with RECs (via the AU) and with individual member states at national level (under Stream II). With non-government partners, the programme will engage with CSOs, women's groups, youth-led organisations, media and the private sector. This will ensure not only that programme activities and AU initiatives are informed by experiences and priorities of communities, but also that through increased capacity for advocacy and accountability, governments will be held accountable to deliver on continental commitments. The continental reach of the UN ensures that all knowledge products and evidence arising from the 8 Spotlight countries and the regional programme will be disseminated across Africa and used by other UNCTs to address issues of VAWG.

The **relevance** of the Spotlight Regional Programme is ensured by being fully aligned to the Africa Investment Plan with common objectives, pillars, Theories of Change and results framework, and also being fully aligned to continental priorities, Agenda 2063; The Africa we want. It will support the AU to accelerate the domestication of existing continental commitments related to the Spotlight objective of ending all forms of Violence against Women and Girls, with a specific focus on the AU Gender Strategy and the Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa, and the Maputo Plan of Action (2016-2030). The programme also considers other relevant commitments, such as the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC), the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa, the AU Roadmap on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend, the African Youth Charter (2006); and the Common Position on Ending Child Marriage in Africa (2015). Whilst Harmful Practices are addressed within the work on policy, data and CSO engagement taking place under Stream I, Stream II responds to the priority the AU has placed on ending Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation across the continent by supporting the African Union's initiative on these two issues.

A number of elements have been built into the Regional programme design to ensure **efficiency and coherence** between the two streams. In terms of governance, there will be a single Civil Society Regional Reference group with the remit to guide and oversee the implementation of both Streams and a single Steering Committee for the Africa Regional Programme to ensure strategic and technical rigour and coherence across both Streams. UNFPA as the technical coordinating agency, will be responsible for reviewing annual workplans for Stream 1 and Stream 2 and maximising opportunities for synergies, joint working and efficiency. In Stream I, at the level of Pillars, UN Women as a lead for Stream I will ensure work in relation to policy, data and CSO engagement under Stream I will include Harmful Practices, where relevant, and in consultation with the global programme to end Child Marriage and the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Eliminate Female Genital Mutilation leads to avoid duplication of work. At the level of activities, with all partner engagement and capacity building, the Steering Committee for Africa Regional Programme will ensure that every opportunity is taken to cover all key areas of focus. **Engagement with CSOs will ensure that the intersection between SGBV and HP is fully understood and will build their capacity to work on advocacy, accountability and community interventions across all areas.** Through the Spotlight Programme, partnerships will also be built, and support will be extended to the regional network of traditional leaders identified through transparent process, through strengthening partnerships with relevant AUC directorates, CSOs and the heads of states and recognition for their commitment and work on ending child marriage, FGM and other harmful practices.

(Tables demonstrating coherence and synergy) - **Please see Annex 1 for details on Programme coherence and synergy**

Pillar I	
Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream I and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcomes Common approach advocacy, capacity building, consultation and policy engagement however stream 1 focuses on Regional partners
Accountability and monitoring frameworks Stream I Activity (1.1.4, 1.2.2) Stream II (1.2.3CM, 1.2.4CM, 1..1.2 FGM);	On strengthening the AU accountability and monitoring frameworks on MS commitment to deliver on SGBV/HP
Regional evidence-based mapping, assessment Stream I (1.1.1 1.3.1.) Stream II (CM 1.1.5.)	On regional evidence-based mapping, assessment on best practice to inform policy decision and engagement both streams will cover this Stream 1 will focus on VAWG/SGBV/HP and Stream II will focus on FGM and Child Marriage only
Capacity Building Stream I 1.1.2, 1.2.2, 1.2.3 Stream II Activity 1.1.2, 1.1.3, FGM, 1.1.2., 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.2.1 CM);	Both Streams will focus on capacity building of regional partners
Regional and National action plans Stream 1 (Activity 1.2.1, 1.2.2) Stream II (Activity 1.2.1,1.2.5 CM)	On Regional and National action plans, increase financing and investment on SGBV and HPs
Strengthening regional knowledge platforms Stream 1 (Activity 1.1.6) Stream II (Activity 1.1.7 FGM)	Strengthening regional knowledge platforms on legal and policy frameworks:

Pillar 5	
Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream I and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcome Similar outcome with common approach, capacity building, harmonization of data collection tools of CSO's, AU and stream II also focuses on national statistical offices.
Pillar 5 Interventions	Stream I focuses on regional level interventions on quality and reliable data Stream II Addresses mostly national level with some activities at regional level
Stream I Output 5.1 is similar to Stream 2 5.2	Focuses on data on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR at regional level. However, Stream 2 focuses on data on harmful practices.
Capacity Building Stream I 5.1.3 Stream II 5.1.1, 5.1.2 for CM and 5.2.2., 5.2.3 FGM	Stream I: - will focus on building capacity on the collection of data and harmonization of tools at the Regional level. Stream II: will build capacity for data analysis and use for National Statistical officers/Cos
Data Utilization	Stream I will utilize data analysed by the Statistician in the Department of Social on FGM and CM (Stream 2)
Knowledge Management Stream I 5.2.2, 6.1.2, Stream II 5.2.2, 5.2.5 CM, 5.2.4 FGM	Stream I will develop a knowledge management strategy for on VAWG/SGBV/HP, including FGM and CM. Stream I will establish a knowledge management hub which will be housed in the AUC

	Stream II will utilize the same Hub that will be housed in the AUC and translate the knowledge products into 4 AU languages and disseminate them across Africa. Both Streams will have shared Spotlight events, Communities of Practice etc.

Pillar 6	
Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream I and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcome Similar outcomes with common approach, capacity building, knowledge development sharing through digital platforms, addressing harmful practices through engagement at the national (Stream II) and regional level through engagement of youth, CSOs, AUC, Traditional Leaders and FBOs.
Outcome 6.1. Establishment of a continental Civil Society Regional Reference Group (CSRRG)	A unified continental Civil society Regional Reference group will be established combining **Stream I and II** to provide advisory, technical and monitoring support to both streams. The Civil Society Regional Reference Group will also have linkages with the CSO RG at the national level.
Capacity Building of CSOs on social accountability on EVAW, ECM, FGM	Stream builds the capacities of Regional CSOs and Women's Movement on social accountability on EVAW, ECM FGM and creates platform and strengthen partnerships among CSOs and the African Union Commission's relevant directorates. Stream II-Apart from regional level CSO, this stream will also build the capacity of national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs on FGM and ECM.

Pillar 6

It is known that given the central role of a strong women's movement in the fight to end violence against women and girls (VAWG), women's rights groups and civil society organisations (CSOs) are at the heart of the Spotlight Initiative's programmes with a whole Outcome (Outcome 6) dedicated to women's movement building. The Spotlight investment in civil society in Africa through regional mechanisms on Outcome 6 is channelled through the Africa Regional Programme (RP) and the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (UNTF).

It is important to note that the **Pillar 6 Investment in Africa Regional Programme** will focus on regional, continent-wide women's movement building of regional women's rights organisations, pan-African networks and CSOs, to collectively advocate and work towards the ending sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices (specifically female genital mutilation [FGM] and child marriage [CM] on the continent. A key and distinct objective of the work envisioned under the Africa RP will be to enlarge space in key regional processes with the African Union (AU), which is a regional inter-governmental organization that has a major influence on agenda-setting and policymaking across Africa. This work will leverage the comparative advantage of the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in their convening role, bringing together governments and civil society to hear from each other and engage in joint decision-making. Efforts will build on and strengthen ongoing work around existing AU initiatives (AU initiative on the elimination of FGM and end of CM) and strategies (AU Gender Strategy), with existing mechanisms (Gender is My Agenda Campaign) and relevant Directorates of the AUC (Social Affairs and Gender). Additionally, the Africa RP will support the effective functioning of the Civil Society Regional Reference Group, an important governance mechanism of the Spotlight Initiative (at global, regional and national levels) that plays an advisory, advocacy and accountability role in the Africa RP's efforts to end VAWG and harmful practices.

The UNTF's funding for Africa dedicated to Outcome 6 will focus the provision of grants directly to women's rights and CSOs for work on sub-regional movement building, in particular across countries that have traditional sub-regional groupings and/or contiguous borders, so they can collectively advocate and work

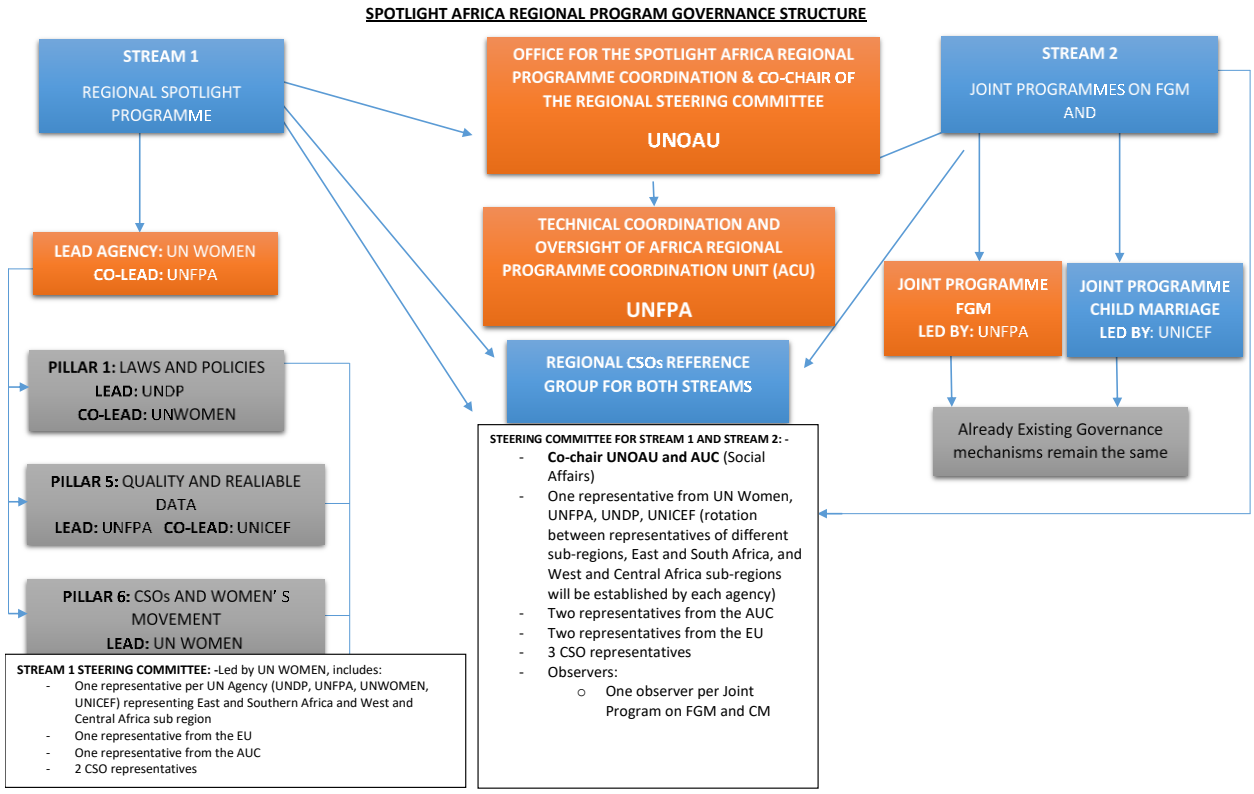
towards the ending sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices (specifically female genital mutilation [FGM] and child marriage [CM] at the sub-regional level These sub-regional organisations and networks will use the UNTF funds to come together across borders to share knowledge, partner and jointly advocate with sub-regional inter-governmental bodies, for increased sub-regional efforts to end VAWG and harmful practices. This sub-regional mobilisation will connect with the Africa RP's regional movement building efforts and will be complemented by the country-level efforts of Spotlight Country Programmes, thereby ensuring synergies and leveraging of work with women's movements and CSOs across the continent at all levels. Additionally, the initiatives funded by the UNTF are demand-driven, selected in a transparent manner and vetted by independent civil society experts, thereby serving as a complement to the approach taken by the Africa RP which has defined the investments in Outcome 6 in consultation with multiple stakeholders, primarily regional civil society actors but also the AUC, EU and UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes.

Synergies across the two streams under Pillar 6 will be ensured as follows;

Pillar 6	
Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream 1 and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcome Similar outcomes with common approach, capacity building, knowledge development sharing through digital platforms, addressing harmful practices including intersectionality through engagement at the national (Stream II) and regional level through engagement of youth, CSOs, AUC, Traditional Leaders and FBOs.
Outcome 6.1. Establishment of a continental Civil Society Regional Reference Group (CSRRG)	A single Civil Society Regional Reference group will be established combining **Stream I and II** to provide advisory, technical and monitoring support to both streams. The Civil society Regional Reference Group will also have linkages with the CSO RG at the national level.
Capacity Building of CSOs on social accountability on EVAW, ECM, FGM	Stream I build the capacities of Regional CSOs and Women's Movement on social accountability on EVAW, ECM, FGM and creates platform and strengthen partnerships among CSOs and the African Union Commission's relevant directorates. Stream II-Apart from regional level CSOs, this stream will also build the capacity of national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs on FGM and ECM.

III. Regional Component Governance and Coordination Arrangements

The Africa Regional Programme has different governance bodies as it comprises of two streams of work. There will be a Regional Steering Committee that oversees both streams, and each stream of the Regional Component will have its own decision-making governing body as described in the diagram and narrative below.



The Africa Regional Programme has different governance bodies as it comprises of two streams of work. There will be a **Regional Steering Committee that oversees both streams**, and each stream of the Regional Component will have its **own decision-making governing body**. Accordingly, **the United Nations Office to the Africa Union (UNOAU),** based in Addis Ababa will provide overall political leadership, oversee the stakeholder relationships at the regional level, and ensure programme coordination and coherence among Stream I, Stream II FGM and Stream II Child Marriage of the Africa Regional Programme. **UNOAU and AUC Social Affairs will co- chair the Regional Steering Committee** that oversees both streams. UNOAU will be the **main communication entry point with the African Union**. **UNFPA will provide overall technical coordination of the Africa Regional Programme** and oversee the Africa Regional Programme Coordination Unit that will be located in Addis Ababa. Each stream of the Regional Component will have its own governance mechanism – namely Regional Stream 1 Steering Committee, FGM Joint Programme Steering Committee (Stream II) and Child Marriage Joint Programme Steering Committee (Stream II).

Steering Committee of the Africa Regional Programme will oversee the stakeholder relationships at the regional level with regards to the Regional Component as a whole and ensure programme coordination and coherence among Stream I, Stream II FGM and Stream II Child Marriage. The Steering Committee will be aligned with the priorities and dynamics of the region and of the Spotlight Africa Investment Plan. It will reflect the Initiative's principles of inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, regional participation and ownership. A critical function of the Steering Committee is to ensure the political oversight, build linkages and synergies and avoid duplications amongst Stream I, Stream II FGM and Stream II Child Marriage.

UNOAU with the technical support and guidance of UNFPA, and the AUC Social Affairs Commissioner will co-chair the Steering Committee. The composition of the Steering Committee will include:

(a) one representative of UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF at regional level (rotation between representatives of different sub-regions, East and South Africa, and West and Central Africa sub-regions will be established by each agency),

(b) two EU representative,

(c) two representatives from the African Union Commission,

(d) three civil society representatives (selected through the Civil Society Regional Reference Group from women's civil society organizations/networks/funds with a strong track record of working on EVAWG).

One observer per Joint Programme on FGM and Child Marriage

The main task of the Steering Committee will be to ensure programme coherence among Stream I, Stream II FGM and Stream II Child Marriage by fulfilling the following roles and responsibilities:

- Manage stakeholder relationships at the regional level with regards to the Regional Component as a whole.
- Oversee and advise on programme coherence amongst Stream I, Stream II FGM and Stream II Child Marriage;
- Identify opportunities for linkages and synergies that may add value or accelerate the desired transformative impact between Stream I, Stream II FGM and Stream II Child Marriage;
- Support mobilizing resources for Stream I and II to close the unfunded gap; Identify risks of duplication and overlap between Stream I, Stream II FGM and Stream II Child Marriage and communicate those to the attention of the Stream I and Stream II governing bodies for action;
- Ensure proper communication and coordination between the entire Regional Component and the Spotlight Secretariat;
- Oversee consolidated and coherent reporting of the Regional Component

Stream I: Regional Stream I Steering Committee is a decision-making body for Stream I**.** Chaired by UN Women, it will include:

(a) One representative per agency, represented by the Regional Directors from UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF, representing East and South Africa, and West and Central Africa sub-regions on rotational basis,

(b) one EU representative,

(c) one African Union Commission representative, and

(d) 20% of Steering Committee members will be civil society representatives nominated and from the Civil society regional reference group.

The Civil Society Regional Reference Group will select their steering committee representatives and it will be on rotational basis.

Stream II: The two components of Stream II - the Joint Programme to Eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM JP) and the Global Programme to end Child Marriage (CM JP) - will use their existing governing structures and **will establish connection with the Regional Programme's Overall Steering Committee** to ensure coherence in programming regional activities.

Please see the governance sections in the respective programme documents.

Civil Society Regional Reference Group (CSRRG): An interim Civil Society Regional Reference Group in Africa was established to provide timely support to the design of the Africa Regional Programme. Initially a 15-member group was constituted by partners under Stream 1. This group was expanded to 18 members to include civil society representation for the Child Marriage and FGM Streams of the Programme. This allowed to have one interim Civil Society Regional Reference Group that represented the entire Spotlight Africa Regional Programme and is able to advise programme design across the various streams. Once the programme is approved by the operational steering committee, a new fully fledged, Spotlight Africa Civil Society Regional Reference Group comprising of 15 individual civil society experts on ending violence

against women and girls and Harmful Practices will be established. Members join the group in their individual capacities and not as representatives of their organizations. The constituted group will serve throughout the duration of the programme. This means that current interim-reference group will no longer be operational.

Process for the selection of the formal civil society regional reference group (CSRRG): The setting up of the CSRRG is led by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will have a total of seven (7) members comprised of four (4) leading civil society experts, one (1) UN representative, one (1) AUC representative and one (1) EU representative. The four civil society experts that will be members of the Selection Committee will be selected by the AUC, the UN and the EU on the basis of consensus. The Selection Committee will be identified based on a list of diversity criteria in order to ensure an accurate representation of the vulnerable groups beneficiaries of the programmes to be implemented as defined by the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme, and in line with the AU policies and frameworks as established in the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme document. The list of diversity criteria will be jointly established by the AUC, the UN and the EU on the basis of consensus. The agreed upon list of Diversity Criteria will also be the basis for the selection of the members of the civil society regional reference Group. The Spotlight Secretariat will be the chair of the Selection Committee.

Once the Selection Committee is formed, the committee will launch an open call for nominations which will be disseminated widely. When the nomination period has closed, the Selection Committee will select members of the CSRRG based on discussion and consensus. In the case the Selection Committee cannot agree by consensus, the final decision on the membership of the civil society Regional Reference Group will be based on equal votes by the Selection Committee.

It is important to note that the Civil Society – Regional Reference Group will have a light touch on Stream II given the Partner Advisory Group. It will be important to ensure that that the nominated CSO members to the other governing structures are aware of the required time commitments and, if necessary, different members may be nominated to the different structures or alternates proposed.

The CSO Regional Reference Group will have the following functions:

1) Provide inputs and recommendations on key issues related to VAWG and HP in Africa, as well as on the strategic direction of the Spotlight Initiative and issues related to public policy at the regional level

2) Act as partners in advocacy and communication activities, including the dissemination of the Spotlight Initiative messages to the public, especially social movements, including those of women, youth and the media

3) Provide advice on ongoing interventions, possibilities to scale them and address the challenges that may arise

4) Serve as an interactive space and an open forum for dialogue / learning between the Spotlight Initiative and women's rights organizations working on SGBV HPs and SRHR

5) Provide other relevant information, analysis and lessons learned that can feed into the future programming and advocacy efforts of the Spotlight Initiative

6) Support the monitoring efforts of the Spotlight Regional Steering Committee and advise on the implementation of the Programme

7) The Regional Civil Society Reference Group will have linkages with the civil society Global and National Reference Groups

8) At least 20% of the Africa Regional Steering Committee members will be civil society representatives from and nominated by the Civil Society Regional Reference Group

The Africa Spotlight Programme and the Civil Society Regional Reference Group will have linkages with and will benefit from the Civil Society reference groups established in the Spotlight Countries at national levels. The Spotlight Programme will also build and strengthen partnerships of traditional leaders with the

relevant AUC directorates, the Pan-African Women's Organisation (PAWO), and CSOs on the AU campaigns and other advocacy initiatives. Support will also be extended to the "State of the African Woman Campaign" (SOAW) (IPPF Africa -led consortium) and AU campaigns on EVAW, ECM and African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM.

Africa Coordination Unit (ACU): The Spotlight Africa Programme will have a single **Africa Coordination Unit (ACU)** based in **Addis Ababa in the UN Liaison Offices**. The purpose of the ACU is to support joint planning and implementation of activities across the two streams, ensuring coordination, technical coherence, synergies and complementarity. It will ensure both streams contribute to specific join results in the region. This Unit is tasked with the goal of bringing the 3 components of the work together into a coherent programme.

The Africa Coordination Unit (ACU) will be led by **UNFPA as the Technical Focal Agency** and will be located at the UNDP Regional Service Centre **in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,** where the UN Women office is also located. A **Programme Coordinator** (P5 level) will be recruited to provide overall leadership, management and general technical direction of the entire Spotlight Africa Regional Programme (Stream I and Stream II). The Programme Coordinator will be reporting directly to UNFPA with dotted lines of reporting to Stream I and Stream II Leads/Focal Persons. This professional is expected to ensure accountability, identify issues and risks related to overall programme implementation in a timely manner, and suggest appropriate programme adjustments. This individual shall act as the key liaison between the Spotlight Secretariat, the European Union, Recipient UN Organisations (RUNOs) of both Streams and the AUC. He/She will ensure there is an integrated vision amongst Recipient UN Organizations (UNFPA, UNWOMEN, UNDP and UNICEF) and focus on achieving the results defined in the Stream I, and Stream 2 Programme Documents. The Programme Coordinator will work alongside a **Monitoring and Evaluation Officer** (NOC), who will be responsible for designing and implementing the M&E activities of the Africa Spotlight Regional Programme; assisting the Programme Coordinator in preparing Quarterly/Annual reports and will monitor the programme activities on a regular basis. The M& E Officer will develop and maintain M& E system of the Programme and will be responsible for the collection & analysis of different data in relation to the programme activities. Communication and Knowledge Management are vital to the Spotlight programme hence, there will be a full time **Communications and Knowledge Management Officer** whose responsibility is to implement the Communications plan and develop and roll out the Knowledge Management strategy for the entire Regional Programme.

Staffing for the African Union Commission: The Programme also envisages supporting 3 posts to be based in the AUC – 2 within the Department for Social Affairs (DSA) and 1 in the Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD). It is envisaged that these posts will work closely with UN staff in the Africa Regional Programme Coordination Unit located in the UN Offices in Addis Ababa, to ensure joint coordination and planning between the AUC and the UN Technical Team of relevant activities.

European Union: The Africa Spotlight Regional Programme (Stream I and Stream II) will work closely with the **European Union Delegation to the African Union in Addis Ababa, and its Brussels Office,** as key partner and main donor of this initiative in strengthening the programme and implementation, as key member of the governance mechanisms across the two streams of the Africa Regional Programme, and through regular briefings and invitations to participate in key conferences and other events, throughout the programme period.

Other partners can be invited to contribute financially/technically to the programme and activities of the Regional Programme upon the agreement of UN, EU and AUC.

IV. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners

Stream II CM will be led by UNICEF, and while FGM component by UNFPA, based on the existing governance arrangement of the joint programmes, and comparative advantages. Details of this is found in the relevant programme document section dealing with RUNOs and implementing partners of the Child Marriage and FGM programme. In accordance with the comparative advantage and the strength each

RUNO brings, the lead and co-lead on the pillars for **Stream I** has been agreed as follows.

Stream I

UN Women is the Lead of Stream I of Africa Regional Programme. UN Women has been working closely and coordinating with the UN Partner agencies (RUNOs), AUC-Women, Gender and Development Directorate and the Civil Society and thereby well positioned to lead Stream I. UN Women's ability to leverage its triple mandate of normative support, UN coordination, and operational activities has been an enabler of success and represents a major asset. Leveraging on the triple mandate in multisectoral areas, such as ending violence against women and girls, UN Women will work with partner agencies in strengthening regional frameworks and translating them into national standards through partnerships at the regional level. UN Women's normative and coordination mandates also contributes to elevating issues within UN inter-agency teams and strengthening regional and national dialogue in support of gender equality. UN Women over the years through its strong presence has established strong partnerships with the African Union Commission and more specifically the Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD) through its African Union Commission Liaison Office headed by a D1 and supported by a number of senior programme staff. Apart from being the overall Lead for Stream I, **UN Women** will also be leading **Pillar 6 of Stream I** in close participation of others UN Agencies (UNFPA, UNDP). UN Women works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. UN Women is a strong and dynamic UN champion of women's rights, providing a powerful voice for women and girls at the global, regional and local levels. The formation of UN Women also strengthens the UN's ability to provide coherent and timely support to Member States to advance gender equality, in line with national priorities and international norms and policies. It also strengthens effective partnerships with civil society. UN Women also has long-standing relationships with the women's movement, gender equality advocates, women's groups and organizations, and national women's machineries. As the convener on gender equality within the UN system, UN Women brings together partners to address a wide range of dimensions, including laws and policies on EVAWG, in a holistic, coherent and coordinated manner.

UNDP will be leading **Pillar 1**, with its extensive global, regional and national experience in addressing SGBV as a major development challenge by advocating for policy advocacy and legislative development as well as improving women's access to justice and provision of support services to SGBV survivors in more than 115 projects in 67 countries worth 340m USD which puts UNDP in a strategic position lead on Pillar One. UNDP is currently executing four regional projects with the African Union Commission and other regional partners including the RECs (i) Multi Year Joint AU-UNDP Regional Project, on 'Accelerating the Ratification and Domestication of African Union Treaties'. The project is designed to address challenges and bottlenecks associated with ratification and domestication, and to enhance the capacity of the AUC over the medium - to long-term to manage the ratification process and provide tailored support to Member States with domestication-related challenges including HR related instruments. The project is implemented in Senegal, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Rwanda; (ii) A four (4) UNDP-AUC 2018 -2021 Regional Project on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa. This compliments the SI regional programme through improving internal capacity of the AUC to advance GEWE including advocating for the prevention and response to SGBV; (iii) A four (4) year UNDP Regional project on 'Preventing and responding to violent extremism in Africa', designed to strengthen development responses to mitigate the growth of violent extremism in Africa including ending violence against women and girls. The project complements the SI regional programme by supporting the capacity of the AUC and RECs (IGAD, LCBC and ECOWAS) to prevent and respond to violent extremism including developing and implementing legal and policy frameworks in line with HR instruments on EVAWG. The project is implemented in three categories of countries, including: 'epicentre countries' (Mali, Nigeria and Somalia); 'spill-over countries' (Cameroon, Chad, Kenya, Mauritania and Niger); and, in 'at-risk' countries (Central African Republic, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda).

UNFPA will be leading on **Pillar 5** with UNICEF as a co-lead in partnership with UNICEF, UN Women and UNDP. UNFPA has extensive global and regional experience in the provision, building capacities of partners in data and knowledge management. UNFPA believes that data plays a powerful role in development and must therefore be factored into planning and policy decisions. The utilisation of evidence-based analysis propels UNFPA's role in engaging in policy discussions at the global, regional and national

level. UNFPA covers 54 countries in West, East, South and North Africa. UNFPA has technical experts in Population dynamics and data, GBV programme coordinators, M& E systems and knowledge management and innovation experts across our Country Offices in Africa. UNFPA plays a pivotal role in ensuring that Gender Based Violence module is included in DHS surveys.

UNICEF is a RUNO in **Stream I,** supporting the EVAWG campaign under Pillar 1, gender data analysis and review on adolescent girls under Pillar 5, and building youth led initiatives on SGBV, among others in coordination with other RUNOs under Pillar 6. UNICEF's mandate of protecting and advancing children's rights and its commitment to promoting human rights and gender equality places it in a unique position for addressing VAWG. As UNICEF's work spans across health, education, social protection, child protection, nutrition, C4D, HIV/AIDS and water, hygiene and sanitation sectors, it is well equipped to mobilise a broad range of complementary cross-sectoral solutions and partnerships towards EVAWG, preventing child marriage and supporting girls who are married. Child Marriage is a corporate priority and a targeted priority under the organisations' Gender Action Plan (2018-20). UNICEF will continue to work with Governments to support development, budgeting, and implementation of national action plans on child marriage and advocate for legislative shifts, in conjunction with local civil society and government. A critical task will be to consolidate and embed in national systems scalable models of interventions to advance girls' agency and retention in school and create an enabling environment in schools and legal systems. UNICEF niche in systems strengthening in child protection/ social protection, C4D, Data and Evidence generation will be streamlined in the Regional programme under the 3 Outcomes. UNICEF has regional capacity in sectoral expertise and M&E - these include health, nutrition, gender, HIV/Aids, child protection, education and C4D.

The project is designed with a multiple partnership approach to pull different strengths in synergy and complementarity with the four UN agencies. The Spotlight programme will also work with **UNECA in the revitalisation of the African Women's Rights Observatory and other data issues, and with OHCHR on member states reporting.**

Key Partners

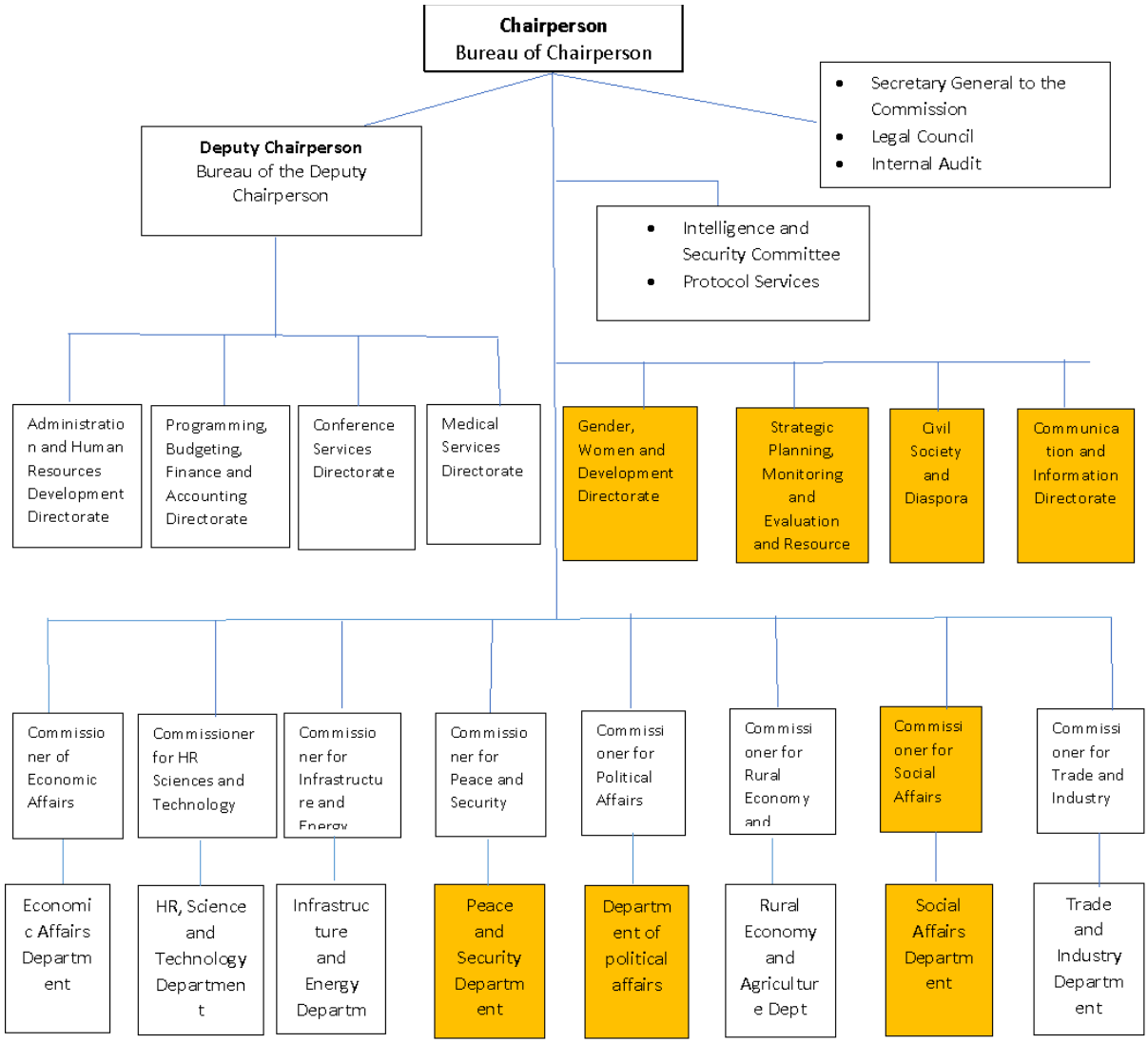
Key partners that have taken leadership in the design of the Africa Regional programme is the **African Union Commission (AUC) Social Affairs Department** which will be the focal department for the regional programme within the AUC. **Women, Gender and Development Directorate** has played a key role in the design of the regional programme and it will have a key role under Stream I of the regional programme. Directorates of Strategic Planning, Civil Society & Diaspora Organisation, Peace and Security, Political Affairs have also been engaged in the design of the regional programme. Other AU organs, such as the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa, among others will also be engaged. The AU and its member states are at the forefront of partnerships as the legitimate authorities that have the mandate and responsibility to dismantle structural discriminatory systems in line with international HR obligations. Partnership with AUC, RECs, key **regional women's groups and CSOs** are at the centre of the Africa Spotlight programme. All RUNOs, AUC, select CSOs and other agencies have participated in various consultations and the comprehensive inputs received were incorporated into the Africa programme document.

V. Spotlight Africa Engagement with AUC Departments

AUC DEPARTMENT DIRECTORATE	STREAM	Comment
Social Affairs Department	Stream I and Stream II	It will be the focal department for the Africa Regional Programme Stream II focuses on engagement with the Social Affairs department while Stream I also interacts and works closely with the department on addressing social norms and HP.
Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD)	Stream I and Stream II	Stream I focuses on engagement with the Gender Directorate. The Directorate has been key in the development of the Spotlight Regional Programme and will be key in the roll out and implementation of the Spotlight Regional Programme

		(Stream I and Stream II), the Spotlight Africa Coordination Unit (ACU) will operate in close collaboration with Gender Directorate.
Strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation and Resource Mobilisation Directorate	Stream I and Stream II on Pillar 5	The Strategic Planning, monitoring, evaluation and Resource Mobilisation Directorate in the AUC houses the Monitoring, Evaluation and Research department. The Monitoring, Evaluation and Research department have been integral in developing Pillar 5, hence in the spotlight programme this department will be key in the roll out and implementation of Pillar 5.
Civil Society & Diaspora Organisation	Stream I and Stream II on Pillar 6, Pillar 5 and Pillar 1	CSOs engagement is imperative in the Spotlight programme. There will be a Civil Society Regional reference group with the remit to guide and oversee the implementation of both streams. In addition, CSOs are key in ensuring that the intersection between EVAW, SGBV, HP and SRHR is fully understood through advocacy, accountability and community interventions.
Peace and Security Department	Stream I and Stream II	The Spotlight Regional Programme covers the whole of Africa, which includes conflict and post conflict countries. Therefore, the Peace and Security Department in the AUC will be part and parcel of the Spotlight programme.
Communication Division	Stream I and Stream II	Is involved starting from the launch of the Spotlight programme to ensuring visibility and communication of the whole Spotlight Programme.
Department of Political Affairs	Stream I and Stream II	The Political Affairs Department houses the Humanitarian Affairs, Refugees, Displaced person's division. The Spotlight programme will leave no one behind.

Structure of the AUC and its Relationship with Spotlight – Stream I and Stream II


Chairperson
Bureau of Chairperson
Secretary General to the Commission
Legal Council
Internal Audit
Deputy Chairperson
Bureau of the Deputy Chairperson
Intelligence and Security Committee
Protocol Services
Administration and Human Resources Development Directorate
Programming, Budgeting, Finance and Accounting Directorate
Conference Services Directorate
Medical Services Directorate
Gender, Women and Development Directorate
Strategic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and Resource
Civil Society and Diaspora
Communication and Information Directorate
Commissioner of Economic Affairs
Commissioner for HR Sciences and Technology
Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy
Commissioner for Peace and Security
Commissioner for Political Affairs
Commissioner for Rural Economy and
Commissioner for Social Affairs
Commissioner for Trade and Industry
Economic Affairs Department
HR, Science and Technology Department
Infrastructure and Energy Departm
Peace and Security Department
Department of political affairs
Rural Economy and Agriculture Dept
Social Affairs Department
Trade and Industry Department

Role of the AUC in the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme

The partnership between the AUC and the UN in delivering the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme covers both strategic and programmatic partnerships. This following sets out to define the specific role of the AUC under these two partnership modalities.

1) Strategic Partnership

The AUC is a member and co-chair of the Regional Steering Committee which oversees the entire Spotlight Africa Regional Programme. Through its representative, it will work with other Steering Committee members to manage regional stakeholder relationships, support mobilization of additional resources and provide strategic guidance and oversee overall progress of the programme. The AUC will have two representatives in this Steering Committee. The AUC will also be represented on the Regional Stream I Steering Committee which is a decision-making body that oversees work undertaken under Stream I. The Stream I Steering Committee approves Stream I Annual Workplans, reviews and approves narrative reports and can approve programmatic and budgetary revisions within limits set by the Spotlight Global Operational Steering Committee. Both Committees will meet face-to-face at least once a year and will meet virtually, as needed. The UN Technical Team will provide bi-annual updates. Stream II will use existing governance structures in place for the two Global Programmes on Ending FGM and Child Marriage. **The AUC will cooperate on the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme at strategic and programmatic levels through the Department of Social Affairs (DSA) as the lead department, and the Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD).**

2) Programmatic Partnership

The Programme Document currently includes funding for 3 posts to be based in the AUC – 2 within the Department for Social Affairs (DSA) and 1 in the Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD). It is envisaged that these posts will work closely with UN staff in the Africa Regional Programme Coordination Unit located in the UN Offices in Addis Ababa, to ensure joint coordination and planning between the AUC and the UN Technical Team of relevant activities.

Based on the current draft of the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme Document, the role of the AUC in programme activities can be summarized under the following 6 modalities of engagement:

a) Joint oversight of consultants engaged to work on programs related to the AUC

It is envisaged that staff seconded to the AUC will work with the UN technical team to develop ToRs, select consultants and oversee the deliverables and coordinate validation of the report/product.

Examples:

Stream 1: Activity 1.1.2 Regional Advocacy Initiatives to domesticate regional instruments, including the Maputo Protocol; 1.2.1 Support to implement the campaign to end violence against women, girls and children (EVAWG/C); 1.2.2 Develop and roll out Regional Action Plan to EVAWG/C; 1.3.3 Regional Dialogues between Member States and CSOs to realize women's rights; 5.1.1 Development of standardized data collection tools on VAWG/SGBV/HP; 5.2.3 Gender data review

Child Marriage: Activity 1.1.1 conduct a post-evaluation of the second phase of the AU Child Marriage Campaign; Activity 1.1.3 development of Accountability Framework

FGM: Activity 1.1.1 Development of a multi-sectoral roadmap towards elimination of FGM; Activity 1.1.2 Development of an accountability framework; (implementation of these activities will engage and involve different units, including the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child);

Activity 1.1.5 Support the African Committee of Experts on the Rights Welfare of the Child to develop and disseminate a guidance in support of member states initiative to put in place and effectively implement legislation addressing FGM (part of the budget under this activity)

Activity 1.1.11 Support the development and implementation of a communication campaign for the African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM (part of the budget under this activity)

b) Implementation of activities with funds transferred to the AUC (with technical assistance from the UN technical team as needed)

Examples:

Stream 1: Activity 1.1.4 Support to the ACHPR; Activity 5.2.1 Strengthen the regional data and research gender observatory

Child Marriage Activity 1.2.1: Support the work of the AUC to advocate for national action to end child marriage by facilitating the AU to organize country launches of the AU campaign; Activity 1.2.3 coordination

and implementation of the continental campaign;
FGM: Activity 1.1.3 Coordination of a peer review mechanism on national progress towards ending FGM Activity 1.1.11 Support the development and implementation of a communication campaign for the African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM (part of the budget under this activity)

c) Leadership of key meetings with direct funding of meeting and technical support from the UN technical team
Examples:
Stream 1: Activity 1.2.1. Support the AUC and regional CSOs to implement the Africa-wide initiative to advocate on EVAWG/C in Africa
Child Marriage: Activity 1.1.2, Activity 1.1.3, Activity 1.1.5 and Activity 1.1.6 and Activity 5.2.2 will support political advocacy of the AUC including support to High level panels on Child marriage during UNGA, CSW, AU Summit etc. and high-level meetings for engagement and coordination (south-to-south exchange)
FGM: Activity 1.1.4 - High-level conference as part of the implementation of the plan of action of the Africa Union initiative on FGM; and Activity 1.1.8 to organize high level advocacy initiatives/events on FGM

d) Continuation of existing work but with financial support for travel/participation from the Spotlight Regional Component
Examples:
Stream 1: Activity 6.1.2 Strengthening the African Women's Rights Observatory
Child Marriage: Activity 1.2.1 Travel for the AU Campaign Coordinator to advocate for national action on ECM; Activity 1.2.2. travel for the AU Goodwill Ambassador and Special Rapporteur; Activity 5.2.2 travel for AUC Commissioners/member states ministers to engage in South-to South exchange
FGM: Activity 1.1.6 Support the work of the African Union Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Children to support and monitor national level initiatives towards the elimination of FGM; Activity 1.1.5 Support the African Committee of Experts on the Rights Welfare of the Child to develop and disseminate a guidance in support of member states initiative to put in place and effectively implement legislation addressing FGM (part of the budget under this activity) and Activity 1.1.7 Establish and implement an innovation hub to promote exemplary and effective practices by countries in policy and legal enactment and implementation on FGM

e) Recipients of Capacity Building
Examples:
Stream 1: Activity 1.1.3 Training on drafting and reviewing laws and policies; 1.2.3 Capacity building on advocating to member states to implement national action plans and mobilise domestic resources
Child Marriage: A full-time Programme Specialist position (UN P4-level) seconded to the AUC to provide technical support on implementation of harmful practices (child marriage + FGM). Position will be supervised by AUC as well as UNICEF AULO. Activity 5.1.1 is a short-term technical assistance to develop and support the roll-out of the AUC Campaign M&E framework. Activity 1.1.4 technical assistance to develop AUC capacity in data visualization and database management including the development of a Power bi dashboard to enhance communication of results. Activity 1.2.3 technical assistance to support the AUC in developing the capacity of government focal persons to coordinate and monitor the campaign in country.
Activity 5.1.1 is capacity building of national statistical officers from countries targeted by regional programme (child marriage + FGM) and the African Centre of Statistics to strengthen their statistical and analytical capacity for harmful practices data. Activity 1.2.2 will support the role of the ACERWC in the regional programme.
FGM: There will be a full-time senior consultant seconded to the AUC to provide programmatic support for the implementation of various initiatives on FGM at regional level. The position will be supervised by the AUC as well as UNFPA. In addition, there will be a communication consultant within UNFPA who will also provide support to the AUC in handling communication related activities related to the initiative on FGM. Activity 5.2.2 focuses on capacity development for national key stakeholders (statistical authority and relevant sectors) on the generation and use of data, evidence and best practices for better programme implementation and reporting on FGM

f) M&E/Reporting Requirements for the AUC:
Joint Monitoring, Evaluation and Oversight: The AUC is co-chair and a member of the Regional Steering Committee which oversees the entire Spotlight Regional Programme. Through the officials represented in the Steering Committee the AUC will provide strategic guidance and oversee overall progress of the programme. The AUC will also be represented on the Regional Stream I Steering Committee, which is a decision-making body that oversees work undertaken under Stream I. The program supports the joint monitoring of the AUC related program activities by the staff deployed with the AUC DSA and WGDD directorates and the Africa Regional Programme Coordination Unit. The evaluation of the program will be conducted through independent consultants in accordance with the Spotlight project document and the designated AUC focal persons will be consulted during the evaluation of the program.
Reporting: AUC shall provide the periodic technical and financial reports in accordance with UN Accounting and Reporting procedures for the funds directly received by the AUC under the Spotlight program. This will be guided by the terms of the agreement that will be concluded between Recipient UN agencies and AUC for the transfer of funds. It is envisaged that staff seconded to the AUC will work with the AUC and the UN technical team to oversee the deliverables and contribute to the development of the consolidated periodic reports in accordance with the Spotlight program document.

VI. Knowledge Management

The Spotlight Regional Programme will develop a knowledge management strategy aligned with the Spotlight Initiative Global knowledge management strategy, that will focus on utilizing existing knowledge management systems, establish a knowledge hub within the African Union Commission, linked to the global online platform for sharing experiences and downloading digital content generated at the country, regional and global levels and integrate learning activities. A structured mechanism of knowledge generation and exchange on lessons learned, best practices, key laws and policies, and scalable models and practices will be identified through study visits, monitoring and evaluation activities, research documentaries, newspaper articles, and press releases. Special consideration will be accorded to South-South cooperation through learning forums on good and emerging best practices, and exchanges that promote sharing of regional knowledge, lessons learned and best practices, challenges faced and solutions, and perspectives on programme implementation. In coordination with the global communities of practices, the programme will establish a regional community of practice and learning platform to support governments to harmonize their legal frameworks and policies addressing SGBV/HP and SRHR, and to report on progress, thereby increasing accountability. The community of practice will also support governments to align and strengthen existing legislation, policies, and structures, including services, to avoid duplication. This approach ensures adherence to existing normative frameworks in countries, while maximizing resources, knowledge, and services, and guarantees national ownership and sustainability. The programme will also support documentation of promising practices (good practices if formally evaluated) through case studies, videos and other mediums.

VII. Communications and Visibility

A **Communications and Visibility plan** aligned with the global communication and visibility plan will be developed for the regional programme and implemented by the engaged Recipient UN organisations to ensure the visibility of the Spotlight Initiative and raise awareness about the issues the Regional Component strives to address, including highlighting key AU priorities/policy/normative frameworks.

Strong communications and visibility are central to the Initiative's success. The communication and visibility work will have the following objectives;

- Raise awareness of gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls and its prevalence in the region: By publicizing data and supportive facts, creative messaging to key audiences, exhibiting thought leadership on violence against women and girls.
- Illustrate and promote the impact and results of Spotlight-supported interventions:
- Ensure visibility for the Spotlight Initiative regional programme, its donors and partners: By coordinating consistent and coherent branding, high-profile endorsements from social influencers, top-tier media placements, organizing publicity events and campaign.

Communication and visibility approaches will include public information campaigns, use of mainstream media, social media, awareness raising and visibility. Spotlight stakeholders and beneficiaries will be engaged at country, regional and global levels. There will be prominent featuring of Spotlight branding displayed during consultations, advocacy and policy dialogues with the African Union Commission, African, Caribbean and Pacific Group, Civil Society, governments, member states, communities and beneficiaries. Branded narrative reports, photos, videos, stories and commentary will be made available so that Spotlight, through its UN, EU, AU and stakeholder networks can be disseminated broader and build awareness. Under the guidance of Spotlight Secretariat and UNFPA's Regional Communications Adviser, the Africa Programme will hire a Communications and Knowledge Management Officer at NOB level who will develop and roll out the Communications Visibility strategy. The Spotlight Secretariat and Technical focal agency (UNFPA) and its Regional Communications Advisers will share on a regular basis messaging, talking points, communication products, materials and guidance as part of the Global Communication and Visibility Strategy and plan.

The co-branding principles of the African Union Communication Style Guide and the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines will be adhered to when communicating the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme. Both guides complement each other and allow for mutually beneficial branding and visibility opportunities. The AU logo will only be used for the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme promotional material and other content created for communication purposes related specifically to this Programme. Any use of the AU logo for the Global Spotlight Initiative will require prior and express consent from the AUC through the Department of Social Affairs.

The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer of the Africa Coordination Unit will formalize a regional Spotlight Initiative communications group including the AUC, EU, UN agencies and other strategic partners. The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer will organize and host regular meetings for the group, coordinate the development of the annual Communications and Visibility Action Plan and other communications and visibility activities. He will work closely with the AUC Advocacy and Communications Specialist to ensure that both the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines as well as the African Union Communication Style Guide are followed and that the AU logo usage is aligned with AU interests and policies.

SPOTLIGHT AFRICA PROGRAMME: STREAM I PROJECT DOCUMENT

<table>
<tr>
<td>Programme Title: STREAM 1 Regional Response to Addressing SGBV, HP and SRHR in Africa</td>
<td>Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs):
UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Contact:
Name and Title Tikikel Tadele Alemu
Regional Liaison Specialist
UN Women Liaison to the AUC and UNECA
Kirkos Sub-City, Kebele 01, House NO 110
Next to Olympia Roundabout.
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
(Office): +251-115-170883
(Mob): +251-911421484/929-908145
E-mail: Tikikel.alemu@unwomen.org</td>
<td>Programme Partner(s):
- AUC
- Regional Intergovernmental Entities
- NGOs, CSOs
- Others (Media, Private Sector etc.)
- Academia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa Coordination Unit:
Name and Title: (Name to Be Confirmed)
Programme Coordinator- Spotlight Africa Regional Programme
Address: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Full Address/e-mail TBC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Region: Africa-Regional/Continental</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Description: The regional programme-stream I will support and enhance a regional approach to Ending Violence against Women (EVAW), Sexual and Gender Based Violence/Harmful Practices (HP) and promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR).
This regional programme is anchored within the Global and African Union Regional Frameworks including the Agenda 2030, Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, AU Gender Strategy 2017-2027, the Maputo Protocol and others. The regional level interventions serve as a bridge between the global and the country levels. The goal will be to add value, maximize investment and contribute to the scale, sustainability, visibility, lessons learnt and replication of such programme. The Stream I regional component will be supporting the overall regional response to addressing SGBV, HP and SRHR, focusing specially on the following pillars:
Pillar 1: Legislation & Policies
Pillar 5: Quality and Reliable Data</td>
<td>Total Cost of Stream I (including estimated Spotlight contribution, UN Agency contributions and Unfunded Budget): USD 16,169,598

Total Funded Cost of Stream I (Spotlight Phase I[7] and UN Agency contribution: USD 9,076,571

Breakdown of Total Funded Cost by RUNO in USD
<table>
<tr><th>Name of RUNOs</th><th>Spotlight Phase I (USD)</th><th>UN Agency Contributions[8] (USD)</th></tr>
<tr><td>UN Women</td><td>3,454,657</td><td>253,352</td></tr>
<tr><td>UNFPA</td><td>2,084,140</td><td>67,219</td></tr>
<tr><td>UNDP</td><td>2,134,479</td><td>196,000</td></tr>
<tr><td>UNICEF</td><td>866,725</td><td>20,000</td></tr>
<tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>8,540,001</td><td>536,571</td></tr>
</table>
</td>
</tr>
</table>

[7] Funding from the Spotlight Initiative will be allocated by the Operational Steering Committee in two distinct phases: Phase I will entail allocating 70% of the funding envelope (first 24 months), Phase II will only be allocated depending on the Regional Programme's overall needs and performance towards achieving results.

[8] These are mandatory and will have to be reported on.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Pillar 6: Supporting the women’s movement and relevant civil society organizations</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Estimated No. of Beneficiaries (TBC)

<table><tr><th>Indicative Numbers</th><th>Direct Beneficiaries</th><th colspan="2">Indirect beneficiaries</th></tr><tr><td>Women</td><td>189403</td><td>Women</td><td>3374194</td></tr><tr><td>Girls</td><td>57276</td><td>Girls</td><td>4718147</td></tr><tr><td>Men</td><td>126087</td><td>Men</td><td>3021221</td></tr><tr><td>Boys</td><td>77958</td><td>Boys</td><td>4316920</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>450724</td><td>Total</td><td>15430482</td></tr></table></td><td>Start Date: 1 January 2020

End Date: 31 December 2022

Total duration: 36 months

The duration of the Country Programme should be maximum of 3 years.</td></tr>
</table>

II. REGIONAL PROGRAMME - STREAM I

I. Situational Analysis

The **Africa Spotlight Initiative through Stream 1** will support and enhance a regional approach to Ending Violence against Women (EVAW), Sexual and Gender Based Violence/Harmful Practices (HP) and promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). The programme is anchored in the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063, the AU Gender Strategy to implement the AU Normative Framework and accelerate progress on SDG5 and other related SDG targets.

In spite of the progressive policy commitments and institutional frameworks on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE), implementation remains slow and inconsistent. To date, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) has not secured universal ratification whereby only 38 countries out of 55 members states have ratified. Furthermore, there is minimal reporting by AU member states under the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) requiring for strategic actions. In addition, there is a gap between the regional and international commitments and national level policies, operational development plans, and allocation of corresponding resources. Evidence of slow implementation can be seen among others in the absence of enabling legislation to give effect to the GEWE commitments, existence of laws which are inconsistent with international, regional and national commitments on gender equality. There still lacks a multi-sectoral approach to gender mainstreaming, confining the burden to under- resourced national machineries for gender/women.

As outlined in the lessons learned section of the AU Gender Strategy ("Enabling Principles and Success Factors"), the Regional Programme is also premised on the fact that the link between political commitments and operational implementation needs to be significantly strengthened to deliver results and accelerate the achievement of SDG 5 and other relevant SDGs for women and girls with the concept of "Leaving No-one Behind."[9] In this context, a number of important initiatives need to be substantively strengthened to deliver on the outcomes, influence national commitments and policies and bring transformative change.

African regional CSOs and women's networks play a leading role in advancing continental and regional advocacy with regards to regulations and laws and their implementation and ensuring that interventions on the ground are taken forward. At the same time, civil society engagement on EVAWG, and SGBV/HP is characterized by a set of challenges including: (i) the potential of women's rights networks has not yet been fully harnessed to support the AU in the implementation and monitoring of gender equality and women's empowerment programmes based on existing commitments (II) limited technical, human and financial resources and shrinking space for human rights defenders in certain contexts, (iii) limited platforms for networking, knowledge sharing and agenda building, and (iv) risks related to lack of political and public recognition, particularly around issues related to vulnerable groups. As a result, the deep disconnect between women's rights networks/organizations and policymakers continue to side-line significant actors in regional policy making and implementation. Women's networks are also thus unable to effectively amplify the voices of women and girls through engagement opportunities in AU and its Member States.

Pillar 1 – Laws and Policies

Significant improvements in the adoption of global and regional Human Rights instruments and policies has been realized including the Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa that has

[9] Refer to the AUC Gender Strategy "Enabling Principles and Success Factors"

been ratified by 38 countries out of 54 members states[10] and Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women by all with exception of two-member states. Despite the wide ratification of the Human Rights (HR) instruments, a number of regional bottlenecks continue to persist. It is important to create an enabling environment for both regional partners and member states to effectively respond and prevent the prevalence and scourge of Violence Against Women and Girls including SGBV/HP in Africa. The slow implementation and enforcement of the regional HR instruments on EVAW including the Maputo protocol, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) and CEDAW by AU member states continue to promote a hostile environment that perpetuates impunity on EVAWG. Only 4-member states have submitted their report to the Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights in Africa; the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights (AfCHPR) has not received any cases on women's rights[11]while cases have been submitted to the ACEWRC and the Banjul Commission. Capacity gaps of regional partners including the AU, RECs, Regional Parliament and CSO's to influence and hold member states accountable in the realization of their commitments on EVAWG/SGBV/HP, particularly in influencing Member States to accelerate the ratification, domestication, enforcement, and reporting on HR instruments is still weak. Relevant staffs of regional partners require skills and knowledge on the ratification and domestication processes, drafting, reviewing and implementation of laws and policies related to EVAWG/HP. This is also compounded with high staff turnover that pose as an additional challenge in retaining skilled and experienced cadres. Awareness of both the regional and global HR instruments also appears to be low amongst member states, the public and development partners who often work on key issues without reference to these already agreed upon regional and global frameworks on EVAWG/HP and SRHR, thereby missing an opportunity to leverage these instruments to further progress. Greater awareness of the HR instruments amongst the general public would, furthermore, create a much-needed link between their ratification, domestication and the lives of women and girls, thereby fusing accountability by Member States to their citizens.

The existence of weak accountability and coordination mechanisms at regional level pose a big challenge. The inability to effectively rollout and implement a regional monitoring framework including guideline on EVAWG, the lack of a Regional Action Plan on EVAW and weak coordination mechanism among regional partners to fast track and monitor members states commitment need to be strengthened. Poor commitment by regional and national partners to increase investment on EVAW by integrating SGBV/HP and SRHR into the planning and budget frameworks continued to humper the realization of member states' commitment to deliver on EVAW. There is also lack of political will by member states to finance and implement National Action Plan on EVAWG. This has been worsened due to lack of technical capacity by the relevant institutions, failure to prioritize Action Plans within policy and programmes and discriminatory social norms.

Lack of policy and legal frameworks to guarantee the effective operations of regional and national CSOs, Women's Human Rights Advocates and defenders to advance human rights agenda continue to hamper efforts to end violence against women and girls and SGBV/HP in the region. CSOs face a number of challenges including strict and unfair laws, hurdles to accessing financial resources and ensuring their sustainability; difficulties in accessing decision-makers and feeding into law and policymaking; and attacks on and harassment of human rights defenders, including negative discourse aimed at delegitimizing and stigmatizing CSOs. A striking development reflected in the 2016 CSO Sustainability Index for Sub-Saharan Africa is the number of countries reporting a deteriorating legal environment. 14 countries, including all countries of East Africa, report that the legal environment was worse than in previous years. In five Countries (Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda) the deterioration was significant. This development continues a trend noted in the previous year, when the legal environment declined in about one-third of countries covered. In 2016, the legal environment did not change in sixteen countries, and improved in one country only i.e. Nigeria, thanks to a new online platform for streamlined CSO registration.[12] The

[10] African Union, List of Countries which have signed, ratified, acceded to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, http://www.achpr.org/instruments/women-protocol/ratification/ (accessed on 6 April 2017).
[11] AU Strategy for GEWE 2017-2027.
[12] The 2016 CSO Sustainability Index for Sub-Saharan Africa. USAID

impact of the operation of plural legal systems in Africa (civil law, common law, *Sharia*, and customary law) continue to compromise the full implementation of gender equality laws and therefore inimical to the rights of women and girls including worsening harmful practices like child marriage.

With these daunting challenges, there is need for continued and renewed effort by Spotlight Initiative (SI) to engage the AUC and other regional partners including the RECs, Regional Parliamentarians and mostly importantly regional CSOs through their enhanced capacity, advocacy, evidence-based research and mapping on legal and policy framework related to EVAW and in line with international human rights standards to effectively influence Member States to deliver on their commitments to EVAW including SGBV and HP.

Pillar 5 - Data

In many African countries, population data systems that need to count, diagnose, analyse, monitor and project population profiles are weak or focused more on generating data than on utilizing it. The use of population and housing censuses, Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), VAWG/ VAC studies, Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) and other data sources that provide continuous demographic intelligence for decision-making is weak in Africa. The developing countries that conduct census use it to generate population projections, a basic requirement for planning public investments and social services. In most cases the assumptions on which population projections are based do change within the life of inter-censuses making them not accurate. Few developing countries, not more than 5 percent, are able to generate vital statistics from their civil registration systems or administrative records.

The collection, management, analysis and utilization of reliable sex- and age-disaggregated data are some of the key components of a social welfare monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system which can promote periodic and systematic performance reviews, as well as quality assurance of programmes. Research and evidence building on the determinants of VAWG/SGBV/HPs and SRHR, and on the effectiveness and efficiency of programme interventions are key to developing context-driven, evidence-based interventions that impact the lives of women and girls and their communities. However, experience shows that across countries, the use of routine administrative data on activities related to VAW/GBV/HP– the data that shows what a programme or system does on a regular basis as opposed to clinical data about an individual case – is limited. In particular, monitoring data is rarely used to influence increased public investment for issues pertaining to VAW/GBV/HP. The perceived lack of data has led to an over-reliance on periodic, large-scale, often extremely expensive surveys and assessments to get a sense of the prevalence of violence, abuse and exploitation, and traditional harmful practices. At the same time, statutory administrative systems for data collection remain under-resourced, under-utilized and with no uniform data collection tools and standardized methodologies that are used across the countries. Evidence building and generation on the effectiveness of public investments and programme interventions remains patched and insufficient to inform programme design. These are some of the aspects that need to be addressed to make the efforts to eliminate the VAW including SGBV and HP.

Weak monitoring and reporting on regional commitments and frameworks to address VAW, SGBV and HP have not kept countries accountable. The region abounds with frameworks to implement global commitments to promote women's human rights, but there is limited reporting on the progress of these commitments, and the institutions responsible for monitoring and reporting often lack the capacity to do so. Lack of sex- and age-disaggregated data across the life cycle should also be noted as a critical data gap, particularly for boys and girls aged 10-14 years, which represents an important age group in the context of the Continent's youth population and of their role as change agents on VAWG and HPs. This has slowed progress on commitments to protect women and girls from violence. Substantial accelerated and coordinated action is needed to reduce VAWG and to eliminate practices such as FGM and child, early, and forced marriage (CEFM) by 2030.

Despite the importance of data and statistics to inform policies and monitoring and accountability systems, not more than 5% of African countries, are able to generate and use vital statistics from their civil registration systems or routine administrative records related to VAW/SGBV/HP/SRHR for

programme planning, periodic and systematic performance reviews, quality assurance and accessibility on public investment. The Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) recommended the establishing of National Observatories on the advancement of women in each country. It is within this context that **an African Women's Rights Observatory (AWRO)** on gender equality, women's rights and empowerment of women was envisaged, to compile national data and provide a continental and regional perspective on the status of women. It was set up in 2008 through a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the African Union Commission and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) with the overall objective to establish an Observatory to track progress and consolidate data on African women's rights, thereby functioning as a tool for advocacy. The AUC expressed that the African Women's Rights Observatory does not cover SRHR, harmful practices, and young women. It only focuses on participation of women in decision-making, violence against women and women land rights. Spotlight programme would like to expand its focus to these elements but to also make it easily accessible across Africa. It is therefore recommended that the Spotlight regional programme in collaboration with UNECA should review, revamp and operationalise the observatory to be utilised by government and CSO's at the continental level.

In addition, another mechanism that will be supported include the **African Union Gender scorecard**. This method only conveys how well women are doing in comparison to men, irrespective of their levels of achievement. For example, in a country where the attendance ratio in primary education for women and men is only 29 per cent and 30 per cent respectively, the scoring method will result in a full score of 10. Thus, this country will be said to have achieved full parity in primary education. Another country with much higher levels of attendance, i.e. 80 per cent for girls and 90 per cent for boys, resulting in a parity level of 9, may be seen to be performing less well compared to the first country. Therefore, caution needs
to be made in drawing conclusions based only on the scores, particularly when there are large variations in levels of developmental achievements between countries. Consequently, the method adopted does not deal with missing data, a certain number of sector scores could not be calculated. It therefore does not have indicators in terms of VAWG/SGBV/HP/SRHR. The tool limits the possibility of cross-country comparisons at the sector level. However, the purpose of the scorecard is not to rank countries but rather to introduce a monitoring and accountability mechanism that gives an overarching view of progress in the implementation of gender equality and women's empowerment commitments in each country. It emphasizes data availability as a prerequisite for evidence-based decision-making towards achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment on the continent. Calculating scores by omitting missing values is equivalent to replacing them with the average of the indicator scores available for a given sector, which could introduce a significant bias. Finally, it should be remembered that for each country, data for each indicator may come from different years; therefore, the sector score cannot be completely associated with one point in time. Moreover, because the year in which data were collected for each indicator may vary from country to country, cross-country comparisons should be treated with caution. However, since the 2016 scorecard is based mainly on data for the years 2010-2015, the variations are limited. Furthermore, the use of national data rather than the estimates of international data limits the number of countries in some sectors. Hence the need to review the indicators, the data collection method and to harmonise the tools is important.

Pillar 6 – Women's Movements and Civil Society

Regional women's organizations continue to play an important and strategic role in achieving regional milestone in the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment, addressing SGBV and elimination of harmful practices in Africa and have been identified by the African Union as key stakeholders in the implementation of the AU gender strategy. Through advocacy, monitoring and policy engagement women's groups and CSOs have successfully influenced the ratification, domestication and implementation of national, regional and continental instruments including the Maputo protocol.

The African Union Agenda 2063 and its 10-year action plan covering 2014-2023 highlights the development priorities with focus on gender equality and women's empowerment established linkages on working with civil society organizations including building the capacities of CSOs at local,

national and continental levels.[13]

While progress has been made by civil society in the adoption of continental, regional and sub-regional women's rights laws and policy frameworks to advance women's rights in Africa, implementation of the agreements and policies have been slow and uneven. **Regional CSOs and networks face several challenges in effectively monitoring progress and advocating for women's rights and an end to violence against women and girls in key African Union policy making processes**. The potential of women's rights networks has not yet been fully harnessed to support the AU in the implementation and monitoring of gender equality and women's empowerment programmes based on existing commitments. There is need for sustained **advocacy beyond the AU summit and meetings in order to enhance collective action and direct engagement with the AU and Member States**. In addition, there is shrinking CSO space at the various AU summits. Moreover, limited information flow between the AU and women's CSOs and networks hampers opportunities for women's rights advocates to **shape AU policy** agendas**, decisions and programmes**. In addition, certain groups and issues (youth, disability, minorities, migrants, rural women and girls etc.) remain vulnerable and need to be supported in policy dialogue initiatives and harnessing new and innovative forms of engagement with the African Union. CSOs and women's rights networks **require institutional and technical assistance to strengthen their presence and support to the AU to bridge the gap between policy commitments to** gender equality and women's empowerment and the actual implementation and delivery of these commitments to women and girls.

Key interventions under this outcome also takes into consideration the Africa -EU Intercontinental CSO Forum meeting outcomes and will also establish linkages with the Citizen and Diaspora Organizations,
the Secretariat of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) the civil society policy organ
of the African Union.[14] The Africa-EU Intercontinental CSO Forum gathers together representatives of African and European civil society organizations (CSOs) to share views with European and African leaders on critical issues pertaining to both continents. The forum takes ahead of the AU-EU Summits of Heads of State and Government. It is facilitated by two steering committees from Africa and the EU and is supported by the African Union Commission and the European Commission. The latest edition of the forum took place on 11-13 July 2017 in Tunis, Tunisia, before the 5th AU-EU Summit in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on 28 and 29 November 2017.[15]

Based on the recommendation from CSOs, and in order to ensure timely engagement in the design of the regional programme, an Africa regional interim civil society reference group which will advise both Stream 1 and Stream 2 and that brings together CSOs working on EVAW/SGBV/HP including on Child Marriage, FGM, HIV/AIDS, Women with Disabilities has been constituted. The interim group has provided critical inputs to the design of the Africa Regional Programme, and outcome 6 related interventions. The Africa Spotlight Programme and the Civil Society Regional Reference Group will have linkages with and will benefit from the Civil Society reference groups established in the Spotlight countries, and this will be made possible in coordination the Spotlight Secretariat. Linkages will also be established with the "State of the African Woman Campaign" (SOAW) (IPPF Africa -led consortium) and the other AU led campaigns on EVAW, ECM and African Union Initiative on FGM. The platform will also be used to promote cross-regional collaboration and national to global sharing of knowledge including South to South Cooperation and will build unity of purpose among the networks and enhance cohesiveness within the movement on collective advocacy on EVAW/HP.A formal group that will serve over the course of the programme will be constituted in a transparent process.

It is important to note that as noted above in the Programme document common section, the Africa's RP support to Pillar 6 will focus on regional, continent-wide women's movement building of regional

[13] See, http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/pdf/au/agenda2063-first10yearimplementation.pdf
[14] For information and mandate of the ECOSOCC, access https://au.int/en/ecosocc-division
[15] https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/our-events/africa-eu-civil-society-forum

women's rights organization, pan-African networks and CSOs, to collectively advocate and work towards the ending sexual, gender-based violence and harmful practices, and enlarging space in key regional processes with the African Union, and there by a key distinction with what is envisioned through the UN Trust Fund sub-regional grants for civils societies.

II. Programme Strategy

The Stream I programme adopts the human rights-based approach with a focus on "Leaving No-one Behind" specific to ***promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls through support to the African Union Commission***. It takes a twin track approach to support and enhance existing capacities, mechanisms and initiatives to eliminate VAWG, SGBV/HP and promote SRHR. On one hand, it will support the African Union Commission to scale effective strategies, build institutional capacities and strengthen synergies across initiatives. African Union Commission's strategic engagement with RECs will be supported in the context of the AU reform to address sub-regional level needs and realities. On the other, the Programme will invest in ***regional women's rights organizations and civil society actors to fulfil their mandate***. Accordingly, Stream I will focus on continued support to the implementation and delivery of AU Gender Strategy commitments on EVAW and HP with a focus on "Outcomes 2.1.,2.2 and 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 4.2, of the AU Gender Strategy" ensuring streamlining and alignment with the Stream II programme linked to AU campaigns related to Ending Child Marriage (ECM) and AU Initiative on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM/C) (AU Gender Strategy Outcome 2.1).

Both Outcomes under Stream I and II have **strong areas of complementarity and synergy** with no areas of overlap. The two streams will deploy a **common approach** including advocacy, capacity building, consultation and policy engagement with regional and sub regional partners to achieve delivery of priority interventions. The Regional Spotlight Programme prioritises strengthening existing strategies and initiatives, such as the AU Gender Strategy, the Gender Observatory and the AU campaigns to end Child Marriage and AU Initiative on the Elimination of FGM. This will ensure increased effectiveness of the programme as the focus will be on accelerating implementation. The programme has a commitment to evidence-based practice, and the data arising from the work under Pillar 5, Stream 1 and the 'what works' research under Stream 2 will ensure the most effective approaches to ending VAWG. The programme also adopts a strategy of harnessing the respective strengths of multi-sectoral, multi-level partnerships which will support the acceleration of transformative change. With government, the programme will work with the AU, with RECs (via the AU) and with individual member states at national level (under Stream II). With non-government partners, the programme will engage with CSOs, women's groups, youth-led organisations, media and private sector. The RUNOs, through the Programme Management Unit, with also work closely with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). UNECA's African Centre for Gender will be approached as a potential partner to support capacity building and data management and analysis as appropriate.

Outcome 1 – Laws and Policies

(i) Theory of Change:

The Theory of Change related to Outcome 1 is that,
if [1] the AU jointly with other Regional Partners have strengthened capacity to generate evidence-based knowledge, to assess, develop, engage and influence MS to formulate, implement and enforce policies, legislation and Action Plans on EVAW including SGBV/HP and SRHR;
and if [2] the implementation of legislation, policies and Action Plans is monitored;
then [3] an enabling legislative and policy environment on EVAWG including SGBV/HP and SRHR and other forms of discrimination will be in place, guaranteeing the rights of women and girls;
because [4] an effective legislation and policy framework related to SGBV/HPs and SRHR addresses impunity and provides coordinated actions of prevention, services, data collection and a conducive operating environment for CSOs.

(ii) Outcome Statement:

Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international HR standards, on all forms of VAWG, including SGBV and Harmful Practices are in place and translated into plans of action with effective accountability mechanisms.

(iii) Expected Content of the Support

a. **The scope and scale of support**

Scope: With much evidence of regional bottlenecks highlighted under this outcome, strategic interventions at regional level that mutually reinforces each other to achieve sustainable transformative results are required. In keeping with the Theory of Change, and in alignment with the AU Gender Strategy, the objective of this Outcome will be to strengthen the capacity of the African Union Commission and other relevant regional partners including the Regional Human Rights Institutions, Parliamentarians and CSOs, including via strategic partnerships with the RECs to be able to influence member states. **Mainstreaming CSOs work across all pillars is a key principle of the Spotlight Initiative**. The results and key pillars have been designed to ensure civil society organizations play significant role in policy and legislations making (under Pillar 1), informing data generation (under Pillar 5) and dedicated Pillar 6(to strengthen the women's movement), and thereby, duplication is avoided. Thus, the focus of the work with CSOs, in particular regional civil society organizations, under this pillar (Pillar 1) entails building their capacity to advocate, promote national action plans and increase financing on EVAWG, and advocating for an enabling legal and policy environment that guarantee the rights of women's rights groups, and to advocate for the ratification, domestication and enforcement of regional instruments, such the Maputo Protocol on the rights of women in Africa, **by engaging key inter-governmental and African Union policy making processes**.

To achieve this, the Spotlight programme Outcome 1 will support the AUC and other regional partners;

- To undertake **regional evidence-based mapping and assessment on the status of implementation of laws and policies**, Action Plans, investment and capacity to deliver on EVAWG including SGBV/HP and promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights to inform targeted actions and strengthen existing baseline; The intervention is cognizant of regional based mapping that have been undertaken particularly on Maputo protocol on the rights of women in Africa and also areas that have not been undertaken. The intervention will also take into consideration adapting existing assessment tools and expertise in undertaking the regional studies
- To be able to assess gaps, draft and review legislation and policies and accelerate **the ratification, domestication and enforcement of laws and policies by Member States** in line with the international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations on EVAWG and SRHR; For instance, the Africa RP under this pillar will advocate with 16 member states that have not ratified the Maputo protocol on the rights of women in Africa including the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC).
- To develop and rollout **regional (continent wide) action plan on SGBV** in order to provide strategic direction for Regional Partners and Members States to translate their commitments into action on EVAWG. This is in line with AU gender strategy.
- To advocate and influence member states to develop **and implement national evidence-based action plans and increased financing** and putting in place dedicated national budget lines and ensure sustained financing and allocated budgets to support EVAWG and SRHR activities;
- To draft/review/enforce of laws and/or policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSOs and women human rights defenders to advance the human rights agenda and accountability on SGBV/HP;
- To support and influence members states to draft and submit **situational report on the rights of women and girls in Africa**
- **Meaningfully engage regional CSO's, Women Rights Movement** to advance the human

rights agenda through; advocacy campaign including supporting the **AU-Africa Wide Campaign to end VAWG/C**; ratification, domestication and enforcement of regional and global HR instruments; submission of situational report on Women's rights in Africa, and on the development and implementation of Actions Plan and increase financing on EVAWG by member states.

- Support the AU in establishing **Systems/Protocols support and protect the rights of women's rights defenders and VAW related extra-judicial executions and prosecutions**.

List of Activities

OUTCOME 1	
Output 1.1 – National and regional partners have strengthened evidence-based knowledge and capacity to assess gaps, draft new and/or strengthen existing legislation and policies and enforce implementation of existing legislation on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage, that are in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations In order to address the multiple obstacles faced with regards to ratification, domestication and enforcement of regional laws and policies, Spotlight will support regional partners to undertake regional evidence based mapping and assessment on the status of laws and policies, investment and capacity to deliver on EVAW; which will inform the capacity building initiative, advocacy and best practice initiatives to support AUC and other regional partners to engage and influence Member States to ratify, domesticate, enforce and report on regional HR instruments on EVAWG and to draft, enact and enforce national legislation and action plans on EVAWG and SRHR in accordance with international HR. Detailed list of initiatives include the following;	
Activity 1.1.1 Conduct a regional evidenced based mapping and assessment on the status of implementation/enforcement of laws and policies, Action Plans, financing and capacity to deliver on EVAWG by Regional Partners and Members States to inform and update current baseline.	This activity will serve as a baseline that will inform targeted plan of action by the AUC to achieve outcome 1. Component under this activity will include undertaking evidenced based mapping and assessment on the ; a) Status of domestication and enforcement of global and regional HR instruments including CEDAW and Maputo Protocol; b) Progress on development and implementation of NAPs and investments on EVAWG ; c) Capacitating Regional Partners (AUC, RECs, Parliament, CSO's) and Member States to deliver including capacity to draft, review, implement and report on laws and policies on EVAW. Existing assessment will be used to build on this work as noted above.
Activity 1.1.2 Support advocacy initiatives by regional partners including AUC and CSOs to advocate for the ratification, domestication and enforcement of regional instruments, including the Maputo Protocol on the rights of women in Africa. including the ACRWC by AU Member States	Support will include: 1) Developing IEC materials and advocacy initiatives on HR instruments and other EVAWG frameworks; undertaking outreach programme by use of mass media to inform the public about the importance of ratifying HR instruments; and 2) undertaking capacity building of a Network of Regional CSOs working on regional and legal frameworks to serve as advocates on the ratification and domestication of regional and global HR instruments related to EVAW. This will help raise awareness on how the HR instruments can address issues related EVAWG and the benefits associated with their implementation
Activity 1.1.3. Capacitate regional partners including the AUC, RECs and Pan African Parliament, Network of African Parliamentarians on drafting and reviewing laws and policies to influence Members to accelerate the ratification and domestication of regional and global HR instruments related to EVAWG and SRHR.	The capacity building initiative under this programme, aims to strengthen the capacity of regional partners to better understand the processes of ratification and domestication, to draft and review laws and policies in order to influence member states. This initiative will target staff from relevant AUC department; Five RECs (ECOWAS, ECCAS, EAC, SADC and IGAD) have been proposed and regional parliament (PAP) and HR advocates. The training programme

	will be made available on priority-based criteria, as mentioned previously. Support under this will include: 1) undertaking capacity building initiative including (a) designing training material and (b) conduct training for relevant staff of AUC and other regional partners including the Pan African Parliament, HR Advocates to draft, review, implement and monitor HR regional instruments on EVAWG; and 2) Work with relevant AUC departments, RECs and legal and HR institutions to influence ratification, domestication, and enforcement of HR regional instruments on EVAWG and sexual and reproductive health and rights.
Activity 1.1.4 Support regional human rights institutions including the ACHPR, the ACERWC, the Special Rapporteur on Child Marriage and other Harmful Practices and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women, to capacitate, guide, advocate and influence Member States on drafting and submission of situational report on the rights of women and girls in Africa.	In partnership with the OHCHR support the ACHPR, the ACERWC and the Special Rapporteur to (i) disseminate the guidelines for State reporting to address adequately issues related to the rights of women's and girls in their periodic and/or initial reports submitted to the African Commission; (ii) support ACHPR and Special Rapporteur to undertake fact finding missions in selected MS to investigate on special cases on women's rights and share best practice on the status of reporting and implementation of HR instruments.
Activity 1.1.5 Establish/strengthen existing Regional South-South knowledge exchanges Platforms/Forums among regional human rights mechanisms on good practices related to ratification, domestication and reporting on regional and global HR instruments related to EVAWG and SRHR.	Given the wealth of knowledge in the region on human rights instruments, support will be provided to establish and strengthen a platform to exchange knowledge on good practices, and lessons learned within the region on the importance and benefits of ratification, domestication, and implementation of global and regional HR conventions and instruments related to EVAWG and HP including sexual and reproductive health and rights
Output 1.2: National, sub-national and regional partners have increased capacity to advocate for, influence and develop regional, national and sub-national evidence-based action plans on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage in line with international HR standards and achieved increased financing with M&E frameworks, and responding to the needs and priorities of vulnerable groups Informed by a regional evidenced based mapping and assessment on the level of implementation of Action Plans and Investment on EVAWG in the region, the SI will support the following initiatives	
Activity 1.2.1 Support the AU and regional CSOs to implement the Africa-wide initiative to advocate on EVAWG/C in Africa.[16]	The African Wide Campaign on EVAWG is an AU led Initiative with the support of partners including key SI RUNOS (UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF and UNDP), CSO's, NGOs and other Development partners. Led by the AUC-Women, Gender and Development Directorate, the campaign seeks to promote a continental wide comprehensive and coordinated

[16] This activity is coordinated by UNICEF in collaboration with UNFPA, UN Women and UNDP. *Building of the close partnership with the African Union Commission, particularly its Department of Social Affairs, and the success of the implementation of the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage, UNICEF will support the African Union Commission in engaging and undertaking collaboration with CSOs including Women Rights Movement, faith based, and traditional leaders' institutions, leading the campaign as well as to develop advocacy initiatives including outreach campaign programme, IEC and advocacy material and use of mass media. This activity will be done in collaboration with the AUC (Department of Social Affairs, the Women, Gender and Development Directorate and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC)), as well as with other UN agencies (UNFPA, Un Women, UNDP) and CSO (African Child Policy Forum and relevant women's group organizations).*

	response to VAWG and build on past experiences and ensure inclusiveness in terms of targets and partnerships to break the cycle of VAWG in Africa and anchored within the continental and global development frameworks including; Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals. Support will include undertaking and engaging AUC in collaboration with CSOs including Women Rights Movement, faith based, and traditional leaders' institutions lead the campaign; develop advocacy initiatives including outreach campaign programme, IEC and advocacy material, use of mass media.
Activity 1.2.2. Support the AUC to develop and rollout an evidence based Regional Action Plan with an M&E Framework to provide strategic direction for Regional Partners and Members States to translate their commitments into action to EVAWG including SGBV/HP and SRHR	The Regional Action Plan will act as overarching framework to guide regional partners and member states to translate global and regional commitments into strategies and actions to be undertaken at regional and national levels in accordance with national and regional contexts and circumstances. The Regional Action Plan will strengthen all national efforts by stakeholders including on the development, implementation and investment on all initiatives dedicated towards EVAW. The need for Regional Action Plan was pre-empted by the failure of a number of member states to prioritize the development and implementation of national Action Plans as well as poor commitment by regional and national partners to increase investment on EVAW by integrating SGBV/HP and SRHR into the planning and budget frameworks; and the need to fast track, monitor and report on members states commitment and achievement on EVAW. With only 26 countries out of 55 AU members states with NAP on EVAW, there is need to have a regional framework to boost members efforts to EVAW. **This activity will build on the region wide mapping that will be undertaken under activity 1.1.1, which will provide substantial baseline information on the level of investment, development and implementation of NAP on EVAW**.
Activity 1.2.3. Strengthen the capacity of regional partners (AUC, ACERWC, Regional CSO's, Network of African Parliamentarians) in partnership with the RECs to advocate and influence MS on the development and implementation of Action Plans and on increased financing through domestic resource mobilization and budget commitment for the elimination of VAWG including SRHR	Proposed interventions under this activity will include; i) capacity building of AUC, ACERWC, regional CSO's and Network of African Parliamentarians on financing and costing of Action Plans including on domestic resource mobilization and budgeting tracking through the use of gender responsive public financial management tools including GEPMI, and ii) a tailored training on lobbying, advocacy and negotiation skills for them, popularise and monitor regional partners including the RECs and member States to translate their commitment through increased investment on EVAWG.
Output 1.3: Regional partners have greater knowledge and awareness of human rights obligations and are able to advocate for and influence drafting/review/enforcement of laws and/or policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSOs and women human rights defenders to advance the human rights agenda and accountability on SGBV and HP In order to address the multiple bottlenecks faced by regional CSOs, Women Rights Groups and Women Human Rights Defenders to advance their human rights agenda, the SI will support various the following initiatives;	
Activity 1.3.1 Provide capacity building to relevant AUC staff and regional parliamentarians to draft, review and influence MS to develop, enforce and report on laws and policies to guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSO's and HR defenders.	To achieve this, 1) a capacity needs assessment of regional partners will be undertaken to ascertain the knowledge, skills, strengths, gaps and opportunities in areas of drafting, reviewing and knowledge on laws and policies that guarantees the rights of CSOs and Women Rights defenders to advance their human rights agenda; 2) develop, adapt and undertake a customised training and advocacy programme

	for regional partners on guaranteeing the rights of CSOs to advance HR agenda.
Activity 1.3.2. Support the AU in establishing Systems/Protocols to support and protect the rights of women's rights defenders and to prevent VAW related extra-judicial executions and prosecutions.	Support under this intervention will include; identifying best practices around the region and to adopt, establishing system/protocols at the AU to support and protect WHRDs, and support the rollout and adoption by member states. Intervention is intended to serve as a model for Member States to put in place similar protection mechanisms, while bringing much-needed visibility to the work of WHRDs and increases the priority of this issue/vulnerable group in the eyes of decision makes/heads of state. This activity will be implemented by civil society actors
Activity 1.3.3 Support a regional dialogue between the AU and Regional CSO's Actors and Member States to promote and advocate for an enabling legal and policy environment for CSOs to operate and advocate for women's rights.	This is an annual single meeting convened on the side-lines of the African Union Summit. The objective of this intervention is to foster a space for participation by CSOs at the continent level as independent actors and to call upon regional partners, Heads of States and Government to put in place legal and policy frameworks that guarantee their operations and increase transparent and inclusive participation and engagement of CSOs at all levels of decision-making and implementation of human rights agenda in Africa. Recommendations or outcome of the regional dialogue will be used to inform regional and national policy decision.
Activity 1.3.4 In partnership with regional human rights institutions (ACHPR) including the Special Rapporteur, ACERWC, strengthen regional CSOs/Women Rights Movements on drafting and submission of periodic reports on the situation of the rights of women and girls in Africa	As independent actors, CSOs play a critical role in influencing member states to submit situational report on the status of women's rights in the continent. Besides government report, civil societies do submit shadow reports on human rights situation to African Union and to the CEDAW Committee. Through the AU human rights institutions, Spotlight will; (i) conduct specialized tailored training on drafting and submission process of situational report, and (ii) on leadership, lobbying, advocacy and negotiation skills related to advancement of human rights agenda. The objective is to inform and strengthen effective advocacy efforts and strategies of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

Scale: Given the regional nature of stream one, the scale **will be regional with national linkage especially reinforcing Spotlight Country interventions and other AU member states, for a continent-wide impact.** With a focus on strengthening the AU to fulfil its mandate with the support of sub-regional bodies and CSOs and women movements, member states will be influenced to improve on the policy and legal environment especially on their commitments to end VAWG/HP. The work in the AU will influence member states through undertaking regional evidence based best practice, advocacy and various capacity building initiatives and regional and sub-regional forums.

Proposed priority interventions of the SI Regional Programme under Outcome One of Stream I and II also strengthens existing regional strategies including the **AU-Agenda 2063 goal 17 and the key Outcomes of the AU Gender Strategy 2017-2027** including; Outcome 2.2. On reducing, criminalizing and condemning all forms of violence against women and girls by society and promoting women participation in all peace processes; Outcome 3.1 and Outcome 3.2 on influencing Members States Laws and policies and the judiciary system to (i) guarantee the protection and fulfilment of women's and girls' ownership and inheritance rights, civil liberties and physical integrity; (ii) protect and enable women's full access and enjoyment of the opportunities and benefits as provided for by

the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women (Maputo Protocol); Outcome 3.3. Institutions and organs of the African Union, Member States, Regional Economic Communities and civil society have the requisite capacity to implement existing commitments; pro-actively forecast and address new challenges and demonstrate accountability. It will also adopt and **integrate the SDGs 1, 3, 5, 10 and 16 with the overarching principle of *Leave No-One Behind*** with specific focus on women and girls.

Synergy Between Outcome 1 Under Stream I and II

Both Outcomes under Stream I and II have strong areas of complementarity and synergy with no areas of overlap. Both Outcomes will deploy a common approach including advocacy, capacity building, consultation and policy engagement with Regional and Sub regional partners to achieve delivery of priority interventions. In all work related to advocacy, both streams will undertake joint programming in capacity building of the AUC and other regional partners including CSOs/women movements and selected RECs; engaging regional CSO's and women movements to undertake advocacy initiatives at both regional and national platforms, jointly develop advocacy material including IEC material and regional advocacy forum to influence Member States to accelerate ratification, domestication, enforcement and reporting on legal and policy frameworks related to SGBV/HP. This will include jointly supporting initiatives like; (i) the AU Africa Wide Campaign to end SGBV/HP and the ongoing AU Initiatives to end Child Marriage and the elimination of FGM; (ii) rolling out AU- Regional Action Plan on SGBV; and (iii) regional evidence-based mapping and assessment on the status of development, and implementation of laws/polices and investment on SGBV/HP and (iv) On strengthening south-south knowledge exchange platform on legal and policy frameworks related to SGBV/HP.

Both Streams also plan to jointly undertake capacity building initiative for regional partners including the AUC, Regional Parliamentarians, CSO's/Women Movement in relation to drafting, review, enforcement and reporting, and on ratification and domestication process on laws and policies, regional and national action plans and financing on EVAW including SGBV/HP. Joint programming will be undertaken in areas including; (i) undertaking capacity needs of regional partners, (ii) designing and adapting training materials with integrated components on SGBV and HP, (iii) undertaking tailored capacity building training for regional partners and post training follow-up and evaluation. **Both streams where necessary will also undertake joint preparation of workplans, joint monitoring and reporting, joint regional consultations and policy engagement with regional partners including AUC, RECs, CSO's and Parliamentarians, and this will be supported by the Africa Coordination Unit.**

Proposed intervention with strong synergy and complementarity under both streams includes;

1. On Strengthening the AU accountability and monitoring frameworks on MS commitment to deliver on SGBV/HP and the following activities will contribute from both streams Stream I Activity (1.1.4, 1.2.2.) and Stream II (1.2.3CM, 1.2.4CM, 1.1.2. FGM);
2. On regional evidence-based mapping, assessment on best practice to inform policy decision and engagement: Stream I (1.1.1, 1.3.1) Stream II (CM 1.1.5);
3. On capacity building of regional partners: Stream 1 (Activity 1.1.2, 1.2.2, 1.2.3) Stream II (Activity 1.1.2, 1.1.3, FGM, 1.1.2., 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.2.1 CM);
4. On Regional and National action plans, Increase financing and investment for SGBV/HP: Stream 1 (Activity 1.2.1, 1.2.2) Stream II (Activity 1.2.1,1.2.5CM);
5. Strengthening regional knowledge platforms on legal and policy frameworks: Stream 1 (Activity 1.1.6) Stream II (Activity 1.1.7 FGM).

b. Target groups and geographical scope

Interventions will target the African Union institutions, CSOs and academia and will focus on continental levels, via strengthened AU partnerships with RECs, with the goal of strengthening effective and sustainable mechanisms to influence national policies and legislation. Under outcome

1, the **African Commission on Human and People's Rights including the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa and the OHCHR** will be strong partners of choice under this programme.

Estimation of Beneficiaries-OUTCOME 1

Indicative Numbers	Direct Beneficiaries	Indirect beneficiaries	
Women	74,572	**Women**	2,101,886
Girls	6,211.4	**Girls**	3,152,830
Men	49,714	**Men**	2,019,459
Boys	4,350	**Boys**	3,029,189
Total	**134,847.40**	**Total**	**10,303,364**
Justification/Notes: A. Total Africa population - 1,287,920,593 B. Population age 15-49 years - 621,429,216 C. Total project direct beneficiaries – 5% of B - 31,071,460.80 D. Total male project direct beneficiaries – 40% of C - 12,428,584.32 E. Total female project direct beneficiaries – 60% of C - 18,642,876.5 F. Direct girls' beneficiaries – 60% of E - 11,185,725.89 G. Direct women project beneficiaries – 40% of E - 7,457,150.59 H. Direct boys project beneficiaries – 60% of D - 7,457,150.59 I. Direct men project beneficiaries – 40% of D - 4,971,433.73 J. Pillar 1 direct girls' beneficiaries – 0.001% of F – 8576,211.4 K. Pillar 1 direct women beneficiaries – 0.01% of G – 74,571.51 L. Pillar 1 direct boys' beneficiaries –0.0007% of H – 74,5724,350 M. Pillar 1 direct men beneficiaries – 0.01% of I - 49,714.34		A. Total Africa population - 1,287,920,593 B. Total female Africa Population – 51% of A - 656,839,502.43 C. Total male Africa population – 49% of A - 631,081,090.57 D. Female Project targets – 40% of B - 262,735,800.97 E. Male project targets – 40% of C - 252,432,436.23 F. Total girls' indirect beneficiaries – 60% of D - 157,641,480.58 G. Total women indirect beneficiaries – 40% of D - 105,094,320.39 H. Total boys' indirect beneficiaries – 60% of E - 151,459,461.74 I. Total men indirect beneficiaries – 40% of E - 100,972,974.49 J. Pillar 1 indirect girls' beneficiaries – 0.02% of F - 3,152,829.61 K. Pillar 1 indirect women beneficiaries – 0.02% of G – 2,101,886.41 L. Pillar 1 indirect boy beneficiaries – 0.02% of H – 3,029,189.24 M. Pillar 1 indirect men beneficiaries – 0.02% of I – 2,019,459.49	

Outcome 5 - Data

(i) **Theory of Change:**

If (1) measurement and methodologies for VAWG, including SGBV/HP data collection are improved and strengthened (including monitoring and reporting requirements for SDG target 5.2 indicators); (2) if the capacity of Regional Statistics institutions to influence the collection of disaggregated VAWG data including SGBV/HP in line with globally agreed standards is strengthened; and (3) if disaggregated data and evidence (including to extent possible on age, ethnicity, location, socio-economic status, disability) are made accessible
and disseminated to be used by decision makers and civil society; (4) then laws, policies and programmes will be based on evidence and better able to respond to the specific context and realities of women and girls, including those most vulnerable; (5) because they will be based on quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data;

(ii) **Outcome Statement:**

Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are collected, analysed and used in line with international and regional standards to inform laws, policies and programmes

(iii) Expected Content of Support

a. Scope and Scale of Support

This outcome will focus on support to the AUC and other relevant regional partners to strengthen the availability and use of quality and reliable data, the harmonization of data collection, on VAWG and SGBV/HP/SRHR, in line with the AU Gender Strategy Outcome 3. To achieve this, the Spotlight programme Outcome 5 will support the AUC and other regional partners as follows;

- Support the AUC, UNECA, RECs, relevant regional partners and women's rights organization to influence the **development of guidelines on harmonized and standardized data collection tools and methodologies** to generate quality, comparable data on VAWG, SGBV/RHR.
- Strengthen the AUC, RECs, regional CSO's and women's rights organizations to ensure periodic, inclusive and quality reporting on VAWG, SGBV/HP/SRHR. This work will focus on supporting the **AUC Regional Data and Research Unit, Africa Women's Rights Observatory (UNECA) and Gender Scorecard**, including to ensure that existing instruments and initiatives are made available to policymakers and practitioners to inform policy advocacy and implementation. Synergies will be ensured with Stream 2 work on the development of monitoring and accountability mechanisms on child marriage and FGM.
- Strengthen the capacities of partners, including regional academic networks and institutions, to **generate and disseminate evidence on the intersectional drivers of VAWG, SGBV/HP/SRHR** and on effective, evidence-based interventions to address these. The focus will be on developing research methodologies and initiatives that use both quantitative and qualitative methods particularly focusing on themes and vulnerable population groups, for which data availability is lacking. Relevant regional networks and institutions will be identified through a transparent process and engaged accordingly.
- To build capacity of **regional CSO's and Women's Rights movement** in generating and analysing complimentary data.
- Provide a continental dialogue space for sharing progress and challenges to end VAWG, SGBV/HP/SRHR informed by data and evidence from AU Member States implementing national spotlight programs. The focus will be promoting cross learning, coordination and collaboration to strengthen national data collection, use and dissemination in program countries. The AU will play convening role and would subsequently document and disseminate the evidence from program countries in continental and regional platforms.

As noted above, mainstreaming CSOs work across all pillars is a key principle of the Spotlight Initiative. The results and key pillars have been designed to ensure civil society organizations play significant role in policy and legislations making (under Pillar 1), informing data generation (under Pillar 5) and dedicated Pillar 6(to strengthen the women's movement), and thereby, duplication is avoided. Thus, the focus of the work with CSOs, in particular regional civil society organizations, under this pillar (Pillar 5) building their capacity in generating and analysis data and to use that to **engage key inter-governmental and African Union policy making processes**.

List of Activities

OUTCOME 5	
Output 5.1 Key regional and national partners have strengthened capacities to regularly collect data related to SGBV, child marriage, FGM in line with international and regional standards to inform laws, policies and programmes The regional interventions will therefore focus on strengthening capacities at regional levels to ensure that relevant population and geospatial information are produced to inform policy, evidence-based decision making, advocacy and knowledge management related to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals especially those that are relevant to the Spotlight focus areas the strategies will include: a) promoting the utilization of new technology and innovative approaches to ensure successful implementation of the 2020 round of population and housing censuses and to inform risk mitigation strategies, including multi-country preparedness and response strategies. (b) incorporating the questions on SGBV, HP and SRHR especially those relevant to monitor progress of Spotlight initiatives in surveys mainly MICS and DHS. (c) advocating for data desegregation, mapping and small area estimation of indicators specific to Spotlight initiative to address inequalities by ensuring adequate identification and localization of vulnerable groups (d) supporting this initiative on generation of indicators to be included in the regional centres of excellence, regional institutions and initiatives such as the Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) and the African Symposium for Statistical Development (ASSD) to foster knowledge management and South-South cooperation. The output will be realised through mapping of data collection, analysis and utilisation gaps. This will inform the development of harmonized and standardised data collection tools (including methodologies and indicators) on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR. Data will be generated by AUC, RECs, CSOs and Women's rights organisations, there will be needing to strengthen their capacities in synergy with data collection institutions at the National level and at regional levels. Other partners will include universities with outstanding research knowledge for development of tools and protocols, including regional economic communities, SADC, ECOWAS, AUC and IGAD. The use of analysed data will be open to all stakeholders and these will be on open data platforms to inform laws, policies and programmes. Key activities to be supported under this output include the following;	
Activity 5.1.1 Support the AUC, UNECA, RECs and women's rights organizations to develop harmonized and standardized data collection tools (including methodologies and indicators) on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR to measure continental progress, and to identify key priorities and gaps, and improve accessibility of quality, reliable and desegregated data	This activity focusses on capacity building and institution strengthening of AUC, UNECA, Regional Economic Communities to develop and implement harmonized and standardized data collection tools on VAWG/SGBV/HP and sexual and reproductive health and rights. These activities will entail (i) Standardization of data collection tools which includes development of questionnaires and a data collection training manual. (ii) Methodologies and design of the survey, analysis and dissemination of the results. (iii) Review and adaptation of existing data collection tools. (iv) Validation of the data collection tools and dissemination (v) undertake capacity development of the actors
Activity 5.1.2 Build the capacity of identified CSOs and Women's Movement in data collection and analysis methodologies related to VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR	This will entail building capacity of regional civil societies in data collection and analysis on VAWG/SGBV/HP and sexual and reproductive health and rights. CSOs will be supported to increase awareness on AU mechanisms for collection, analysis and dissemination of gender disaggregated data on the implementation of GEWE commitments in AU Member States
Activity 5.1.3 Strengthen coordination capacity of AUC, RECs, CSO's and Women's rights organizations in data collection related to VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR indicators to inform evidence-based decision making	(i) Develop TORs for the Data collection coordination group. (ii) Identify members of the Continental data collection coordination group and specify each role. (iii) Establish data coordination group. (iv) Develop a costed implementation plan and roll it out.

Output 5.2 Quality prevalence and/or incidence data on SGBV, child marriage and FGM is analysed and made publicly available for the monitoring and reporting of the SDG indicators 5.2 and 5.3 to inform evidence-based decision making Observatories can be defined as technical centres, as well as political and advocacy spaces that will facilitate learning and networking, particularly if they have an in-built mechanism of information dissemination and outreach. The Beijing Platform for Action recommended the creation of National Observatories on the advancement of women in each country. It is within this context that an **African Women's Rights Observatory (AWRO)** on gender equality, women's rights and empowerment of women was envisaged, to compile national data and provide a continental and regional perspective on the status of women. It was set up in 2008 through a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the AUC and UNECA with the overall objective to establish an Observatory to track progress and consolidate data on African women's rights, thereby functioning as a tool for advocacy. **Key activities to be supported under this output** include the following;	
Activity 5.2.1 Strengthen the AUC regional data and research gender observatory and Scorecard to ensure periodic, inclusive and quality reporting of member states and CSO's on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR to generate evidence in order to inform policy and programmes.	i) Review the thematic areas of the Observatory to include sexual and reproductive health and rights, HP, young women indicators (ii) Engage Webmaster, Applications administrator/developer and Hosting Service. (iii)Revamp and operationalize the observatory. (iv) Partner with UNECA to review the scorecard sectors to include indicators related to VAWG/SRHR. (v) Produce/compile and disseminate the results of the scorecards.
Activity 5.2.2 In an innovative way, develop and implement a knowledge management strategy to ensure utilization of best practices related to VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR.	The activity will strive to establish a set of processes and methods focused on capturing, documenting, disseminating, identifying, leveraging, sharing, structuring and valuing of VAWG/SGBV/sexual and reproductive health and rights and HP information assets. This will be achieved through: - (i) Increase awareness on the value of knowledge management amongst the AUC, RECs, Civil Society and Women's rights organizations (ii) Develop a knowledge management strategy. (iii) Roll out the knowledge management strategy. (iv) Establish and operationalize a knowledge management platform.
Activity 5.2.3. Conduct a gender data review on adolescent girls, young people, people with disabilities, and vulnerable groups on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR by engaging stakeholders such as AUC, RECS, AFDB, UN Agencies and Research Institutions.	The role of this activity is to analyse the quality and availability of gender data. This will be achieved through: (i) Mapping of gender data to determine gender data gaps. (ii) Analyse the quality of gender data. (iii) Analyse the availability and access of gender data on adolescent girls, young people, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups on VAWG, SGBV, HP and sexual and reproductive health and rights. (v) Validate the outcomes of the review and disseminate the results.
Activity 5.2.4 Support evidence building on violence against women, SRHR and HP impacting young adolescent girls with a focus on: (i) developing and implementing a methodology for secondary analysis of MICS and DHS data to understand the linkages between child marriage, school related barriers for girls, gender norms and teenage pregnancy; (ii) formative evidence on girls' menstrual health and hygiene; and on (iii) data and evidence building on school related gender-based violence.	i) Engage with academic institutions to undertake the research and prepare the reports with findings, (ii) Support validation workshops, (iii) Disseminate the findings through various means including workshops, websites, etc. (iv) Engage with national governments and RECs on the implementation of main findings of the research.
Activity 5.2.5. Support regional data and research institutions, structures and mechanisms to collect and analyse disaggregated data to generate evidence in order to inform policy and programme development on migration, gender norms change, positive masculinities and male engagement to prevent SGBV/HP and to empower women and girls.	Engage regional data and research institutions, structures and mechanisms to collect and analyse disaggregated data and organize validation and training workshops.

Activity 5.2.6. Convene an annual continental coordination platform for AU Member States implementing National Spotlight Programmes	The activity is coordinated under the overall leadership of the AU and aims to i) promote learning among programme countries informed by statistical information on progress and challenges to end VAWG, SGBV/HP/SRHR ii) enhance ways in which program countries can ensure coherence and comparability in data collection, analysis and dissemination while recognising contextual peculiarities iii) strengthen a sense of collaboration and shared contribution to objectives of the Spotlight Initiative among countries implementing the Spotlight Program

b. Target groups and geographical scope

This outcome will be implemented with the following partners: AUC (with a focus on Data and Statistics, the Gender Observatory, UNECA, Department of Social Affairs), regional commissions, Academic research institutions and networks in Africa, women's organisations and other civil society networks.

Estimation of Beneficiaries - OUTCOME 5

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect
Women	154 550	12 434 727
Girls	77275	1 554 340
Men	103 033	12 422 440
Boys	51516	1 326 087
Total	**539 478**	**27 737 594**

Direct Beneficiaries: Target for direct beneficiaries was derived from calculating the total population of Africa, which is approximately 1,287, 920, 518 and then 1% of the total population of Africa totals 12 879 205. It is also estimated that nearly 60% of the Africa population comprises persons under 25 years. Accordingly, for Outcome 5 the direct beneficiaries are estimated at 1% of the apportioned ratios of 60% (girls) and 40% (women) and 60% (boys) and 40% (men).

Indirect Beneficiaries: Target for indirect beneficiaries was derived from calculating the total population of Africa, which is approximately 1,287, 920, 518 where 60% of the population is below 25 years (51% female and 49% male) population of 40% of total Africa population above 25 years age. For Outcome 5 the estimated indirect beneficiaries are 1% of the apportioned ratios of 51% females and 49% males.

Stream I - Pillar 5 and Stream 2

Outcomes under Stream 1 – Pillar 5 and Stream 2 Pillar 5 complement each other and have substantial areas of synergy, and there are no areas of overlap. While Stream I focuses on regional, Stream II concentrates mainly on national and sub-regional. Clear mechanisms, such as the establishment of a Civil Society platform on data have been incorporated in the programme design to ensure that data generated at national and at regional level complement one another. Both streams have similar approaches focusing on ensuring that there are quality and reliable data

through the harmonisation of data collection tools. The Spotlight programme commits to evidence-based practice and the data arising from work in Pillar 5 Stream I and the 'what works' research in Stream II will ensure the most effective approaches to ending VAWG. The programme adopts a strategy of harnessing the respective strengths of multi-sectoral, multi-level partnership which will support the acceleration of transformative change. The programme will work with the African Union Commission, with RECs (via the AUC) and with individual member states at the national level (Stream II). The continental reach of the UN will ensure that all knowledge products (produced by the Knowledge management hub Stream I) translated into 4 AU official languages (Stream II) will be disseminated across Africa and used by other UNCTs to address issues of VAWG.

Proposed intervention with strong synergy and complementarity under both streams includes;

Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream I and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcome Similar outcome with common approach, capacity building, harmonization of data collection tools of CSO's, AUC and stream II also focuses on national statistical offices.
Pillar 5 Interventions	Stream I focuses on Regional level interventions on quality and reliable data Stream II addresses mostly national level with some activities at regional level
Stream I Output 5.1 is similar to Stream 2 5.2	Focuses on data on VAWG/SGBV/HP and sexual and reproductive health and rights at regional level. However, Stream 2 focuses on data on harmful practices.
Capacity Building Stream II 5.1.1, 5.1.2 CM and 5.2.2, 5.2.3 FGM Stream I 5.1.3	Stream I: will focus on building capacity on the collection of data and harmonization of tools at the Regional level. Stream II: - Will build capacity for data analysis and use for National Statistical officers/Cos
Data Utilization	Stream I will utilize data analysed by the Statistician in the Department of Social on FGM and CM (Stream 2)
Knowledge Management Stream I 5.2.2, 6.1.2, Stream II 5.2.2, 5.2.5 CM, 5.2.4 FGM	Stream I Will develop a knowledge management strategy for on VAWG/SGBV/HP and sexual and reproductive health and rights, including FGM and CM. Stream I will establish a knowledge management hub which will be housed in the AUC Stream II will utilize the same Hub that will be housed in the AUC and translate the knowledge products into 4 AU languages and disseminate them across Africa. Both Streams will have shared Spotlight events, Communities of Practice etc.

Outcome 6 - Women's Movements and Civil Society

(i) **Theory of Change:**

(1) If the knowledge, expertise and capacities of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations, including those representing youth and vulnerable is drawn upon and strengthened;

(2) If the space for women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations including those representing youth and vulnerable groups and activity is free and conducive to their work;

(3) If multi-stakeholder partnerships and networks are established at local, national, regional and
global level with women's rights groups and autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups;
(4) then women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations will be able to influence, sustain, and advance progress on GEWE and EVAW/G, including SGBV/HP/SRHR, policies and programmes that respond to the needs of all women and girls, including vulnerable groups;
(5) because the activism of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups is a crucial driver of progress on efforts to end VAWG/SGBV/HP and promote women and girls' SRHR.

(ii) **Outcome Statement:**

Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP

a. Scope and Scale of Support

- The aim of this pillar will be to ensure autonomous **and strengthened women's movements across Africa**, including those representing vulnerable groups such as youth facing discrimination **in their engagement with the African Union, and key AU policy processes**.
- The movement will be able **to advocate, inform policy frameworks and hold African Union, Member States and other regional bodies accountable** for their commitments to EVAWG/HP and promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights through evidence-based advocacy and their effective engagement in regional policy development and implementation processes.
- **Regional CSOs will also have increased access to the African Union, through the creation of an enabling environment through regional and continental platforms** to effectively influence and advance priorities on GEWE and VAWG/HPs, in key regional policy making processes. The relevant regional CSOs will be identified through a transparent process.
- **Increased technical and financial capacity of women's groups, regional CSOs** will lead to internal coherence, better interaction and complementary for a more coordinated engagement **with the African Union,** and in regional policy, normative, data and advocacy initiatives.

Regional CSOs working on EVAW and HP will also be brought together to share information and build a solidarity movement to collectively work and advocate on the issues.

Pillar 6 Investment in Africa Regional Programme

The Africa RP's support to Outcome 6 across both streams will focus on regional, continent-wide women's movement building of regional women's rights organizations, pan-African networks and CSOs, to collectively advocate and work towards the ending sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices (specifically female genital mutilation [FGM] and child marriage [CM] on the continent. A key and distinct objective of the work envisioned under the Africa RP will be to enlarge space in key regional processes with the African Union (AU), which is a regional inter-governmental organization that has a major influence on agenda-setting and policy-making across Africa. This work will leverage the comparative advantage of the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in their convening role, bringing together governments and civil society to hear from each other and engage in joint decision-making. Efforts will build on and strengthen ongoing work around existing AU Initiatives (AU Initiative on the elimination of FGM and campaign to end CM) and strategies (AU

Gender Strategy), with existing mechanisms (Gender is My Agenda Campaign) and relevant Directorates of the AUC (Social Affairs and Gender). Additionally, the Africa RP will support the effective functioning of the Civil Society Regional Reference Group, an important governance mechanism of the Spotlight Initiative (at global, regional and national levels) that plays an advisory, advocacy and accountability role in the Africa RP's efforts to end VAWG and harmful practices.

Under Stream I, regional CSOs and networks will have increased capacity to **amplify women's voices and experiences to inform regional policies, programmes and resource allocation**. Through the regional SI, the partnership proposes to implement a series of activities, designed to strengthen the technical, institutional and networking capacities of regional CSOs and networks including vulnerable groups facing discrimination for enhanced effectiveness and participation in AU policy and implementation processes to address issues of violence against women, and girls, and Harmful Practices. It will strengthen the **capacity of advocacy groups to devise approaches to effectively demand accountability for the translation of commitments into action for women and girl**s. It will also support the women's movements to develop technical capacity in new and emerging issues to address different forms of intersectionality in the areas of VAWG, sexual and reproductive health and rights and HPs to support and influence the AU. The programme will concurrently **enhance CSO understanding of AU procedures, policy processes and opportunities so that entry points for advocacy** to ensure that their engagement is appropriately informed.

The programme also proposes to support the development of capacities for stronger internal coherence among the networks, and better communication for greater effectiveness, particularly vis a vis advocacy and support to the AUC-WGDD and the different AUC departments. Outcome 6 also takes into consideration the AU-EU Intercontinental CSO Forum meeting outcomes[17] and will also establish linkages with the Citizen and Diaspora Organizations, the Secretariat of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) the civil society policy organ of the African Union. To this end, it proposes to support a joint strategic region-wide planning and target setting, role definition and mutual accountability CSO EVAWG platform. It will also support the ongoing initiatives including the advocacy campaigns such as the AU-Africa Wide Campaign to end VAWG/C, AU initiative on the elimination of FGM and ECM.

The Civil Society Regional Reference Group platform will also promote cross-regional collaboration and national to global sharing of knowledge including South to South Cooperation and will build unity of purpose among the networks and enhance cohesiveness within the movement on collective advocacy on EVAW and HP. It will also have linkages with and will benefit from the Civil Society reference groups established in the Spotlight Countries. The Spotlight Programme will also build and strengthen partnerships of traditional leaders with the relevant AUC directorates, the Pan-African Women's Organisation (PAWO), and CSOs on the AU campaigns and other advocacy initiatives on ending child marriage, FGM and other harmful practices. Support will also be extended to the "State of the African Woman Campaign" (SOAW) (IPPF Africa -led consortium). In addition, the programme will support technical training sessions and platforms for sharing innovative approaches, good practices with interactive capabilities. The programme will also support the establishment of technical teams, based on comparative advantage of individual networks, from **which the AU can draw from in advancing the priority issues with member states**, especially in reporting progress under the Protocol, the Solemn Declaration, the Gender Strategy and other commitments.

[17] The Africa-EU Intercontinental CSO Forum gathers together representatives of African and European civil society organizations (CSOs) to share views with European and African leaders on critical issues pertaining to both continents. The forum takes ahead of the AU-EU Summits of Heads of State and Government. It is facilitated by two steering committees from Africa and the EU and is supported by the African Union Commission and the European Commission. The latest edition of the forum took place on 11-13 Sept 2017 in Tunis, Tunisia, before the 5th AU-EU Summit in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on 28 and 29 November 2017. https://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/our-events/africa-eu-civil-society-forum

The following set of activities have been developed across the two streams to be implemented under Outcome 6. Relevant details on activities to be implemented under Stream II are provided in the respective programme document sections.

List of Activities

OUTCOME 6		
Output 6.1: Increased opportunities to support for women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to share knowledge, network, partner and jointly advocate for GEWE and EVAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and to promote SRHR		
Activity 6.1.1. Support the establishment and functioning of a continental Civil Society regional reference group (CSRRG) to effectively coordinate and provide oversight on the implementation of international and regional commitments on gender equality and women's rights;	Support the creation of a continental reference group to better coordinate and provide an oversight of the Spotlight Africa programme and on the implementation of international and regional commitments on gender equality and women's rights. Facilitate monitoring missions and training for the CSR-RG to strengthen their capacity on programme monitoring, reporting.	Stream I
Activity 6.1.2. Design/configure existing knowledge sharing digital platforms to make them interoperable and accessible also by the CSOs. (African Women's Rights Observatory currently managed by UNECA)	The consultant shall help in strengthening the existing knowledge sharing digital platform for integration and access by civil society (African Women's Rights Observatory currently managed by UNECA). Software development for a digital knowledge sharing platform that will enhance integration and access by civil society (African Women's Rights Observatory currently managed by UNECA)	Stream I
Activity 6.1.3. Convene Regional CSO and women's movement forum on EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR to influence the African Union and global policy agenda on EVAW, SGBV/HP, SRHR. (ex. CSW, HPLF, Beijing +25, GA, ICPD, CEDAW, CRC and the African Union Processes including GMAC, AU EVAW and ECM campaigns, AU Summit and the AU Agenda 2063)	Annual Regional CSOs and Women's Movement forum on EVAW, SGHV/HP convened. Engage a consultant to support the establishment and convening regional CSO and Women's movement forum on EVAW, SGBV/HP & SRHR to influence the African Union and global policy agenda on EVAW, SGBV/HP(ex. CSW, HPLF, Beijing +25, GA, ICPD, CEDAW, CRC and the African Union Processes including GMAC, AU EVAW and ECM campaigns, AU Summit and the AU Agenda 2063).	Stream I
Activity 6.1.4. Support the establishment of Regional media/communication platform for Regional CSOs to enable knowledge sharing on best practices and lessons learned on VAWG/HP and SRHR, including on engaging key AU processes – (such as African Women Changing the Narrative)	Support the development of thematic papers to help regional CSOs with information on the best practices, lesson learnt to effectively advocate with the AUC and other high-level forums on EVAW/HP	Stream I
Activity 6.1.5. Support the innovative regional youth led initiatives and amplify youth, particularly young women and girls' engagement in policy dialogue on EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR through relevant AUC Directorates and High-Level Meetings	Undertake regional level youth convening and undertake training for the youth on advocacy, campaigning and engagement on EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR through engagement of a consultant/expert on youth.	Stream I
Activity 6.1.6. Support partnerships between the African Union Commission and regional faith-based organizations, and communities of traditional leaders to strengthen their engagement in prevention and response to VAW/G, SGBV, harmful practices and promotion of SRHR in Africa	Consultancy to support and enhance partnerships and skills of regional traditional leaders and FBOs to in AUC platforms and other high-level forums in preventing and responding to SGBV, harmful practices and promotion of SRHR in Africa. The programme will also	Stream I

	establish linkages of RECs (the EAC, COMESA, ECOWAS, and SADC) with the traditional leaders and the CSOs in establishing inter-linkages in working on EVAW, HP and SRHR with the traditional leaders and CSOs.	
Activity 6.1.7. Develop 13 policy and analytical briefs on child marriage in 13 countries based on analysis of evidence from recent social and economic impact and policy studies related to adolescent girls and young women		Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.8. Convene 13 national multi-stakeholder dialogues on ending child marriage in 13 countries with participation of women's rights groups, CSOs, youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination and develop regional policy recommendations based on inputs from the national dialogues		Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.9. Develop a practitioner's guide to implementing child marriage programmes (with possibility of specific versions based on region/country contexts), following the analytical reports and national dialogues, that will also guide women's rights groups, CSOs, youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination frame practical discussions around child marriage issues including the monitoring of outcomes		Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.10. Engage CSOs and associations to support 'building bridge' initiative linking the diaspora in European Union countries with communities in Africa to encourage open interaction between communities and families to facilitate a social norm change in favor of abandonment of FGM		Stream II FGM
Activity 6.1.11. Build the capacity of national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs on social accountability to advocate and influence the national level responses in implementing policy commitments and legal provisions in addressing FGM		Stream II FGM
Activity 6.1.12. Undertake a regional level coordinated CSO movement for lobbying and advocating for the elimination of FGM and protecting the rights of girls and women (advocate to have legislation on FGM at national level and their enforcement, follow up and influence implementation of the Africa Union initiative on the elimination of FGM, advocate for full implementation of the recommendations of the Africa Union peer review mechanism on FGM)		Stream II FGM
Activity 6.1.13. Engage regional and national level Men Alliance Networks to promote a strong movement of men and boys in supporting and engaging in initiatives to end FGM and implementing advocacy initiatives for strong involvement of men and boys		Stream II FGM
Activity 6.1.14. Undertake a regional level media campaign on the progress, achievements and challenges in addressing FGM in Africa, including a focus on the AU initiative on the elimination of FGM		Stream II FGM
Output 6.2. Capacities of regional women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to use social accountability mechanisms to advocate and influence prevention and response to VAWG, including SGBV/HP and GEWE enhanced Nurturing the role and capacities of rural women and women in conflict affected areas towards bringing transformational social changes through leadership and participation in shaping laws, policies and programmes on EVAW/GBV/HP and SRHR is important. CSOs also play an important role in advocacy, social accountability and research and providing them with the required tools and capacity building on monitoring progress on implementation of international and regional instruments on VAWG/HP is critical in ending VAW and achieving GEWE. Key activities to be supported under this output include the following:		
Activity 6.2.1. Strengthen the capacity of networks of regional CSOs (including networks of rural women, women living in conflict affected areas, women with disabilities and women living with HIV/AIDS) to fast track, monitor and report on the implementation of regional African Union instruments including the Maputo Protocol on the rights of women in Africa, Agenda 2063, AU Gender Strategy	Transfer of funds through CFP to two CSOs to strengthen the capacity of networks of regional CSOs (including networks of rural women, women living in conflict affected areas, women with disabilities and women living with HIV/AIDS) to fast track, monitor and report on the implementation of regional instruments on VAWG/HP	Stream I
Output 6.3. Capacities of regional women's CSOs and networks strengthened to design, implement and monitor their own programmes on VAWG, including ending SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and promoting women's and girls' SRHR There is a wealth of knowledge and experiences of CSOs, traditional leaders and FBOs in working on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR in the region. Bringing together relevant organizations will contribute to leveraging on the expertise and cross-learning. CSOs and women's movement face a number of challenges in their work on EVAW/HP		

and GEWE, building a solidarity movement with CSOs for facilitating their work will be crucial for achieving the Goal 5 and other relevant goals of SDGs, the AU Agenda2063 and the AU Gender Strategy. Key activities to be supported under this output include the following:		
Activity 6.3.1. Strengthen the institutional capacity of CSOs in advocacy, lobbying and networking in engaging key AU policy processes and relevant directorates on GEWE, VAWG, HP,	The consultant shall work on strengthening the institutional capacity of CSOs in advocacy, management, programme design on GEWE, VAWG, HTP, and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Conduct 2 regional trainings,1 in Dakar & 1 in Addis. This is an important intervention that deals with institutional capacity building of civil society organizations in advocacy, lobby and networking in key AU processes. The activity will entail trainings on negotiation, lobbying, leadership skills, advocacy and drafting and preparation of strategic documents including awareness of AU mechanisms, and avenues within the mechanisms that can be signed by CSOs for better protection of girls and women	Stream I
Activity 6.3.2. Convene a high-level multi-stakeholder continental summit in the side-lines of the African Union Summit to showcase, network and cross-learning of CSOs (women's CSOs, AU Member States, ACP, AUC, UN system, development partners and other relevant actors) on EVAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR	Organize and convene a high-level multi-stakeholder continental summit to showcase, network and cross-learning of CSOs (women's CSOs, AU Member States, AUC, UN system, development partners and other relevant actors) on EVAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR.	Stream I
Activity 6.3.3. Provide technical assistance to regional men's and boys' networks on monitoring and support on positive social norms change and establish linkages of the networks with relevant AUC departments	This activity entails providing technical assistance to regional men's and boys' networks on positive social norms change and establishing linkages of the networks with relevant AUC departments. Transfer funds through the CFP to two CSOs to provide technical assistance to enhance the understanding of men's and boys' networks on positive social norms change.	Stream I

Synergy Between Outcome 6 Under Stream I and II

Outcome 6 establishes strong areas of complementarity and synergy with no areas of overlap with other Outcomes in Stream I and also in Stream II. Central to the Spotlight Initiative is the partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls bringing together the African Union Commission's relevant directorates, the regional civil society, traditional leaders, faith-based organizations, women and youth groups, communities and other partners to promote gender equality and prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG) and HP. The SI guidance also ensures for adequate allocation of resources to support the regional civil society organizations across all pillars, thereby an opportunity for coherence, complementarity and synergy of Outcome 6 with Outcome 1 and 5 of Stream 1 and also the FGM and ECM programs in Stream II.

Across the 3 Outcomes and also in Stream II programs on partnerships with the regional civil society organizations aims to transform the social norms that allow violence against women and girls to continue; to support national and regional institutions to meet their commitments to gender equality and the prevention of violence against women and girls. Working through partners, it will promote women's rights and gender equality in the region through innovative approaches, development of standard tools, policy advocacy. Accordingly, one Africa regional civil society reference group is also established to support both Stream I and Stream II and thus build linkages, complementarity, synergy and helps wider outreach through regional CSOs presence and its linkages at the grassroots.

b. target groups and geographical scope

Interventions will target Women's Groups, CSOs and stakeholders across continental and sub-regional policy spaces and engagement platforms.

Estimation of Beneficiaries for OUTCOME 6

Indicative Numbers	Direct Beneficiaries	Indirect beneficiaries	
Women	37,286	**Women**	525,472
Girls	12,428	**Girls**	788,207
Men	24,857	**Men**	504,865
Boys	8,700	**Boys**	757, 297
Total	**83,271**	**Total**	**1,818,544**

Justification/Notes:

A. Total Africa population - 1,287,920,593
B. Population age 15-49 years - 621,429,216
C. Total project direct beneficiaries – 5% of B - 31,071,460.80
D. Total male project direct beneficiaries – 40% of C - 12,428,584.32
E. Total female project direct beneficiaries – 60% of C - 18,642,876.5
F. Direct girls' beneficiaries – 60% of E - 11,185,725.89
G. Direct women project beneficiaries – 40% of E - 7,457,150.59
H. Direct boys project beneficiaries – 60% of D - 7,457,150.59
I. Direct men project beneficiaries – 40% of D - 4,971,433.73
J. Pillar 6 direct girls' beneficiaries – 0.002% of F – 92912,428
K. Pillar 6 direct women beneficiaries – Scenario 1 – 0.005% of G – 37,285.75
L. Pillar 6 direct boys' beneficiaries – Scenario 1 – 0.0014% of H – 37,2868,700
M. Pillar 6 direct men beneficiaries – scenario 1 – 0.005% of I - 24,857.17

A. Total Africa population - 1,287,920,593
B. Total female Africa Population – 51% of A - 656,839,502.43
C. Total male Africa population – 49% of A - 631,081,090.57
D. Female Project targets – 40% of B - 262,735,800.97
E. Male project targets – 40% of C - 252,432,436.23
F. Total girls' indirect beneficiaries – 60% of D - 157,641,480.58
G. Total women indirect beneficiaries – 40% of D - 105,094,320.39
H. Total boys' indirect beneficiaries – 60% of E - 151,459,461.74
I. Total men indirect beneficiaries – 40% of E - 100,972,974.49
J. Pillar 6 indirect girls' beneficiaries – 0.005% of F - 788,207.40
K. Pillar 6 indirect women beneficiaries – 0.005% of G – 525,471.60
L. Pillar 6 indirect boys' beneficiaries – 0.005% of H – 757, 297.31
M. Pillar 6 indirect men beneficiaries – 0.005% of I – 504,864.87

III. Governance Arrangements

Please refer to the common section of this programme document for the overall governance arrangements.
Each Stream of the Regional Component will have its own decision-making governing body and for Stream I, there will be a Stream I Regional Steering Committee.

Stream I: Stream I Regional Steering Committee: This committee will be a decision-making body for Stream I. Chaired by UN Women, it will include:
(a) one representative per agency, preferably Regional Directors from UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF, representing East and South Africa, and West and Central Africa sub-regions.
(b) one EU representatives,
(c) one African Union Commission representative, and
(d) two civil society representatives from the Civil Society regional reference group.
The Civil Society regional reference group will select their steering committee representatives and it will be on rotational basis.

The main task of the Regional Stream I Steering Committee will be to provide overall strategic direction and guidance to Stream I operations. The Steering Committee will guide and oversee the implementation of the Stream I Component. It will:

- Ensure proper communication and coordination on the Stream 1 Component at the regional level, and support a participatory implementation, in alignment with regional priorities, and in close partnership with the EU
- Approve Stream 1 Annual Workplans, review output level results, adjust implementation set-up.
- Review and approve periodic and annual narrative reports of Stream 1, submitted by RUNOs.
- Approve any programmatic or budgetary revisions within the limits of the approved programme document by the Operational Steering Committee.
- Review risk management strategies and ensure the Stream 1 component is proactively managing and mitigating risks.
- Manage stakeholder relationships of Stream 1.

Civil Society Regional Reference Group (CSRRG):

An interim Civil Society Regional Reference Group in Africa was established in 2018 to provide timely support to the design of the Africa Regional Programme. Initially a 15-member group was constituted by partners under Stream 1. This group was expanded to 18 members to include civil society representation for the Child Marriage and FGM Streams of the Programme. This allowed to have one interim Civil Society Regional Reference Group that represented the entire Spotlight Africa Regional Programme and is able to advise programme design across the various streams.

Once the Africa Regional Programme Document has been approved by the Operational Steering Committee, the interim Reference Group will no longer be operational. A new full-fledged formal Civil Society Regional Reference Group, comprising of 15 individual civil society experts on ending violence against women and girls and Harmful Practices will be established. Members join the group in their individual capacities and not as representatives of their organizations. The constituted Civil Society Regional Reference Group will serve for the entire duration of the Africa Regional Programme.

Process for the selection of the formal civil society regional reference group (CSRRG): The setting up of the CSRRG is led by the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will have a total of seven (7) members comprised of four (4) leading civil society experts, one (1) UN representative, one (1) AUC representative and one (1) EU representative. The four civil society experts that will be members of the Selection Committee will be selected by the AUC, the UN and the EU on the basis of consensus. The Selection Committee will be identified based on a list of diversity criteria in order to ensure an accurate representation of the vulnerable groups beneficiaries of the programmes to be implemented as defined by the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme, and in line with the AU policies and frameworks as established in the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme document. The list of diversity criteria will be jointly established by the AUC, the UN and the EU on the basis of consensus. The agreed upon list of Diversity Criteria will also be the basis for the selection of the members of the civil society regional reference Group. The Spotlight Secretariat will be the chair of the Selection Committee.

Once the Selection Committee is formed, the committee will launch an open call for nominations which will be disseminated widely. When the nomination period has closed, the Selection Committee will select members of the CSRRG based on discussion and consensus. In the case the Selection Committee cannot agree by consensus, the final decision on the membership of the civil society Regional Reference Group will be based on equal votes by the Selection Committee.

IV. Accountability

UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF are the four recipient agencies of Stream 1 under the Spotlight Africa Regional Programme. The four agencies have been closely working together with **UN Women as the overall Lead and UNFPA as a Co-Lead of Stream I**.

- UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women will be the UN Recipient Organizations for Stream 1
- UN Women, as the lead of Stream I, has the capacity and experience to assume leadership in technical coordination.
- Spotlight RUNOs have demonstrated joint experience and expertise in EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR programming aligned to the objectives of the Spotlight Initiative. These agencies have enjoyed strong collaborative experience in programmatic and operational areas among others - in developing joint work plans, implementation and monitoring. The Spotlight Initiative provides the opportunity to expand and extend this experience across a broader spectrum fostering scale-up and impact.
- The joint Results Framework will be used as an accountability mechanism for tracking results. UN Women as a Lead Agency as well as UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNDP as recipient organizations have a track record in jointly developing, implementing and tracking result frameworks, under the various joint programs at the national, regional and global levels. The programme maintains an extensive institutional knowledge repository in M&E systems - these include baseline data, real time data systems, results monitoring tools, knowledge management products, evaluations etc.
- The RUNOs African Union Liaison Offices are well placed to focus, align and strengthen engagement with the African Union (AU) on key continental priorities such as EVAW, SGBV/HP and by so doing advance results for women and girls.
- Lessons will be drawn from the Global and Regional Programmes to inform this stream to ensure strong RBM and M&E systems are in place for measuring and demonstrating results for scaling up the interventions.

The RUNOs namely the UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF will be responsible for the implementation of the programme and are accountable for the overall results of the Spotlight Initiative. The principle of Leaving No One Behind will be considered throughout the programme implementation processes. This means that business "not usual" i.e., not necessarily funding existing implementing partners but to provide opportunities to all potential organizations to participate in the call for proposals. It is in this context the Spotlight Stream I will adopt a two-pronged approach:

1) Firstly, call for proposals for providing grants to grass-roots either directly through RUNOs or engaging potential umbrella organizations.
2) Secondly, targeted and focused support to organizations working on intersectionality including other vulnerable groups (This include those organizations, which have strong grass-roots presence, innovation and demonstrated results on the specific areas). The programme will work on opportunities to build capacities of such organizations also ensuring compliance to procedures and accountability.

The administration by executing entities or, under the harmonized operational modalities, implementing partners, of resources obtained from or through RUNOs shall be carried out under their respective financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of RUNOs. Where the financial governance of an executing entity or, under the harmonized operational modalities, implementing partner, does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition that of RUNOs shall apply.

Compliance with the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of RUNOs shall be assessed during the evaluation of capacity of the implementing partner by the respective RUNO. The capacity of the selected

implementing partner is assessed and appraised prior to being designated implementing partner. Capacity gaps and challenges related to implementing partners observed at the implementation level of SI projects provide an opportunity for a discussion between relevant RUNO and the implementing partner on what options are available to address national implementation capacities in a systematic manner through capacity development support. In view of the limited capacities in technical areas, low absolving capacity in some instances, and to ensure timely implementation of the programme activities the RUNOs will also assume direct execution of some of programmatic activities in consultations with the relevant partner agencies.

Africa Coordination Unit (ACU): The Spotlight Africa Programme will have one Africa Coordination Unit (ACU) that will be based in **Addis Ababa.** The Africa Coordination Unit (ACU) will be led by UNFPA as the Technical Focal Agency and will be located at the UNDP regional service centre, which is where UN Women office is also located. A Programme Coordinator at P5 level will be recruited to provide overall leadership, management and general technical direction of the entire Spotlight Africa Programme (Stream I and Stream II). The P5 Programme Coordinator will be reporting directly to UNFPA with dotted lines of reporting to Stream I and Stream II Leads/Focal Persons. This professional is expected to ensure accountability, identify issues and risks related to programme implementation in a timely manner, and suggest appropriate programme adjustments. This individual shall act as the key liaison between the Spotlight Secretariat, the European Union, Recipient UN organisations (RUNOs) and the AUC. He/She will ensure there is an integrated vision amongst recipient UN agencies (UNFPA, UNWOMEN, UNDP and UNICEF) and focus on achieving the results defined in the Stream I, and Stream 2 programme documents. The Programme Coordinator will work alongside a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (NOC), who will be responsible for designing and implementing the M&E activities of the Africa Spotlight Programme; assisting the Programme Coordinator in preparing Quarterly/Annual reports and will monitor the programme activities on a regular basis. The M & E Officer will develop and maintain M& E system of the Programme and will be responsible for the collection & analysis of different data in relation to the programme activities. Communication and Knowledge Management are vital to the Spotlight programme hence, there will be a full time Communications and Knowledge Management Officer whose responsibility is to implement the Communications plan and develop and roll out the Knowledge Management strategy.

The Spotlight Africa Programme will also be supported, and the Outcome areas and its activities are coordinated and implemented by respective RUNO senior staff at P5/P4 levels as part of RUNOs contribution to the Spotlight and are supported by national technical professional staff and finance staff recruited through a matching Spotlight funding support. Since the focus of the programme is to support the African Union Commission's Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD) and the Social Affairs Directorates, a P3 staff will be recruited through the Spotlight and assigned to the AUC-WGDD to enhance technical support, smooth coordination and implementation of the Africa Spotlight initiative.

UN Women as a Lead of Stream I have been working closely and coordinating with the UN Partner agencies (RUNOs), AUC-Women, Gender and Development Directorate and the Civil Society and thereby well positioned to lead Stream I. UN Women's ability to leverage its triple mandate of normative support, UN coordination, and operational activities has been an enabler of success and represents a major asset. Leveraging on the triple mandate in multisectoral areas, such as ending violence against women and girls, UN Women will work with partner agencies in strengthening regional frameworks and translating them into national standards through partnerships at the regional level. UN Women's normative and coordination mandates also contributes to elevating issues within UN country teams and strengthening regional and national dialogue in support of gender equality. The Stream I - is led by UN Women with support of a P5 Regional Programme Manager specializing in EVAW and is supported by a number of senior technical staff bringing together expertise on the Spotlight programme areas. Besides, UN Women over the years through its strong presence has established strong partnerships with the African Union and its Commission, more specifically the Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD) through its African Union Liaison Office headed by a D1 and supported by a number of senior programme staff. UN Women also has senior M&E, Evaluation, Coordination, Knowledge Management and Operations staff who will continue to support the programme implementation, monitoring and reporting processes, where required.

As noted above, the regional Stream I Steering Committee chaired by UN Women, will also function as an oversight, guidance and approving mechanism and ensures smooth programme implementation and results. Besides, a regional Civil Society Regional Reference Group (CS-RRG) will also provide advisory, monitoring and programme support.

V. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners

In accordance with the comparative advantage and the strengths each RUNO brings, the lead and co-lead on the pillars of Stream I has been agreed.

UN Women is the **overall Lead of Stream I and will also be leading Pillar 6** in partnership with UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF). UN Women works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security. UN Women is a strong and dynamic UN champion of women's rights, providing a powerful voice for women and girls at the global, regional and local levels. The formation of UN Women also strengthens the UN's ability to provide coherent and timely support to Member States to advance gender equality, in line with national priorities and international norms and policies. It also strengthens effective partnerships with civil society. UN Women also has long-standing relationships with the women's movement, gender equality advocates, women's groups and organizations, and national women's machineries. As the convener on gender equality within the UN system, UN Women brings together partners to address a wide range of dimensions, including laws and policies to EVAWG, in a holistic, coherent and coordinated manner.

UNDP will be leading Pillar 1 with UN Women as co-lead. UNDP extensive global, regional and national experience in addressing SGBV as a major development challenge by advocating for policy advocacy and legislative development as well as improving women's access to justice and provision of support services to SGBV survivors in more than 115 projects in 67 countries worth 340m USD which puts UNDP in a strategic position lead on Pillar One. UNDP is currently executing four regional projects with the African Union Commission and other regional partners including the RECs (i) Multi Year Joint AU-UNDP Regional Project, on 'Accelerating the Ratification and Domestication of African Union Treaties', The project is designed to address challenges and bottlenecks associated with ratification and domestication, and to enhance the capacity of the AUC over the medium - to long-term to manage the ratification process and provide tailored support to Member States with domestication-related challenges including HR related instruments. The project is implemented in Senegal, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Rwanda; (ii) A four (4) UNDP-AUC 2018 -2021 Regional Project on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa. The compliments SI regional programme through improving internal capacity of the AUC to advance GEWE including advocating for the prevention and response to SGBV; (iii) A four (4) year UNDP Regional project on 'Preventing and responding to violent extremism in Africa', designed to strengthen development responses to mitigate the growth of violent extremism in Africa including ending violence against women and girls. The project complements the SI regional programme by supporting the capacity of the AUC and RECs (IGAD, LCBC and ECOWAS) to prevent and respond to violent extremism including developing and implementing legal and policy frameworks that in line with HR instruments on EVAWG. The project is implemented in three categories of countries, including: 'epicentre countries' (Mali, Nigeria and Somalia); 'spill-over countries' (Cameroon, Chad, Kenya, Mauritania and Niger); and, in 'at-risk' countries (Central African Republic, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda).

UNFPA will be leading on Pillar 5 with UNICEF as a co-lead in partnership with UNICEF, UN Women and UNDP. UNFPA has extensive global and regional experience in the provision, building capacities of partners in data and knowledge management. UNFPA believes that data plays a powerful role in development and must therefore be factored into planning and policy decisions. The utilisation of evidence-based analysis propels UNFPA's role in engaging in policy discussions at the global, regional and national level. UNFPA covers 54 countries in West, East, South and North Africa.

UNFPA has technical experts in Population dynamics and data, GBV programme coordinators, M& E systems and knowledge management and innovation experts across our Country Offices in Africa. UNFPA plays a pivotal role in ensuring that Gender based violence module is included in DHS surveys.

UNICEF: is a RUNO in stream I and UNICEF's mandate of protecting and advancing children's rights and its commitment to promoting human rights and gender equality place it in a unique position for addressing child marriage and VAWG. UNICEF will support the EVAWG campaign under Pillar 1, gender data analysis and review on adolescent girls under Pillar 5, and building youth led initiatives on SGBV, among others in coordination with other RUNOs under Pillar 6. As UNICEF's work spans across health, education, social protection, child protection, nutrition, C4D, HIV/AIDS and water, hygiene and sanitation sectors, it is well equipped to mobilise a broad range of complementary cross-sectoral solutions and partnerships towards EVAWG, preventing child marriage and supporting girls who are married. Child Marriage is a corporate priority and a targeted priority under the organisations' Gender Action Plan (2018-20). UNICEF will continue to work with Governments to support development, budgeting, and implementation of national action plans on child marriage and advocate for legislative shifts, in conjunction with local civil society and government. A critical task will be to consolidate and embed in national systems scalable models of interventions to advance girls' agency and retention in school and create an enabling environment in schools and legal systems. UNICEF niche in systems strengthening in child protection/ social protection, C4D, Data and Evidence generation will be streamlined in the Regional programme under the 3 Outcomes. UNICEF has regional capacity in sectoral expertise and M&E - these include health, nutrition, gender, HIV/Aids, child protection, education and C4D.

All the RUNOs i.e., UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF have a track record of managing larger programs and have designated staff at P5/P4 levels to coordinate and support the implementation of the programme. Besides, the RUNOs also have built in accountability frameworks to ensure result-based management and value for money in implementation of the programme. Quite apart from this, the RUNOs are also working on strong models of Secretariat at the regional level to coordinate, monitor and ensure smooth implementation of the Stream I of the programme.

Other key partner of the programme is the African Union Commission - Social Affairs Department, Directorate of Women, Gender and Development (WGDD), and other relevant AUC departments, RECs, regional Women's Groups, and CSOs (including young people, youth network, FBOs, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups).

European Union: The Africa Spotlight Programme (Stream I) will work closely with the **European Union delegation to the African Union in Addis Ababa** as key partner of this initiative in strengthening the programme and implementation, as key member of the governance mechanism and through regular briefings and invitations to participate in key conferences and other events, throughout the programme period.

VI. Partnerships

The Africa Spotlight Regional Programme will be implemented in partnership with regional and sub-regional organizations, multilateral UN sister agencies, bilateral donors and CSOs. The project was designed in close collaboration with the AUC Social Affairs Department and the Women, Gender and Development Directorate within the AUC. Social Affairs Department within AUC is the focal department for the Africa regional programme. Women, Gender and Development Directorate will play a key role under Stream I of the regional progamme. The project is designed with a multiple partnership approach to pull different strengths in synergy and complementarity with the four UN offices. The AU and its member states are at the forefront of partnerships as the legitimate authorities that have the mandate and responsibility to dismantle structural discriminatory systems in line with

international HR obligations. Partnership with AUC, RECs, key regional women's groups and CSOs, are at the centre of the Africa Spotlight programme. All RUNOs, AUC, select CSOs and associated agencies participated in the consultations and the comprehensive inputs received were incorporated into the Africa Programme document. The EU was briefed, consulted and their inputs were incorporated into the document.

The target group include:

- Regional, Sub-regional and continental CSOs
- Member States: Heads of State and Government; Ministers; Members of Parliament;
- RECs and Regional Mechanisms
- Gate keepers: religious leaders (all religions); traditional leaders; elders; practitioners of FGM and other Harmful practices
- Men, boys, women, girls,
- Women with Disabilities
- Private sectors for a VAW- free workplace environment
- Public services where VAW prevalence is high, mainly the sectors of security, justice and education
- Youth associations, sports and cultural organizations
- Other vulnerable groups

Spotlight Regional Programme Engagement with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) under Stream I

The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003) positions the right of women to live a life free from gender-based violence within the context of the right to life, integrity and security of the person. The Protocol has been ratified by 38 of Africa's 55 countries, while CEDAW has been ratified by all except two countries. At least 36 of the 55 African countries have legislation specifically dealing with VAW in general and/or specific forms of VAW, including domestic violence (in-family), sexual offences, trafficking in women and girls, female genital cutting/mutilation, and sexual harassment. Regional Economic Communities have complementary frameworks. For example, under the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development state parties are required to, by 2015, enact, enforce and reform (where necessary) legislation on gender-based violence, while the SADC Parliamentary Forum developed regional Model Law on Ending Child Marriage advocates for adoption of the model law by the Governments. It establishes a strong legal and policy framework which cuts across customary, religious and civil marriage systems, as well as suggesting concrete measures and interventions to prevent and mitigate the effects of child marriage. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) adopted the Strategic Framework for Strengthening National Child Protection Systems, which advocates for taking concrete measures to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation. Crucially, child marriage is one of five priority areas identified in the Strategic Framework. The Africa's Agenda 2063 will be the overarching guiding document in implementation of the Spotlight Africa Initiative.

The Regional Spotlight Initiative considers the African Union and its Commission as a key partner with linkages to the Member States, Regional CSOs, UNECA, Development Partners including the United Nations and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). Accordingly, the programme will also **work closely with the East African Community (EAC-Tanzania), the South African Development Community (SADC-Botswana), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA-Zambia), and the Economic Community of the West African States (ECOWAS-Nigeria) and the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU).**

The Africa Spotlight Initiative is premised on the SDG Principle of "Leaving No One Behind" and adopts an inclusive and multi-sectoral approach in addressing VAW, HP and SRHR at the regional level. In this context, besides the African Union Commission, which is a lead and key partner, the programme also identified the importance of partnerships with the RECs at the regional, sub-regional and ground level. In view of the limitations in funding and prioritizing on the key areas of VAW, and HP also building on the existing work, it is suggested for working closely with the **SADC and ECOWAS** on normative frameworks, establishing and operationalization of national legislative, policy and institutional frameworks on EVAW.

The following are some of suggested/proposed activities:

Regional Economic Communities	Stream I
Pillar 1	
ECOWAS – Gender and Development Center; SADC Gender Unit; EAC Gender Unit; and ECCAS Gender Unit	Activity 1.1.1: UNDP will work in close collaboration and fully engage the Gender Units of 4 selected RECs to benefits from technical expertise and to provide leadership in coordination and sharing of both information to facilitate the regional evidenced based mapping and assessment.
ECOWAS – Gender and Development Center; SADC Gender Unit; EAC Gender Unit; and ECCAS Gender Unit	Activity 1.1.2: UN Women will work in close collaboration with the Gender Units to support the selected CSO's in facilitating regional advocacy Initiative on ratification, domestication and implementation of HR treaties. Their technical and coordination support will be required
ECOWAS, SADC, EAC and ECCA Gender Units and Regional Parliament Secretariat	Activity 1.1.3 UNDP will engage gender units and Secretariats of 4 RECs to benefit from their technical expertise in the design of the customized training programme and in the nomination of participants from their RECs to benefit from the tailored capacity building initiatives
Engage 7 RECs recognized by the African Union. 1. The Arab Maghreb Union (UMA, 2. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); 3. Community of Sahel-SahCEN-SAD); 4. The East African Community (EAC); 5. Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); 6. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); 7. Southern African Development Community (SADC).	Activity 1.2.2 All the Regional geographical RECs will be engaged and consulted in the design, validation and finalization of the Continental Wide Regional Action on EVAW. Gender Units will be requested for their technical inputs to inform the design of the Action plan and to participate in the validation and adoption of the Action plan
ECOWAS, SADC, ECA and ECCA Gender Units and Regional Parliament Secretariat	Activity 1.3.1 UNDP will collaborate with the Gender Units and Secretariat to support with technical expertise and coordination support in undertaking capacity needs assessment, designing customized training material and nomination of participants in their respective RECs for this intervention
Pillar 5	
ECOWAS – Gender and Development Center	Activity 5.2.3: UNICEF will particularly collaborate with the Gender and Development Center of ECOWAS to benefit from their technical expertise, experiences from their gender-focused programmes and research for the Gender data review on adolescent girls, young people, people with disabilities on VAWG, SGBV, HP and SRHR.
	Activity 5.1.3 Strengthen coordination capacity of AUC, RECs, CSO's and Women's rights organizations in data collection
Pillar 6	
ECOWAS, SADC and the Arab Magheib Union (AMU)	Activity 6.1.6. Support partnerships between the African Union Commission, RECs and regional faith-based organizations, traditional leaders and the women's movement to strengthen their engagement in prevention and response to VAW/G, SGBV, harmful practices and promotion of SRHR in Africa. Support partnerships between the African Union

	Commission, RECs, regional faith-based organizations, and communities of traditional leaders to strengthen their engagement in prevention and response to VAW/G, SGBV, harmful practices in Africa.
RECs (the EAC, COMESA, ECOWAS, SADC and AMU)	Activity 6.1.7 Convene a high-level multi-stakeholder continental summit in the side-lines of the African Union Summit to showcase, network and cross-learning of CSOs (women's CSOs, AU Member States, AUC, RECs, UN system, development partners and other relevant actors) on EVAWG, SGBV/HP.

VII. Risk Management Matrix

Risks	Risk Level: Very high High Medium Low (Likelihood x Impact)	Likelihood: Almost Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare – 1	Impact: Extreme – 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Unit/Person
Contextual risks					
Fragile States where the policy makers or legislative arm of government is unstable thus affecting continuity of policy formulation and enactment process.	Medium	Unlikely	Major	Strengthen the Regional Parliament (REC) and the Pan African Parliament to ensure that in the event of a total collapse, the regional and continental legislation and policies would still be applicable.	RUNOs
Anti-rights environment	High	Possible (3)	Major (4)	Continue to support through campaigns, education, and capacity development of rights holders and civil society, efforts to hold duty-bearers accountable. Ensure engagement with key stakeholders such as education, parental, and community elders to focus on strategies that educate on HR, gender equality, and more for young people and adolescents	RUNOs
Programmatic risks					
The high turnover of staff with CSOs and Women's Rights Movement in Africa that may delay the implementation of the Initiative	Medium	Possible (3)	Moderate (3)	Cascade the capacity building to cross-cutting staff positions. Create technical working groups for the project to ensure continuity of programme objectives. A close policy dialogue at regional and national levels	RUNOs
Low absorptive capacities of the CSOs	Low	Unlikely (2)	Minor (2)	Select umbrella organizations that have a higher execution capacity and have several members that have continued presence on the intervention sites.	RUNOs

Timelines of disbursements to the partner agencies	Low	Unlikely (2)	Major (4)	Project to ensure that all requirements e.g. timely disbursements and quality submission of reports is undertaken; Constant debrief with the implementing partners to keep them abreast of the reporting (technical and financial).	RUNOs
Institutional risks					
Administrative efficiency of various RUNOs that may delay recruitment and procurement processes.	Medium	Likely	Major (4)	Sensitize all partners to fast track the recruitment and procurement processes for the project;	
Fiduciary risks					
Disbursements of resources to small stakeholders (CSOs) and implementing partner have the potential to provide incentives for diversionary activities	Medium	Low	Minor	Institutional strengthening of internal oversight systems. Quarterly reporting of finances and linking it to activities to be implemented Identify established partners to implement activities of this project Annual reporting of project activities	Project Manager/RUNOs

Assumptions:

- ✔ No major change in the political situation in the region will affect implementation of the Spotlight Initiative
- ✔ The Spotlight Initiative has significant political and administrative support, which facilitates the involvement and commitment of African governments both at the country and regional level
- ✔ There is significant national commitment including through the dedication of domestic resources to ensure sustainability of the programme and overall effects
- ✔ National Laws and Policies that facilitate the preventions of VAWG and HP are in place in most countries
- ✔ CSOs and RECs have units that deal with the activities related to the project.
- ✔ Peace and tranquillity will prevail in the countries where project is implemented to ensure accurate and timely reporting
- ✔ Resources will be sufficient to roll out the entire project without interruptions

VIII. Joint Results Matrix

One joint result framework across the two streams has been developed, and please refer to Annex 1.

IX. Intersectional Approach

Effective collaboration between all, and an intersectional approach that accounts for complex identities, communities and experiences is essential for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Age and disability are some important aspects of the 2030 Agenda. Establishing and recognising these relationships and intersectionality makes it easier for the governments and other actors to plan actions that will have a positive impact for individuals thereby ensuring No One is Left Behind and reaching vulnerable groups first. Thus, the concept of intersectionality is indeed at the heart of the 2030 Agenda and is integral to the Africa Spotlight Initiative.

It is widely recognized fact that people experience discrimination on the basis of a number of factors, such as their gender, race and ability and status. Such forms of oppression and discrimination interact to reinforce each other and create multiple inequalities. For example, a woman with a disability or HIV/AIDS or other vulnerable groups are more likely to experience violence because of the inequality she experiences

as a result of her gender and disability. Thus, sexual violence impacts all communities – including vulnerable groups.

Through the Spotlight Initiative, partnerships will be built and support will be extended to the women's movements to develop technical capacity in new and emerging issues to address different forms of intersectionality in the areas of VAWG, HPs and sexual and reproductive health and rights to support and influence the AU and Member States in taking effective and corrective measures. The partnerships with the key institutions such as the African Union Commission and the Regional Civil Society Organizations will also help identify focused areas of intervention including geographic coverage with priority on intersectionality and also wider outreach for advocacy on EVAW, SGBV/HP and sexual and reproductive health and rights. The programme will concurrently enhance CSO understanding of AU procedures, policy processes and opportunities so that entry points for advocacy to ensure that their engagement is appropriately informed. The SI Programme also establishes a Civil Society Regional Reference Group, and through the platform will undertake capacity building, outreach and also promote cross-regional collaboration and unity of purpose among the networks and enhance cohesiveness within the movement. Accordingly, the inclusion of intersectionality and taking appropriate measures to bring a difference is integrated into the Spotlight initiative.

Therefore, through the Spotlight Initiative efforts will also be made to bring on board organizations with proven record and committed to working on intersectionality including other vulnerable groups, HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities or those subjected to FGM, ECM etc. (This include those organizations, which have strong grass-roots presence, innovation and demonstrated results on the specific areas). The programme will work on opportunities to build capacities of such organizations also ensuring compliance to procedures and accountability.

Relevant "at risk" groups	**Outcome areas where specific approaches are required**	**Key challenges for inclusion**	**Indicative approaches and methodologies for inclusion**	**Total numbers disaggregated by women, girls, men and boys**
Group 1	Creating a protective and enabling environment for Women with disabilities	Limited understanding of types of discrimination faced by women with disabilities. Limited or No specific legal and policy frameworks. Limited access to facilitates and services.	Work closely with the organizations and groups working on women with disabilities. Advocacy on ratification, adoption and domestication of Maputo Protocol on the rights of women in Africa and international conventions on disability. Removing barriers including discriminatory practices against women with disabilities.	Over 600 million persons with disabilities throughout the world of whom 400 million live in developing countries and 80 million in Africa. A World Health Organization source maintains that about forty percent wof Africa's population consists of people with disabilities, including 10-15 percent of school-age children. This percentage would translate into about 300 million people with disabilities in Africa.[18]
Group 2	Recognition and protection of rights of all communities – including the most vulnerable	Widespread discrimination, arrests, denial of health care and often threat to life of those belonging to	Partnerships and work with relevant organizations working on other vulnerable groups	# of detentions # of killings # of denial of access to health services # of discriminatory practices (data to be confirmed)

[18] https://www.ascleiden.nl/content/webdossiers/disability-africa

		other vulnerable groups There are limited or no legislative protection for other vulnerable groups Difficulty in access to services.	Advocacy on recognition of rights of other vulnerable groups and advocacy on development of policy frameworks. Removing discriminatory laws and cultural barriers.	

X. Coherence with Existing Programmes

UNDP: "**Joint AU-UNDP project, on 'Accelerating the Ratification and Domestication of African Union Treaties'**," designed to address challenges and bottlenecks associated with ratification and domestication, and to enhance the capacity of the AUC over the medium - to long-term to manage the ratification process and provide tailored support to Member States with domestication-related challenges. The project is a four-year multi-country and regional initiative implemented in Senegal, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Rwanda. UNDP/AUC Regional Project on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa": This four (4) year regional project anchored within UNDP Strategic Plan 2018 -2021 and the Regional Programme 2018 -2021 also contributes to SI regional programme. "Advocating on EVAW in the Private Sector and Public Institution through Gender Equality Seal Global Initiatives" that is being successfully implemented in Rwanda, Uganda, DRC, Gambia.

UNFPA: **Safeguard Young People (SYP) programme** aims at scaling up comprehensive interventions for adolescents and young people in Southern Africa through a multi-sectoral approach that touches on policy, integrated HIV and youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health and rights services, health education and youth empowerment. Through this programme young people are being provided with information on empowerment and to report any abuse that they may encounter in their midst. The innovation aspects include start-ups social enterprises mostly aimed at sharing and informing women and young people about their SRHR needs through sharing information in a timely manner. The accelerators, as the start-ups social enterprises are known, could be used to prepare an app to provide information to women who are violated and refer them to centres where support will be provide. Similar applications have been developed in a couple of countries including Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania to support young people to access SRHR services, mid-wives to ensure safe delivery, etc.

UN Women: "**Gender Responsive Budgeting**": UN Women has provided support to gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) initiatives, in more than 40 countries. Global advocacy is at the fore front for application of GRB, UN Women has built partnerships with UN agencies, the Commonwealth Secretariat, International Development Research Institute, and the Economic Commission. "**Engaging African traditional leaders to End Child Marriage"**: UN Women is currently coordinating a consultative meeting at the regional level with traditional leaders to build a coordinated and sustainable approach to recognize and contribute to the African Union led commitments and initiatives to end child marriage and eliminate female genital mutilation. **"Knowledge Platform:"** UN Women hosts several resources to improve the supply and exchange of knowledge which includes Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls, global database on Violence against Women which is an online resource designed to provide comprehensive and up-to-date information on measures taken by governments to address GBV, in the areas of laws and policies, prevention, services and statistical data.

XI. Monitoring & Evaluation

A full monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework will be developed as part of the regional programme.

RUNOs are responsible for continuous M&E of programmes, while the Technical Unit of the Spotlight Initiative will oversee the process, providing advice on proper performance indicators, and methods of data collection and analysis. RUNOs will also be supported by the Management Unit in the consolidation of regional-level information received into a central, results-based management (RBM) system. The RBM system will gather performance data at outcome and output levels, linking programme-related and financial result indicators so evaluators can better measure the efficiency and effectiveness of the Spotlight Initiative.

One Joint result framework and indicators specific to each Pillar have been developed (see section VII). Each RUNO will be obligated to report against outcome and output indicators. The evaluation of performance indicators will take external factors into account, as well as identified assumptions and risks in the theories of change. RUNOs are responsible for gathering data. For all indicators, baseline information will be identified, and targets and milestones defined. RUNOs will be responsible to identify existing baseline data and where not available, mappings, assessments, and research studies will be conducted. Baseline studies will be supported through these programmes' budget.

External evaluations are required to assess the performance of each programme and will be conducted mid-term and at the time of project closure. Evaluations will be used to analyse programme performance and test the Spotlight Initiative's regional theories of change. During these evaluations, specific recommendations will be provided to guide any revisions to the theory of change, governance arrangements, programming cycles and/or activity implementation.

XII. Innovation

Programmatic Innovation: The regional programme will be providing an innovative effort and opportunities to strengthen the linkage and synergy between the three levels of programme implementation to the final beneficiaries at the national, subnational and regional levels. The programme will also provide a window of opportunities to scale up and replicate UN agencies successful Initiatives on EVAWG, HP and SRHR. Some innovative interventions include protocols with the AU to protect the rights of women's rights defenders and support roll out by member states, interactive data platforms for reliable and timely data on VAWG/HPs to be used by policy makes, and supporting innovation regional youth led initiatives that will amplify young women and girls' engagement with the African Union. The regional programme under stream 1 will also replicate the best practices and lessons from various projects undertaken by the four UN agencies.

Operational Innovation: The Africa regional programme will also set up one **Africa Coordination Unit** with a Programme Coordinator, M&E Officer, Knowledge Management and Communication Officer, that will support planning and implementation of activities across the two streams, ensuring coordination, technical coherence, synergies and complementarity and contributing to specific joint results in the future. This unit is tasked with the goal, by the end of the lifespan of Spotlight, of bringing these three disparate streams of work together in the region.

XIII. Knowledge Management

The regional programme will develop a knowledge management strategy aligned with the global Spotlight knowledge management strategy. Knowledge Management will be supported through several strategies and approaches and there will be a scaling up of a number of knowledge management and innovative approaches to addressing SGBV, HP and SRHR.

A structured mechanism of knowledge generation and exchange on lessons learned, best practices, key laws and policies, and scalable models and practices will be identified through study visits, monitoring and evaluation activities, research documentaries, newspaper articles, and press releases. Learning activities will be integrated throughout the project by investing in both monitoring and evaluation and research activities and disseminating findings and lessons learned to inform the project and results-based management across the region for all member states. Based upon monitoring and evaluation and research

findings and lessons learned, adaptations and modifications to project design and implementation will be made, if necessary, to enhance project implementation and the quality and impact of results.

Special attention will also be paid to South-South cooperation through specially dedicated learning forums on good and emerging best practices, and South-South Exchanges that promote sharing of regional knowledge, lessons learned and best practices, challenges faced and solutions, and perspectives on project implementations. South-South Exchanges will support national partners and key stakeholders to enhance and expand their engagement and mutual learning and solution sharing between Member States. The regional programme intends to establish a community of practice and learning platform in coordination with the Secretariat in areas of supporting governments to harmonize their legal frameworks and policies addressing SGBV/HP and to report on progress, thereby increasing accountability. The community of practice and learning platform will also support governments to align and strengthen existing legislation, policies, and structures, including services, so as not to duplicate or create new mechanisms. This approach ensures adherence to existing normative framework in countries, while maximizing resources, knowledge, and services, and better guarantees national ownership and sustainability.

The knowledge management approach will result in specific knowledge products, in addition to evaluations, that will be produced by the project in multiple forms such as research, publications, databases, media products, and more. The project has a dedicated a specific output for research and documentation that will generate knowledge products.

XIV. Communications and Visibility

A Communications and Visibility plan aligned with the Global Communication and Visibility Plan will be developed and implemented by the engaged Recipient UN organisations to ensure the visibility of the Spotlight Initiative and raise awareness about the issues the Regional Component strives to address

Strong communications and visibility are central to the Initiative's success. The communication and visibility work will have the following objectives;

- Raise awareness of gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls and its prevalence in the region: By publicizing data and supportive facts, creative messaging to key audiences, exhibiting thought leadership on violence against women and girls.
- Illustrate and promote the impact and results of Spotlight-supported interventions:
- Ensure visibility for the Spotlight Initiative regional programme, its donors and partners: By coordinating consistent and coherent branding, high-profile endorsements from social influencers, top-tier media placements, organizing publicity events and campaign.

Communication and visibility approaches will include public information campaigns, use of mainstream media, social media, awareness raising and visibility. It will involve engagement with political leaders', parliamentarians, African Union Commission, regional level CSOs and all other relevant stakeholders on advocacy and policy dialogue which would be effective in influencing laws, policies, practices, data generation as well as strengthening pan-African women's movement. There will be prominent featuring of Spotlight branding displayed during consultations, advocacy and policy dialogues with African Union Commission, Civil Society, governments, member states, communities and beneficiaries. Branded narrative reports, photos, videos, stories and commentary will be made available so that Spotlight, through its UN, EU, AU, ACP and stakeholder networks can be disseminated broader and build awareness.

It is important to note that the co-branding principles of the African Union Communication Style Guide and the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines will be adhered to when communicating the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme. Both guides complement each other and allow for mutually beneficial branding and visibility opportunities. The AU logo will only be used for the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme promotional material and other content created for communication purposes related specifically to this Programme. Any use of the AU logo for the Global Spotlight Initiative will require prior and express consent from the AUC through the Department of Social Affairs.

The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer of the Africa Coordination Unit will formalize a regional Spotlight Initiative communications group including the AUC, EU, UN agencies and other strategic partners. The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer will organize and host regular meetings for the group, coordinate the development of the annual Communications and Visibility Action Plan and other communications and visibility activities. He will work closely with the AUC Advocacy and Communications Specialist to ensure that both the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines as well as the African Union Communication Style Guide are followed and that the AU logo usage is aligned with AU interests and policies.

VI. Budgets – See excel document attached

Table A – 3-YEAR WORK PLAN

Table B – BUDGET BY UNDG CATEGORY

Table C – BUDGET BY OUTCOME

Budget Summary by UNDG Categories

REGIONAL Programme

UNDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	UNDP		UNFPA		UNWOMEN		UNICEF		TOTAL USD	
	Spotlight (USD)	RUNO Contri. (USD)	Spotlight (USD)	RUNO Contri. (USD)	Spotlight (USD)	RUNO Contri. (USD)	Spotlight (USD)	RUNO Contri. (USD)	Spotlight (USD)	RUNO Contri. (USD)
1. Staff and other personnel	97,640	-	1,306,488	457,900	500,583	218,352	810,124	367,810	2,714,836	1,044,062
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	-	-	10,000	-	-	-	13,257	-	23,257	-
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	-	-	17,800	-	20,964	-	3,560	-	42,324	-
4. Contractual services	130,017	30,000	1,440,663	16,034	579,296	20,000	1,202,869	10,000	3,352,845	76,034
5.Travel	144,600	4,400	1,811,780	-	513,298	10,000	1,930,722	-	4,400,401	14,400
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	1,377,183	154,400	4,955,920	51,185	1,460,950	-	4,602,783	5,000	12,396,836	210,585
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	245,400	7,200	388,183	-	153,560	5,000	226,284	5,000	1,013,427	17,200
Total Direct Costs	**1,994,840**	**196,000**	**9,930,835**	**525,119**	**3,228,652**	**253,352**	**8,789,600**	**387,810**	**23,943,926**	**1,362,281**
8. Indirect Support Costs (7%)	**139,639**		**695,158**		**226,006**		**615,272**		**1,676,075**	
TOTAL Costs	**2,134,479**	**196,000**	**10,625,993**	**525,119**	**3,454,657**	**253,352**	**9,404,872**	**387,810**	**25,620,001**	**1,362,281**

PROGRAMME DOCUMENT: STREAM II CHILD MARRIAGE

<table>
<tr>
<td>Programme Title: Spotlight Africa Regional Programme – Stream II Child Marriage</td>
<td>Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs):
UNICEF & UNFPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Contact:
Name and Title: Nankali Maksud, Senior Advisor and Coordinator, Prevention of Harmful Practices
Address: 3 UN Plaza, New York 10017
Telephone: 1(917)265-4515
E-mail: nmaksud@unicef.org</td>
<td>Programme Partner(s):
- AUC
- Regional Intergovernmental entities
- Regional Parliamentary forums
- Regional CSOs
- National Statistical Institutions
- Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa Coordination Unit:
Name and Title: (Name to Be Confirmed)
Programme Coordinator- Spotlight Africa Regional Programme
Address: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Full Address & e-mail TBC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Description: The Regional Programme will be supporting Stream II of the overall response to prevent harmful practices. The programme is anchored within the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage (GP). In addition, it will contribute towards global and regional policy documents such as, the SDG Goal 5 on Gender Equality, AU Agenda 2063: the Africa We Want, AU Gender Strategy - 2017-2027, the Maputo Protocol on Rights of Women in Africa, the AU Common Position to End Child Marriage and its Campaign, the Africa Health Strategy 2016-2030, amongst others.

The programme will be supporting the regional response to prevention of harmful practices focusing specifically on child marriage, and the following pillars:
● Pillar 1: Laws and Policy
● Pillar 5: Quality, disaggregated, comparable data
● Pillar 6: Women’s movements and Civil society

The direct beneficiaries of this regional programme are targeted regional forums and government institutions, regional and national statistical institutions and their staff, women’s rights organisations and civil society organizations. The programme will target these partners through joint advocacy, provision of technical assistance, generation of knowledge and evidence sharing. Indirect beneficiaries will include non-targeted government</td>
<td>Total Cost of Stream II CM (incl. estimated Spotlight contribution, UN Agency contributions and Unfunded Budget): USD 11,984,658

Total Funded Cost of Stream II CM (Spotlight Phase I[19] and UN Agency contribution: USD 8,678,815

Breakdown of Total Funded Cost by RUNO:
<table>
<tr><th>Name of RUNOs</th><th>Spotlight Phase I (USD)</th><th>UN Agency Contributions[20] (USD)</th></tr>
<tr><td>UNICEF</td><td>5,478,925</td><td>77,585</td></tr>
<tr><td>UNFPA</td><td>3,061,075</td><td>61,230</td></tr>
<tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>8,540,000</td><td>138,815</td></tr>
</table>
</td>
</tr>
</table>

[19] Funding from the Spotlight Initiative will be allocated by the Operational Steering Committee in two distinct phases: Phase I will entail allocating 70% of the funding envelope (first 24 months), Phase II will only be allocated depending on the Regional Programme’s overall needs and performance towards achieving results.

[20] These are mandatory and will have to be reported on.

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">institutions and CSOs that will be accessing and utilizing knowledge products, girls, boys, women and men that will benefit through advocacy messaging from CSOs and regional forums' organized events.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Estimated No. of Beneficiaries [21] (TBC)
<table>
<tr><th>Indicative numbers</th><th>Direct</th><th>Indirect</th></tr>
<tr><td>Women</td><td>1,121,195</td><td>1,141,103</td></tr>
<tr><td>Girls</td><td>6,272,202</td><td>3,921,045</td></tr>
<tr><td>Men</td><td>1,088,351</td><td>1,098,488</td></tr>
<tr><td>Boys</td><td>1,098,975</td><td>683,961</td></tr>
<tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>9,580,723</td><td>6,844,597</td></tr>
</table></td><td>Start Date: 1 January 2020

End Date: 31 December 2022

Total duration: 36 months

The duration of the Country Programme should be maximum of 3 years.</td></tr>
</table>

[21] ***Estimation:***

Girls and boys- Direct reach based on at risk girls and boy's population in the 13 GP + SL countries

a. Calculate marriages that may be averted among girls and boys (10-19) at risk of child marriage by- using the current prevalence to estimate at risk population
b. Assuming that if the global 2030 target of ending child marriage is achieved by reducing the current rate in Africa by one-tenth every year until 2030, and assuming no new marriages, then within the SL implementation years, the current rate can be reduced four-tenth—multiply this with the current at-risk estimate

Using steps (a) and (b) above, Indirect reach based on at risk girls and boys in African countries were child marriage is an issue (except North Africa as they are outside of the support from the focus UNICEF and UNFPA Regional Offices)

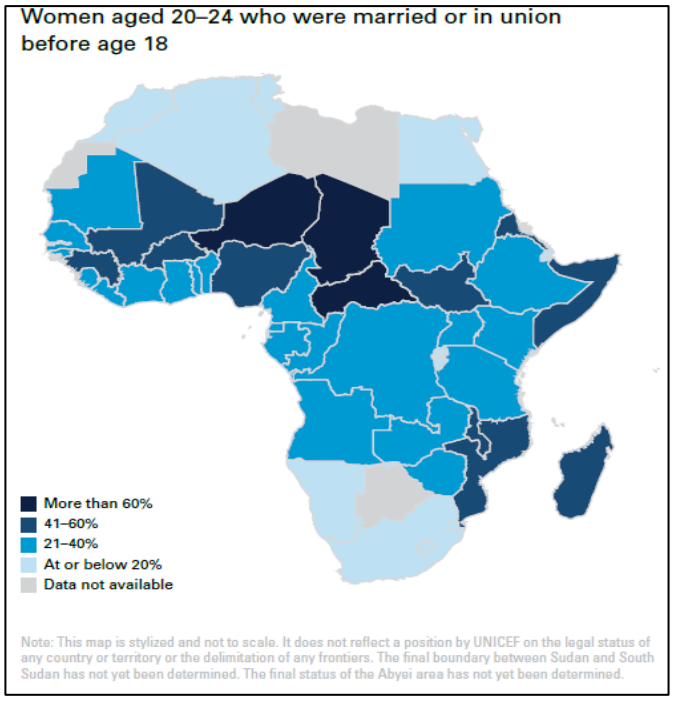
Data source: UN DESA/Population Division – World Population Prospects 2017.

Women and men-Direct reach

a. Calculate coverage of adult population that make use of access to knowledge and information on laws
b. Less than 1% of adult population make use of access to information provisions (source "access to information in Africa", Afrika-Studiecentrum Series, Vol 27, 2013, listed at brill.com/asc)

III. REGIONAL PROGRAMME STREAM II - CHILD MARRIAGE

I. Situational Analysis



Across Africa, 125 million girls and women alive today were married before their 18th birthday. Overall, over one in three young women in Africa were married in childhood, and one in ten before their 15th birthday. The percentage of young women married before age 18 is above 30 per cent in Central, Southern, and Eastern Africa and above 40 per cent in Western Africa, where child brides are also younger: this region has the highest prevalence of marriage before age 15 in the world. The prevalence of child marriage among young women varies across countries in Africa, from as low as 2 per cent in Tunisia to as high as 76 per cent in Niger. Eight of the ten countries in which child marriage is most common worldwide are in Africa. Child marriage levels have decreased slightly compared to earlier generations. Twenty-five years ago, nearly half were married before age 18 and about one in six were married before age 15. Today, seven countries have levels of child marriage below 10 per cent (Tunisia, Algeria, Swaziland, Djibouti, South Africa, Rwanda and Namibia), compared to just one country 25 years ago (Namibia). Of the seven African countries with a child marriage prevalence above 50 per cent, four show no signs of decline (Central African Republic, Chad, Burkina Faso and South Sudan). The recent UNICEF release of global data on child marriage records declines by one-third in Ethiopia over the past 10 years, a country once among top five in sub-Saharan Africa.

The response from the African Union has been decisive. The continental body has established a strong pan-African policy and normative framework for ending child marriage which is in tandem with the Africa's Agenda 2063's developmental priorities for the continent, including: The African Common Position on Ending Child Marriage, the Joint ACHPR-ACERWC General Comment on Child Marriage, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (article 21), the Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa and the African Union Peace and Security Council Press Statement on Ending Child Marriage, 13 June 2017. In addition, a continent-wide Campaign to End Child Marriage is also yielding results. Today, 24 countries across the continent have launched campaigns to end child marriage and most member states have legislation, policies and programmes to end child marriage.

Additional efforts through the leadership of member states include Zambia and Canada co-sponsoring with a core group of countries the first UN General Assembly resolution on child, early and forced marriage in September 2014. The two countries co-sponsored another resolution on the issue at the UN General Assembly's 71st session in 2016. In November 2015, Zambia co-hosted the first-ever African Girls' Summit on Ending Child Marriage. Innovative partnerships have resulted in the Global Partnership to End Child Marriage through Girls Not Brides which convenes more than 1000 civil society organizations committed to ending child marriage and enabling girls to fulfil their potential.

The diversity of contexts in which child, early and forced marriage occurs has been recognized and attention to specific settings has increased, notably humanitarian settings and armed conflict. The Human Rights Council dedicated resolution 35/16 of June 2017 to the issue of child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian settings, noting that the practice is highly exacerbated in those settings and urging States to develop and implement holistic, comprehensive and coordinated responses, strategies and policies to prevent, respond to and eliminate child, early and forced marriage.

However, progress in reducing child marriage in Africa is insufficient and at this current rate of reduction, it would take at least a century to eliminate the practice. Examples of challenges faced in addressing child marriage include (but are not limited to):

1. Limited capacity of the nodal Ministry to play a convening role of the multisectoral approach required for an effective child marriage response;
2. A trend of shifting and shrinking space for civil society organization driven by those in power;
3. Many governments have publicly supported the issue in international and regional fora without taking sustainable action in their countries;
4. Slow judicial processes, constitutional amendments and political stalemates on child marriage legislation within cabinets;
5. Budgeting for national initiatives is an ongoing challenge both in terms of accurately costing the initiative, as well as ensuring adequate budget allocation for its implementation;
6. Limited opportunities and mechanisms to hold governments to account for implementing national initiatives as well as their international and regional commitments to address child marriage and;
7. Limited spaces to learn about effective mechanisms for programmes that can be implemented at scale for child at risk of marriage and married girls.

In order to achieve the SDG target to eliminate child marriage by 2030, significant acceleration and increased concerted efforts is needed at regional as well as country level. The UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage (GP) is well-positioned to address prevention, and mitigation of consequences of child marriage under the Spotlight Initiative. Since its inception in 2016, the GP, the only operational programme at the global level, is mandated to address multi-level, cross-sectoral interventions across individual (girls), community, systems, policy and advocacy levels. While the thrust of focus is in 12 countries (4 regions), the GP also supports a global and regional portfolio towards the realization of SDG 5.3. In Africa, the GP is operational in 8 countries (Niger, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Uganda, Zambia and Mozambique). While 3 of the countries under the Spotlight Initiative intersect (Niger, Uganda and Mozambique) - Stream II Child Marriage provides the opportunity to leverage and accelerate ongoing regional initiatives to the benefit of more countries in the region as well as provide more targeted support to spotlight target countries in addition to the already targeted countries through the GP. **The universe of countries to be reached through this Programme is 13 countries which include Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe**.

The specific components to be addressed through the GP include:

Outcome 1 - Legislative, policy and programmatic frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are in place and translated into plans

Africa is witnessing increased commitment towards ending Child marriage in the past years. The African Union (AU) launched the campaign to end child marriage in 2014 and urged countries to work towards elimination of child marriage. The GP enjoys close collaboration with the AUC to build capacity and identify means of rolling out the continental child marriage campaign as well as negotiating political space. With support from the Global Programme and the AU Campaign, 8 of the 13 countries in Stream-II Child Marriage (i.e. Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) have developed and implemented National Action Plans (NAPs) to ending child marriage. Among the specific components that NAPs commit to delivering include services, justice, prevention, data and evidence. While commitments at the regional level have been made by member states that have supported the launch of the AU campaigns in their countries and developed NAPs, the impact of the NAPs has been hampered by the lack of commitment to legal and legislative change at the country level. A recent UNICEF and Girls Not Brides review of the implementation of the NAPs as well as sector level activities across different countries within and outside the African continent suggest that national level implementation has been minimal due to several challenges. These challenges have included:

- the lack of political commitment to turn rhetoric into reality;
- lack of multi-sectoral coordination
- lack of systematic prioritization of strategies and interventions

- lack of robust data and evidence
- limited capacity in integrated planning of interventions that reflect multi-sectoral planning

In countries where national strategies to ending child marriage have been developed and implemented, there are contradictions in implementing laws, policies and strategies especially in cases where the minimum ages of marriage are discriminatory (different ages for boys and girls). An example is Zambia that has a national strategy but has the age of consent to marry at 16 years, and even lower under exceptions. This contradictory legal and policy framework is easily abused and exploited by those wishing to violate the rights of children.

The capacity of education, health and social protection systems in countries is too low to meet the demands for adolescent girls. With limited government budget allocations and little accountability attached to their operation, adolescent girls are unable to access quality services from these systems. Currently, only 37% of adolescent girls in the GP have utilized a health or protection service in programme areas. In places where political commitment is high, lack of data has hampered efforts to hold service providers and government stakeholders accountable towards their commitments.

Outcome 5 - Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes

Countries in Africa face a number of problems in providing and using child marriage data and statistics that has been compiled correctly following international practices and methodologies. The primary responsibility for the collection and analysis of data can lie with a broad array of ministries and statutory bodies such as National Statistical Offices. The poor quality of data and statistics produced by these institutions is constraining its use for advocacy and better programming of interventions. Disaggregated data is not available to assess to which extent children, including the most vulnerable, have benefited from the results of the implemented interventions. In the absence of disaggregated data, governments cannot be held accountable especially when it comes to the provision of equitable and quality health, education and protection systems for children. There have been some notable improvements at the national level in the monitoring of government performance to ensure they deliver on their SDG commitments, partly as a result of the global SDG efforts as well as the continental AU campaign to end child marriage. According the GP experience, local governments have been critical in implementing and realizing the SDG goals. However, the lack of SDG indicator data analysed to the granular or lowest level has hampered sensitization and engagement of local leaders including efforts of accountability at the local government levels as most of the government annual reports on progress towards SDG are often based on government macro data, which may not show what's really happening at the local level and who is being denied their right to health, education and protection.

Building on the work of the Global Programme, a number of countries have begun work on developing tools for data collection and management of child protection and gender-based violence data and increasing the availability of disaggregated data. However, the development of these tools, some based on easy to use mobile technology platforms, conflicts with the laws and policies governing the gathering and use of data that differ widely across regions and countries, particularly when it comes to the ethics and confidentiality of data on children in protected areas.

Following UNICEF's press release of the global trends and progress towards the reduction of child marriage rates, there is an increasing number of documented cases of misreporting on child marriage statistics at country level that have generated confusion within users on 'what is right' or 'what works'. For instance, a newspaper article reported a slight fall in the rate of child marriages in Mozambique.[22] According to the UNICEF Data and Analytics Section, the analysis of same survey data revealed a slight increase in child marriage prevalence rates. This faulty analysis is partly due to lack of proper guidance and training in management and analysis of data by staff from institutions with the primary responsibility for the collection and analysis of data at the country level.

[22] Reuters World News, April 11, 2016.

UNICEF's and UNFPA's work in data analysis highlights trends and emphasizes patterns found within the data. It also suggests how these data can be used strategically to inform programmatic efforts. Where possible, data are disaggregated by gender, age, residence, household income, education, and other key social and demographic variables to help uncover possible risk factors and inequities. However, based on the GP experience, this evidence has not been systematically translated into action by the governments and stakeholders due to lack of technical expertise required to leverage the analyses generated so as to integrate them in national and local action plans as well as developing local advocacy tools.

Outcome 6 - Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP

This outcome aligns to SDG goals 5 Gender Equality, 3 Health and 4 Education. The Global Programme maintains partnerships with over 100 national and regional CSOs and uses this engagement to leverage technical support. While child marriage rates in the African Region are decreasing especially in the East Africa region, but remains a major concern in the West Africa that has countries with some of the highest rates globally. Passing laws and devising national strategies are not enough as legal loopholes and customary practices often weaken women's rights. Girls can still marry under the age of 18 in 29 African countries (12 in West Africa, 12 in East and Southern Africa and 5 in North Africa). Even when legislation condemns the practice, these laws are weakened by customary legal systems. They major challenge is social norms transformation in most of the African countries, in large part due to deeply entrenched, discriminatory views about the role and position of women and girls in society, which relegate women to an inferior position relative to men and result in unequal power relations between men and women. Transforming discriminatory social norms requires a solid understanding of the political economy and territorial realities. Interventions are needed at regional, national and grassroots levels and require the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, including men and boys, and in particular civil society organizations, to change attitudes on gender roles.

The GP and CSO partnership have provided specific guidance to governments on the content of the legislation and its relationship to the process of social change that it is meant to support. A key lesson learnt is to implement legislation in ways that contribute to a social change process that ultimately results in prevention and mitigation of child marriages. Building on the current progress, the GP seeks to maximize contributions by CSOs to accelerate action to end child marriage. The programme will collaborate with the Africa CSO Working Group to set a CSO-led child marriage advocacy agenda that will align advocacy efforts and support promotion of evidence and best practices among regional and national advocates and governmental institutions to draft new and/or strengthen of existing legislations and national action plans. Key lessons emerging out of the global programme is that member states need to not only develop action plans and sectoral plans but that resources need to be allocated to invest in adolescent girl responsive interventions to prevent and mitigate the consequences of child marriage. Through technical support from the programme with knowledge and evidence, tools and guidelines, the role of CSOs and women's rights groups will be strengthened to hold governments accountable for the commitments they have made to allocate adequate resources and funding of programs that respond to the needs and rights of adolescent girls and women. The Africa CSO Working Group will be instrumental in promoting the implementation of the AU accountability framework and scorecard. Women's rights groups and civil society organizations will also have a crucial role to play in implementing regional initiatives aimed at transforming social norms.

Recognizing that the African WRGs and CSOs is not a homogeneous group, they are not in better position to hold governments and other actors to account and secure justice and equitable access to services for girls as they lack better coordination and partnerships across disciplines (that include human rights, child protection groups, health and education). Taking stock of these limitations, the global programme under this Outcome will ensure strengthened coordination between civil society organizations for joint advocacy and inter-sectoral action at the regional level.

It is important to note that as noted above in the Programme document common section, the Africa's RP support to Pillar 6 will focus on regional, continent-wide women's movement building of regional

women's rights organization, pan-African networks and CSOs, to collectively advocate and work towards the ending sexual, gender-based violence and harmful practices, and enlarging space in key regional processes with the African Union, and there by a key distinction with what is envisioned through the UN Trust Fund sub-regional grants for civil societies.

II. Programme Strategy

This is a Regional support programme and is not aimed at direct reach of populations within communities. Under the Global Programme, the direct projected reach of unmarried and married girls is 2.5 million during the course of the 4-year programme. The programme will contribute to the following impact indicators; child marriage prevalence; adolescent pregnancy, unmet need for modern family planning and skilled birth by health personnel in the 8 Spotlight countries. Under the Spotlight initiative, the programme aims to accelerate regional capacity building support beyond the focus of the 8 countries in the region through the 3 outcomes. These will include the 5 GP countries in the region (i.e. Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Zambia) and others.

The GP Theory of Change (TOC)

The GP is founded on an evidence-based TOC that lays out a pathway for interventions at different levels. Building from the theory of change, the Global Programme has formulated an integrated structure for programme interventions at global, regional and country levels involving multiple stakeholders. This has translated into five key and interlinked outcome areas, with two to three suggested interventions within each area that are the specific contribution of the Global Programme.

- Outcome 1 Adolescent girls at risk of and affected by child marriage are better able to express and exercise their choices
- Outcome 2 Households demonstrate positive attitudes and behaviours towards investing in and supporting adolescent girls
- Outcome 3 Relevant sectoral systems deliver quality and cost-effective services to meet the needs of adolescent girls
- Outcome 4 National laws, policy frameworks and mechanisms to protect and promote adolescent girls' rights are in line with international standards and are properly resourced
- Outcome 5 Government(s) and partners within and across countries support the generation and use of robust data and evidence to inform policy and programming, track progress and document lessons.

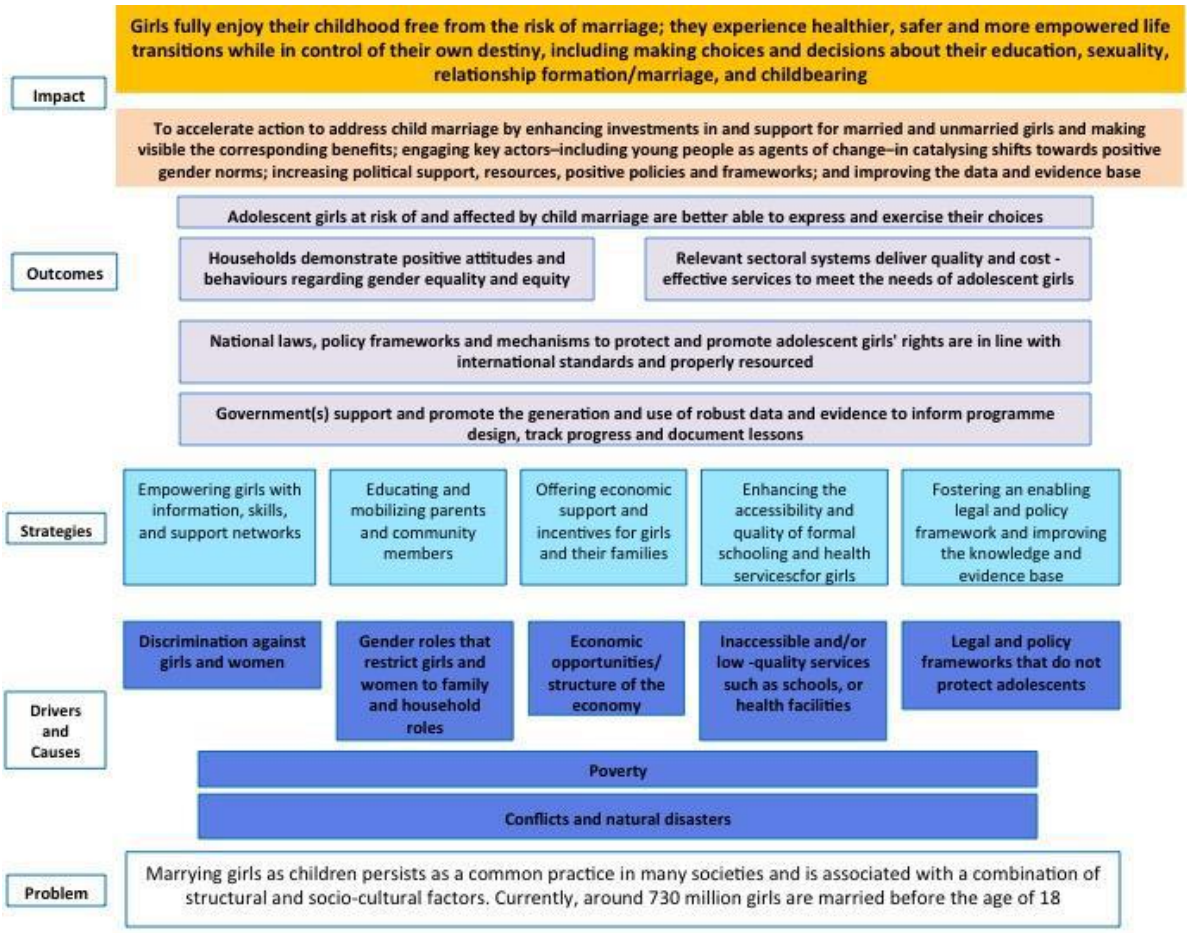
Ending child marriage requires national-scale momentum for social change. The Global Programme allows for action on three mutually reinforcing levels that correspond to changes in the enabling environment, supply and demand, respectively:

(i) National policy and institutional support (upstream work) conducted in partnership with line ministries;
(ii) System-strengthening to support decentralized provision of services to better serve adolescent girls, in coordination with both national ministries and local government;
(iii) Focused interventions at the level of adolescent girls, families and communities (downstream), in focus districts, as determined by the UNDAF, where applicable, and the respective country programme documents, in partnership with civil society and young people.

The five outcome areas are designed to create an integrated and systematic programme response to accelerate efforts to end child marriage. Outcome 1 focuses on empowering girls so that they are able to make effective choices about their lives. It is reinforced by interventions under Outcome 2 that promote positive practices at the level of the family and community. Outcome 3 aims to directly strengthen critical systems to expand access and improve the quality of services for adolescent girls. Lastly, Outcomes 4 and 5 focus on strengthening the overall enabling environment, with particular attention given to data and evidence-based programming.

It is important to note that the **GP's Outcome 4 and 5 particularly align with Outcome 1, 5 and 6 under the current Child Marriage Spotlight Initiative programme document**, while lessons drawn from the GP's interventions under all the Outcomes will be used to support a TA strategy under the Spotlight Initiative's Outcome 1 (see Results Framework in section)

The following diagram presents an overview of the GP's causality link between the drivers of child marriage and the chain of results through impact. Subsequent sections articulate specific ToCs under the 3 outcomes aligned to the Spotlight Investment Plan:



Pillar 1 – Laws and Policies

a. Theory of Change for Outcome 1

The ToC related to outcome 1 is if (1) the African Union, other continental bodies and Civil Society are engaged in advocating for, developing and monitoring legislations, policies and programmatic frameworks through initiatives such as the Phase 2 AU Campaign to End Child Marriage, (2) If implementation of legislation, policies and programmatic frameworks are monitored and independently evaluated, (3) If regional and country initiatives and partnerships to end child marriage are developed, implemented and monitored with the right institutional mechanisms (such as allocation of domestic budget, implementation and monitoring of accountability frameworks, establishment of a regional CSO agenda to ending child marriage, regional CSOs engagement in the planning, implementing and monitoring of the AU Campaign to end child marriage) are supported, and with knowledge and evidence (4) then an enabling legislative, policy and programming environment on ending Child Marriage is in place at the regional and country levels

and commitments are translated into tangible, effective actions.

This outcome aligns to SDG goals 5 Gender Equality, 3 Health and 4 Education. As noted above, the GP maintains partnerships with over 100 national and regional CSOs and uses this engagement to leverage technical support. The GP and CSO partnership have provided specific guidance to governments on the content of the legislation and its relationship to the process of social change that it is meant to support. A key lesson learnt is to implement legislation in ways that contribute to a social change process that ultimately results in prevention and mitigation of child marriages. Building on the current progress, the GP seeks to engage CSOs in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the AU Campaign in order to maximize contributions by CSOs to accelerate action to end child marriage.

Table 1.1: Status of NAPs in African Countries with Child Marriage issues

Country	Prevalence Rates	NAP Developed	NAP Costed	NAP with national budget line created
Niger	76,3	Draft	Draft	
Central African Republic	67,9	Yes	No	Yes
Chad	66,9	Yes	Yes	Yes
Guinea	51,7	Yes	Yes	Yes
Burkina Faso	51,6	Yes	Yes	
Mali**	51,5	Draft	No	
South Sudan	51,5	Draft	No	
Mozambique**	48	Yes	Yes	
Somalia	45,3	No	No	
Nigeria**	44	Yes	No	Yes
Malawi	42,1	Yes	Yes	
Madagascar	41,2	Yes	Yes	
Eritrea	40,7	Draft	Draft	
Ethiopia**	40,3	Yes	No	Yes
Uganda**	39,7	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sierra Leone**	38,9	Yes	Yes	
DRC Congo	37,3	Yes		
Liberia	35,9	No		
Mauritania	37	Yes	Yes	
Sudan	34,2	Yes	No	
Zimbabwe**	32,4	Yes	No	
Comoros	31,6	Yes	Yes	Yes
Zambia**	31,4	Yes	Yes	
Cameroon	31	Draft		
Senegal	31	Draft		
Tanzania	30,5	No		
Gambia	30,4	Yes	Yes	
Angola	30,3	No		
Equatorial Guinea	29,5	Draft		
Congo	27	No		
Cote D'Ivoire	27	No		Yes

Benin	25,9	Yes	Yes	
Guinea Bissau	24	Yes	No	
Kenya	22,9	Draft		
Gabon	21,9	No		Yes
Togo	21,8	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ghana	20,7	Yes	Yes	
Burundi	20,4	No		
Cabo Verde	18	No		
Egypt**	17,4	Yes	No	
Lesotho	17,3	Yes	Yes	
Morocco	15,9	No		
Namibia	6,9	No		
Rwanda	6,8	No		
South Africa	5,6	No		
Djibouti	5,4	No		
Swaziland	5,3	No		
Algeria	2,5	No		
Tunisia	1,6	No		

Note: ** Current NAPs will be outdated and will have to be updated/revised during SI programme period

Another key lesson from the Global Programme is the lack of political will and commitment, including lack of resources and accountability to implementation of child marriage initiatives. Engagement with the AUC, regional CSOs and other regional RECs and Parliamentarian forums will focus on advocacy towards governments to develop and implement national action plans to ending child marriage. According to the AU, 18 years of age is stated as minimum age for marriage, but many countries only have 18 years for males and not for females. Through the development a plan and guidelines for engagement of CSOs, the regional programme will bring together the coalition of CSOs to support the AUC in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the AU Campaign to end child marriage. Stakeholder mapping will be among the deliverables that the AU Campaign will benefit from the development process of the CSO engagement guidelines. It is important to note the complementarity and synergy with Outcomes 5 & 6. For instance, under Outcomes 5 and 6, the programme will equip the CSO coalition with tools to lend a collective voice towards ending child marriage, and marriage and engage all stakeholders to advocate for the legal age of girls to be defined as 18 years through the domestication and implementation of the AU minimum marriage age laws, as well as advocate for strong national strategies and planning of action to tackle issues of child marriage. In addition, working together with CSOs to transformation social norms will be a focus of the regional programme under outcome 6. The current practice of CSOs and governments in programme initiatives and/or campaigns of inserting gender-related information or reinforcement of negative gender stereotypes will be replaced with the creation of initiatives and messages that are positive contributions to changing gender roles. This will be achieved through the development of programme guidance that emphasizes gender transformative approaches.

In addition, the regional programme will take advantage of commemorative days such as the Day of the African Child, as well as the AU Summits and UN General Assemblies and Special Sessions including think-tanks and peer review sessions to mobilize support and raise awareness around child marriage and gender equality. Popular mobilization activities with government focal persons will be held during the launch of AU Campaign to end child marriage in countries and be used to galvanize as many voices as possible as a way of drawing the attention of communities to their rights (especially the rights of children) as well as the attention of policy makers on the need for strong strategies and planning of actions to end child marriage. And based on the recommendation from the 2018 review of the AU campaign that was commissioned and supported by UNICEF, the regional programme will provide a full-time staff to provide

technical support to the Campaign Secretariat to coordinate the campaign and engage partners in developing national campaign strategies. The regional programme will also build the capacity of the government focal persons in the planning, coordination and monitoring the impact of the campaign.

Accounting and participatory governance which underpins the SDGs not only requires the presence of transparent and more inclusive institutions, but also requires a strong commitment towards ensuring that no one is left behind, and resources are prioritized to provide a quality services to citizens. In order to ensure that governments are held accountable for the commitments they have made to end child marriage, the regional programme will support the AU Campaign to end child marriage to develop, implement and monitor a mechanism of accountability (the accountability framework) that will influence strong strategy and planning as well as increased budget allocations to end child marriage.

So far 2 of the Spotlight countries (i.e. Mozambique and Uganda) supported have national budget allocations and strengthened commitment towards ending child marriage. Though monitoring of these commitment is still a challenge, the regional CSOs partnership under outcome 6 will support and equip local CSOs with the gender responsive budgeting skills so as to lend a collective hand in the monitoring of the government budget allocations and implementation of NAPs.

b. Outcome statement: **Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are in place and translated into plans**

c. Scope:
(i)To support the AUC to build their capacity and advocate for ensuring end to child marriage remain a political priority in the region as well as regional commitments are enforced at sub-regional and national level, including in countries that do not have the legislative and policy frameworks, linking that support to strengthening national institutions through partnerships with regional Women Rights Groups (WRGs) and CSO coalitions or networks.

The scope of support will also include
(iii) provide technical assistance and develop a programme guidance for child marriage including guidance on incorporating a gender transformative approach
(iv) supporting AUC and CSOs to hold governments accountable to agreed commitments using the AU accountability framework.
(v) enhancing knowledge and evidence sharing among partners to improve evidence-based programming and legislation.

d. Scale:
Given the regional nature of this stream, the scale will be regional with global linkages. However, there will be some direct targeted technical support to 13 countries that include the 8 Spotlight countries (Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda and Zimbabwe) as well as GP countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Zambia). Technical assistance and tools and knowledge products will be shared with all countries in the region that request support. Overall 13 additional countries with child marriage prevalence rates above 24 percent and where child marriage is an issue (i.e. Benin, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Madagascar, South Sudan, Togo and Tanzania) may indirectly benefit from the programme support and knowledge products shared under this outcome 1. Working with the African Union will influence the work and policy environment in AU member states as well as set priorities for sub-regional bodies. The work in the AU will influence the regional agenda through high-level meetings such as the AU Summit and Special sessions and regional parliamentary forums, as well as the global agenda through global meetings such as the General Assembly, CSW and EU forums and include engagement with global partners such as Girls Not Brides in advocacy work on progress measures in child marriage.

e. Focus: The focus of this outcome is to provide support and build capacity of the African Union Commission and other regional bodies to advocate for and support new and/or existing initiatives to end child marriage, strengthen accountability of member states, systematically monitor national-level actions and progress the implementation of SDG 5.3.1 in the African context, with an SRHR focus. As well as

advocate for child marriage at the global and regional level to ensure legal and policy frameworks are enabling, evidence based and in line with human rights standards that support an inclusive approach with a *leave no one behind* lens - with the view to ensure the interest of vulnerable women and girls are addressed.

f. Key Activities under Outcome 1 include the following:

Output 1.1 National and regional partners have strengthened evidence-based knowledge and capacity to assess gaps, draft new and/or strengthen existing legislation and policies and enforce implementation of existing legislation on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage, that are in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations
Activity 1.1.1 Conduct a post-evaluation of the second phase of the AU Child Marriage Campaign: While the first phase of the Campaign established the AU's leadership on ending child marriage and raised the profile of the issue on the continent, the following challenges were identified which we expect greater detail on through the Evaluation: the conceptual framework needs updating; monitoring and evaluation needs streamlining; targeting of countries needs a strict focus; the campaign narrative needs to be adjusted towards a rights holder perspective and; partnerships engagement needs strengthening. Post evaluation, the programme will support AUC to build a robust theory of change accompanied by a strengthened M&E framework and plan; develop an advocacy strategy with performance indicators including a partnership strategy
Activity 1.1.2 Support the work of the AU in holding member states accountable to progress towards SDG 5.3 child marriage commitments by organizing peer reviews to end child marriage. This activity will benefit from the role of the ACERWC that can seek complementary reports from CSOs as part of its consideration of State Party Reports and investigation of reported violations
Activity 1.1.3 Support the AU to develop and advocate for the institutionalization of accountability mechanisms with governments that monitor commitments delivered to end child marriage; The regional accountability mechanism is to be used by Member States to report on their progress on child marriage. Building national capacity on data will allow countries to report on the regional accountability mechanism that will be put in place through this Programme.
Activity 1.1.4 Support the capacity of the AUC with technical assistance to assess the current status of child marriage in Africa using data submitted to the AU by member states and other existing sources of data including the Accountability scorecard
Activity 1.1.5 Support the AU and ACERWC's coordination and collaboration with RECs and Member States through advocacy and dialogue to influence the drafting of new and/or strengthening of existing legislation on ending child marriage that are in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations
Activity 1.1.6 Support the AUC to organize high level panels with focus on strategic issues related to child marriage during AU Summit, CSW, UN General Assembly and European Union forums. The platforms will provide an advocacy space for the promotion of the implementation of AU commitments on ending child marriage as well as guiding frameworks such as the Joint General Comment of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) on Ending Child Marriage
Activity 1.1.7 Strengthen capacities at regional and national level by developing a roadmap for programming, implementing and monitoring of child marriage programmes that includes guidance on incorporating a gender transformative and disability-inclusive approach into programmes
Output 1.2: National, sub-national and regional partners have increased capacity to advocate for, influence and develop regional, national and sub-national evidence-based action plans on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage in line with international HR standards and achieved increased financing with M&E frameworks, and responding to the needs and priorities of vulnerable groups facing discrimination
Activity 1.2.1: Support the work of the AU to advocate for national action to end child marriage by facilitating the AUC to organize country launches of the AU campaign
Activity 1.2.2 Support the work of the AU Goodwill Ambassador on ending child marriage, ACERWC and Special Rapporteur during strategic policy meetings and missions to influence national action to ending child marriage
Activity 1.2.3 Support the capacity of the AUC with technical assistance to coordinate and follow up on the implementation and monitoring of the AU campaign to end child marriage
A**ctivity 1.2.4** Assess the impact of National Action and/or other sectoral plans towards ending child marriage (with a key focus on lessons learned on costing, budgeting, political will, gender transformation, disability-inclusion and non-discrimination etc.)

Activity 1.2.5 Organize annual policy and advocacy forums at AUC with focus on strategic issues related to harmful practices and SRHR: Unlike advocacy events, these forums will focus only on policy discussions that are informed by objective information and analysis from key experts. The advocacy forum will combine virtual and face-to-face policy discussions. Discussion notes including recommendations and any other relevant materials will be managed through the knowledge management strategy.

g. Modalities of Support

Through technical assistance from the UNICEF and UNFPA Regional Offices,

a. Provide oversight over country programmes and management of regional partnerships for advocacy
b. support UNICEF and UNFPA country offices to develop NAPs, desk review of progress in developing and/or renewing NAPs, and organization of in-country missions with a focus of mobilizing the local technical expertise to leverage the analyses generated on child marriage data and evidence under outcome 5, so that they can be integrated in the NAPs.
c. analyse public budget allocations and expenditures for existing NAPs, share with to ensure government accountability
d. periodic scanning of laws and policies on child marriage in countries so as to engage with AU, RECs and other stakeholders to influence governments to draft new and/or strengthen existing laws and policies
e. support development, dissemination and implementation of the programme guidance for child marriage, identify and share gender transformative best practices and tools so as to be incorporated into country programmes, and provide technical assistance where required.
f. support the strengthening of the programme and AU campaign M&E and knowledge management capacity through the identification and vetting of qualified regional institutions and consultants, oversee the procurement process.
g. support organization of global and regional meetings, with focus on child marriage thematic issues, such as the CSW, AU Summit, UN General Assembly, Regional High-level events, regional governmental forums, AU think tanks

2. Through the brokering role of the UNICEF and UNFPA Liaison Offices,
   a. provide oversight and management of regional partnerships, strengthen strategic partnerships with the AUC, RECs, parliamentarian forums, regional CSO networks and other stakeholders to maintain child marriage on the political agenda (with direct reference to the implementation of the Common African Position on Ending Child Marriage) of continental, regional and sub-regional political entities and institutions (such as SADC, ECOWAS and EAC).
   b. connect RECs, regional CSOs and governments to the Spotlight Initiative knowledge and platforms, with support from the Regional Offices
   c. facilitate coordination and organization of High-Level events and dialogue meetings the AUC, RECs, parliamentarian forums, governments, regional CSO networks and other stakeholders.
   d. support organization of global and regional meetings, with focus on child marriage thematic issues, such as the CSW, AU Summit, UN General Assembly, Regional High-level events, regional governmental forums, AU think tanks

3. Through technical assistance from UNICEF and UNFPA Head Quarters,
   a. provide oversight, management of the regional programme as well as the global and regional partnerships
   b. facilitate and support the development, dissemination and implementation of the programme guidance for child marriage, identify and share gender transformative best practices and tools so as to be incorporated into country programmes, and provide technical assistance where required.
   c. ensure programme due diligence by conducting audit and risk management with regional implementing partners.
   d. facilitate and support the strengthening of the programme and AU campaign M&E and knowledge management capacity through the identification and vetting of qualified regional institutions and consultants
   e. facilitate and support organization of global and regional meetings, with focus on child marriage

thematic issues, such as the CSW, AU Summit, UN General Assembly, Regional High-level events, regional governmental forums, AU think tanks

4. Through advocacy and policy dialogue from the AUC - Social Affairs Department,
   a. engage with RECs, regional parliamentarian forums and other partners to influence national laws, policies and practices
   b. collaborate with UNICEF and UNFPA Regional and Country Offices to advocate for the acceleration of implementation of government commitments, such as developing action plans to end child marriage, drafting new and/or strengthening laws and policies.
   c. support organization of global and regional meetings, with focus on child marriage thematic issues, such as the CSW, AU Summit, UN General Assembly, Regional High-level events, regional governmental forums, AU think tanks

i) **Lessons learned:** while significant progress has been made in adoption, ratification of policies and laws, much remains in ensuring domestic budget allocations in effecting political commitment. Also, data is central to evidence-based advocacy and for tracking accountability.

ii) **Sustainability**: The Stream will ensure capacity building efforts are not delivered on ad hoc, that they are drawn from and instituted into AU and other regional bodies systems as well as in government institutions. Technical positions seconded should be retained by the AUC to sustain the knowledge, M&E initiatives supported.

The Child Marriage Stream will foster partnership with CSOs at global and regional levels to strengthen advocacy and monitoring mechanisms. The Stream will also ensure that this happens within the context of CSOs the AU identifies as 'accessible' pioneers in the effort to promote gender initiatives. Among others, it notes Youth organisations such as Y*oung African Thinkers, Shape Africa Forum* and Interfaith Groups as some examples of potential collaborators.

h. Target groups and geographical scope

Country focused programme activities will target 8 Spotlight countries (Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda and Zimbabwe) as well as GP countries (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Zambia). 13 additional countries with child marriage prevalence rates above 24 percent and where child marriage is an issue (i.e. Benin, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Madagascar, South Sudan, Togo and Tanzania) may be indirectly targeted.

Regional focused programme activities will target the AUC and CSOs.

Estimation of Beneficiaries for OUTCOME 1

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect
Women	1,120,770	1,135,603
Girls	6,272,202	3,921,045
Men	1,087,926	1,092,988
Boys	1,098,975	683,961
TOTAL	**9,579,873**	**6,833,597**

Direct beneficiaries: -

- Girls and boys aged 10-19 years at risk of child marriage benefitting from the implementation of legislations to enhance prevention and care services – estimated based on the CM prevalence rates of 13 target countries
- Women and men aged 20-80 years – estimate based on the 1% make use of access to information provisions in 13 target countries

Indirect beneficiaries: -

- Girls and boys aged 10-19 years at risk of child marriage – estimated based on the CM prevalence rates of countries where CM is a priority
- Women and men aged 20-80 years – estimate based on the 1% make use of access to information provisions in countries where CM is a priority

Pillar 5 - Data

b) **Theory of Change for Outcome 5**

If (1) Measurement and methodologies for harmful practices with a focus on child marriage, including SRHR, data collection are improved and strengthened (including monitoring and reporting requirements for SDG target 5.3 indicators), (2) the capacity of national statistical institutions to collect disaggregated child marriage, including SRHR, data in line with regional and globally agreed standards is strengthened, and (3) disaggregated data (including to extent possible on age, ethnicity, location, socio-economic status, disability, out of school) are made accessible and disseminated to be used by decision makers and civil society (4) then laws, policies and programmes will be based on evidence and better able to respond to the specific context and realities of women and girls, including vulnerable groups because (5) they will be based on quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data.

The logical causality chain under this outcome makes a connect between UNICEF and UNFPA support to regional institutions and governments with expertise in data generation, tracking, monitoring and analysis to enhance the capacity of key national statistical and advocacy institutions to regularly collect data related to harmful practices with a focus on child marriage, including SRHR.

Table 5.1: Summary of Ongoing and Upcoming Surveys for Data Analysis and Evidence generation support

Country	Year of Survey	Type	Status	Phase	Datasets availability
Algeria	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Benin	2017	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Cameroon	2018	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Central African Republic	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Chad	2019	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2020
Congo DRC	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Cote d'Ivoire	2019	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2020
Equatorial Guinea	2019	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2020
Eswatini	2019	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2020
Ethiopia	**2019**	**DHS**	**Ongoing**	**DHS-VII**	**2020**
Gabon	2018	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Gambia	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Guinea	2018	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Guinea-Bissau	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Lesotho	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Liberia	**2019**	**DHS**	**Ongoing**	**DHS-VII**	**2020**
Madagascar	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Malawi	**2019**	**MICS**	**Ongoing**	**MICS6**	**2020**
Mali	**2018**	**DHS**	**Ongoing**	**DHS-VII**	**2019**
Mozambique	**2018**	**DHS**	**Ongoing**	**DHS-VII**	**2019**

Niger	2017	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Nigeria	2018	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Sierra Leone	2017	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2018
Sierra Leone	2018	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Sudan	2019	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2020
Togo	2017	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Tunisia	2018	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2019
Zambia	2018	DHS	Ongoing	DHS-VII	2019
Zimbabwe	2019	MICS	Ongoing	MICS6	2020

UNICEF is the lead custodian of the child marriage and FGM indicators as part of its responsibilities for the 8 global SDG indicators and co-custodianship for a further 9. In this role, UNICEF supports countries in generating, analysing and using data for these indicators for all their citizens. This includes leading methodological work, developing international standards, and establishing mechanisms for compilation and verification of national data, and maintaining global databases. UNICEF's Data and Analytics section has been publishing progress statistical reports and country profiles on child marriage and FGM that support governments and partners to plan and deliver services that are responsive to the needs of girls. Building on the lessons learned from the GP, there is consensus that progress towards ending child marriage must draw on the actions of local governments and galvanize participation from all actors in communities. The GP is advocating for and supporting the positioning of the SDGs at local level through the development of sub-national and/or local government action plans on ending child marriage. And this requires strengthening of stakeholder capacity in collection, analysis and visualization of disaggregated local data along the SDG indicators through development of guidelines and training.

Based on GP advocacy strategy, Stream II Child Marriage will support regional stakeholders and governments to maximize the update of evidence produced by the regional and global programmes for use in the design and implementation of policies and initiatives to ending child marriage. The role of the civil society organizations, with the capacity to collect adequate data and evidence from the most remote or under-served vulnerable groups, is critical in this effort. Activities will include: a rigorous contextual (socio-economic-geographic-political) synthesis of knowledge to produce evidence briefs, case studies and profiles on thematic child marriage issues: strengthening of M&E and data analysis capacities of regional stakeholders and governments with tools and guidance; and south-to-south exchanges and co-operation in knowledge management.

And to get governments to listen and subsequently act on child marriage issues, there is need for strong data and evidence to validate the issues being raised. To this end, the regional programme will work with National Statistics Offices and other stakeholders to contribute to the development of national, regional and global knowledge products and databases. This activity will also be used as a source of validation of data reported by the governments to the AUC for the Accountability scorecard under Outcome 1 supported by the AIDS Accountability International. Partnering with the government on this activity will foster ownership of results by government and also put it on the list of key documents that inform programming for national stakeholders on child marriage issues.

c) *Outcome statement*: **Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes**

Scope: The scope of support covers strengthening the capacity of national statistical institutions to collect, track and analyse macro level data (SDG 5.3) on child marriage through partnerships with the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) and United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) with data expertise and with scope for continental impact. Technical assistance under this outcome will differ to the technical assistance in M&E identified under outcome 1 - where the objectives and target institutions differ. It also includes strengthening capacity to integrate child marriage related data (e.g. on social change measures) into

national surveys such as MICS and DHS. This is key to collecting and analysing comparable social change data as well as cross verification of the impact of interventions using prevalence data and social change data. The programme will also support engagement of regional bodies in global advocacy efforts with relevant partners including regional CSOs, and others such as Girls Not Brides to advocate for the establishment of a global reporting, accountability and visibility mechanism for tracking and analysing a comprehensive but prioritized set of progress measures on child marriage

Scale: Given the regional focus, regional institutions will particularly target the 8 Spotlight and additional 5 GP countries with weak data collection and analytical capacity, however tools and guidance will benefit all countries across the continent. However, given the global programme's repository of child marriage prevalence data across 197 countries and 11 regions, lessons on gathering, tracking and analysis child marriage data will be shared across countries in the region.

Focus: The focus is to provide expertise and technical support to generate regular, reliable and analytical data on child marriage prevalence and related analytical data, with focus on women and girls with increased risks, to inform laws, policies and programmes as well as to monitor the SDGs, and support advocacy efforts by the AUC and CSOs. Focus countries will be the countries under the GP and those covered under the Spotlight Initiative.

Key Activities under Outcome 5 include the following:

Output 5.1 Key regional and national partners have strengthened capacities to regularly collect data related to SGBV, child marriage, FGM in line with international and regional standards to inform laws, policies and programmes
Activity 5.1.1 Strengthen capacities of national statistical officers (including Africa Statistics Center) by developing and rollout through training concrete and comprehensive guidelines on how to produce and report on CM prevalence data: Sustainability will be ensured through development and roll-out of data analysis guidelines that can be incorporated as part of the pre-service and in-service training of personnel as well as using the pool of trained Statisticians (from Francophone and Anglophone) to provide cascaded training and in-country technical support to capacity building of other statisticians, institutions and NGOs. Synergy will be ensured with the work planned under Outcome 5 of 8 Spotlight country programmes, and this will be done through the mapping of the annual work plans and ensuring complementarity and synergy.
Activity 5.1.2 Strengthen capacities of governments and CSOs in data collection of child marriage data by developing and rolling out through training a standard set of effective and manageable M&E tools and measures to assess CM social changes including in national surveys (e.g. MICS, DHS): The focus on this activity is on "social norm change" and will include capacity building of implementing partners (i.e. women rights groups, CSOs including governments) on mechanisms/tools for outcome monitoring or tracking of social norms changes. This activity will promote innovative mechanisms/tools of outcome monitoring that are different from regular household surveys
Output 5.2 Quality prevalence and/or incidence data on SGBV, child marriage and FGM is analysed and made publicly available for the monitoring and reporting of the SDG indicators 5.2 and 5.3 to inform evidence-based decision making
Activity 5.2.1 Strengthen engagements with governments, AUC, RECs and build capacity of CSOs by providing them with relevant evidence-based advocacy tools produced through in-depth statistical analysis of child marriage data: UNICEF Data and Analytics will support the in-depth statistical analysis using a consultant to produce subnational brochures/profiles and other advocacy progress subnational reports for CSOs
Activity 5.2.2 Organize south-to-south exchange to promote exchange of knowledge, evidence and best practices in order to accelerate action to ending CM: This aim is to facilitate exchange of best practices and networking with tangible results that will be articulated in the concept notes prior to the meetings and visits.

Activity 5.2.3 Support provision of technical assistance to strengthen knowledge management capacity of partners by conducting focused and action-oriented analysis of evidence to produce evidence briefs, case-studies, and country-specific profiles on thematic CM issues: The GP is set to develop an integrated research strategy supported by a research hub with support from UNICEF Office of Research that will produce discussion papers, report cards or fact sheets, research and policy briefs, working papers, brochures, and conference/meeting reports in addition to providing quality assurance to research and evidence generated.
Activity 5.2.4 Support the translation into 4 AU official languages and dissemination of key knowledge products and research findings by convening/ organizing webinars, podcasts, blogs and press releases, including sharing through knowledge management hub led by Stream I

i) Modalities of support

1) Through technical assistance from the UNICEF and UNFPA Regional Offices,
   a) facilitate knowledge exchange through South-South exchange, monitor and track the results of the South-South exchange
   b) expand the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) Innovation network to provide policy makers and CSOs in other regions of the continent with new knowledge and evidence
   c) leverage its positioning at the regional level, organize in-country missions to engage governments to strengthen M&E systems to enable disaggregation of data, engage RECs and other stakeholders to influence governments to implement the ministerial decision to allocate 0.15% of their national budget to statistics.
   d) support provision through quality assurance of knowledge products including consultancy terms of references.
   e) capacitate governments and local CSOs with provision of standard M&E tools focused on child marriage measurements

2) Through technical assistance from the UNICEF and UNFPA Head Quarters,
   a) oversee the partnership with global and regional statistical institutions such as UNSD and ACS.
   b) direct provision of support to governments in statistical analysis by developing guidelines, organization of regional capacity building workshops and generating analyses on child marriage data and evidence
   c) provide technical assistance by conducting focused and action-oriented analysis of evidence, to produce evidence briefs, case studies and country specific profiles in order to strengthen the capacities of implementing partners in knowledge management.
   d) support knowledge management through South-South exchange
   e) generate knowledge and evidence on child marriage
   f) support provision through quality assurance of knowledge products including consultancy terms of references.
   g) support the development and rollout of standard M&E tools focused on child marriage measurements

v) **Lessons learned**: Some of the lessons learned include that data is key for ensuring accountability but also in strengthening advocacy efforts. In addition, it is important to synthesize and package data in a way that is easily understandable to users to support programme and advocacy.

vi) **Sustainability**: Capacity building of institutions to collect, track and analyse child marriage and related data is an institutional investment. The Stream will ensure capacity building happens in the context of follow-up actions that can be instituted into business practices and that can be tracked.

Target groups and geographical scope
Interventions will target AUC, governments and national statistical offices and their staff. CSOs will also benefit from the use of the knowledge products

Estimation of Beneficiaries for OUTCOME 5

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect
Women	125	1000
Girls		3,921,045
Men	125	1000
Boys		683,961
TOTAL	**250**	**4,607,006**

Direct Beneficiaries: -

- National Statistical Officers from the 13 targeted countries participating in the training and rollout of the guidance
- Staff from AUC, RECs, CSOs, Women Rights Groups, and other partners participating in webinars on CM data trends

Indirect Beneficiaries: -

- National Statistical Officers benefitting from accessing the guidance document and training materials, including recorded webinars
-

Pillar 6 – Women's Movements and Civil Society

a) **Theory of Change for Outcome 6**

If (1) the knowledge, expertise and capacities of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination is drawn upon and strengthened, and (2) the space for women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination, is free and conducive to their work, and (3) multi-stakeholder partnerships and networks are established at regional and global level with women's rights groups and autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination, then (4) women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations will be able to influence, sustain, and advance progress on harmful practices with focus on child marriage, including SRHR, policies and programmes that respond to the needs of all women and girls, including vulnerable groups discrimination, because (5) the activism of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination is a crucial driver of progress on efforts to end child marriage and promote women and girls' SRHR

The logical causality chain under this outcome makes a connect between UNICEF and UNFPA support to CSOs to deliver a Technical Assistance strategy to strengthen the capacity of key regional and national institutions to deliver evidence-based programs to end harmful practices, with focus on child marriage.

Pillar 6 Investment in Africa Regional Programme

The Africa RP's support to Outcome 6 across both streams will focus on regional, continent-wide women's movement building of regional women's rights organizations, pan-African networks and CSOs, to collectively advocate and work towards the ending sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices (specifically female genital mutilation [FGM] and child marriage [CM] on the continent. A key and distinct objective of the work envisioned under the Africa RP will be to enlarge space in key regional processes with the African Union (AU), which is a continental inter-governmental organization that has a major influence on agenda-setting and policymaking across Africa. This work will leverage the comparative advantage of the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in their convening role, bringing together governments and civil society to hear from each other and engage in joint decision-making. Efforts will build

on and strengthen ongoing work around existing AU initiatives (AU initiative on the elimination of FGM and ECM) and strategies (AU Gender Strategy), with existing mechanisms (Gender is My Agenda Campaign) and relevant Directorates of the AUC (Social Affairs and Gender). Additionally, the Africa RP will support the effective functioning of the Civil Society Regional Reference Group, an important governance mechanism of the Spotlight Initiative (at global, regional and national levels) that plays an advisory, advocacy and accountability role in the Africa RP's efforts to end VAWG and harmful practices.

Under Stream II of the Child Marriage component, the regional programme focus is on transforming discriminatory social norms through meaningful CSO engagement at regional and country levels to address issues of child marriage. With a clearly defined mechanism of engagement with the AU Campaign under outcome 1, the regional programme will support the CSO network and/or coalition to develop a CSO agenda on child marriage. The child marriage CSO agenda is aimed at tackling issues that will be advanced by regional and country CSOs through the regional programme with technical support from CSO network and/or coalition. Among the issues will include: how to work together with governments to transform societal norms; development of national and local action plans, ensuring that data and evidence has been used; advocacy for legislations and policies; ensuring data is disaggregated at all levels of implementation; ensuring government rhetoric reflects realities, including supporting the AU accountability framework under outcome 1 and tracking of expenditures and budget allocations to address issues of child marriage; integrating youth and other vulnerable groups. In addition, CSOs network and/or coalition will support capacity building of CSOs at regional and country, in synergy with activities under outcome 1 and outcome 5 on programming and evidence generation, to support implementation of initiatives at sub-national and local government levels to address issues of child marriage.

b) *Outcome statement*: **Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP**

i) Scope: **To strengthen the African CSO coalition** so as to set up an agenda on harmful practices with a focus on child marriage that will promote collective efforts of CSOs in Africa to advocate for the end to child marriage as well as hold governments accountable to their commitments to ending child marriage. UNICEF and UNFPA will cover **technical support with tools, data and evidence to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the context of child marriage issues** as well as guidelines for programming implementation and monitoring of child marriage programs. The CSO coalition is to integrate CSOs representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination including the promotion of women and girls' SRHR.

ii) **Scale**: Given the regional nature of this stream, the scale will primarily be regional, however focusing on providing support to enforce regional commitments through evidence generation and supporting networking and sharing of knowledge and evidence to support evidence-based implementation of programs at sub-regional and national level.

iii) **Focus**: The focus of this outcome is to ensure relevant women's rights groups, CSOs and their network of partners are mobilized to collectively advocate for prevention and mitigation of harmful practices with a focus on child marriage. The focus will include support towards the implementation of the AU accountability framework as well as independent monitoring and assessment of the outcomes from the commitments made by the governments. Focus countries will be the countries with CSO representation in the coalition or network, and specifically those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination.

iv) **Modalities of support**:

1. Through technical assistance from the UNICEF and UNFPA Regional Offices,
   a. oversee the partnership with regional CSO networks, AUC and AIDS Accountability International
   b. capacitate CSOs with provision of relevant evidence-based advocacy tools

v) **Key Activities under Outcome 6**:

The following set of activities have been developed across the two streams to be implemented under Outcome 6. Relevant details on activities to be implemented under Stream II FGM and Stream I are provided in the respective programme document sections.

Output 6.1: Increased opportunities and support for women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to share knowledge, network, partner and jointly advocate for GEWE and EVAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and to promote SRHR	
Activity 6.1.1. Support the establishment of a continental Civil Society Regional Reference group (CSRRG) to effectively coordinate and provide oversight on the implementation of international and regional commitments on gender equality and women's rights	Stream I
Activity 6.1.2 Design/configure existing UNECA knowledge sharing digital platforms to make them interoperable and accessible also by the CSOs (African Women's Rights Observatory currently managed by UNECA.	Stream I
Activity 6.1.3. Convene an annual Regional CSO and women's movement forum on EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR to influence the African Union and global policy agenda on EVAW, SGBV/HP, SRHR. (ex. CSW, HPLF, Beijing +25, GA, ICPD, CEDAW, CRC and the African Union Processes including GMAC, AU EVAW and ECM campaigns, AU Summit and the AU Agenda 2063).	Stream I
Activity 6.1.4. Support the establishment of Regional media/communication platform for Regional CSOs to enable knowledge sharing on best practices and lessons learned on VAWG/HP and SRHR, including on engaging key AU processes – (such as African Women Changing the Narrative)	Stream I
Activity 6.1.5. Support the innovative regional youth led initiatives and amplify youth, particularly young women and girls' engagement in policy dialogue on EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR through relevant AUC Directorates and High-Level Meeting	Stream I
Activity 6.1.6. Support partnerships between the African Union Commission and regional faith-based organizations, and communities of traditional leaders to strengthen their engagement in prevention and response to VAW/G, SGBV, harmful practices and promotion of SRHR in Africa.	Stream I
Activity 6.1.7 Develop 13 policy and analytical briefs on child marriage in 13 countries based on analysis of evidence from recent social and economic impact and policy studies related to adolescent girls and young women	Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.8 Convene 13 national multi-stakeholder dialogues on ending child marriage in 13 countries with participation of women's rights groups, CSOs, youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination and develop regional policy recommendations based on inputs from the national dialogues	Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.9 Develop a practitioner's guide to implementing child marriage programmes (with possibility of specific versions based on region/country contexts), following the analytical reports and national dialogues, that will also guide women's rights groups, CSOs, youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination frame practical discussions around child marriage issues including the monitoring of outcomes	Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.10. Engage CSOs and associations to support 'building bridge' initiative linking the diaspora in European Union countries with communities in Africa to encourage open interaction between communities and families to facilitate social norms change in favour of abandonment of FGM (FGM)	Stream II FGM
Activity 6.1.11. Build the capacity of national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs on social accountability to advocate and influence the national level responses in implementing policy commitments and legal provisions in addressing FGM	Stream II FGM
Activity 6.1.12 Undertake a regional level coordinated CSO movement for lobbying and advocating for the elimination of FGM and protecting the rights of girls and women (advocate to have legislation on FGM at national level and their enforcement, follow up and influence implementation of the Africa Union Initiative on the elimination of FGM, advocate for full implementation of the recommendations of the Africa Union peer review mechanism on FGM)	Stream II FGM
Activity 6.1.13. Engage regional and national level Men Alliance Networks to promote a strong movement of men and boys in supporting and engaging in initiatives to end FGM and implementing advocacy initiatives for strong involvement of men and boys	Stream II FGM

Activity 6.1.14 Undertake a regional level media campaign on the progress, achievements and challenges in addressing FGM in Africa, including a focus on the AU initiative on the elimination of FGM	Stream II FGM
Output 6.2 Capacities of regional women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to use social accountability mechanisms to advocate and influence prevention and response to VAWG, including SGBV/HP and GEWE enhanced	
Activity 6.2.1.Strengthen the capacity of networks of regional CSOs (including networks of rural women, women living in conflict affected areas, women with disabilities and women living with HIV/AIDS) to fast track, monitor and report on the implementation of African Union instruments including the Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa , Agenda 2063, AU Gender Strategy on VAWG/HP and SRHR.	Stream I
Output 6.3 Capacities of regional women's CSOs and networks strengthened to design, implement and monitor their own programmes on VAWG, including ending SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and promoting women's and girls' health rights	
Activity 6.3.1. Strengthen the institutional capacity of CSOs in advocacy, lobbying and networking in engaging key AU policy processes and relevant directorates on GEWE, VAWG, HP, and SRHR.	Stream I
Activity 6.3.2. Convene a high-level multi-stakeholder continental summit in the side-lines of the African Union Summit to showcase, network and cross-learning of CSOs (women's CSOs, AU Member States, AUC, UN system, development partners and other relevant actors) on EVAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR.	Stream I
Activity 6.3.3. Provide technical assistance to regional men's and boys' networks on positive social norms change and establish linkages of the networks with relevant AUC departments.	Stream I

vi) Lessons learned: Maximize CSO participation and contribution to implement legislation in ways that contribute to a social change process that ultimately results in prevention and mitigation of child marriages.

vii) Sustainability: The setup of an African CSO agenda on child marriage should galvanize advocacy efforts to promote responses to prevention and mitigation of child marriage as well as holding governments accountable.

Target groups and geographical scope

Interventions will target AUC, governments and national statistical offices and their staff. Also, CSOs will benefit from the use of the knowledge products

Estimation of Beneficiaries for OUTCOME 6

Indicative numbers	**Direct**	**Indirect**
Women	112,120	1,681,800
Girls	51,330	769,959
Men	108,835	1,632,525
Boys	30,036	450,550
TOTAL	**302,321**	**4,534,835**
Justification – reach based on GP results monitoring of regular participation in dialogues A. Total targeted girls aged 10-19 – 51,330,643 B. Total targeted boys aged 10-19 – 30,036,712 C. Total targeted women aged 20+ -112,120,000 D. Total targeted men aged 20+ - 108,835,000 E. Total girls benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 0.1% -51,330		Justification – reach based on GP results monitoring of regular participation in media campaigns A. Total targeted girls aged 10-19 – 51,330,643 B. Total targeted boys aged 10-19 – 30,036,712 C. Total targeted women aged 20+ -

F. Total boys benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 0.1% -30,036 G. Total women benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 0.1% -112,120 H. Total men benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 0.1% -108,835	112,120,000 D. Total targeted men aged 20+ - 108,835,000 E. Total girls benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 1.5% - 769,959 F. Total boys benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 1.5% - 450,550 G. Total women benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 1.5% - 1,681,800 H. Total men benefitting from dialogues promoted by WRGs & CSOs – 1.5% - 1,632,525

Synergy with Stream I

Synergies with Stream I under Outcome 1

Both Streams will draw on support from staff at the respective agencies' AULO to deploy a common approach of advocacy and engagement with the AUC. Stream 1 focuses engagement with the Women, Gender and Development Directorate while Stream 2 focus is with Social Affairs Department. However, agencies will coordinate and share information through the weekly meetings with the SL Coordination team on the advocacy and engagement activities with the AUC related to legal and policy frameworks.

Both streams plan to jointly develop advocacy material including IEC material and regional advocacy forum to influence Member States to accelerate ratification, domestication, enforcement and reporting on legal and policy frameworks related to SGBV/HP. Stream 1 will lead the mapping of laws and share with the Stream 2 and both will jointly plan and collaborate on regional support activities. collaborate towards the increasing of financing of the AUC activities on developing national action plans

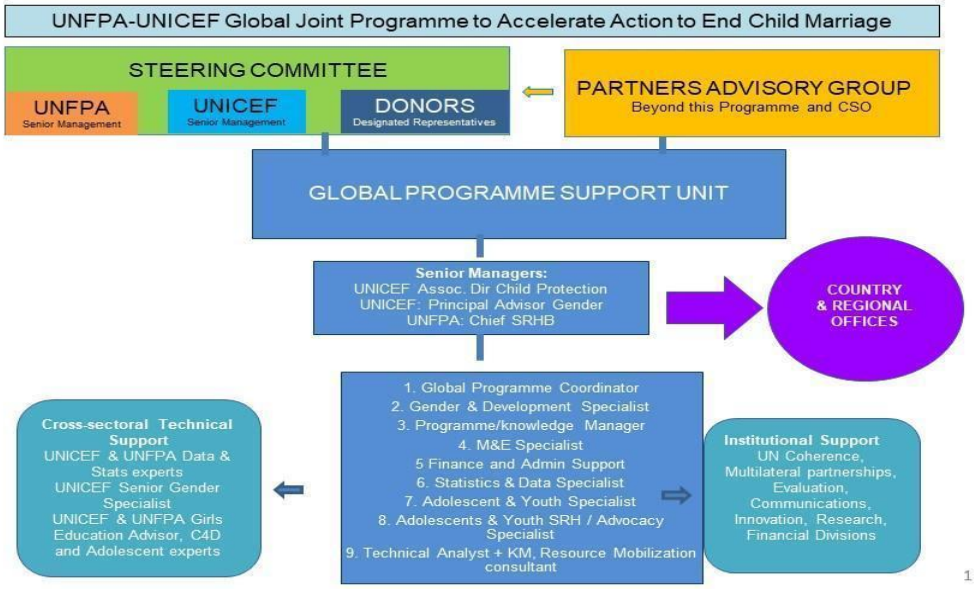
Synergies with Stream I under Outcome 2
Both streams will jointly collaborate on the community of practices and learning platforms. With Stream1 leading the knowledge hub, stream 2 will ensure that all advocacy and knowledge products are shared through the hub that will act as a repository of all information. Both streams will coordinate on the assessment of action plans, strengthening of the AU accountability and monitoring frameworks, as well as development of technical guidance to countries

Synergies with Stream I under Outcome 3
Both streams plan to jointly engage and build capacity of regional CSO networks, including sharing of advocacy materials. They will undertake joint monitoring and reporting on activities of the CSOs.

III. Governance Arrangements

Africa Coordination Unit (ACU): The ACU which will be located in Addis Ababa UN office, will support Stream II partners to plan jointly and deliver on joint results with Stream I partners ensuring technical coordination, synergy and complementarity across the entire Africa Spotlight Regional Programme.

The global programme has a comprehensive structure to deliver the joint programme (see below) with the global programme support unit (GPSU) as the hub for oversight and coordination. Agency specific mandate and expertise are discussed in subsequent sections:



It is expected that the governance set-up will draw on existing structures under the global programme; the Steering Committee consisting of donors (including the EU) and a government representative, co-chaired by UNICEF and UNFPA; and the Partner Advisory Group (PAG). The Steering Committee and Partner Advisory Group) provides a forum for coordination between development partners, CSO and Government. The Steering Committee is mainly comprised of the following:

1. Donors
2. Programme Directors of UNICEF and UNFPA
3. 2 CSO representatives, from Africa and Asia respectively

UN Women will join the Steering Committee during Phase 2 of the GP

Both UNICEF and UNFPA have liaison offices to the AUC and the UNECA in Addis Ababa. The Chief of the UNICEF Liaison Office in Addis Ababa will lead, facilitate and coordinate the UNICEF and UNFPA's engagement with the African Union Commission for the Stream-II Child Marriage Regional Programme. The AU Liaison Office will engage with the AUC and relevant regional partners to advance the collaboration with the UNICEF and UNFPA Regional Offices and country offices on child marriage issues. The UNICEF and UNFPA Liaison offices will ensure constant interface with the New York Global Programme Support Unit, the Regional Programme Management Unit, the CSO coalition or network and Regional Offices of the two agencies to ensure that the implementation of activities is on track. See diagram below on the structure of the coordination mechanism with other relevant stakeholders.

The Partners Advisory Group serves as an institutional mechanism for dialogue and consultation between the Global Programme, sister UN agencies, donors and civil society representatives on issues critical to accelerating action to end child marriage. The PAG provides advice on policies, strategies and advocacy, mainly through interactions with the Global Programme Steering Committee and senior management. The PAG is currently comprised of representation from:

1. Girls not Brides
2. Population Council
3. International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)
4. UN Women
5. World Vision
6. African Union Commission
7. World Health Organization

8. World Bank
9. Msichana Initiative Tanzania

The Civil Society – Regional Reference Group will have a light touch on Stream II given the Partner Advisory Group. It will be important to ensure that that the nominated Civil Society Regional Reference members to the other governing structures are aware of the required time commitments and, if necessary, different members may be nominated to the different structures or alternates proposed.

IV. Accountability

- Internal Guidance Note recognizes UNICEF as the lead agency for Stream II Child Marriage. UNICEF and UNFPA will be the UN recipient organisations for this sub stream building on the experience of the Global Programme on Child Marriage.
- UNICEF has the capacity and experience to assume leadership in technical coordination, under the Child Marriage Global Programme and will draw on lessons for delivering through the Spotlight Initiative.
- Both agencies have demonstrated joint experience and expertise in Child Marriage programming aligned to the objectives of the Spotlight Initiative. The two agencies have enjoyed strong collaborative experience in programmatic and operational areas among others - in developing joint work plans, implementation and monitoring. The Spotlight Initiative provides the opportunity to expand and extend this experience across a broader portfolio fostering scale-up and impact.
- The Results Framework for this sub stream will be used as an accountability mechanism for tracking results. Both agencies have a track record in jointly developing, implementing and tracking results, under the Child Marriage Global Programme. The programme maintains an extensive institutional knowledge repository in M&E systems - these include baseline data, real time data systems, results monitoring tools, knowledge management products, evaluations etc.
- Lessons will be drawn from the Global Programme to inform this sub stream to ensure strong RBM and M&E systems are in place for measuring and demonstrating results for scale.
- The Africa Coordination Unit, noted above, that will be set up in Addis Ababa under the leadership of UNFPA will provide overall support in the coordination, knowledge management, communication among others of the overall Spotlight Africa Regional Programme.
- In addition, under the Global Programme, there is a core structure for oversight and coordination, the Programme Management Support Unit, that is a hub of dedicated technical experts that comprise of P5 Senior Advisor and Coordinator (UNICEF), who leads the technical and financial coordination; P5 SRHR Advisor (UNFPA): P5 Senior Advisor Gender (UNICEF), P4 Technical Specialist (UNFPA), P4 Programme Specialist Gender (UNICEF), P4 Statistics Specialist (UNICEF), P4 M&E Specialist (UNICEF), Planning and Knowledge Management Consultant (UNICEF), Programme Assistant (UNICEF). At the Regional Office level, the GP has another support structure that comprises of: P5 Senior Child Protection Advisor (UNICEF WCAR), P5 Senior Child Protection Specialist (UNICEF WCAR), P5 Technical Specialist (UNFPA WCAR), P5 Senior Child Protection Advisor (UNICEF ESAR), P5 Technical Specialist (UNFPA WCAR), P4 Programme Specialist (UNICEF ESAR). These structures at Head Office and Regional Offices will continue to provide oversight and coordination support to the SL Stream II CM.

V. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners

UNICEF

UNICEF is suitably positioned as lead agency under this sub stream. UNICEF's mandate of protecting and advancing children's rights and its commitment to promoting human rights and gender equality place it in a leadership position for addressing child marriage. As UNICEF's work spans across health, education, social protection, child protection, nutrition, C4D, HIV/AIDS and water, hygiene and sanitation sectors, it is well equipped to mobilise a broad range of complementary cross-sectoral solutions and partnerships towards preventing child marriage and supporting girls who are married.

Child Marriage is a corporate priority and a targeted priority under the organisations' Gender Action Plan (2018-20). UNICEF will continue to work with Governments to support development, budgeting, and implementation of national action plans on child marriage and advocate for legislative shifts, in conjunction with local civil society and government. A critical task will be to consolidate and embed in national systems scalable models of interventions to advance girls' agency and retention in school and create an enabling environment in schools and legal systems. Successful scalable models for engaging mothers, fathers, boys, communities and other influential actors will be replicated to expand efforts to change gender norms and invest in the development and empowerment of adolescent girls. By 2021, UNICEF-supported programmes aim to reach at least 6 million adolescent girls with prevention and care interventions to address child marriage. UNICEF niche in systems strengthening in child protection/ social protection, C4D, Data and Evidence generation will be streamlined in the Regional programme under the 3 Outcomes. UNICEF has regional capacity in sectoral expertise and M&E - these include health, nutrition, gender, HIV/Aids, child protection, education and C4D. As the lead custodian of the child marriage and FGM indicators as part of its responsibilities for the 8 global SDG indicators and co-custodianship for a further 9, UNICEF supports countries in generating, analysing and using data for these indicators for all their citizens. This includes leading methodological work, developing international standards, and establishing mechanisms for compilation and verification of national data, and maintaining global databases.

UNFPA

UNFPA's corporate priorities align closely with those of Spotlight. Under the new strategic plan and within the framework of achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including adolescents, UNFPA is committed to three transformative results i) Zero gender-based violence and harmful practices (including child marriage and FGM), ii) zero unmet need for family planning, and iii) zero maternal deaths. This makes UNFPA a natural partner and lead in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights, at the heart of spotlight and one of the key underlying factors to end Child marriage. Aligned to the 2030 agenda, UNFPA continues to prioritize investments in adolescent girls in its new SP (2018-2021). UNFPA has been delivering on this commitment to child marriage through the Adolescents and Youth Strategy, and associated initiative, Action for Adolescent Girls, a multi-country initiative launched in 2012 on the first International Day of the Girl Child. This work, fully aligned with the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action, builds on evidence generated since the early 2000s by UNFPA-supported programs that reached the most vulnerable adolescent girls at risk of and affected by child marriage. The goal of AAG is to protect adolescent girls' rights, empower them with health, social and economic assets, to integrate services and messaging with a rights-based approach focused on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and thus help girls delay age at marriage and childbearing. UNFPA - Demonstrated experience in SBCC, adolescent girl empowerment, health systems strengthening and policy/advocacy - SEE niche at the regional level linked to selected outcomes. Regional capacity in RBM and M&E, Youth and Gender.

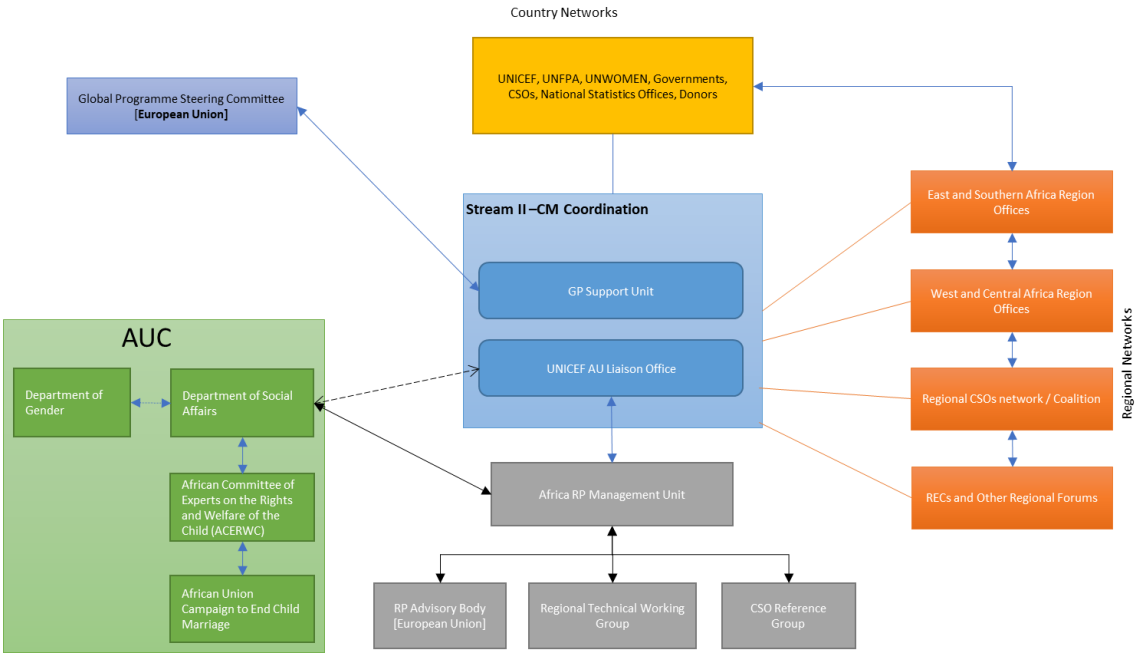
UNFPA leads the work within the field of population and development, particularly relevant in Sub-Saharan Africa given the number of demographically "young countries". Building on the case of the Demographic Dividend (DD) introduced as such by UNFPA in 2003 - arguing that if the right investments are made in Empowerment, Education and Employment, countries can reap substantial economic and developmental benefits– the work to end child marriage is closely related to the ongoing conversations around the DD and is a prerequisite of achieving such a dividend. To this end, UNFPA published an investment case on adolescents in the Lancet in 2017, laying out the economic argument for why governments should invest in adolescents, particularly girls, placing UNFPA in a unique position to work with governments on population and investment dynamics to accelerate action towards ending child marriage.

A division of labour has been established based on the two organisations' comparative advantage, including established partnerships and opportunities to leverage other sectors. For example, among all, UNFPA ESARO has established a strong partnership with the African Union, SADC and the EAC for the support for the implementation of the 2017 annual work plan for the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage, on the establishment of the SADC Model Law and on the development of the Sexual and Reproductive Health Bill. At the same time, both agencies have promoted and leveraged multi-sectoral collaboration at regional and country level, for example through the East Africa informal partners forum on child marriage, with Girls Not Brides for the SADC Model Law guide and the regional mapping of child marriage programmes and partners. As such, the complementarity of the two organisations through the Global Programme has been

clearly demonstrated. UNFPA and UNICEF ESAROs are part of an informal knowledge sharing and advocacy regional network consisting of Girls not Brides, World Vision, Equality Now, Plan International and Save the Children. UNICEF and UNFPA African Union Liaison Offices are well placed to focus, align and strengthen engagement with the African Union (AU) on key continental priorities such as child marriage, and by so doing advance results for children and young people. These priorities align with those found in AU's Agendas 2040 and 2063, the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, and UNICEF and UNFPA's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan. In WCARO, the two ROs are also part of the Groupe Regional de Protection de l'Enfant (GRPE), a regional working group, regional child protection working group composed of 15 international NGOs and UN agencies.

African Union Commission

The AU Commission's (AUC) strength lies in its ability to convene the continent's governments and to work towards an integrated and prosperous Africa, uniting around key issues. Social Affairs Department is the focal department within AUC for the Africa regional programme. Child marriage continues to affect millions of girls every year, and in response, the AU has organized a series of high-level meetings and consultations, to mobilize Member States and partners towards the launch and implementation of the campaign. The AU appointed a Goodwill Ambassador for Ending Child Marriage, and the campaign was integrated into the work of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) within the Department of Social Affairs, which appointed an AU Special Rapporteur on Child Marriage, which investigates special cases of child marriage as one of its mandate. The AU campaign aligns with UNFPA–UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage.



The European Union

The European Union (EU) is a strong political and financial partner of UNICEF and UNFPA. The EU plays a critical role in tackling the child marriage practice through its targeted aid programmes, and programmes and is among the eight key donors of the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage. The EU is playing another key role of providing strategic guidance and oversight to the Global Programme, a role that it will continue to play within the Stream II- Child Marriage regional programme.

Engagement with Regional Economic Communities

The FGM Joint Programme and GP on Child Marriage will mainly have engagement with the East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and Southern African Development Community (SADC) through different initiatives at different levels.

VI. Partnerships

- UNICEF and UNFPA enjoy strong collaborative relationships with Regional bodies, Donors such as the EU and CSOs. Relations established under the Child Marriage Global Programme present the foundations for forging and leveraging partnerships through the Spotlight Initiative, bolstered by global partnerships through headquarter support. For instance, the global programme has close interactions with its donors (including the EU) through the Steering Committee that convenes bi-annually. A Partners Advisory Group also exists at the global level, constituting of UN, NGOs, a CSO and Government representative that supports the programme.
- At Regional level, since 2015, UNICEF and UNFPA within and beyond the Global Programme have had a solid record of achievement on the African continent. Some concrete examples of achievements through strong collaborative partnerships are mentioned below:
- Co-convened the High-Level Event on Child Marriage for West and Central Africa in Dakar 23-25 October 2017 to capitalize on the momentum in the region around child marriage, and to build consensus on what it will take to translate existing and future commitments into tangible, measurable actions aimed at ending child marriage in the region. The first gathering of its kind to address child marriage in the region, it brought together about 350 participants from 24 countries in the region including the First Ladies of Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone; Ministers; the AUC Director of Social Affairs; the ECOWAS and ECCAS Commissioners; high-level donor representatives from all four UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme for Child Marriage donors (Canada, DFID, EU, Netherlands) and several other high-level delegates.
- Through intensive engagement of the UNFPA and UNICEF Liaison Offices in Addis Ababa, the West and Central Africa Regional Offices, and the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Offices, both agencies supported the first African Girl Summit on Ending Child Marriage held in Zambia in November 2015. The Summit brought together over 1,000 participants from across the continent and beyond, including the President of the Republic of Zambia, government representatives and young people. In addition to financial and technical support from the agencies to the AUC in the preparations for and the organization of the Summit, the agencies lead and contributed to parallel sessions spanning a range of subjects including girls' education, comprehensive health education, SRHR services, working with traditional leaders and the media, humanitarian situations, legal and policy frameworks to end child marriage, and empowering youth leaders.
- Other examples include collaborations with SADC, ECOWAS and EAC/EALA Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Bill, while CSO partnerships at the regional level respond to a niche in technical expertise and policy, advocacy. For instance, UNICEF and UNFPA are partnering with Girls Not Brides, World YWCA, and other CSOs in support of activities implemented under the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage. Activities include the regional capacity-building trainings for ministries of health and gender, the commemoration of the Day of the African Child with the theme "25 Years after the Adoption of the African Children's Charter: Accelerating our Collective Efforts to End Child Marriage in Africa" in South Africa, and the first African Girls Summit in Zambia which was attended by more than 1,000 participants.
- In Southern Africa, the UNFPA Regional Office is working closely with the SADC Parliamentary Forum for the development on a Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage. With support from the Global Programme and in partnership with Plan International's 18+ Programme, Girls Not Brides and World YWCA, UNFPA co-hosted a consultative meeting on the Model Law for CSOs in March 2016 prior to the expected adoption of the SADC Model Law at the 39th SADC PF General Assembly in Swaziland in June.
- Existing and ongoing partnerships under the global programme will be leveraged to support expansion through the Spotlight Initiative. In the interest of efficiency, it is not found to be relevant to undertake a dedicated consultation on the Child Marriage Stream under Spotlight.

VII. Joint Results Matrix

One joint result framework has been developed across both streams of the Africa regional Programme as

follows, and please refer to Annex 1

VIII. Intersectional Approach

The Global Programme guidance places an emphasis on the principles of equity, human rights and gender equality as essential to programming to advance the end of child marriage. As such, these principles are integrated in the programme design, scope, approach and in methods of data collection, monitoring, analysis and reporting. The child marriage programme guidance will include gender transformative approaches, as well as promotion of education for all girls and access to health service to all girls. The guidance will promote the measurement and reporting on these cross-cutting measures on rural areas and out of school as disaggregated data for each programme indicator. Partnership with the regional CSO network and/or coalition will target and integrate youth and other vulnerable groups facing discrimination. The partnership will ensure that the child marriage agenda is prioritized by CSOs thus increasing the reach of girls at risk with intersecting interventions.

Relevant "at risk" groups	**Outcome areas where specific approaches are required**	**Key challenges for inclusion**	**Indicative approaches and methodologies for inclusion**	**Total numbers disaggregated by women, girls, men and boys**
girls with disability	Outcome 1	Lack of data	Promote a disability-inclusive approach to programming	
Out of school	Outcome 1 & 5	Poor systems of monitoring	Guidance to programming, data analysis	
Girls in rural areas	Outcome 1 & 5		Guidance to programming, data analysis	
Girls in conflict areas	Outcome 1 & 5	Lack of data	Guidance to programming, data analysis	

IX. Coherence with Existing Programmes:

- FGM Joint Programme – Both programmes enjoy a close working relationship with the AUC Social Affairs department in supporting the drafting of new and/or strengthening of existing legislations and policies (outcome 1). Both programmes support the AU and members states in the comprehensive analysis of survey data (outcome 5). And finally, both programmes enjoy a close working relationship with regional CSOs (outcome 6).

- Stream II FGM- Outcome 1 will support the AUC with launch of the continental initiative on the elimination of FGM. Experiences from the AU CM campaign are crucial to provide lessons learned. It is envisaged that both streams will work together to target countries in advocacy campaigns including organizing dialogues to advocate for amendment or drafting of laws and legislation. Outcome 5 on strengthening data analysis and setting standard measures for social norms will complement the planned activities in the CM stream.

- Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) Innovation network—serves as a forum to share new ideas, develop proposals and pilot initiatives for scaling up throughout the region; provides policymakers and CSOs with rigorous evidence and supports them to develop actionable policy and programme recommendations. The programme will share experiences of this network with the other regions on the continent. The programme will tap into and use the expertise to support the communities of practices, webinars and think tanks etc.

- Plan International – Plan International AU Liaison Office currently supports the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage with a seconded position (C2-level) to coordinate and

strengthen the organization's engagement with the AU. The position term is up to the end of December 2018. Currently, the position supports various functions that include follow up on M&E assessment sent to countries that have high prevalence rate of child marriages. Related to this support, UNICEF RO provided technical assistance through a two-months consultancy to support the AU with a similar function of following up on M&E assessment in addition to analysing and reporting on the data and preparing a report on the status of child marriage on the continent as well as the progress of implementation. Stream II -CM is looking at replicating any of these approaches to strengthen the AUC M&E capacity

X. Risk Management

Risks	Risk Level: Very high High Medium Low (Likelihood x Impact)	Likelihood: Almost Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare – 1	Impact: Extreme – 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Unit/Person
Contextual risks					
The political will of Member States, including commitment to legal and legislative change and financial investments is lacking, thereby hampering positive changes.	Low	Unlikely	Moderate	The Global Programme has strategically selected countries where there is some momentum regarding the issue of child marriage. Strong working relationships with the authorities and national ministries will be maintained to build a sense of common purpose and enhance national ownership of the process. The programme will also amplify civil society voices, including alliances and external funds, which tend to enhance government accountability.	
Changes in the political context in countries, such as changes in leadership, and shifts in national priorities (away from child marriage), affect continuation and sustainability of ongoing positive change processes	Low	Unlikely to Possible	Moderate	Country programmes are designed to implement strategic plans, in consultation with national governments and in alignment with national priorities. Both UNFPA and UNICEF have long-standing relationships with the legislative and executive arms of member states, which permits a high degree of continuity in work, with slight changes in direction as needed to align with any new priorities. The multisectoral	

				nature of the Global Programme will permit continuity and sustainability of action through the most promising lead ministries in any given context. Country commitments enshrined in international declarations and conventions will also be utilized as the basis for sustaining action.	
Humanitarian crises (e.g. Ebola Virus Disease in Sierra Leone, the earthquake in Nepal, conflict in Yemen) hamper or completely restrict implementation.	Medium	Likely	Minor	COs of both agencies prioritize disaster preparedness and temporarily shift to emergency response in affected regions, which tends to usually include children and adolescents at risk of or affected by child marriage. As above, in consultation with the Steering Committee, to the extent possible, programme activities in unaffected regions will continue, and child marriage programme activities will be reactivated in affected regions as early as possible including during the reconstruction phase.	
Programmatic risks					
Inadequate capacity of government partners, civil society or UNFPA/UNICEF staff lowers effectiveness, efficiency and relevance, etc.	Medium	Possible	Minor to Moderate	One of the key assumptions underlying the Global Programme is the need for capacity building at the country level of a variety of stakeholders. Capacity tends to vary across countries, and financial support dedicated to boosting capacity will be adjusted accordingly. Technical support across the programme (from HQ, from ROs, between countries, and from external technical partners) will also be allocated as per capacity and needs. Where needed, external consultants and partners will be brought on board to bridge the capacity gaps.	

The programme does not reach the most-at-risk/vulnerable girls.	Low to Medium	Unlikely	Minor	In designing the Global Programme UNICEF applied a Monitoring Results for Equity System (MoRES) approach (Monitoring Results for Equity System), which is an approach to equity-focused planning, programming and monitoring. This tool supports monitoring programmes and policies to ensure that an equity approach to reaching the most vulnerable children is evidence-based and of the expected impact. UNFPA uses population data to conduct age, gender and geographically disaggregated analysis to estimate prevalence and burden. At the core of both of these approaches are the identification and targeting of the most vulnerable, holding service providers accountable and creating better access for the most disadvantaged communities, including girls at risk of and affected by child marriage. Furthermore, child marriage being a common phenomenon precludes certain problems observed when targeting for rarer negative outcomes.	
There is inadequate coordination between development partners working towards ending child marriage in the duplication of efforts.	Low to Medium	Unlikely	Minor	The option of working jointly with multiple donors (Canada, European Commission, Italy, Netherlands and United Kingdom) through the Global Programme has already made great progress in mitigating this risk. In addition, the planned inception phase will ensure that programmatic resources are complementary and reach areas of greatest need. At the country level, UNICEF and UNFPA are coordinating with governments to ensure that their child	

				marriage strategy is aligned with national priorities, and supporting a unification of civil society efforts, in order to avoid duplication.	
Institutional risks					
There is risk of cultural sensitivity of the topic, risk of conservative backlash from within the communities.	Low	Unlikely	Minor to Moderate	It is crucial that the programme is not perceived as imparting a particular agenda or ideological framework that would not be in the best interests of the community. Hence, careful consideration will be given to how issues are conceptualized and framed in any given country and sub-national context with adherence to basic do-no-harm guidelines. Community leaders, parents and guardians will be involved from the start as per ethics protocols as well as cultural considerations. UNFPA and UNICEF have strong backgrounds in community-level work and are successfully managing child marriage programmes in many countries, already demonstrating that it is indeed possible to avoid any reputational risks to the agencies or development partners.	
Fiduciary risks					
There is the risk that funds are not used for the intended purposes, do not achieve value for money, and/or are not properly accounted for.	Low	Unlikely	Moderate to Major	UNFPA and UNICEF policies on fraud and procurement are publicly available and strictly applied. Within the Global Programme framework, the Steering Committee is the highest body for strategic guidance, fiduciary and management oversight and coordination. The Administrative Agent will be accountable for effective and impartial fiduciary management. Outside the direct Global Programme	

				framework is the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Fiduciary Management Oversight Group, which will serve as the first point of contact in HQ for fiduciary matters. It oversees the implementation of the fiduciary aspects of the UNDG policies on joint funding mechanisms and discusses any required departures from the standard Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Letters of Agreements and Steering Committee Terms of Reference.	
There is the risk of the AUC not appropriately utilizing funds for the intended purposes	High	Likely	Major	The programme will use UNICEF's LTA with audit firm to provide audit, quality assurance and risk management services. Where necessary, direct transfer of funds to the AUC will be minimized.	

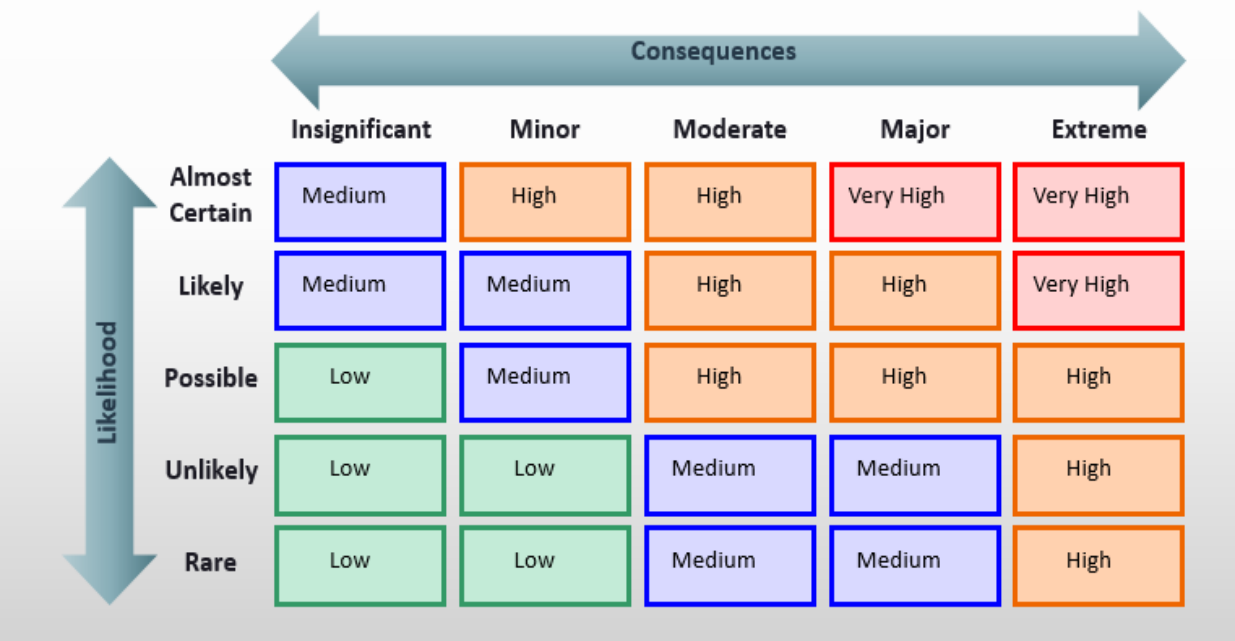
The risk-management methodology is depicted below, where the risk level is measured as the product of Likelihood and Consequence.

Likelihood	Occurrence	Frequency
Very Likely	The event **is expected** to occur in most circumstances	Twice a month or more frequently
Likely	The event **will** probably occur in most circumstances	Once every two months or more frequently
Possibly	The event **might** occur at some time	Once a year or more frequently
Unlikely	The event **could** occur at some time	Once every three years or more frequently
Rare	The event **may** occur in exceptional circumstances	Once every seven years or more frequently

Consequence	Result
Extreme	An event leading to **massive** or **irreparable** damage or disruption
Major	An event leading to **critical** damage or disruption
Moderate	An event leading to **serious** damage or disruption
Minor	An event leading to **some** degree of damage or disruption
Insignificant	An event leading to **limited** damage or disruption

	Consequences				
Likelihood	Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
Very likely (5)	Medium (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Very High (20)	Very High (25)
Likely (4)	Medium (4)	Medium (8)	High (12)	High (16)	Very High (20)
Possible (3)	Low (3)	Medium (6)	High (9)	High (12)	High (15
Unlikely (2)	Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (6)	Medium (8)	High (10)
Rare (1)	Low (1)	Low (3)	Medium (3)	Medium (4)	High (5)

Level of risk	Result
Very High	Immediate action required by executive management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Risk cannot be accepted unless this occurs.
High	Immediate action required by senior/ executive management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by Risk Owner.
Medium	Senior Management attention required. Mitigation activities/ treatment options are undertaken to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by Risk Owner.
Low	Management attention required. Specified ownership of risk. Mitigation activities/treatment options are recommended to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Implementation of monitoring strategy by risk owner is recommended.



XI. Monitoring & Evaluation

- The Child Marriage sub stream addresses M&E systems in two ways; as a) as a result-based management strategy and as b) a core component of the sub stream's Regional programme Technical support strategy, under outcome 2.
- **M&E and Results Based Management**: Both UNICEF and UNFPA come with robust operational experience in M&E. As part of programme inception under the Child Marriage Global Programme guidance was developed to shape results monitoring, reporting and evaluation at country and regional levels (attach link). Through the course of the joint programme's implementation, both the agencies have instituted guidance frameworks, tools and templates. The M&E framework for the joint framework also captures a repository of baseline data, reporting templates/ tools, research, studies an evaluation reports from countries and regions.
- Both UNFPA and UNICEF have agency wide M&E frameworks, incorporating HRBA and international programming principles, together with routine information management and reporting systems that cater for the reporting requirements at the country, regional and corporate levels. For the Spotlight Initiative, the Global Programme will monitor and evaluate activities through timely data from these routine sources. The Global Programme has a stand-alone information management and reporting system, managed by a dedicated M&E specialist at headquarters level for the programme, that is being used to collect non-routine data that meets donor expectations. Although this adds a reporting burden to the regional and country offices, the Global Programme will draw on technical support from the two programme M&E specialists at the regional offices (WCARO and ESARO) to support the monitoring and reporting from non-routine sources.
- Stream II Child Marriage will ensure joint monitoring and evaluation is undertaken with key stakeholders e.g. government, CSO partners and the EU. This will also include engagement during key milestones such as Mid Term Review and Final Evaluation.
- As part of its performance measurement framework, the programme shall monitor and assess progress towards achievement of the results on the basis of pre-defined, clear, transparent measurable indicators. The progress reports referred to in the Spotlight Initiative Guidance documents shall be taken as a point of reference in the assessment of the results of the programme assistance. The programme will collect performance data (process, output and outcome indicators) from all interventions which will be aggregated and analysed in terms of tracking the progress versus the targets and milestones established for each pillar of the support measure.

- **M&E as a Technical Assistance strategy**: This component is discussed under the first section of the Programme document, **-** where UNICEF and UNFPA will focus on the following areas as part of a Technical Assistance strategy:
    - Strengthening monitoring and evaluation capacity of the African Union Commission by recruiting a dedicated Monitoring and Statistics specialist (P4) who will be embedded within the Commission's structure to support the independent country reviews as well as consolidate data and produce timely data on continental initiatives to ending child marriage.
    - Strengthening programming in and measurement of gender equitable social norms by developing an integrated measurement toolkit.
    - Generating regional data and analysis of child marriage survey data to support continental advocacy campaigns. technical support will include strengthening of national statistical institutions in measurement of gender equitable norms
- External evaluations are required to assess the performance of each programme and will be conducted mid-term and at the time of project closure. Evaluations will be used to analyse programme performance and test the Spotlight Initiative's regional theories of change. During these evaluations, specific recommendations will be provided to guide any revisions to the theory of change, governance arrangements, programming cycles and/or activity implementation

XII. Innovation

Programmatic innovation: the global programme will draw on its Knowledge Management strategy to share innovative approaches, as part of the Technical Assistance strategy, under outcome 1 and 5. The GP acknowledges that most of the evidence generated in the region and globally is on 'what works'. Through the gathering and synthesis of evidence, the programme seeks to identify and document 'what does not work' including innovative approach to translate the intersectionality between CM, SGBV and SRHR into action. UNFPA region office has been working with the Eastern and Southern Innovation network that seeks to support ideation, prototyping and piloting of innovative approaches throughout each thematic area to achieve greater programme efficiency. The programme will use this forum and the community of practices under Stream 1 and Stream 2 FGM to share new ideas, develop proposals and pilot initiatives for scaling up throughout the region so as to advocate for change/implement policies or programmes at national level.

Programme delivery has also been enhanced by using social messaging tools (U-report). For instance, in Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Uganda - the global programme is engaging adolescent girls and their mentors using U-report to deliver messages on SRHR, SGBV, and child marriage. Except for Niger, all the Spotlight countries are using the U-report for youth messaging. Though the platform is effective in tracking use including its use for exit surveys for key campaigns, the messaging and measurements are not standard across the countries and thus making it hard to compare across programs. The programme therefore intends to develop and disseminate a standard guidance on messaging and tracking of key thematic areas and/or campaigns related to child marriage that are incorporated in the U-report platform. This will enable the scale up of its use for child marriage programme delivery.

Operational Innovation: The Africa regional programme will also set up one **Africa Coordination Unit** with a Programme Coordinator, M&E Officer, Knowledge Management and Communication Officer, that will support planning and implementation of activities across the two streams, ensuring coordination, technical coherence, synergies and complementarity and contributing to specific joint results in the future. This unit is tasked with the goal, by the end of the lifespan of Spotlight, of bringing these three disparate streams of work together in the region.

XIII. Knowledge Management

The Child Marriage sub stream will deliver on Knowledge Management as one of the 3 prongs of Regional support, under Outcome *#5.* In support of the Global Programme's knowledge management strategy that is focused on ensuring that knowledge and evidence is easily accessed, shared and used for learning among partners at all levels, the Spotlight Initiative will complement on the Global Programme's efforts by:

- funding new research in the region to build up a body of knowledge and evidence. The Global Programme has earmarked funding of new research focused on social and gender norms including its interrelationship to traditional leaders and other cultural aspects
- supporting additional learnings and evidence generation through data synthesis of existing evidence. The Global Programme acknowledges that most of the evidence generated in the region is on 'what works' and would like to promote the sharing of evidence and learning on 'what does not work' in order to build up the knowledge base.
- strengthen the capacity of the African Union Commission in knowledge sharing and learning. The programme will support a seconded position within the AUC Social Affairs department to support the AU campaign on ending child marriage knowledge management strategy.
- raise awareness of various issues related to harmful practices by developing and updating of country specific profiles within the online knowledge sharing and learning platform. The country specific profiles of issues should enable regional and national institutions and their staff to be able to scrutinize issues within their context and thereby building interest to take up and use resources in the knowledge hub led by stream 1 support the African Union Commission to run a multi-country community of practice on child marriage.

The role of UNFPA and UNICEF headquarters and regional offices will be to facilitate the development of knowledge and evidence and mobilize for funding of the African Union research agenda on child marriage. The Knowledge Management specialist recruited for the AUC will work support the portfolio from the region, based in the AUC.

XIV. Communications and Visibility

A Communications and Visibility plan aligned with the global communication and visibility plan will be developed and implemented by the engaged Recipient UN organisations to ensure the visibility of the Spotlight Initiative and raise awareness about the issues the Regional Component strives to address. Strong communications and visibility are central to the Initiative's success. The communication and visibility work will have the following objectives;

- Raise awareness of gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls and its prevalence in the region: By publicizing data and supportive facts, creative messaging to key audiences, exhibiting thought leadership on violence against women and girls.
- Illustrate and promote the impact and results of Spotlight-supported interventions:
- Ensure visibility for the Spotlight Initiative regional programme, its donors and partners: By coordinating consistent and coherent branding, high-profile endorsements from social influencers, top-tier media placements, organizing publicity events and campaign.

Both UNICEF and UNFPA are well-versed with this approach, under the Child Marriage Global Programme. The joint programme has a global comprehensive *Communications and Visibility Plan* to draw lessons from on methodology and implementation strategies. The Strategy lays out a structure for a more effective multi-layered outreach to and engagement with the Global Programme stakeholders and constituencies, namely donors, governments, the general public, media, CSOs, NGOs, the private sector, and academia. The joint communication strategy aims to make the Global Programme visible at all levels, to raise awareness and promote the change of social norms, and to disseminate evidence and results of the programme. The strategy also aims to ensure that donors and other partners have timely, quality materials to communicate the impact of the Programme to their constituencies in a transparent manner via the media or other channels. UNICEF and UNFPA are also ensuring the visibility of donor logos and acknowledging donor support in communication products (print, online, video, etc.).

The Child Marriage Global *Programme's Communication & Visibility Plan* brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that will be applied to promote the communication and visibility objectives of the Spotlight Initiative with resources and products (e.g. briefing book, brochures, guides), internal capacity building experiences and documentation of high-level convenings - some examples include:

- At global level, a high-level side event took place during the United Nations General Assembly titled: “Accelerating Efforts to Eliminate Child Marriage in Africa by 2030.” Heads of State from Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, dignitaries from the AU and governments of Netherlands and Canada – together with United Nations, civil society and donor organizations – reaffirmed their commitment to accelerate the implementation of the Common African Position (CAP) on ending child marriage, including providing financial and technical support.
- UNFPA and UNICEF in West and Central Africa jointly implemented communication activities on the High-level Event on Child Marriage that took place in Dakar 23-25 October 2017. As part of that process, the two regional offices had strong media engagement to support the meeting along with partners. Key media products included social media activation on several platforms, including a video message by Angelique Kidjo to government leaders broadcast at the opening of the conference, media field visit by Angelique Kidjo to communities affected by child marriage in Benin, development of a UNICEF report card covering the 24 countries represented at the high-level meeting (including Rwanda, Burundi and Angola), and a press release shared on the websites of all meeting partner.
- In West and Central Africa, both UNICEF and UNFPA regional offices supported activities toward an African Union training on communication and media in West Africa that was held in Accra in February 2017. Similarly, the UNICEF and UNFPA East and Southern Africa offices partnered closely with the African Union on the Campaign to End Child Marriage and provided technical and financial support to a media workshop for journalists and staff from Southern Africa in March.

In addition, it is important to note that the co-branding principles of the African Union Communication Style Guide and the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines will be adhered to when communicating the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme. Both guides complement each other and allow for mutually beneficial branding and visibility opportunities. The AU logo will only be used for the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme promotional material and other content created for communication purposes related specifically to this Programme. Any use of the AU logo for the Global Spotlight Initiative will require prior and express consent from the AUC through the Department of Social Affairs.

The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer of the Africa Coordination Unit will formalize a regional Spotlight Initiative communications group including the AUC, EU, UN agencies and other strategic partners. The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer will organize and host regular meetings for the group, coordinate the development of the annual Communications and Visibility Action Plan and other communications and visibility activities. He will work closely with the AUC Advocacy and Communications Specialist to ensure that both the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines as well as the African Union Communication Style Guide are followed and that the AU logo usage is aligned with AU interests and policies

VII. Budgets – See excel document attached

Table A – 3-YEAR WORK PLAN

Table B – BUDGET BY UNDG CATEGORY

Table C – BUDGET BY OUT\

REGIONAL PROGRAMME DOCUMENT-STREAM II - FGM

<table>
<tr>
<td>Programme Title: Spotlight Africa Regional Programme – Stream II FGM JP</td>
<td>Recipient UN Organisations (RUNOs):
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Contact:
Name and Title:
Nafissatou J. Diop
Senior Advisor, Coordinator UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of FGM
Address:
605 Third Avenue New York, NY 10158
Telephone: + 1 212 297 5101
E-mail: nandiop@unfpa.org</td>
<td>Programme Partner(s):
Regional Intergovernmental Entities
● African Union Commission
Regional Civil Society Organisations
Academic/Research Organisations
● Drexel University and other institutions (to be determined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa Coordination Unit:
Name and Title: (Name to Be Confirmed)
Programme Coordinator- Spotlight Africa Regional Programme
Address: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Full Address & e-mail TBC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Description: Since 2008, UNFPA and UNICEF jointly lead the largest global response to eliminating FGM: the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change. The Joint Programme on FGM supports holistic and integrated approaches and interventions at the global, regional and national level with the aim of establishing enabling policy and legal frameworks, galvanising communities to abandon the harmful practice, and providing FGM-related services. The Joint Programme is currently implementing Phase III (January 2018 to December 2021). The interventions described in this programme document focus on regional level initiatives to strengthen a regional accountability mechanism for ensuring increased national commitments to end FGM at the country level and efforts to address trans-border dynamics related to FGM.
Synergy: Stream II Ending Female Genital Mutilation and Child Marriage will:
1) have a joint and coordinated engagement with parliamentarians with the aim to use their position and</td>
<td>Total Cost of Stream II FGM JP (incl. estimated Spotlight contribution, UN agency contributions, and unfunded budget):
USD 12,647,455

Total Funded Cost of Stream II FGM JP Spotlight Phase I[23] and UN agency contributions:
USD 9,226,894

Breakdown of Total Funded Cost by RUNOs:
<table>
<tr><th>Name of RUNOs</th><th>Spotlight Phase I (USD)</th><th>UN Agency Contributions[24] (USD)</th></tr>
<tr><td>UNFPA</td><td>5,480,778</td><td>396,670</td></tr>
<tr><td>UNICEF</td><td>3,059,221</td><td>290,225</td></tr>
<tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>8,540,000</td><td>686,895</td></tr>
</table>
Other sources of funding:</td>
</tr>
</table>

[23] Funding from the Spotlight Initiative will be allocated by the Operational Steering Committee in two distinct phases: Phase I will entail allocating 70% of the funding envelope (first 24 months), Phase II will only be allocated depending on the Regional Programme’s overall needs and performance towards achieving results.

[24] These are mandatory and will have to be reported on.

<table>
<tr><td>influence to advance progress towards the elimination of these practices;
2) work jointly in organizing high level advocacy events to holistically address FGM and child marriage
3) work together in implementing cross-border initiatives in settings where both FGM and child marriage are practiced by the same communities;
4) Initiated a partnership with the same regional CSOs to support the women's' rights, FBOs and Youth network movement.
The Africa Coordination Unit will also facilitate synergy, joint planning, technical coherence and coordination across the two streams</td><td>- The Joint Programme on FGM receives financial contribution from other donors: About $12,000,000 per year.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Estimated No. of Beneficiaries[25] (TBC)
<table><tr><th>Indicative numbers</th><th>Direct</th><th>Indirect</th></tr><tr><td>Women</td><td>2,543,378</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Girls</td><td>1,028,860</td><td>25,200,503</td></tr><tr><td>Men</td><td>2,407,406</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Boys</td><td>892,110</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>6,871,754</td><td>25,200,503</td></tr></table></td><td>Start Date: 1 January 2020

End Date: 31 December 2022

Total duration: 36 months

The duration of the Country Programme should be maximum of 3 years</td></tr>
</table>

[25] Note:
6,871,754 individuals (13177 policy makers, 4750 parliamentarians, 60287programme managers/technical experts and 6793540 community representatives) will be directly engaged/reached while implementing various interventions in the three outcome areas. In addition, the regional level interventions will also benefit the following (these are additional categories of beneficiaries (country and CSOs):

- ✔ 18 countries (countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative) will directly benefit while 12 other countries will indirectly benefit from the various planned interventions. The various regional level initiatives and generation of data/evidence will primarily target 18 countries while the initiatives and evidences will be available for the whole 30 countries where FGM exists (both in Africa and elsewhere).
- ✔ 10 national human rights organizations (from 10 countries), 54 national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs (from 18 countries), 1 regional and 10 national level Men Alliance Networks (from 10 countries) will be directly reached through various interventions
- ✔ Engagement of women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs will be more focused on 18 countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative while 12 other countries will indirectly benefit from the interventions. More specifically, capacity of 54 national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs will be strengthened (3 organizations will be reached from 18 priority countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative). In addition, one regional and 10 national level Men Alliance Networks (from 10 countries) will be engaged to support the efforts to eliminate FGM through various interventions.
- ✔ 22 media houses including 4 regional media (TV5, SABC, Africable, RFI) will be engaged for various media interventions

Indirect beneficiaries refer to the number of girls at risk of undergoing FGM in Africa (2019 – 2024). The number is taken from a recent global projection done by UNFPA on the number of girls at risk of FGM by 2030. The Spotlight Initiative timeframe (2019-2022) and two additional years are considered expecting that the impact of interventions will continue for a few years after the completion of the programme in 2022. The Joint Programme is still working on defining a methodology to track the number of girls saved from undergoing FGM.

IV. REGIONAL PROGRAMME DOCUMENT- STREAM II - FGM

I. Situational Analysis

More than 200 million girls and women have undergone Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), a human rights violation recognized as an extreme form of violence and discrimination against girls and women, rooted in harmful social norms. As a harmful practice, FGM sustains gender inequalities as it limits opportunities for girls and women to realize their full rights and potential. With the global population expected to grow in countries where FGM as a practice is concentrated, the number of girls and women at risk is expected to increase to approximately four million by 2050. The elimination of FGM is a critical step towards realizing goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including targets on health and well-being, quality education, safe motherhood, inclusive societies, ending poverty and economic growth, all of which are underpinned by efforts that empower women and girls and achieves gender equality. Ending FGM is critical to achieving almost half of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a result, a comprehensive and integrated approach to FGM is crucial.

Girls and women, everywhere, must have equal rights and opportunity, and be able to live free of violence and discrimination. Women and girls' equality and empowerment is one of the 17 SDGs, but also integral to all dimensions of inclusive and sustainable development. All the SDGs depend on the achievement of Goal 5. Empowering girls and women require addressing structural issues such as unfair social norms as well as developing progressive legal frameworks that promote equality between women and men. The introduction of target 5.3 which aims to eliminate all harmful practices including FGM holds governments accountable for their commitments to girls and women, and track progress in ending FGM globally.

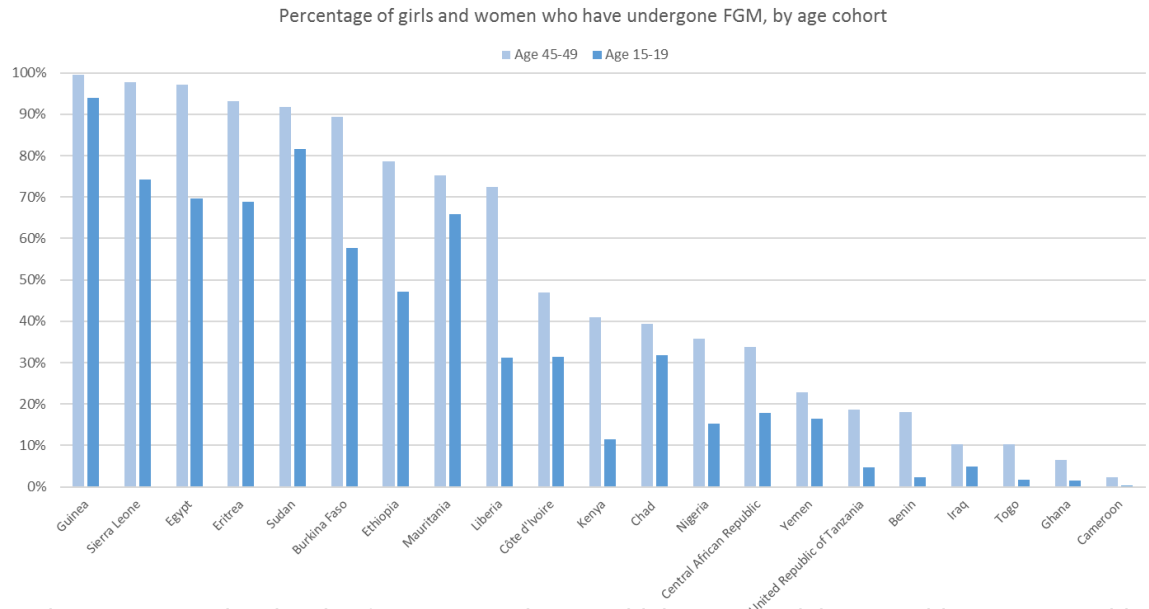
FGM has serious health consequences for girls and women. The immediate complications include severe pain and bleeding that can lead to haemorrhaging. Long-term complications include chronic infections, infertility, problems during pregnancy, and painful sexual intercourse. There are also psychological effects related to FGM. Achieving Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages requires upholding the right of every girl and woman to remain healthy and intact. Improved health outcomes stemming from the elimination of FGM not only saves lives and improves maternal and child health, it also reduces poverty, and spurs economic growth.

As a harmful practice, FGM presents a significant obstacle for addressing poverty and advancing other areas of human development. FGM involves medical, emotional, social, legal and economic repercussions at all levels of society. These costs place a burden on personal, household, community and state economies. Given that poverty and lack of education are inextricably linked to the prevalence of FGM, addressing FGM requires achieving Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere, Goal 4: Quality education and Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. The connection between FGM and education is two-fold: education and awareness about the practice and its risks, and general educational attainment. Teaching girls and women about the consequences related to FGM is a powerful tool in changing attitudes about the practice and reversing trends around the practice. Educated women are less likely to have their daughters cut, and a higher level of education makes fathers less likely to support FGM. Education also reduces poverty, boosts economic growth and increases income which can have a positive effect on efforts to promote the abandonment of FGM. Due to the health risks involved with FGM, sustaining the practice costs countries trillions of dollars through its impact on maternal and child health, as well as household income.

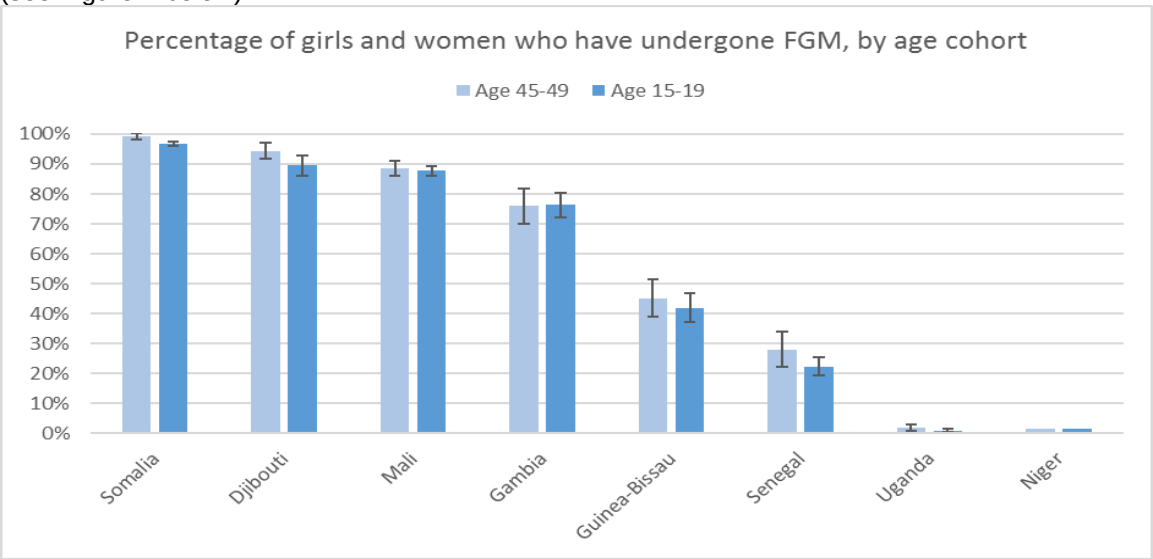
FGM affects the most vulnerable groups. FGM disproportionately affects poor, rural and disadvantaged girls, creating cycles of poverty that reinforce inequalities. Achieving Goal 10: Reduced inequality means leaving no behind including targeting girls and women at risk of and affected by FGM. Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels means giving girls and women decision-making power in their households and communities, and increased participation in society. Ending violence against children requires ending FGM. FGM is a form of violence against girls and a violation of their most fundamental human rights. The violence of FGM has a lasting impact on the physical and mental health of girls and women.

As a result of global efforts, including the *UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Eliminate Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change*, progress is being made towards ending FGM. Today, a girl is about one-third less likely to be cut than 30 years ago. Some countries have succeeded in achieving notable annual rates of reduction in the prevalence of FGM, particularly in the last ten years (e.g., Kenya by 4.3 per cent, Nigeria by 2.8 per cent, and Burkina Faso by 1.5 per cent). In Ethiopia, the prevalence of FGM among girls 15-19 years declined by about 24 per cent between 2005 and 2016. Despite progress made in reducing FGM prevalence rates, if interventions are not scaled up and accelerated to outpace the impact of the demographic trends (i.e., population growth and the 'youth bulge'), the number of girls and women undergoing FGM will continue to increase, and the absolute number of girls who have gone through the practice will be higher by 2030 than it is today. Recent UNFPA estimates indicate that about 68 million girls will be at risk of FGM by 2030 if current levels of intervention remain in place. This number includes 50 million girls in Africa alone.

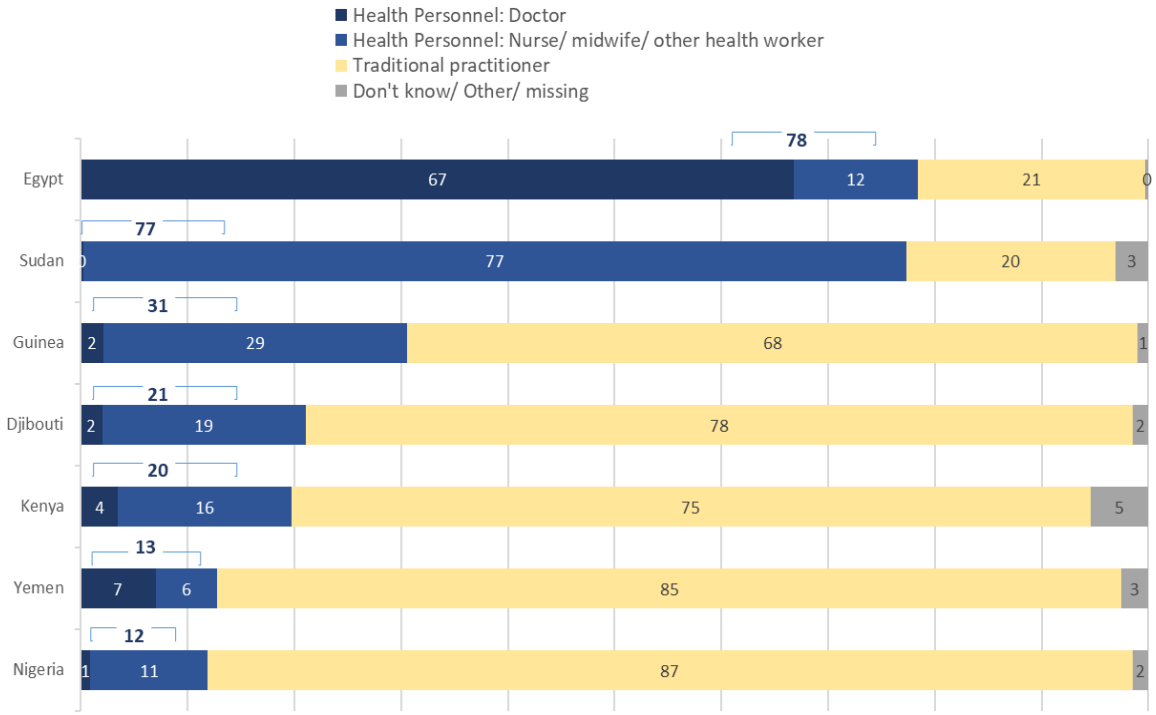
Over the past three decades, there is evidence of decline in the practice of FGM in many countries (see Figure 1 below).



But in some countries, levels of FGM are at least as high among adolescent girls as among older women (see Figure 2 below).



The increasing trend of medicalisation of FGM (i.e., FGM carried out by any category of health care provider) is another area of concern that calls for stronger action. Twenty million girls (see Figure 3 below) are estimated to have undergone FGM performed by health care providers. In seven countries where medicalisation of FGM is more prevalent (i.e., Egypt, Sudan, Guinea, Djibouti, Kenya, Yemen and Nigeria), more than 1 in 10 girls who have undergone FGM were cut by health personnel.



Since 2008, the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM supports holistic and integrated approaches and interventions at the global, regional and national level with the aim of establishing enabling policy and legal frameworks, galvanising communities to abandon the harmful practice, and providing FGM-related services. In Africa, the Joint Programme works in Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda. The Joint Programme is currently implementing Phase III (January 2018 to December 2021) with a strong emphasis on strengthening
regional-level accountability mechanisms for ensuring national commitments to end FGM at the country level are met.

Over the last ten years, the Joint Programme has also succeeded in creating global awareness about issues related to FGM; giving prominence to FGM in a number of international, regional and national political processes; and developing and disseminating knowledge products often developed by leading activists and researchers. Further details are presented below under the relevant outcome areas.

Outcome 1 - Legislative and policy frameworks on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices

Encouraging progress has been made in terms of securing political commitment and putting in place enabling policy and legal frameworks at the national level by countries supported by the Joint Programme. Out of the 17 countries supported by the Joint Programme:

- 13 countries (Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, and Uganda) have legislation criminalising FGM. Following

intensive capacity development initiatives, to date, there have been more than 800 cases of legal enforcement.

- 16 countries (Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda) have multi-sectoral national coordination mechanisms led by the government.
- 13 countries (Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, and Uganda) have government budget lines for work on FGM.

While all these achievements are critical and encouraging, efforts are needed to sustain the gains achieved thus far and address gaps identified during implementation. Gaps include the following:

- Lack of evidence-based and costed national action plans;
- Limited budget lines and resources to implement programmes;
- Lack of monitoring system that tracks the actual spending of the budget allocated for the work on FGM (going beyond budget allocations);
- Limited functioning of national monitoring and coordination mechanisms;
- Lack of legislations on FGM in some countries, and weak enforcement (as current implementation is far below what is expected in most countries where law exist);

African Union engagement has been limited to a set of important policy and strategic documents development. Agenda 2063: "The Africa We Want" underscores the need for the elimination of harmful practices under Aspiration 6, Priority 6.1.2, which calls for the "*eradication of all forms of gender-based-violence…including female genital mutilation*" and this is linked to Sustainable Development Goal 5 of – "*achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls*". However, steps have not been taken to galvanise political action and introduce a functional accountability mechanism at the regional level to enhance a multi-sectoral national response to address FGM. There is also the issue of limited implementation of policies and laws related to FGM among member states as well as the absence of a clear approach to provide cross-border programming on FGM. The mainstreaming of FGM into sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and social services, even in countries with high prevalence has been missing.

Outcome 5 - Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Eliminate FGM has been supporting the introduction of questions related to attitudes on FGM in Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). It has also contributed to data analysis of DHS and MICS survey finding on FGM, including analysis on trends and projections, attitudes and medicalization of FGM. The Joint Programme also introduced an online web-based data management platform (called 'Data for All') to facilitate evidence-based planning, monitoring and reporting of programme results. As a result, annual data on policy, access to services and community interventions has been available for the 17 Joint Programme countries.

Although nationally representative data on FGM does exist for countries supported by the Joint Programme through DHS and/or MICS, there are some measurement related challenges and limitations:

- The standard measurement of FGM prevalence, including the indicator used in the SDGs under Target 5.3, is the percentage of girls and women aged 15 to 49 who have undergone FGM. The challenge with this indicator is the time lag between when the cutting occurred and when it is reported. The time lag will vary depending on the current age of the respondent and the age at which she is cut. For example, in a country in which the mean age of cutting is one month old, respondents aged 15 to 19 are reporting on an event that took place an average of 15 to 19 years before the survey. In this case, the impact of recent initiatives aimed at ending FGM will not be reflected.
- A second challenge in evaluating the prevalence of FGM is the degree to which the practice, and prevention interventions are localised. While interventions may address areas in which the practice is concentrated, the extent to which the target population represents the national practicing population will affect the potential impact on national prevalence.

- Thirdly, rigorous measurement of social norms change remains a gap in the global development community. Coupled with the above, statistics is not given the eminence it deserves for such programs that require regular monitoring of incidence and situation in most member states of the AU. The absence of quality data that can be compared across countries is worsened by limited capacity to analyse, utilise, share and store FGM data both at the AU Commission and among some member states in real time.

The Joint Programme is making efforts to address some of these challenges and provide evidence to inform policy development and programming. The Joint Programme takes into consideration data for girls and women aged 0 to 14 (as reported by mothers), 15 to 19 and 15 to 49 for its analysis of data to address the measurement challenge when only considering data from ages 15 to 49.

In partnership with Drexel University, an initiative is underway to develop a sound global framework to measure social norms change on FGM. Countries are also piloting innovative approaches to measure social norms change such as Eritrea, Mauritania, Sudan, Nigeria, and Senegal.

Furthermore, a new methodology has been applied to provide robust projections of girls who will be at risk of FGM between 2015 and 2030. This methodology allows for estimates on the incidence of FGM. It will be replicated as new surveys become available.

Outcome 6 - Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs

The Joint Programme has partnerships and engages with different national level women's right groups, social movements, and civil society organisations (CSOs) and faith-based organisations (FBOs) to denounce the norm of FGM and empower girls and women. Efforts have also been made to mobilise health professional associations at the national and regional level in addressing the increasing trend of medicalisation of FGM. A Community of Practice (CoP) on FGM has also been established to promote knowledge exchanges between CSOs working on FGM in Africa and Europe. Establishing and engaging regional FBOs has been another area of focus to support similar initiatives with FBOs at the national level to support social mobilisation efforts for the elimination of FGM.

In most countries, women's rights organisations and networks, have actively advocated for an end to FGM and engaged in prevention and response initiatives. However, at the regional or continental level, such efforts have not been adequately captured and coordinated. Regional networks for gender equality and women's organisations have broadly addressed gender equality issues with limited focus on FGM specifically. In addition, most of the regional networks themselves lack capacity to support efforts of their peers at the country level and have often worked in isolation with minimum coordination at the regional level.

Moving forward, these initiatives need to be strengthened and scaled up to have a stronger and more sustained impact. More importantly, effort is required to seize on the increased engagement of CSOs and women and youth organisations to actively influence policy direction and programmatic focus. This is a new area of focus introduced in Phase III of the Joint Programme to strengthen social accountability mechanisms at regional and national level.

It is important to note that as noted above in the Programme document common section and in the various programme documents, the Africa's RP support to Pillar 6 will focus on regional, continent-wide women's movement building of regional women's rights organization, pan-African networks and CSOs, to collectively advocate and work towards the ending sexual, gender-based violence and harmful practices, and enlarging space in key regional processes with the African Union, and there by a key distinction with what is envisioned through the UN Trust Fund sub-regional grants for civil societies.

II. Programme Strategy

Lessons Learnt and Previous Programme Experience

The UNFPA and UNICEF interventions on FGM under the Spotlight Initiative are framed within the Joint Programme and builds on previous lessons learnt and experiences in implementing programme interventions over the years. Some of the lessons from the Joint Programme include:

- The need for a stronger focus on gender equality and the empowerment of girls and women given that FGM is a discriminatory social norm;
- A systematic approach to service delivery is needed to ensure sustainability with a stronger focus on the health needs of girls and women living with FGM;
- Ensuring the sustainability of results following public declarations of FGM abandonment;
- Criminalising FGM is important but not enough; introducing legislation and ensuring policy implementation is necessary;
- Ensuring integration of rights-based and culturally sensitive approaches is essential in promoting lasting change; and
- Strengthening political will to eliminate FGM by allocating domestic funds and implementing policies and programmes is key to addressing the issues raised above.

Sustainability

The Spotlight Initiative is designed to implement strategic actions in consultation with regional bodies such as the African Union and in alignment with their own strategic framework Agenda 2063 “The Africa We Want”. Both UNFPA and UNICEF have a long-standing relationship with the African Union (AU) and its Commission (AUC) and other regional bodies within FGM practicing states. This permits a high degree of sustainability and continuity of action through the AU and its Member States. Commitments enshrined in AU declarations/protocols such as
the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and the Maputo Protocol on Women’s Rights in Africa will be utilised as a basis for sustaining actions.

Overall Theory of Change of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM: Accelerating Change

The vision of the Joint Programme in Phase III is to contribute to the elimination of FGM by 2030, in line with Target 5.3 of the SDGs, which calls for the elimination of harmful practices. Leaving no one behind is a fundamental principal of the new Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agenda. Evidence that suggests there is a relationship between FGM and dropping out of school or reduced participation in school-related activities as a result of FGM. Previous studies point to a lower prevalence rate of FGM and greater support for abandoning FGM among highly educated women compared to those with lower levels of education. Supporting girls remaining in school and school-based community activities in support of the amplification of social norms change.

Several demographic characteristics are common to countries where FGM is prevalent. Those countries have young populations, high fertility levels, and high child and maternal mortality rates. The Joint Programme recognizes that these characteristics define the complexity and consequences of the practice and make its elimination more challenging. As population grows, the number of girls at risk of being cut increases. The Joint Programme is working with stakeholders to better understand the impact of demographic dynamics and developing responses to the growing number of girls at risk, including working with youth as an opportunity for promoting social change in future generations.

Using a top-down and bottom-up approach to strengthen regional and national accountability mechanisms for FGM elimination, the Spotlight Initiative will: 1) work with the African Union to ensure member states develop and implement policies (national action plans and budget lines) and legislation (laws against FGM); 2) support systematic data collection and analysis including tracking and reporting trends on FGM prevalence rates, and build an evidence base of good practices and lessons learnt; and 3) strengthen civil society and community-led social accountability approaches that ensure governments meet their obligations in providing access to quality services, including vulnerable groups.

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM works with this overarching hypothesis: if policies and legislation are in place and appropriately resourced for the elimination of FGM; and women and girls at risk of and affected by FGM access comprehensive and quality services; and individuals, families and communities accept the norm of keeping girls intact (i.e., not subjected to FGM), then there will be elimination of FGM at the household, community and society levels by 2030.

The Joint Programme embraces a comprehensive theory of change designed to address the complexities involved in eliminating FGM at different levels in a holistic and integrated manner as captured in the diagrams below (see Figures 1 and 2). Generating effective responses to address FGM requires a coordinated action at different levels captured in the diagrams. The Joint Programme also recognises the importance of joining hands with various actors at different levels (i.e., global, regional, national, sub-national and local) to combine and reinforce efforts to address FGM. The specific theory of change to be presented under the different Outcome Areas needs to be understood and contextualised within this overarching principle and approach of the Joint Programme.

Stream II will focus on interventions **at the regional level that should contribute to a reduction of FGM through engagement with the African Union and regional CSOs and women's rights groups**. The AU initiative will benefit all countries with FGM prevalence in Africa.

The Joint Programme's **direct impact population is girls and women at risk of or affected by FGM, especially in hard-to-reach areas in 16 countries**: Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia (interventions are focused on Somaliland), Sudan and Uganda. Additionally, two new countries supported by the Spotlight Initiative will be reached through regional activities. The AU initiative will also benefit the additional 12 countries where FGM is prevalent. The Joint Programme in Phase III will target approximately 8 million girls who will receive FGM preventive services and 4 million who will receive prevention, protection and care services. In addition, more than 8,200 new communities, covering approximately 18.45 million people, will make public declarations abandoning FGM across 16 countries, helping to ensure that girls remain free from FGM. It is important to note that the Spotlight Initiative should ultimately reach a higher number of direct beneficiaries since it also targets countries that are not part of the two programmes, as the African Union Initiative will cover African countries affected by FGM. The Spotlight Initiative regional programme for the Joint Programme on FGM will work primarily with the AUC, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), networks of parliamentarians and regional CSOs, national governments and country level CSOs, thus significantly increasing the number of direct beneficiaries reached. Several activities will be jointly implemented with the Stream II Global Programme to End Child Marriage for increased cost effectiveness and deepen the impact of improving the status of girls and women.

Table 1: Countries that will benefit from the regional programme activities

Country	FGM Joint Prog= Spotlight=	ECM Global Prog= Spotlight=	Prevalence rates for:	
			FGM	CM
Burkina Faso			76	52
Djibouti			93	5
Egypt			87	17
Eritrea			83	41
Ethiopia			65	40
Gambia			75	30
Ghana			4	21
Guinea			97	51
Guinea-Bissau			45	24
Kenya			21	23
Liberia			50	36
Malawi				42
Mali			83	52
Mauritania			67	37
Mozambique				48
Niger			2	76
Nigeria			18	44
Senegal			24	31
Sierra Leone			90	39
Somalia			98	45
Sudan			87	34
Uganda			1	40
Zambia				31
Zimbabwe				32

***Total number of countries covered through Stream II FGM will be 18 while 13 for Stream II Child Marriage**

Figure 4: Resonance and amplification movement to accelerate the end of FGM

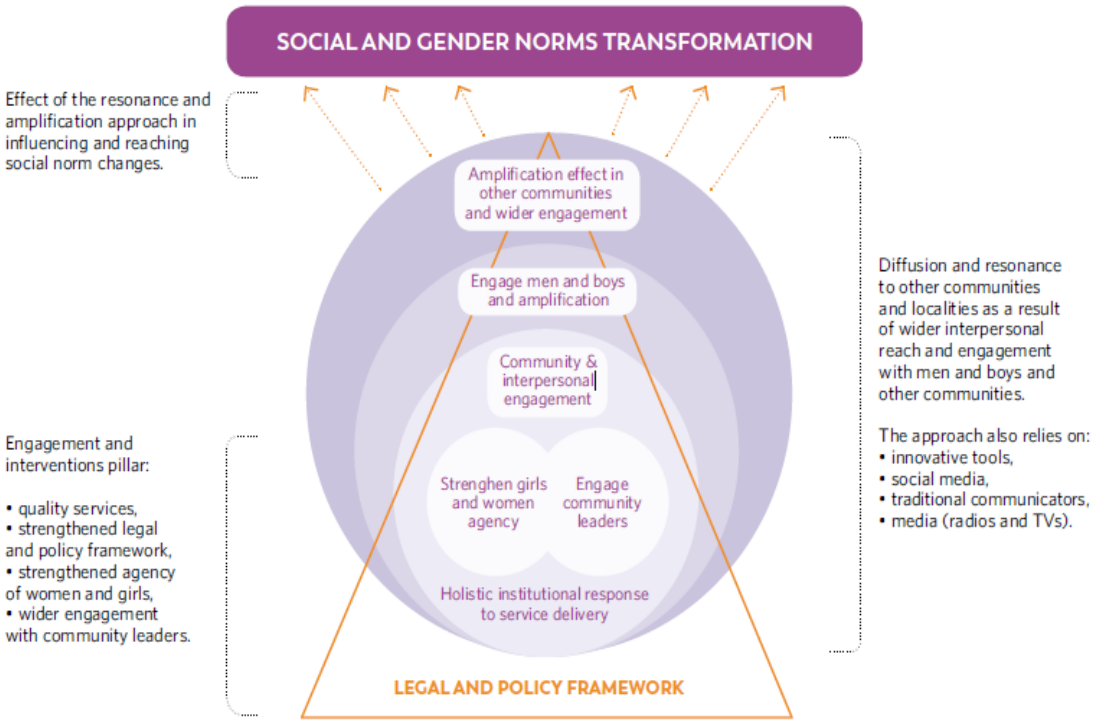
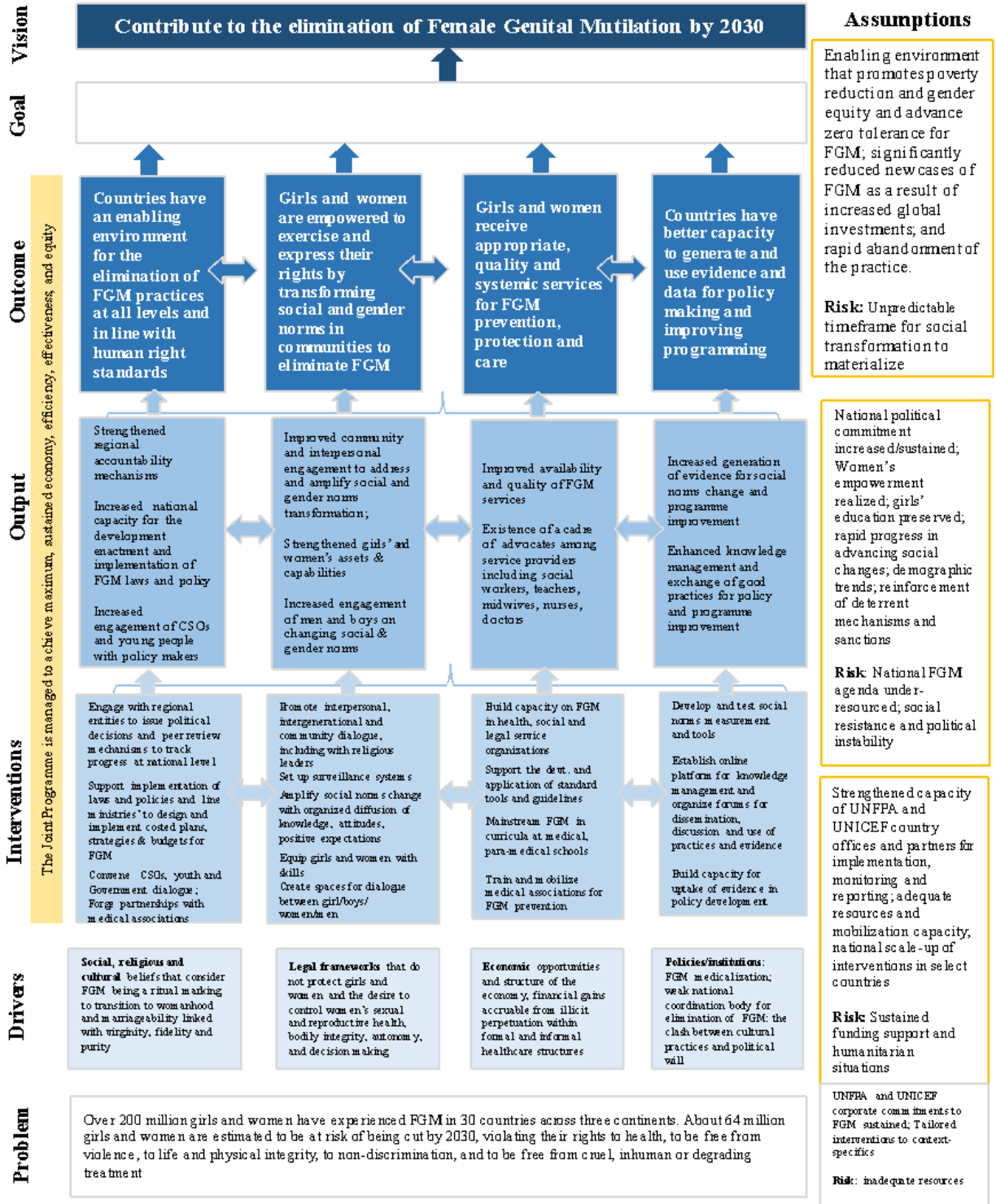

SOCIAL AND GENDER NORMS TRANSFORMATION
Effect of the resonance and amplification approach in influencing and reaching social norm changes.
Amplification effect in other communities and wider engagement
Engage men and boys and amplification
Community & interpersonal engagement
Strenghen girls and women agency
Engage community leaders
Holistic institutional response to service delivery
LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK
Diffusion and resonance to other communities and localities as a result of wider interpersonal reach and engagement with men and boys and other communities.
The approach also relies on:
• innovative tools,
• social media,
• traditional communicators,
• media (radios and TVs).
Engagement and interventions pillar:
• quality services,
• strengthened legal and policy framework,
• strengthened agency of women and girls,
• wider engagement with community leaders.

Figure 5: Theory of Change of the Joint Programme



The Joint Programme theory of change closely align with the Spotlight Initiative's comprehensive approach and respond to the Initiative's regional theme (harmful practices) in Africa. The table below illustrates how the Spotlight Initiative and the Joint Programme Theory of Change align.

Table 2: Theories of Change: Alignment of the Spotlight Initiative with the Joint Programme						
	Enabling environment through laws and policies	Strengthening institutions	Prevention through addressing Social Norms	Quality services	Data collection and use	Civil Society engagement
Spotlight Initiative	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
Joint Programme on FGM	✔	Part of enabling environment outcome	✔	✔	✔	Cross-cutting

Outcome 1

(i) ***Theory of Change***

If(1) African Union member states and CSOs are engaged in assessing, developing policies and legislations on FGM; *if(2) i*mplementation of laws and policies across member states are monitored through a peer review mechanism by AUC, CSOs and member states; and *if(3)* programs that integrate FGM are developed, implemented and monitored with the right institutional mechanisms (including allocation of the domestic budget, existence of effective coordination mechanisms, and institutional capacity at different levels) *then(4)* a strong regional accountability on FGM at the continental level and increased capacity among member states for the development and implementation of actions and laws with increased CSO engagement will be achieved.

A policy and legal framework that clearly states that FGM is unacceptable is undeniably necessary for ending the practice. However, necessary institutional mechanisms (including allocation of domestic resources, existence of effective coordination mechanism, and institutional capacity at different levels) are critically required to effectively implement policy directions and enforce legislation on FGM. Otherwise, the mere existence of policy and legal framework will not generate the required and expected results. Building on the momentum of United Nations (UN) Resolutions A/RES/67/146 (2012), A/RES/69/150 (2014), and A/RES/71/168/ (2016), and the Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003), the Joint Programme will support an African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM to galvanise political action and strengthen accountability towards the elimination of FGM. The programme will also engage with the recently launched Saleema Initiative by the African Union on ending FGM.

The Joint Programme has jointly worked with the African Union to organize an international conference on FGM under the theme of **"Galvanising Political Action to Accelerate the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation by 2030"** in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in October 2018. Unveiling of the African Union Initiative on Eliminating FGM and adopting the "Ouagadougou Call to Action on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation" to galvanise a sustained, country-driven and owned campaign that mobilizes action at all levels towards the elimination of FGM were among the main outcomes of the conference. The call for action underlined the following specific actions for accelerating the elimination of FGM

- Wider adoption and domestication of the African Union Initiative across Member States
- Adoption, domestication and implementation of laws criminalizing FGM
- Development of costed national action plans to accelerate FGM elimination
- Allocation of domestic financial resource and human resources to support services, interventions and the enforcement of legislative actions,

- Stronger and coordinated partnerships
- Investment and partnership in capacity building and alternative livelihood training for traditional excisors

The initiative will be a longer-term strategic engagement with the African Union with the following next steps:

- official launch of the initiative at 2019 AU Heads of State and Government Summit in February 2019. During the summit, the President of Burkina Faso will be named officially as AU Champion on Elimination of FGM at Summit
- development of a multi-sectoral roadmap and five-year plan of action for the AU initiative on the elimination of FGM and its implementation.
- development of a comprehensive accountability framework to track and review progress to be made by members states of the AU on accelerating elimination of FGM and make recommendations
- support the introduction and implementation of a peer review mechanism at AU level as one specific mechanism to strength accountability

Enhancing political commitment and increasing the capacity of relevant sectors will be given due emphasis for national level interventions. On the other hand, engagement with regional political bodies will primarily focus on getting FGM on the political agenda of regional and sub-regional political institutions, strengthening the accountability of Member States to regional frameworks and global human rights treaties, setting up model laws to support Member States that are yet to adopt specific laws on FGM, and establishing a functional peer review mechanism to systematically monitor national-level actions and progress in the elimination of FGM. Furthermore, high-level political champions will be engaged to galvanise and amplify regional- and national-level commitments and movements towards the elimination of the practice. The outcome of all these efforts will lead to effective implementation of policies and legislation which will be a critical input in the process of ending FGM as depicted in Figures 1 and 2 above.

(ii) *Outcome Statement*

Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are in place and translated into plans

(iii) *expected content of the support, including:*

a. ***the scope and scale of support***

Support under this outcome will target the African Union as a key regional political institution in implementing interventions at the regional level to complement and reinforce interventions of the Joint Programme at global and country levels. As this is one of the four main focus areas of the Joint Programme in Phase III, the engagement with regional institutions will continue throughout the implementation period of the initiative and will be given high priority both from a technical and financial allocation point of view.

b. **target groups and geographical scope**

Interventions under this Outcome will target the African Union, governments and civil society organisations.

c. ***focus of support***

Galvanising and amplifying political commitment and putting in place a regional level accountability mechanism is the focus and expected end-result of this Outcome. The African Union Initiative on the elimination of FGM will contribute to this objective. In the end, these initiatives seek stronger political commitment, and the effective implementation of polices and enforcement of legislation on FGM at the national level.

Key Outputs and interventions under this OUTCOME include:

Output 1.1 National and regional partners have strengthened evidence-based knowledge and capacity to assess gaps, draft new and/or strengthen existing legislation and policies and enforce implementation of existing legislation on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage, that are in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations This will include:	
Activity 1.1.1. Support the African Union Commission to finalise, disseminate and popularise a multi-sectoral road map towards the elimination of FGM as part of the African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM	
Activity 1.1.2. Support the African Union to develop an accountability framework to monitor national level commitment and action towards the elimination of FGM and implementation of the plan of action of the African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM	
Activity 1.1.3. Support the African Union to coordinate a peer review mechanism on national progress towards addressing FGM and implementation of the plan of action of the Africa Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM.	
Activity 1.1.4. Organise high-level international conference focusing on an annual strategic thematic issue on FGM as part of implementation of the plan of action of the Africa Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM	Organizing a high-level conference is a political decision that is part of the African Union Initiative on the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Since 2018 the UNFPA-UNICEF joint Programme have supported the African Union In the process that led to the reposition FGM actions within the AU mechanisms. In February 2019, during the African Union Summit, Heads of State and Government launched the African Union Initiative on the elimination of FGM and issue a political decision. The President of Burkina Faso, as the continent's champion for the elimination of FGM, is expected to organize an annual high-level conference to review progress made on ending FGM as well as continue to galvanize political action.
Activity 1.1.5.Support the African Committee of Experts on the Rights Welfare of the Child to develop and disseminate a guidance in support of member states initiative to put in place and effectively implement legislation addressing FGM	Engagement with Members of Parliament (MPs) is a process involving different initiatives to ensure systematic support: 1)Develop a more elaborate plan for MP engagement with the Pan-African Parliament (i.e., whom to involve and from where, define the overall objective, deliverables, etc.) 2)Organize a capacity building session for parliamentarians on issues related to FGM. This will also be a consultation session involving the development of an action plan that clearly defines what the MPs will be undertaking in moving forward. The plan will also provide details around initiatives that will be implemented both at the regional and national level with clear results and corresponding indicators/progress markers. 3)The Joint Programme team at the Headquarters (HQ) and Regional Office (RO) level will follow up on initiatives to be undertaken at the regional level. Countries supported by the Joint Programme will follow up and provide technical and financial support to MPs for actions to be implemented at the national level. The Joint Programme will also provide some funding for work with MPs at the national level through the programme's budget. 4)Some of the interventions reflected in the Spotlight Initiative will also be supported and coordinated with other initiatives funded by the Joint Programme at national level through the programme's budget. It is important to note that the Joint programme on FGM is supporting several countries who all have their annual workplan and budget
Activity 1.1.6. Support the work of the African Union Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Children to support and monitor national level initiatives towards the elimination of FGM	
Activity 1.1.7. Establish and implement an innovation hub to promote exemplary and effective practices by countries in policy and legal enactment and implementation on FGM	This innovation fund be directly administered by the RUNOs. The Joint Programme in coordination with AU and other regional partners will identify countries with exemplary practices (on policies and legislation) and support with funds to implement/scale up that initiative.

Activity 1.1.8. Organise high level panels with a focus on strategic issues related to FGM and child marriage during International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February), Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and UN General Assembly (UNGA) and European Union (EU) forums.	
Activity 1.1.9. Develop inter-governmental and institutionalised cross-border initiatives to address the dynamics of FGM in selected neighbouring countries and implement the initiatives.[26]	With the Spotlight Initiative, the Joint Programme is planning to further strengthen efforts by focusing on inter-governmental and institutionalized cross-border initiatives to address the dynamics of FGM. The cross-border initiative is a process with actions to be taken at multiple levels and by different actors as follows: ● Countries commonly affected by the practice will come together, both at the political and technical level, to discuss and map out solutions. This will involve organizing a meeting to be hosted by one of the countries. ● Countries will develop a plan of action elaborating areas of engagement and collaboration to be able to jointly address the impact of cross-border movement as relates to the practice of FGM. ● Countries will convene a meeting (based on the timeframe to be agreed by stakeholders) to regularly review progress in terms of implementing the plan of action. ● The Joint Programme, both at the regional and national level, will closely work with countries to follow up and support the initiative. What is reflected in the Spotlight Initiative work plan is the travel cost for the meeting to be organized by countries as explained above. The following example best illustrates the methodology for developing the cross-border initiative mechanism: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda are currently working on a cross-border initiative. Their first Regional Inter-Ministerial End FGM Cross-Border Meeting took place on the 15th to the 17th of April 2019 in Kenya and issued declaration. Stakeholders are working to finalize a plan of action as a follow up to the meeting. The East Africa example provides a sense of what will be supported with the understanding not all activities will be funded by the Spotlight Initiative.
Activity 1.1.10. Build the capacity and support regional and national human rights institutions in disseminating and advocating for full implementation of resolutions and recommendations from the different human rights instruments on FGM and child marriage (UNGA resolution, UPR, CEDAW, CRC and AU/continental level instruments)	
Activity 1.1.11. Support the development and implementation of a communication campaign for the African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM	

d. ***envisaged modalities of support/ implementation approach, with a justification for the proposed approach***

Modalities of support and implementation approach will basically follow what is agreed upon and defined for the implementation of the Joint Programme in Phase III. Key elements include the following:

- The Joint Programme Coordination Team at the global level will coordinate and lead efforts under this outcome to be able to ensure the broader vision and synergy in engaging with the African Union within the framework of the Joint Programme.
- A road map will be developed for the African Union Initiative in a consultative and participatory

26

process involving the African Union and its different units, the Liaison Offices of UNFPA and UNICEF to the African Union, the Regional Offices of UNFPA and UNICEF, and country beneficiaries.
- A dedicated technical team will be made available to closely work with the African Union as it would be difficult to expect staff from the African Union Commission to follow up and execute all day-to-day activities throughout the engagement.

The Joint Programme at the global level and the UNFPA and UNICEF liaison offices will directly handle some of the financial matters in the process of implementing the agreed upon interventions in order not to place more administrative burden on the African Union Commission.

In terms of an implementation approach, the key areas of focus for the African Union Initative would include advocating for:

- Implementation of legislation and the adoption of new legislation in countries where laws do not exist;
- Adoption and implementation of costed national action plans;
- Increase domestic resources for the implementation of policies and programmes; and
- Strengthen coordination mechanisms involving government partners and CSOs.

Estimation of beneficiaries for Outcome 1

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect
Women	**4,300**	
Girls	**670**	**25,200,503**
Men	**3,914**	
Boys	**590**	
TOTAL	**9,474**	**25,200,503**

Note:
- 9,474 individuals (4127 policy makers, 800 parliamentarians, 1857 programme managers/technical experts and 2690 various community representatives and the public will be directly engaged in implementing various interventions. In addition, the regional level interventions will also have the following country and institutional level beneficiaries:
  - ✔ 18 countries (countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative) will directly benefit while 12 other countries will indirectly benefit from the various planned interventions. There will be more emphasis and follow up on the first 18 countries while implementing regional level initiatives that include the road map, accountability framework and peer review mechanism towards the implementation of the plan of action of the African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM and other initiatives.
  - ✔ A total of 10 human rights organization will be reached from selected 10 countries

Outcome 5

i. *'Theory of Change*

If (1) measurements and methodologies for FGM are improved and strengthened and if (2) the capacity of institutions to collect, disaggregate and use data in line with globally agreed standards; *then (3)* programme design and implementation will be grounded in evidence for effectiveness of interventions addressing FGM and improving the lives of girls and women. Investments will be made to enhance the AU's capacity to develop methodologies that can be adopted by Member States to ensure generation of timely, quality and practice-oriented evidence at the country level.

The Joint Programme works with the assertion that data plays a critical role in systematically informing policy and programmatic focus and making programme design and implementation robust and grounded in evidence to ensure the effectiveness of interventions addressing FGM and improving the lives of girls and women. Hence, investment needs to be made to enhance national institutional capacity to ensure the generation of timely, quality and practice-oriented evidence. It is also critical to clearly define and identify key data gaps to better address actual challenges and limitations encountered in programmes addressing FGM at different levels. Designing appropriate dissemination forums and mechanisms will enhance the best use of evidence in appropriately informing programming. It is this perspective that drives the work of the Joint Programme on data and evidence and it is also considered as a cross-cutting area of focus across the different interventions.

ii. *Outcome Statement*

Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes

iii. *expected content of the support, including:*

a. ***the scope and scale of support***

Interventions under this outcome will put emphasis on generating evidence on more strategic, broader and cross-cutting issues informing overall programming on FGM across the different countries.

Developing and rolling out a framework to help rigorous measurement of social norms change, undertaking evaluation of interventions and identifying best practices to address FGM under different socio-cultural context and dynamics, and generating in-depth analysis of data on FGM, taking into consideration the different factors and perspectives, will be emphasised throughout the implementation of Phase III of the Joint Programme.

The Joint Programme will also support analysis of DHS and MICS data to estimate trends, rate of reduction and incidence of girls at risk of FGM. Furthermore, on-going efforts to integrate FGM in the different administrative data (e.g., Health Management Information System, and sexual and gender-based violence databases) will also continue in partnership with relevant stakeholders.

Knowledge products to be generated by the Joint Programme are expected to be a valuable contribution to the global development community and programmes addressing not only FGM but also child marriage, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), violence against women and girls (VAWG), and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) more broadly.

b. ***target groups and geographical scope***

Policymakers at the global, regional and national levels, statistical offices at national level, programme managers, academic institutions, and CSOs will be the main target groups.

c. ***focus of support***

Efforts under this outcome will primarily focus on generating a strong body of knowledge and evidence to better inform programming for stronger results and sharpen the monitoring and evaluation of programme interventions.

This outcome would be achieved through **the following output and key interventions:**

Output 5.2 Quality prevalence and/or incidence data on SGBV, child marriage and FGM is analysed and made publicly available for the monitoring and reporting of the SDG indicators 5.2 and 5.3 to inform evidence-based decision making

Activity 5.2.1 Support operationalizing the global framework on measurement of social norms change on FGM at national level for five countries	
Activity 5.2.2 Capacity development for national key stakeholders (statistical authority, relevant sectors and partners) on the generation and use of data, evidence and best practices for better programme implementation and reporting on FGM	A number of interrelated interventions are ongoing/planned to enhance the capacity of the national statistical system (NSS) of the countries (not only the national statistical agency but other sectors as well including health) in terms of generating evidence and data analysis related to FGM. These include the following: a) Capacity development for national key stakeholders (statistical authority, relevant sectors and partners) on the generation and use of data, evidence and best practices for improved programme implementation and reporting on FGM (Activity 5.2.2). b) Establish reliable baseline estimates through modeling, and measure impact of FGM interventions in four selected countries to inform future programming on FGM (Activity 5.2.3). The plan is to work jointly with countries and contribute to strengthening the capacity of the national institutions. c) The Joint Programme is already supporting countries to integrate FGM in the different national administrative data systems, including Health Management Information Systems (HMIS). d) The Joint Programme is also undertaking other initiatives to enhance the capacity of countries, including implementing partners, in generating evidence and real-time data collection and analysis.
Activity 5.2.3 Establish reliable baseline estimates through modeling and measure impact of FGM interventions in selected four countries to inform future programming on FGM; Countries will be identified at a later stage	
Activity 5.2.4. Support functioning of the Community of Practice on FGM as a forum to widely share evidences, best practices and challenges and also moderate online debates and discussions	
Activity 5.2.5. Develop, publish and disseminate paper on global costing of FGM interventions to inform policy and programme	
Activity 5.2.6. Organize technical assistance missions to strengthen and support the use of evidence-based information and provide technical support on programme implementation in countries supported both by the Joint Programme and spotlight initiatives	
Activity 5.2.7. Organize an annual forum to share knowledge, evidences and best practices and have critical deliberations on various policy and programmatic issues related to FGM involving countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative and also other countries with high prevalence of FGM (this is to share the experience and lessons from the Joint Programme to other countries to have spill over effect-and ensure continent wide impact to inform efforts addressing FGM)	

d. ***envisaged modalities of support/ implementation approach, with a justification* for the proposed approach**

The implementation approach for this outcome is as follows:

- The Joint Programme Coordination Team at the global and regional level will jointly work together to ensure high quality data and analysis are produced. Country offices will contribute, as required and needed by the different initiatives.
- Partnerships will be established with different organisations and institutions (i.e., governmental, academic and research centres, and the private sector) to be identified for the different initiatives based on their proven expertise and experience. The internal expertise and capacity of UNFPA and UNICEF will also be utilised in some of the technical areas.

Estimation of Beneficiaries Outcome 5

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect
Women	**2018**	
Girls	**50**	**25,200,503**
Men	**2662**	
Boys	**50**	
TOTAL	**4780**	**25,200,503**

Note:

- 4780 individuals (500 policy makers, 500 parliamentarians and 3780 programme managers/technical experts from statistics officers) will be directly engaged while implementing data and evidenced based generation and use. In addition, the regional level interventions will also benefit the following:
  - ✔ 18 countries (countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative) will directly benefit while 12 other countries will indirectly benefit from the various planned interventions. The data/evidence to be generated and the capacity building efforts will primarily target 18 countries while the data/evidence will be available for the whole universe of countries where FGM exists and needs to be addressed.

Outcome 6:

(i) *a 'Theory of Change';*

If the knowledge, expertise and capacities of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations, including those representing youth is drawn upon, given space and further strengthened towards addressing FGM as part of the broader gender equality agenda; if women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations are able to create a more coordinated continent wide movement on enhancing social accountability to advocate and influence regional and national level responses for ending FGM; and if these efforts are also well supported and amplified with wide media campaign then the combined efforts will accelerate the elimination of FGM.

Strong and proactive engagement of women's rights groups, youth groups, CSOs and FBOs has paramount significance and contribution in advancing the agenda of FGM elimination at different levels and realising the vision of eliminating the practice by 2030 as stipulated in the SDGs and various regional and national level policies and plans of action. Combined with other interventions, these efforts will have a role to play and contribute in generating appropriate national responses leading to the elimination of FGM.

Pillar 6 Investment in Africa Regional Programme

The Africa RP's support to Outcome 6 across both streams will focus on regional, continent-wide women's movement building of regional women's rights organizations, pan-African networks and CSOs, to collectively advocate and work towards the ending sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices (specifically female genital mutilation [FGM] and child marriage [CM] on the continent. A key and distinct objective of the work envisioned under the Africa RP will be to enlarge space in key regional processes with the African Union (AU), which is a continental inter-governmental organization that has a major influence on agenda-setting and policymaking across Africa. This work will leverage the comparative advantage of the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in their convening role, bringing together governments and civil society to hear from each other and engage in joint decision-making. Efforts will build on and strengthen ongoing work around existing AU initiatives (AU initiative to end FGM and CM) and strategies (AU Gender Strategy), with existing mechanisms (Gender is My Agenda Campaign) and relevant Directorates of the AUC (Social Affairs and Gender). Additionally, the Africa RP will support the effective functioning of the Civil Society Regional Reference Group, an important governance mechanism of the Spotlight Initiative (at global, regional and national levels) that plays an advisory, advocacy and accountability role in the Africa RP's efforts to end VAWG and harmful practices.

Under Stream II FGM component, Outcome 6 will support the Joint Programme to create space and strengthen the capacity of civil society to engage in a constructive dialogue with governments during the development and implementation of the country's national action plan on FGM recognising the critical convening role of the UN in bringing together key stakeholders to effectively address FGM. It is critical to enable these actors to exercise social accountability to closely analyse the nature and appropriateness of the national response to effectively and in a timely manner address FGM and have ongoing evidence-based discussions and debates with various government actors at different levels. At the regional level, regional CSOs will be coordinating advocacy for the African Union to ensure accountability of governments at the national level.

(ii) ***Outcome Statement***

Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination, more effectively influence and advance progress on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) and VAWG including SGBV and harmful practices.

(iii) *expected content of the support, including:*

a. ***the scope and scale of support***

The support under the outcome will entail establishing partnerships with selected strategic level women's rights groups, youth groups, CSOs, FBOs and professional associations to address broader regional level dynamics influencing FGM. The work of these partners is expected to enhance the capacity of institutions at the national level to better advance the work on FGM at different levels.
Special focus will be given to promote more organised young people's movements, availing them opportunities to take responsibility and ownership in the effort to end FGM, have active role in mobilising others, and become powerful role models and change agents. Under this outcome the resonance and amplification movement presented in Figure 4 will enter into full force.

b. ***target groups and geographical scope***

Interventions under this Outcome will target the African Union, governments and civil society organisations.

c. ***focus of support***

The focus of the support will be to enhance social accountability, address trans-border dynamics of FGM and coordinate a resonance and amplification movement to further reinforce country level programme implementation by various stakeholders.
The following set of activities have been developed across the two streams to be implemented under Outcome 6. Relevant details on activities to be implemented under Stream II CM and Stream I are provided in the respective programme document sections.

Output 6.1: Increased opportunities and support for women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to share knowledge, network, partner and jointly advocate for GEWE and EVAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and to promote SRHR	
Activity 6.1.1. Support the establishment of a continental Civil Society Regional Reference Group (CSRRG) to effectively coordinate and provide oversight on the implementation of international and regional commitments on gender equality and women's rights	Stream I
Activity 6.1.2 Design/configure existing UNECA knowledge sharing digital platforms to make them interoperable and accessible also by the CSOs. (African Women's Rights Observatory currently managed by UNECA.	Stream I
Activity 6.1.3. Convene an annual Regional CSO and women's movement forum on EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR to influence the African Union and global policy agenda on EVAW, SGBV/HP, SRHR (ex. CSW, HPLF, Beijing +25, GA, ICPD, CEDAW, CRC and the African Union Processes including GMAC, AU EVAW and ECM campaigns, AU Summit and the AU Agenda 2063).	Stream I
Activity 6.1.4. Support the establishment of Regional media/communication platform for Regional CSOs to enable knowledge sharing on best practices and lessons learned on VAWG/HP and SRHR, including on engaging key AU processes – (such as African Women Changing the Narrative)	Stream I

Activity 6.1.5. Support the innovative regional youth led initiatives and amplify youth, particularly young women and girls' engagement in policy dialogue on EVAW, SGBV/HP and SRHR through relevant AUC Directorates and High-Level Meeting	Stream I
Activity 6.1.6. Support partnerships between the African Union Commission and regional faith-based organizations, and communities of traditional leaders to strengthen their engagement in prevention and response to VAW/G, SGBV, harmful practices and promotion of SRHR in Africa.	Stream I
Activity 6.1.7 Develop 13 policy and analytical briefs on child marriage in 13 countries based on analysis of evidence from recent social and economic impact and policy studies related to adolescent girls and young women	Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.8 Convene 13 national multi-stakeholder dialogues on ending child marriage in 13 countries with participation of women's rights groups, CSOs, youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination and develop regional policy recommendations based on inputs from the national dialogues	Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.9 Develop a practitioner's guide to implementing child marriage programmes (with possibility of specific versions based on region/country contexts), following the analytical reports and national dialogues, that will also guide women's rights groups, CSOs, youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination frame practical discussions around child marriage issues including the monitoring of outcomes	Stream II CM
Activity 6.1.10. Engage CSOs and associations to support 'building bridge' initiative linking the diaspora in European Union countries with communities in Africa to encourage open interaction between communities and families to facilitate social norms change in favour of abandonment of FGM (FGM)	**Stream II FGM**
Activity 6.1.11. Build the capacity of national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs on social accountability to advocate and influence the national level responses in implementing policy commitments and legal provisions in addressing FGM	**Stream II FGM**
Activity 6.1.12 Undertake a regional level coordinated CSO movement for lobbying and advocating for the elimination of FGM and protecting the rights of girls and women (advocate to have legislation on FGM at national level and their enforcement, follow up and influence implementation of the Africa Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM, advocate for full implementation of the recommendations of the Africa Union peer review mechanism on FGM)	**Stream II FGM**
Activity 6.1.13. Engage regional and national level Men Alliance Networks to promote a strong movement of men and boys in supporting and engaging in initiatives to end FGM and implementing advocacy initiatives for strong involvement of men and boys	**Stream II FGM**
Activity 6.1.14 Undertake a regional level media campaign on the progress, achievements and challenges in addressing FGM in Africa, including a focus on the AU Initiative on the Elimination of FGM	**Stream II FGM**
Output 6.2 Capacities of regional women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to use social accountability mechanisms to advocate and influence prevention and response to VAWG, including SGBV/HP and GEWE enhanced	
Activity 6.2.1.Strengthen the capacity of networks of regional CSOs (including networks of rural women, women living in conflict affected areas, women with disabilities and women living with HIV/AIDS) to fast track, monitor and report on the implementation of regional African Union instruments including the Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa, Agenda 2063, AU Gender Strategy on VAWG/HP and SRHR.	Stream I
Output 6.3 Capacities of regional women's CSOs and networks strengthened to design, implement and monitor their own programmes on VAWG, including ending SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and promoting women's and girls' health rights	
Activity 6.3.1. Strengthen the institutional capacity of CSOs in advocacy, lobbying and networking in engaging key AU policy processes and relevant directorates on GEWE, VAWG, HP, and SRHR.	Stream I
Activity 6.3.2. Convene a high-level multi-stakeholder continental summit in the side-lines of the African Union Summit to showcase, network and cross-learning of CSOs (women's CSOs, AU Member States, AUC, UN system, development partners and other relevant actors) on EVAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR.	Stream I
Activity 6.3.3. Provide technical assistance to regional men's and boys' networks on positive social norms change and establish linkages of the networks with relevant AUC departments.	Stream I

d. ***envisaged modalities of support/ implementation approach, with a justification for the proposed approach***

With regard to the modalities of support/implementation approach:

- Technical and financial support will be provided to the selected regional level strategic women's rights groups, CSOs and professional associations through the Joint Programme's Global Coordination team and/or relevant Regional Offices of UNFPA and UNICEF based on the nature of results to be delivered.

Estimation of Beneficiaries Outcome 6

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect
Women	**2,537,060**	
Girls	**1,028,140**	**25,200,503**
Men	**2,400,830**	
Boys	**891,470**	
TOTAL	**6,857,500**	**25,200,503**

Note:

- 6,857,500 individuals (8550 policy makers, 3450 parliamentarians, 54650programme managers/technical experts and 6790850 various community representatives and the public) will be directly engaged/reached in implementing various interventions, including various media initiatives. The estimated number of beneficiaries is higher for Outcome 6 due to the strong media campaign included in the interventions. In addition, the regional level interventions under this outcome will have the following broader institutional level reach and beneficiaries:
  - ✔ Engagement of women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs will be more focused on 18 countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative while 12 other countries will indirectly benefit from the interventions. More specifically, capacity of 54 national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs will be strengthened (3 organizations will be reached from 18 priority countries supported both by the Joint Programme and by Spotlight Initiative). In addition, one regional and 10 national level Men Alliance Networks (from 10 countries) will be engaged to support the efforts to eliminate FGM through various interventions.
  - ✔ 22 media houses including 4 regional media (TV5, SABC, Africable, RFI) will be engaged.

III. Governance Structure

Africa Coordination Unit (ACU): The ACU will support Stream II partners to plan jointly and deliver on joint results with Stream I partners ensuring technical coordination, synergy and complementarity across the entire Africa Spotlight Regional Programme.

Implementation of interventions to eliminate FGM to be funded by the Spotlight Initiative will be governed by the existing and already agreed upon Joint Programme working mechanisms. The Joint Programme will continue to have its own Steering Committee, including the EU, with broader oversight responsibility for the overall management and functioning of the programme. Its members will include one senior-level technical staff member to be officially designated by each donor providing financial support to the Joint Programme and the Directors from UNFPA and UNICEF. The Steering Committee will be co-chaired by the Programme

Directors of UNFPA and UNICEF.[27] The European Union, as one of the current members of the Steering Committee, will continue to play a critical role in the governance structure of the Joint Programme on FGM. This will also give the opportunity to the European Union to ensure synergy and complementarity between the interventions supported by the Spotlight Imitative and other funding to the Joint Programme.

The role of the Steering Committee includes the following main tasks:

- Facilitate the effective and efficient collaboration between participating UN agencies and donors for the implementation of the Joint Programme;
- Review and approve the Joint Programme document, including the monitoring and evaluation framework, and any subsequent revisions;
- Review overall implementation of the Joint Programme on a semi-annual basis;
- Review and approve annual consolidated narrative and financial reports;
- Review and approve terms of reference for the evaluation exercise, review evaluation findings, and follow up on the implementation status of accepted recommendations from the evaluation;
- Support advocacy with regional political structures, national governments, and civil society actors for enhanced commitment and accountability in the effort to eliminate the practice of FGM; and
- Support advocacy and resource mobilisation efforts for the Joint Programme.

The Joint Programme governance structure will closely and harmoniously work with and collaborate with the governance structure to be put in place by the Spotlight Initiative. To this effect, one senior staff from the Spotlight Initiative will be invited to join the Steering Committee of the Joint Programme on FGM.

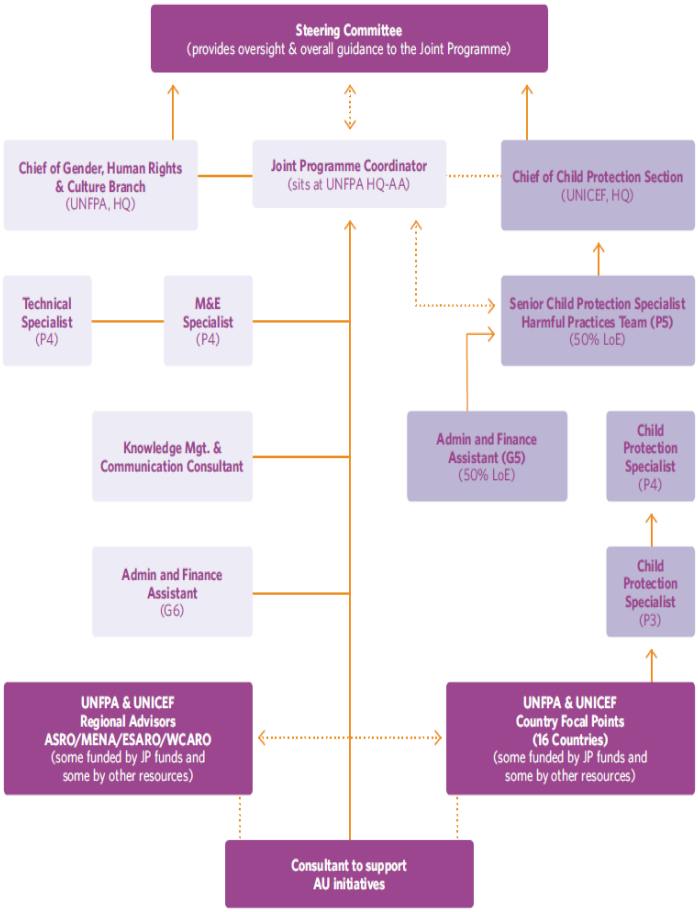
IV. Accountability

UNFPA and UNICEF will be the two recipient UN organisations for the fund to be channelled to the Joint Programme by the Spotlight Initiative. Accountability mechanisms and division of responsibilities are clearly defined in the Phase III Joint Programme document and this will continue to govern the role and responsibilities of the two UN agencies. UNFPA and UNICEF have signed standard memorandum of understanding for the implementation of Joint Programme and the document provides all the details in terms of the roles and responsibilities of the two Agencies.

V. RUNO(s) and Implementing Partners

Since 2008, UNFPA and UNICEF jointly lead the largest global response for ending FGM, the Joint Programme. UNFPA and UNICEF have accumulated years of proven experience and expertise on programming on FGM which enables them to fully and effectively implement all the interventions to be supported by the Spotlight Initiative. The staff to be deployed by the two UN agencies, together with the overall structure of the Joint Programme is presented below:

[27] The programme document for Phase III of UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change provides details on the governance structure for the Joint Programme.



Day-to-day programme and financial management and administrative work will be handled by the Joint Programme Coordination Team at the Headquarters level. The team will be responsible for the following main tasks and responsibilities:

- Promote partnership, undertake advocacy initiatives with the African Union Commission, and support resource mobilisation;
- Engage and solicit technical inputs from relevant units of UNFPA and UNICEF to benefit from the institutional knowledge base and expertise;
- Develop knowledge on social change and emerging issues, and facilitate documentation of best practices and knowledge management;
- Ensure timely preparation and submission of work plans to the Spotlight Secretariat;
- Provide technical support and follow-up for programme implementation and financial management;
- Implement capacity-building initiatives for partners and country teams;
- Prepare the annual report based on the inputs from the regional, liaison and country offices;
- Organise annual consultation meetings and regional conferences;
- Facilitate and ensure the smooth conduct of Steering Committee meetings and serve as a secretariat to the Steering Committee;
- Respond to requests from the Steering Committee, donors, Spotlight Secretariat and senior management of UNFPA and UNICEF;
- Facilitate undertaking the evaluation exercise for the Joint Programme; and
- Represent the Joint Programme on the various technical forums and advocacy events.

A Programme Coordinator at UNFPA will lead the Joint Programme Coordination Team with close support from the joint technical team both at UNFPA (Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist – P4, Technical Specialist – P4, Knowledge Management and Communication consultant, and Programme Assistant – G6) and UNICEF (Child Protection Specialists – P5 (50%), P4 and P3, G5 (50%)). For UNFPA, the Joint Programme will be situated within the Gender, Human Rights and Culture Branch of the Technical Division, while it will be within the Child Protection Section under the Programme Division for UNICEF. The governance and programme modalities will continue to be characterised by UNFPA and UNICEF co-management at the global, regional and country levels.

UNFPA and UNICEF Regional Offices will play a key role as they are the first point of contact with countries in their region. They will provide technical support (in-country and remote) and guidance, develop guidelines, and compile lessons learnt and best practices.

Finally, the Joint Programme will hire two Technical Assistants who will be dedicated to work with the African Union Commission in the implementation of the regional initiatives to be funded by the Spotlight Initiative. This includes a programme person at the P4 level to support programmatic initiatives and a communication person at the P3 level to primarily support the African Union Initiative on the Elimination of FGM.

Table 3: *Programme partners to be engaged in the regional component under Stream II FGM JP*

S/N	*List of partners*	*Experience and role of partners in delivering regional component (Joint Programme on FGM)*
1	African Union Commission	● Social Affairs Department will be the focal department of the Africa regional programme ● Will lead Initiative on the Elimination of FGM. ● Will engage in galvanising and amplifying political commitment and putting in place regional level accountability mechanisms. Several units and mechanisms of the AUC will be mobilised to implement a 5-year road map. ● Realise stronger political commitment and effective implementation of polices and enforcement of legislation on FGM at the national level.
2	Regional civil society organizations	
3	Academic and Research Institutes including Drexel University, UNFPA Population and Development Branch, and UNICEF Data Unit (other academic and research partners will also be identified)	● Evidence generation and research undertakings (e.g., social norms measurement). ● Secondary analysis of DHS and MICs data to follow trends, annual rate of reduction and to estimate incidence of girls at risk of FGM.

Engagement with Regional Economic Communities

The FGM Joint Programme and GP on Child Marriage will mainly have engagement with the East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and Southern African Development Community (SADC) through different initiatives under the three outcomes at different levels.

VI. Partnerships

Interventions presented by the Joint Programme on FGM for funding by the Spotlight Initiative are already articulated in the programme document for Phase III of the Joint Programme which was developed in a consultative process engaging staff and stakeholders in 17 countries, and donors/Steering Committee members (including the EU). Moreover, several rounds of discussions were conducted with different units within UNFPA and UNICEF as well as with UNFPA and UNICEF Regional and Country Offices to brainstorm and solicit feedback during the development of the programme document. Inputs from country teams also benefited from their interactions with government and CSOs partners implementing the Joint Programme at national and local levels in their respective countries. Review of research findings by different organisations and academic institutions also informed the design of the Phase III of the Joint Programme. Close consultations have been conducted with the African Union Commission, the selected regional level CSOs (presented in the table above), and UNFPA and UNICEF Regional Offices in the process of developing this programme document to further articulate and refine particular intervention areas.

VII. Results Matrix

The regional programme has developed a joint result framework across both streams, and please refer to Annex 1.

VIII. Risk Management

Detailed risk management conducted in preparing a programme document for Phase III of the Joint Programme on FGM is presented in Table 3.

IX. Coherence with Existing Programmes

As explained in the different sections of this document, UNFPA and UNICEF are jointly implementing the Joint Programme on FGM (launched in 2008), with Phase III (2018 to 2021) currently under way. Interventions to be supported by the Spotlight Initiative will complement and contribute towards achieving the envisaged results of the Joint Programme in Phase III. It is important to point out that there is close alignment between the overall focus and detailed result areas of the Spotlight Initiative and the Joint Programme. The Joint Programme will also collaborate with the Global Programme to End Child Marriage since the root causes of both harmful practices are often common, and linkages are needed to address the challenges that affect adolescent girls.

Moreover, the Joint Programme will also be collaborating with other programmes and UN agencies (e.g., UN Women on issues related to gender equality) to ensure synergy and maximise the comparative advantage of each institution.

X. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Spotlight results framework will be the foundation for the monitoring and evaluation strategy and activities. The monitoring and evaluation strategy aims to ensure results-based management, accountability, and generation of evidence for learning and evidence-based programming. The 'Results-

Based Management and Learning Guide' developed for the FGM Joint Programme will provide guidance to the regions and HQ, as well as other stakeholders for the monitoring and evaluation of the Spotlight initiative.

Monitoring

Before the programme is launched, indicators of the results framework of the Spotlight initiative will be provided with baselines and targets that will be monitored throughout programme implementation. UNFPA and UNICEF will develop an implementation plan, and a monitoring and evaluation plan in collaboration with the African Union and CSOs (implementing partners) to ensure that activities are carried out with effectiveness and efficiency. The monitoring and evaluation plan will include programme reviews to discuss and address all issues related to programme implementation. To the extent possible, UNFPA, UNICEF and the EU will organise joint visits to ensure programme implementation and progress.

The Spotlight Initiative will also build on the Joint Programme monitoring and evaluation system, especially the "Data for All" platform. The Joint Programme has developed a web-based data management platform ('Data for All', known as 'DFA') intended to facilitate evidence-based planning, monitoring and reporting on its results framework. DFA allows countries, regions and the programme at the global level, on a yearly basis, to plan results by setting baselines and targets, and reporting against the planned results. The system provides clear roles and responsibilities at each level, allowing users to generate an online version of the results framework for every country and region, and update it in real time. System users can track online progress of any indicator or result within the results framework. DFA has enhanced user management process, more configurations and tagging features, an interactive dashboard containing visualisations, infographics, and sections built around the results framework of a programme.

Reporting

Implementing partners will be required to submit work plan reports on the implementation of activities and progress towards results on a basis that will be agreed upon. UNFPA as the Lead Agency will compile and submit a progress report to the Spotlight secretariat on behalf of both UNFPA and UNICEF. In terms of presentation, the Joint Programme will include all achievements with investment from Spotlight Initiative in the regular annual report of the Joint Programme to provide a more comprehensive picture of the work in addressing FGM, including interventions supported in the countries that are not currently within the Joint Programme focus countries

The DFA platform, currently fully operational for all countries and regions for the monitoring and reporting of Joint Programme interventions, will facilitate Spotlight reporting.

Research and In-depth Analysis

The Spotlight Initiative will contribute to global knowledge on FGM through in-depth analysis of data on FGM from DHS, MICS and other national surveys as well as improvements in the measurement of social norms change. The secondary analysis of population-based surveys will provide further information for the identification of the most vulnerable groups.

Programme management under the Joint Programme on FGM is based on effectiveness, efficiency, equity and sustainability, as reflected in the relevant indicators included in its results framework.

Evaluation

Thematic evaluations on selected key programmatic interventions on FGM will be conducted to draw lessons and inform future programming. UNFPA and UNICEF are managing an external evaluation of Phase II of the Joint Programme. Findings and recommendations from the evaluation exercise will be used to further inform FGM programming. The Spotlight Initiative will support mid-term review and the final evaluation of Phase III of the Joint Programme scheduled in 2021.

The Spotlight results management strategy (RMS) will be linked with the Joint Programme's planning, monitoring and reporting, drawing from the DFA.

The Communities of Practice on FGM has been established to allow for greater South-South collaboration among countries and sharing of knowledge and experience to improve programme impact. To increase knowledge sharing, the programme will also promote the participation of key stakeholders (i.e., EU, Government, and CSOs) in all monitoring and evaluation activities. As for the Joint Programme, given that partners (both governments and CSOs) at all levels actively participated and contributed to the contextualisation of the Phase III theory of change and the results framework, UNFPA and UNICEF will conduct, to the extent possible, joint field visits with the EU, Governments and the relevant CSOs.

XI. Innovation

I. Programme Innovation

From a programmatic perspective, the Joint Programme on FGM will undertake the following efforts to promote innovation to better advance the agenda of FGM and improve programmatic performance:

1. Establish an innovation hub with the aim to identify and promote exemplary initiatives by Member States in addressing FGM from a policy and legal perspective to be delivered by the RUNOs directly. The initiative is expected to acknowledge and encourage countries that implement innovative approaches (and create a positive sense of competition among member states as well) and provide space among Member States to be inspired and learn from one another. The innovation fund provides opportunities for a diverse group of stakeholders (sectors, women's rights activists, youth groups, researchers, journalists, etc) to pilot initiatives or replicate and scale up proven intervention. Funds could be used at the community, national or regional level, depending on the proposed project. The innovation fund would be linked to the Joint Programme's global efforts to build an evidence base of promising and good practices and lessons learned that will be used to strengthen interventions and advocacy efforts in support of FGM abandonment. As an example, the initiative in Burkina Faso to start a mobile court (where mobile judicial hearings take place near the communities from which the cases arise) have proven to be highly effective in ensuring access to justice for girls and women affected by FGM in the most remote regions of Burkina Faso. The mobile justice courts are also key in raising awareness about application of the law at the community level including the protection of children and women from violence, exploitation and abuse.

2. Evaluation exercises focused on identifying best practices in different socio-cultural contexts will also be used to identify and replicate innovative approaches across the countries supported by the Joint Programme and the Spotlight Initiative.

3. The use of technology (such as U Report and the mapping of FGM areas using the website OpenstreetMap) to amplify the messages of FGM abandonment and identify the location of girls at risk will also be supported.

II. Operational Innovation:

1. The Joint Programmes on FGM and Child Marriage will **develop a joint operational plan** to ensure coordination and harmonisation in the process of undertaking initiatives common and relevant to both joint programmes. This effort will also help in avoiding possible duplication of efforts and ensure more efficient resource utilisation.

2. The Joint Programmes on FGM and Child Marriage will sign a **joint agreement with regional level women's rights organisations and CSOs to** implement coordinated interventions addressing

both FGM and child marriage instead of signing two different agreements. This will be an important step forward in streamlining operational procedures and processes while working with implementing partners.

3. **Operational Innovation:** The Africa regional programme will also set up one Africa Coordination Unit with a Programme Coordinator, M&E Officer, Knowledge Management and Communication Officer, that will support joint planning and implementation of activities, across the two streams, ensuring coordination, technical coherence, synergies and complementarity and contributing to specific joint results in the future. This unit is tasked with the goal, by the end of the lifespan of Spotlight, of bringing these three disparate streams of work together in the region.

XII. Knowledge Management

For the Joint Programme on FGM, knowledge management is clearly emphasised in its Phase III programme document including a dedicated Output Area (i.e. Enhanced knowledge management and exchange of good practices for policy and programme improvement). The Joint Programme has a dedicated knowledge management and communication position while recognising all staff will have a role and contribute to different initiatives at various stages.

The Joint Programme will establish a global knowledge hub, an online platform for sharing and downloading digital content generated by the programme in countries, at the regional and global level. Knowledge management teams from the regions and countries, and Headquarters will support the virtual discussions on cutting-edge trends, themes and results from research generated by partners and UNICEF and UNFPA to facilitate the uptake of lessons learnt that can improve policy and programmes. The knowledge hub will raise the profile of diverse perspectives on FGM, including encouraging the contribution and exchange of content by the Global South and North (specifically with the diaspora), through peer support, a helpdesk, and shared learning where the programme does not have a presence.

The Joint Programme will also continue organising annual consultation meetings bringing together all regions and countries in a forum to share emerging knowledge and evidence and have interactive and critical deliberations on various issues of strategic importance.

The Joint Programme will make deliberate efforts to reach out to countries under the Spotlight Initiative to share knowledge products and experiences from the field to inform their programming for maximum results. Missions will also be organised to these countries to provide on-site technical support.

XIII. Communications and Visibility

A communications and visibility plan will be developed aligned with the global communication and visibility plan of the Spotlight Initiative and that of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM as well (European Union and all other donors of the Joint Programme will be recognised) and including the African Union style guide. More specifically, the communications and visibility activities will have the following objectives:

- Influence attitudes and instigate change towards the abandonment of FGM and the empowerment of girls and women;

- Increase visibility of the project work (i.e., abandonment of FGM and improvement in the situation of girls, their families and their communities); and
- Publicise and make visible the support given to the programme by different donors (the European Union and other donors).

Communication and visibility activities will be undertaken at all levels (HQ, regional and country level) ensuring coherence and consistency of focus and messages while maintaining relevance to the purpose and target audience/groups at different levels.

Communication and visibility activities will address a variety of target groups (i.e., general public, international development community, national governments, regional political institutions, and donors) adapting multiple channels of media and tools (including social media interactions, press releases, use of websites from the EU, UNFPA, and UNICEF, media articles, videos, infographics, animations, movies, publications, and annual reports). Main communication and visibility activities will include organising advocacy meetings; arranging field visits (for both donors and journalists); sharing evidence and data on the current status of FGM, ongoing initiatives, emerging need, key challenges and critical gaps in FGM programming; and developing comprehensive annual reports on the achievements of the Spotlight Initiative and the Joint Programme overall.

Global level communication related initiatives of the Joint Programme will be overseen by the Coordinator of the Joint Programme who will be assisted by a dedicated Communication and Knowledge Management Officer and other technical staff at HQ level. HQ will define the overall direction and set global communications priorities by identifying high-profile themes, objectives, opportunities and events. The Joint Programme will get technical assistance from the Media and Communication staff of both UNFPA and UNICEF at HQ, regional and country levels – this is to take advantage of the existing institutional capacity and resources. The Joint Programme will also engage external companies/consultants for various assignments as deemed necessary.

In addition, it is important to note that the co-branding principles of the African Union Communication Style Guide and the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines will be adhered to when communicating the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme. Both guides complement each other and allow for mutually beneficial branding and visibility opportunities. The AU logo will only be used for the Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme promotional material and other content created for communication purposes related specifically to this Programme. Any use of the AU logo for the Global Spotlight Initiative will require prior and express consent from the AUC through the Department of Social Affairs.

The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer of the Africa Coordination Unit will formalize a regional Spotlight Initiative communications group including the AUC, EU, UN agencies and other strategic partners. The Communication and Knowledge Management Officer will organize and host regular meetings for the group, coordinate the development of the annual Communications and Visibility Action Plan and other communications and visibility activities. He will work closely with the AUC Advocacy and Communications Specialist to ensure that both the Spotlight Initiative Brand Guidelines as well as the African Union Communication Style Guide are followed and that the AU logo usage is aligned with AU interests and policies

XIV. Budgets – See excel document attached

Table A – 3-YEAR WORK PLAN

Table B – BUDGET BY UNDG CATEGORY

Table C – BUDGET BY OUTCOME

XV. FGM JP Risk Management Matrix

There are several critical and interrelated assumptions and risks that were considered in the design of Phase III of the Joint Programme. In terms of assumptions, the Joint Programme considered the following factors that support and/or affect programme impact and results:

1) **Poverty and inequality:** FGM is linked to low levels of economic development and poverty. Gender inequality and FGM in many respects perpetuate the cycle of poverty. Dealing with gender inequality starts with tackling the root causes of all forms of violence against women and girls (such as FGM). As long as these inequalities are not dealt with, the participation and empowerment of girls is not possible, and the eradication of poverty remains a challenge, where half of society is harmed for the supposed benefit of the remainder. Societies do not benefit economically or socially in an unequal society in which FGM is practiced. The Joint Programme recognizes the need to address poverty and inequality more holistically in promoting the end of FGM and achieving sustainable development. In terms of gender inequality, this includes transforming gender roles and power relations and integrating FGM activities into programmes addressing poverty.

2) **Women's economic empowerment:** Programmes that foster women's economic empowerment are likely to contribute to progress, as they can provide incentives to change the patterns of traditional behaviour in which a woman is bound as a dependent member of the household or women are losing traditional access to economic gain and its associated power. Gainful employment empowers women in various spheres of their lives, influencing SRHR choices, education and healthy behaviour, including regarding FGM. As a result, the Joint Programme will encourage partners to link programme activities with government-, civil society- and donor-supported interventions aimed at increasing women's economic empowerment.

3) **FGM and girls' education:** There are ample evaluations looking at the relationship between girls' education (i.e., grade transition, retention, academic performance and completion rates) and the harmful practice of child marriage, while there is limited evidence on the links between FGM and girls' education. There is, however, evidence that suggests there is a relationship between FGM and dropping out of school or reduced participation in school-related activities as a result of FGM. Previous studies point to a lower prevalence rate of FGM and greater support for abandoning FGM among highly educated women compared to those with lower levels of education. While the Joint Programme does not include direct interventions in girls' education, the programme will continue to partner with organizations that support girls remaining in school and school-based community activities in support of the amplification of social norms change. Moreover, the Joint Programme will support girls' clubs.

4) **Child-friendly and gender-responsive policies and laws:** Interventions will include developing and implementing laws that include strong anti-discrimination clauses reflecting international standards. Laws will establish effective child- and gender-sensitive systems and procedures for reporting and investigating FGM cases that provide rapid response to reported cases, methodologies for interviewing survivors, procedures for recording and filing cases, legal advice to survivors, support services for survivors and evidence-gathering procedures. Clear guidelines and procedures that define the role and responsibilities of all the entities involved will be developed.

   Support will also include ensuring comprehensive, child-friendly and gender-balanced integrated support services by trained professionals to assist those who have been cut, as well as developing specific child- and gender-sensitive guidelines and procedures that enable the police, prosecutors, judges and social workers to properly interview, assess, investigate and adjudicate FGM cases.

5) **Demographic perspectives on FGM:** Several demographic characteristics are common to countries where FGM is prevalent. Those countries have young populations, high fertility levels, and high child and maternal mortality rates. The Joint Programme recognizes that these characteristics define the complexity and consequences of the practice and make its elimination more challenging. As the population grows, the number of girls at risk of being cut increases. The

Joint Programme is working with stakeholders to better understand the impact of demographic dynamics and developing responses to the growing number of girls at risk, including working with youth as an opportunity for promoting social change in future generations.

6) **Engaging community and religious leaders:** A wide range of actors play a critical role in the perpetuation and abandonment of FGM, including men, women (including grandmothers), and community and religious leaders. The Joint Programme sees the engagement of community and religious leaders as a multiplier effect that entails reaching girls beyond those directly targeted by the programme and creating an enabling environment.

7) **Addressing FGM as a social norm:** FGM is a social norm that involves social pressure to conform to what others do or have been doing, the need to be accepted socially and the fear of rejection by the community; these are strong motivations for perpetuating the practice. In some communities, FGM is almost universally performed and unquestioned. As a result, interventions to shift social norms target social groups rather than focus on individual behaviour change. The Joint Programme's interventions are designed with the understanding that the abandonment of FGM on a significant scale must be systemic and that social norms change is slow and incremental.

There are multiple risks involved in the elimination of FGM that the Joint Programme intends to mitigate during programme implementation. The risks are related to the country context, programme development/delivery, partners, financial resources and reputation. Details on risks and mitigation are presented below.

Risks	Risk Level: Very high High Medium Low (Likelihood x Impact)	Likelihood: Almost Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare – 1	Impact: Extreme – 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Unit/ Person
Contextual risks					
Risk of cultural sensitivity of the topic and risk of conservative backlash	Medium	Unlikely	Low/Medium	It is crucial that the programme is not perceived as imparting a particular agenda or ideological framework, which is not in the best interests of the countries/ communities. Hence, careful consideration will be given to how issues are conceptualized and framed so that from a regional level they can be adapted to every specific country and context with adherence to basic do-no-harm guidelines.	UNFPA/UNICEF
Programmatic risks					
Inadequate coordination among development partners working on FGM results in duplication of efforts.	Low/Medium	Possible	Low	The programme will work with all identified partners and create adequate coordination mechanisms including the AU, governments and regional CSO to ensure complementarity and	UNFPA/UNICEF

				adequate coordination of all interventions and to avoid duplication.	
Inadequate coordination occurs between UNFPA and UNICEF and between the different streams of Spotlight.	Low	Unlikely	Medium	The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme will work with a formalized structure that both facilitates and mandates various coordination systems including through the AA/CA function and the Steering Committee. The Joint Programme will also be part of the Spotlight coordination mechanisms and ensure strong coordination with Stream 1.	UNFPA/UNICEF
Progress is not measurable in the current four-year timeframe.	Medium	Possible	Medium	The Joint Programme has a developed a strong monitoring and evaluation framework in close cooperation with monitoring and evaluation experts of both agencies. Programme baselines and regular monitoring will be established to track progress.	UNFPA/UNICEF
Programme outcomes or outputs are not completed.	Low/Medium	Possible	Medium	The entire structure of the Joint Programme, from the governance down to the implementation arrangements, are focused on delivering results, primarily through delivery against programme outcomes and outputs. Both UNFPA and UNICEF have a strong reputation at global, regional level and in-country as United Nations agencies with high technical and management capacity, as well as transparency and accountability. Regular monitoring at all levels and dynamic adjustments in programme delivery will ensure completion of programme outputs.	UNFPA/UNICEF
Institutional risks					
Political will of Members States, including commitment to legal and legislative change and financial investments, is lacking, thereby hampering positive changes.	Low	Unlikely	Medium	Targeting the African Union for Stream II of Spotlight Joint Programme aims at creating the necessary conditions for the regional level institution to advocate and “create pressure” for countries to respect global and regional commitments. It aims at creating momentum for countries that are ahead in terms of law implementation, costed national action plans to influence	UNFPA/UNICEF

				those that are lagging behind. Strong working relationships with the authorities and national ministries will be maintained to build a sense of common purpose and enhance national ownership of the process. The programme will also amplify civil society voices through engagement with regional level CSOs, including alliances and external funds, which tend to enhance government accountability.	
Changes in the political context in countries (such as changes in leadership) and shifts in national priorities affect continuation and sustainability of ongoing positive change processes.	Low/Medium	Possible	Medium	The AU as well as UNFPA and UNICEF have longstanding relationships with the legislative and executive arms of Member States, which permits a high degree of continuity and sustainability of action through the most promising lead ministries in any given context. Country commitments enshrined in international declarations and conventions will also be utilized as the basis for sustaining action.	UNFPA/UNICEF
Political unrest and security situations hamper or completely restrict implementation.	Medium	Possible	High	When strategic direction, performance management and delivery on results can no longer proceed as envisioned, agencies undertake a programme criticality exercise that scales back programming to the achievable minimum. Since this is a regional level initiative that targets several countries, programme activities in unaffected regions will continue. Programme managers and leadership at the regional and Headquarters levels will closely monitor the situation so that decisions can be made swiftly.	UNFPA/UNICEF
Inadequate capacity of AUC which will affect smooth and timely implementation of interventions	High	Likely	Major	Placement of staff at AUC level to strengthen capacity and ensure smooth implementation of interventions Minimize direct fund transfer to AUC to avoid the risk of delay in implementation Have more frequent financial spot-checks to detect any irregularities and provide the required financial support	UNFPA/UNICEF

AUC is a strategic implementation partner for a number of activities for both Stream I and Stream II. Hence there is a risk of having uncoordinated efforts to approach and work with AUC in undertaking various interventions	Medium	Likely	Moderate	Develop one joint operational plan for Stream I and II in terms of engagement with AUC. There will be a senior level programme coordinator to	
The risk of simultaneously engaging with some regional level CSOs by the three segments of the regional spotlight initiative (Stream I, Stream II – FGM and child marriage). In addition to possibly leading to duplication of efforts, there is a risk that these organization might receive funds which will be beyond their absorption capacity	Medium	Likely	Moderate	For Stream II of the Regional initiative (i.e. Joint Programme on FGM and Global Programme on child marriage), there will be one joint agreement and one joint work plan with regional level CSOs to ensure harmonized approach and avoid any possible duplication of efforts Once selection of regional level CSOs is completed by both Stream I and II, discussion will be conducted to come up and implement appropriate mitigation measures	
Fiduciary risks					
The Programme does not attract sufficient funding to deliver results at-scale due to changes in partner priorities or other reasons.	Medium	Possible	Medium/High	The option of complementing this regional initiative with funds from the Joint Programme will go a long way to mitigate this risk. The Joint Programme intends to address the availability of resources through a resource mobilization strategy that includes funding requests for the duration of Phase III in addition to leveraging bilateral funding to expand the programme's donor base by attracting support from foundations and corporations.	UNFPA/UNICEF/SC
Risk that funds are not used for the intended purposes, do not achieve value for money and/or are not properly accounted for.	Low	Unlikely	Medium/High	UNFPA and UNICEF are implementing the new Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT), which the United Nations Development Group approved in January 2014. The new HACT approach strengthens the management of the risks of working with implementing partners and enables UNFPA and UNICEF to engage partners with a successful track record in delivering results and effectively	UNFPA/UNICEF

				managing resources. All implementing partners to which UNFPA/UNICEF transfer material amounts of funds undergo a pre-assessment of their financial and programme management internal controls (micro-assessment for those they intend to contract above US$100,000 and simplified financial assessments for those below this amount) before engagement. Under HACT, UNFPA/UNICEF carry out other assurance activities in the course of Joint Programme implementation, including results and financial management monitoring, implementing partner audits and capacity-development activities with a focus on improving implementing partners' financial, accounting and results-based management internal controls. UNFPA and UNICEF policies on fraud and procurement are publicly available and strictly applied. Within the Joint Programme framework, the Steering Committee is the highest body for strategic guidance and fiduciary and management oversight and coordination. The administrative agent will be accountable for effective and impartial fiduciary management. Outside the direct Joint Programme framework is the United Nations Development Group Fiduciary Management Oversight Group, which will serve as the first point of contact in Headquarters for fiduciary matters. It oversees the implementation of the fiduciary aspects of the United Nations Development Group policies on joint funding mechanisms and discusses any required departures from the standard memorandum of understanding, letters of agreements and	

				Steering Committee terms of reference.	
Assumptions: Political will and momentum to implement the Joint Programme on FGM, political will from the AU and its member states.					

V. ANNEXES

Annex 1: Joint Result Framework

OUTCOME 1: Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international Human Rights standards, on all forms of Violence against women and girls and Harmful Practices are in place and translated into plans			
Indicators	**Data source**	**Means of verification**	**Stream and Responsible Agency.**
Indicator 1.1 – Number of countries with laws and policies on SGBV, FGM and child marriage that adequately respond to the rights of all women and girls, including exercise/access to SRHR, are evidence-based and in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, document review Published government records	Stream 1: UNDP Stream 2: FGM – UNFPA CM – UNFPA
Indicator 1.2 – Number of countries that have evidence-based, costed and funded action plans and M&E frameworks on SGBV, FGM, and child marriage that respond to the rights of all women and girls.	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, document review Published government records	Stream 1: UNDP Stream 2: FGM – UNFPA CM - UNICEF
Indicator 1.3 Number of countries that have laws and policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, autonomous social movements, CSOs and women human rights defenders/feminist activists to advance the human rights agenda	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review	Stream 1: UNDP
Output 1.1 National and regional partners have strengthened evidence-based knowledge and capacity to assess gaps, draft new and/or strengthen existing legislation and policies and enforce implementation of existing legislation on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage, that are in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations			

Indicator 1.1.1 Number of draft new and/or strengthened laws and/or policies on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage, that are in line with international HR standards and respond to the rights of women and girls (including SRHR, women's rights, gender equality and non-discrimination), particularly those facing discrimination	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, document review Published government records	Stream 1: UNDP Stream 2: CM – UNFPA
Indicator 1.1.2 - Number of AUC staff, regional parliamentarians and HR advocates with strengthened capacities to advocate for, draft new and strengthen existing legislation and policies on ending SGBV, child marriage, FGM, and promoting SRHR	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports and Annual Reports	Studies, document review	Stream 1: UNDP
Output 1.2: National, sub-national and regional partners have increased capacity to advocate for, influence and develop regional, national and sub-national evidence-based action plans on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage in line with international HR standards and achieved increased financing with M&E frameworks, and responding to the needs and priorities of vulnerable groups facing discrimination			
Indicator 1.2.1 Number of costed regional, national and sub-national action plans on ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage and promoting women's and girls' SRHR developed with M&E frameworks and responding to the rights of vulnerable groups	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, Document review	Stream 1: UNDP Stream 2: CM - UNICEF
Indicator 1.2.3 Number of regional/multi-country women´s CSOs with strengthened capacities to advocate, influence and hold regional partners and member States accountable on action plan development, implementation and increased investment for ending SGBV, FGM and child marriage and promoting women's and girls' SRHR	Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports, and key government decision makers	Document review and consultations with key Member States decision makers	Stream 1: UNDP
Output 1.3: Regional partners have greater knowledge and awareness of human rights obligations and are able to advocate for and influence drafting/review/enforcement of laws and/or policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSOs and women human rights defenders to advance the human rights agenda and accountability on SGBV and HP			
Indicator 1.3.2. Proportion of draft laws and policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSOs and women human rights defenders to advance the human rights agenda which have received significant inputs from women's rights advocates	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports, and consultations with women's rights advocates	Studies, Document review and consultations with women's rights' advocates	Stream 1: UNDP

Indicator 1.3.3. Number of key AUC Staff and regional parliamentarians with increased awareness of human rights standards and obligations and strengthened capacities to develop laws and policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSOs and women human rights defenders to advance the human rights agenda	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review	Stream 1: UNDP
Indicator 1.3.4 Proportion of Member States who have submitted situational report on the women's rights in relation EVAWG to the Africa Union Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights in Africa.	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports, and consultations with women's rights advocates	Studies, Document review and consultations with women's rights' advocates	Stream 1: UNDP

OUTCOME 5 - Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are collected, analysed and used in line with international and regional standards to inform laws, policies and programmes			
Indicators	**Data source**	**Means of verification**	**Responsible Org.**
Indicator 5.1 Proportion of countries that have globally comparable data on the prevalence SGBV, FGM and child marriage, collected over time	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, document review	Stream 1: UNFPA Stream 2: FGM – UNFPA CM - UNICEF
Indicator 5.2 Proportion of countries with publicly available data, reported on a regular basis, on various forms of VAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM, at country level	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, document review	Stream 1: UNFPA
Indicator 5.3 Proportion of countries where national statistics related to VAWG (including SGBV, child marriage and FGM) incidence and prevalence and SRHR-related statistics are disaggregated by income, sex, age, ethnicity, disability, and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports and Annual Reports	Studies, document review	Stream 1: UNFPA
Output 5.1 Key regional and national partners have strengthened capacities to regularly collect data related to SGBV, child marriage, FGM in line with international and regional standards to inform laws, policies and programmes			
Indicator 5.1.1 Number of National Statistical Offices that have developed/adapted and contextualized methods and standards at national level to produce prevalence and/or incidence data on VAWG, including SGBV, FGM and child	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, document review	Stream 1: UNFPA

marriage			
Indicator 5.1.2 Percentage of targeted countries with systems to collect administrative data on VAWG, including SGBV, FGM and child marriage, in line with international standards, across different sectors	Monitoring Reports and Annual Reports	Document review	Stream 1: UNFPA
Indicator 5.1.4 Number of government personnel from different sectors, including National Statistical Officers and service providers, who have enhanced capacities to produce data, including qualitative data on the prevalence (and incidence where appropriate) of SGBV, child marriage and FGM in line with international and regional standards	Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, Document review	Stream 1: UNFPA Stream 2: CM – UNICEF
Indicator 5.1.5 Number of women´s rights advocates with strengthened capacities to collect prevalence and/or incidence data, including qualitative data, on VAWG including SGBV, FGM and child marriage	Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports, and Parliamentarians and HR advocates	Studies, Document review	Stream 1: UNFPA
Output 5.2 Quality prevalence and/or incidence data on SGBV, child marriage and FGM is analysed and made publicly available for the monitoring and reporting of the SDG indicators 5.2 and 5.3 to inform evidence-based decision making			
Indicator 5.2.1 Number of knowledge products developed and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders to inform evidence-based decision making	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Annual Reports	Studies, Document review	Stream 1: UNFPA Stream 2: FGM – UNFPA CM - UNICEF
Indicator 5.2.3 Number of government personnel, including service providers, from different sectors with enhanced capacities on analysis and dissemination of prevalence and/or incidence data and qualitative data on VAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM	Monitoring Reports and Annual Reports	Document review and consultations with key government decision makers	Stream 1: UNFPA
Indicator 5.2.4 Number of women's rights advocates with strengthened capacities on analysis and dissemination of prevalence and/or incidence data and qualitative data on VAWG including SGBV, child marriage and FGM	Monitoring Reports and Annual Reports	Document review and consultations with women's rights' advocates	Stream 1: UNFPA

OUTCOME 6: Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP			
Indicators	**Data source**	**Means of verification**	**Responsible Org.**
Indicator 6.1 Proportion of countries where women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, increase their coordinated efforts to jointly advocate on ending SGBV, child marriage and FGM and promoting SRHR	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups/CSOs, programme reports	Stream 1: UN Women Stream 2: FGM - UNFPA

Indicator 6.2 Proportion of countries where there is an increased use of social accountability mechanisms by civil society in order to monitor and engage in efforts to end SGBV, child marriage and FGM and promote women's and girls' SRHR;	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, and Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups, CSOs	Stream 1: UN Women Stream 2: FGM – UNFPA CM - UNICEF
Indicator 6.3 Proportion of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and vulnerable groups facing discrimination, report having greater influence and agency to work on ending VAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and promoting SRHR	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups, CSOs	Stream 1: UN Women
Output 6.1: Increased opportunities and support for women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to share knowledge, network, partner and jointly advocate for GEWE and EVAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and to promote SRHR			
Indicator 6.1.1 Number of jointly agreed recommendations adopted from multi-stakeholder dialogues convened by women's rights groups and relevant CSOs (including representatives of vulnerable groups facing discrimination) with relevant government (inter-governmental/regional) authorities	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups, CSOs	Stream 1: UN Women
Indicator 6.1.3 Number of CSOs representing youth and other vulnerable groups facing discrimination that are integrated with coalitions and networks of women's rights groups and civil society organisations working on ending VAWG including SGBV, child marriage and FGM and the promotion of women and girls' SRHR.	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups, youth, CSOs,	Stream 1: UN Women Stream 2: CM – UNICEF
Indicator 6.1.4 Number of women's rights groups, networks and relevant CSOs with strengthened capacities to network, partner and jointly advocate for progress on ending SGBV, child marriage and FGM and on the promotion of women's and girls' SRHR at regional and global levels.	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups, CSOs,	Stream 1: UN Women Stream 2: FGM- UNFPA
Output 6.2 Capacities of regional women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to use social accountability mechanisms to advocate and influence prevention and response to VAWG, including SGBV/HP and GEWE enhanced			
Indicator 6.2.1 Number of supported organizations using the appropriate accountability mechanisms for advocacy and use of monitoring tools	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups, CSOs,	Stream 1: UN Women
Output 6.3 Capacities of regional women's CSOs and networks strengthened to design, implement and monitor their own programmes on VAWG, including ending SGBV, child marriage and FGM, and promoting women's and girls' health rights			
Indicator 6.3.1 Number of women's rights groups and relevant CSOs representing vulnerable groups facing discrimination that have strengthened capacities and support to design using evidence, implement, monitor and evaluate their own programmes on VAWG, including SGBV, child marriage and FGM and on women's and girls' SRHR.	Mapping and assessment studies, Monitoring Reports, Quarterly and Annual Reports	Studies, document review, consultations with women's groups, CSOs,	Stream 1: UN Women

Annex 2: SPOTLIGHT PROGRAMME COHERENCE AND SYNERGY

Stream I- Pillar 1 and Stream 2

Both Outcomes under Stream I and II have strong areas of complementarity and synergy with no areas of overlap. Both Outcomes will deploy a common approach including advocacy, capacity building, consultation and policy engagement with Regional and Sub regional partners to achieve delivery of priority interventions.

In all work related to Advocacy, both streams will undertake joint programming in capacity building of the AUC and other regional partners including CSO/women movements and selected RECs; engaging regional SCO's and women movements to undertake advocacy initiatives at both regional and national platforms, jointly develop advocacy material including IEC material and regional advocacy forum to influence Member States to accelerate ratification, domestication, enforcement and reporting on legal and policy frameworks related to SGBV/HP. This will include jointly supporting initiatives like; (i) the AU Africa Wide Campaign to end SGBV/HP and the ongoing AU Initiative to end Child Marriage and FGM; (ii) rolling out AU- Regional Guideline on EVAWG and Regional Action Plan on SGBV; and (iii) regional evidence-based mapping and assessment on the status of development, and implementation of laws/polices and investment on SGBV/HP and SRHR and (iv) On strengthening South-South knowledge exchange platform on legal and policy frameworks related to SGBV/HP

Both Streams also plan to jointly undertake capacity building initiative for regional partners including the AUC, Regional Parliamentarians, CSO's/Women Movement in relation to drafting, review, enforcement and reporting, and on ratification and domestication process on laws and policies, regional and national action plans and financing on EVAW including SGBV/HP and SRHR. Joint programming will be undertaken in areas including; (i) undertaking capacity needs of regional partners, (ii) designing and adapting training materials with integrated components on SGBV, HP and SRHR, (iii) undertaking tailored capacity building training for regional partners and post training follow-up and evaluation. Both streams where necessary will also undertake joint preparation of work plans, joint monitoring and reporting, joint regional consultations and policy engagement with regional partners including AUC, RECs, CSO's and Parliamentarians.

Proposed intervention with strong synergy and complementarity under both streams includes;

Pillar I	
Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream I and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcomes Common approach advocacy, capacity building, consultation and policy engagement however stream 1 focuses on Regional partners
Accountability and monitoring frameworks Stream I Activity (1.1.4, 1.2.2) Stream II (1.2.3CM, 1.2.4CM, 1..1.2 FGM);	On strengthening the AU accountability and monitoring frameworks on MS commitment to deliver on SGBV/HP
Regional evidence-based mapping, assessment Stream I (1.1.1 1.3.1.) Stream II (CM 1.1.5.);	On regional evidence-based mapping, assessment on best practice to inform policy decision and engagement both streams will cover this Stream 1 will focus on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR and Stream II will focus on FGM and Child Marriage only
Capacity Building Stream I 1.1.2, 1.2.2, 1.2.3 Stream II Activity 1.1.2, 1.1.3, FGM, 1.1.2., 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.2.1 CM);	Both Streams will focus on capacity building of regional partners

Regional and National action plans Stream 1 (Activity 1.2.1, 1.2.2) Stream II (Activity 1.2.1,1.2.5 CM)	On Regional and National action plans, Increase financing and investment for SGBV/HP and SRHR
Strengthening regional knowledge platforms Stream 1 (Activity 1.1.6) Stream II (Activity 1.1.7 FGM).	Strengthening regional knowledge platforms on legal and policy frameworks:

Stream I - Pillar 5 and Stream 2

Outcomes under Stream 1 – Pillar 5 and Stream 2 Pillar 5 complement each other and have substantial areas of synergy, and there are no areas of overlap. While Stream I focuses on regional, Stream II concentrates mainly on national and sub-regional. Clear mechanisms, such as the establishment of a Civil Society platform on data have been incorporated in the programme design to ensure that data generated at national and at regional level complement one another. Both streams have similar approaches focusing on ensuring that there are quality and reliable data through the harmonization of data collection tools. The Spotlight programme commits to evidence-based practice and the data arising from work in Pillar 5 Stream I and the 'what works' research in Stream II will ensure the most effective approaches to ending VAWG. The programme adopts a strategy of harnessing the respective strengths of multi-sectoral, multi-level partnership which will support the acceleration of transformative change. The programme will work with the African Union, with RECs (via the AU) and with individual member states at the national level (Stream II). The continental reach of the UN will ensure that all knowledge products (produced by the Knowledge management hub Stream I) translated into 4 AU official languages (Stream II) will be disseminated across Africa and used by other UNCTs to address issues of VAWG.
Proposed intervention with strong synergy and complementarity under both streams includes;

Pillar 5	
Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream I and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcome Similar outcome with common approach, capacity building, harmonization of data collection tools of CSO's, AUC and stream II also focuses on national statistical offices.
Pillar 5 Interventions	Stream I focuses on regional level interventions on quality and reliable data Stream II Addresses mostly national level with some activities at regional level
Stream I Output 5.1 is similar to Stream 2 5.2	Focuses on data on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR at regional level. However, Stream 2 focuses on data on harmful practices.
Capacity Building Stream I 5.1.3 Stream II 5.1.1, 5.1.2 CM and 5.2.2., 5.2.3 FGM	Stream I: - will focus on building capacity on the collection of data and harmonization of tools at the Regional level. Stream II: will build capacity for data analysis and use for National Statistical officers/Cos
Data Utilization	Stream I will utilize data analysed by the Statistician in the Department of Social on FGM and CM (Stream 2)
Knowledge Management Stream I 5.2.2, 6.1.2, Stream II 5.2.2, 5.2.5 CM, 5.2.4 FGM	Stream I Will develop a knowledge management strategy for on VAWG/SGBV/HP and SRHR, including FGM and CM. Stream I will establish a knowledge management hub which will be housed in the AUC

	Stream II will utilize the same Hub that will be housed in the AUC and translate the knowledge products into 4 AU languages and disseminate them across Africa. Both Streams will have shared Spotlight events, Communities of Practice etc.

Stream I -Pillar 6 and Stream II

The Outcome 6 establishes strong areas of complementarity and synergy with no areas of overlap with other Outcomes in Stream I and in Stream II. Central to the Spotlight Initiative funded programme is the Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls bringing together the African Union Commission's relevant directorates, the regional civil society, traditional leaders, faith-based organizations, women and youth groups, communities and other partners to promote gender equality, prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG), HP and increase access to quality response services for VAW survivors.. The SI guidance also ensures for adequate allocation of resources to support the regional civil society organizations across all pillars, thereby an opportunity for coherence, complementarity and synergy of Outcome 6 with Outcome 1 and 5 of Stream 1 and also the FGM and ECM programs in Stream II.
Across the 3 Outcomes and also in Stream II programs the emphasis on partnerships with the regional civil society organizations aims to transform the social norms that allow violence against women and girls to continue; to ensure survivors have access to quality response services including access to SRHR; and to support national and regional institutions to meet their commitments to gender equality and the prevention of violence against women and girls. Working through partners, it will promote women's rights and gender equality in the region through innovative approaches to education, development of standard tools, access to essential services, and policy advocacy. Accordingly, a combined Africa civil society regional reference group is also established to support both Stream I and Stream II and thus builds linkages, complementarity, synergy and helps wider outreach through regional CSOs presence and its linkages at the grassroots.
Proposed intervention with strong synergy and complementarity under both streams includes;

Pillar 6	
Areas of Coherence and Synergy	**Stream 1 and Stream II**
Outcome	Outcome Similar outcomes with common approach, capacity building, knowledge development sharing through digital platforms, addressing harmful practices through engagement at the national (Stream II) and regional level through engagement of youth, CSOs, AUC, Traditional Leaders and FBOs.
Outcome 6.1. Establishment of a continental Civil Society Regional Reference group (CSRRG)	A unified continental Civil Society reference group will be established combining **Stream I and II** to provide advisory, technical and monitoring support to both streams. The Civil Society Regional Reference Group will also have linkages with the CSO RG at the national level.
Capacity Building of CSOs on social accountability on EVAW, ECM, FGM	Stream builds the capacities of Regional CSOs and Women's Movement on social accountability on EVAW, ECM, FGM and SRHR and creates platform and strengthen partnerships among CSOs and the African Union relevant directorates. Stream II-Apart from regional level CSO, this stream will also build the capacity of national women's rights groups, youth movements and CSOs on FGM and ECM.
Advocacy: Undertake a regional level coordinated CSO movement for lobbying and advocating	Both Stream II, will supports CSOs to advocate on EVAW, HP and SRHR at AU and other regional and global platforms, including at national level

Annex 4: Multi-stakeholder engagement in the Regional Component development process

Name of organisation /agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work and geographic scope	Type of organisation (civil society organisation, government, EU delegation, academia, etc.)	Dates of consultations
RUNOs, AUC Gender Directorate, ECOWAS, EU, Spotlight Secretariat and Action Aid	List of participants attached	Brainstorming on the priorities and process for development of Stream I programme	UN, EU, AUC, ECOWAS, CSO	23-24 July 2018 at Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)
Civil Society Interim Regional meeting(CSRRG)	Select regional CSOs	ProDoc shared with the regional CSOs and feedback received	Regional CSOs	July-August 2018
AUC Director of Women, Gender and Development Directorate.	Ms. Mahawa Kaba, Director	To brief on the Spotlight Stream I programme and receive inputs on the ProDoc	AUC WGDD	20 September 2018 at Addis Ababa
RUNOs, Spotlight Secretariat (virtual)	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women (list of participants attached)	Technical team met for review and incorporation of feedback from the Secretariat.	RUNOs	19-21 Sept 2018 at Addis Ababa
RUNOs (both Stream I and Stream II) and the Secretariat	List of participants attached.	Review and incorporation of feedback and alignment of Stream I and Stream II	RUNOs	26-31 October 2018 at Dakar, Senegal

ANNEX 5: Communications and Visibility Plan-Child Marriage

A- Objectives

1. Overall communication objectives

External	Internal /Management
UNICEF and UNFPA Regional Offices have the guidance to advocate, mobilize and win support from governments, key bodies and the public by recognizing child marriage is a harmful practice and are promoting investment in programmes, plans and strategies focused on adolescent girls linking with the SDGs.	UNICEF and UNFPA HQ to guide and support the development and implementation of ROs and COs communication and public advocacy strategies with empowering approaches so that public debates on policy making, social norms change, public services and budget allocations contribute to achieving the programmatic strategies on ending child marriage. UNICEF and UNFPA HQ to identify and coordinate global public solidarity and media moments that can galvanize support for policy changes at regional and country level by showing the

	scale of the global issues, the importance of ending child marriage and the progress towards this goal. This includes HQ support for COs through ROs to connect with Programme Division and Private Sector Partnership for advising on fundraising and engagement with the public (government) and private sector (corporates and foundations) on ending child marriage.
UNICEF and UNFPA are positioned as consistent and credible lead advocates, actors and knowledge leaders on ending child marriage at global, regional and country levels. Donors and other partners have timely, quality materials to communicate the impact of the joint Programme to their constituency in a transparent manner via the media or other channels.	UNICEF and UNFPA HQ to provide key messaging framework and core narrative to guide UNICEF and UNFPA advocacy efforts at regional and country level to end child marriage. UNICEF and UNFPA HQ to coordinate story mining of human-interest stories, milestone data through fact sheets/info graphs at global, regional and country level to communicate the powerful story of change to the various stakeholders, including donors. This coordination will support the sharing lessons learned and show successful cases to mobilize investments in evidence-based, girl-centred programmes to reach the most vulnerable

2. Target groups

The plan outlines key stakeholder groups below for UNICEF and UNFPA - in coalition with other partners to reach out to and engage with throughout the programme in order to drive change:

Governments of the 14 participating countries	**Primary** State leaders, policy makers related to education, family welfare, religious affairs, parliamentarians, law enforcers in: ESAR – Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe WCAR – Burkina Faso, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone **Secondary** Other relevant individuals/groupings in the policy sphere
Regional partners	The Africa Union Campaign to End Child Marriage, Southern African Development Community, East African Community, ECOWAS, Africa CSO Working Group, and Countries with very vocal and inspiring parliamentarians on the issue Other RECs and members of the development community in the region
Influential and interested members of the public	**Primary** Youth advocates Women's rights groups Human Rights Institutions Goodwill Ambassadors Special Rapporteur Academics/thought leaders/ social or cultural commentators Digital influencers Media **Secondary** Other vulnerable groups to be further identified
Donors	**Primary**

	The policymakers and parliamentarians in the European Union. **Secondary** The constituents in the aforementioned countries

3. Specific objectives for each target group, related to the action's objectives and the phases of the Stream's cycle

Examples of communication objectives:

- *ensure that the beneficiary population is aware of the roles of the* Spotlight Initiative, the UN and the EU *in the Stream;*
- *raise awareness among the population of the region on the roles of the* Spotlight Initiative, the UN and the EU *in delivering aid in a particular context;*
- *raise awareness of how the* Spotlight Initiative, the UN and the EU *work together to support EVAWG, etc.*

Governments of the 14 participating countries	- *raise awareness among the population of the region on the roles of the* Spotlight Initiative
Regional partners	- *raise awareness among the population of the region on the roles of the Spotlight Initiative* - *ensure that the beneficiary population is aware of the roles of the Spotlight Initiative*
Influential and interested members of the public	- *raise awareness among the population of the region on the roles of the Spotlight Initiative*
Donors	-

<u>B- Communication Activities</u>

4. Main activities that will take place during the period covered by the communication and visibility plan

Include details of:

- the nature of the activities;
- the responsibilities for delivering the activities.

Responsible	Activities
14 participating governments, and national CSOs:	- *Collect human interest stories and photos/b-rolls including testimonies of girls and families* - *Raise public awareness advertising: Billboards, posters, radio campaigns, fact sheets/brochures using infographics* - *Mass media campaign including social media* - *Access, develop and provide knowledge products to support national/regional dialogues* - *Prepare snapshots/summaries – i.e. repackaging of bigger studies, evidence and reports from joint programme to better fit the policymakers' audience* - *News releases and op eds*

	- *Prepare policy briefs – with key recommendations on what the policy makers can do*
UNFPA & UNICEF HQ and Regional Offices, regional CSO networks and other implementing partners	- *Collect human interest stories and photos* - *Develop thematic profiles, fact sheets/brochures using infographics* - *Develop knowledge products to support national/regional dialogues* - *Develop engagement plans and communication assets to support international and regional events* - *Prepare donor reports* - *Develop short edited video clips* - *Prepare snapshots/summaries – i.e. repackaging of bigger studies, evidence and reports from joint programme to better fit the policymakers' audience* - *Prepare policy briefs – with key recommendations on what the policy makers can do*

5. Communication tools chosen

- social media
- Billboards, posters
- Radio and TV campaigns
- Peer review journals and newspapers
- CSW, AU Summit, UN General Assembly, Regional High-level events, regional governmental forums, think tanks, ACP Heads of State Summits
- AU campaign advocacy and launch events

6. Completion of the communication objectives

Include measures for the different tools proposed.

- All communication products including press notices, media briefings and other materials at global, regional and country level will acknowledge the partnership and donor funding where appropriate.
- Public events including press opportunities will acknowledge the partnership and donor funding where appropriate. VIP invitation lists and event schedules will be shared and agreed in advance among the two agencies through the existing mechanisms (i.e. COs and ROs and HQ).
- Logos of UNFPA, UNICEF and donor partners will appear on communication products, press packs, media releases and other materials where relevant.
- A standard text about the Spotlight Initiative as well as the GP including donor support will be included in all communication products including press releases relating to the programme.
- Once a media and public advocacy calendar is place, any social or media plan developed targeting media in the EU and AU as well as GP donor countries, the respective AUC and donor communication teams will be informed with as much lead time as possible. The communication contact sheet will clarify roles and responsibilities within the two UN Agencies and AUC and donors' communication teams. The main spokespeople list will be revised to a more focused/relevant selection within one or two weeks of the activation/event.

7. Provisions for feedback (when applicable)

Give details of assessment forms or other means used to get feedback on the activity from participants.

C- Resources

8. Human Resources

- Person/days required to implement the communication activities;
- Members of the management team responsible for communication activities.

9. Financial resources

Budget required to implement the communication activities (in absolute figures and as a percentage of the overall budget for the Regional Programme).

ANNEX 6: Communications and Visibility Plan-FGM

A- Objectives

1. Overall communication objectives

All communications and visibility at the global, regional and country level will be aligned with the global communication and visibility plan of the Spotlight Initiative and that of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM as well the EU and all other donors of the Joint programme, and AU priorities/policy/normative framework. More specifically, the communications and visibility activities will have the following objectives:

- Influence attitudes and instigate change towards the abandonment of FGM and the empowerment of girls and women;
- Increase visibility of the project work (i.e., abandonment of FGM and improvement in the situation of girls, their families and their communities); and
- Publicise and make visible the support given to the programme by different donors (the European Union and other donors).

Communication and visibility activities will be undertaken at all levels (i.e., HQ, regional and country level) ensuring coherence and consistency of focus and messages while maintaining relevance to the purpose and target audience/ groups at different levels.

2. Target groups and

3. Specific objectives for each target group, related to the action's objectives and the phases of the Stream's cycle

Please refer to below table for the details.

B- Communication Activities

4. Main activities that will take place during the period covered by the communication and visibility plan

Include ***details of:***

- ***the nature of the activities;***
- ***the responsibilities for delivering the activities.***

5. Communication tools chosen

Include details of advantages of particular tools (media, advertising, events, etc.) in the local context.

6. Completion of the communication objectives

Include measures for the different tools proposed.

7. Provisions for feedback (when applicable)

Give details of assessment forms or other means used to get feedback on the activity from participants.

Please refer to the below Table B for details.

C- Resources

8. Human Resources

The global level communication related initiatives of the Joint Programme will be overseen by the Coordinator of the Joint Programme who will be assisted by a dedicated Communication and Knowledge Management officer and other technical staff at HQ level. HQ will define the overall direction and set global communications priorities by identifying high-profile themes, objectives, opportunities and events. The Joint Programme will get technical assistance from the Media and Communication staff of both UNFPA and UNICEF at HQ, Regional and Country levels – this is to take advantage of the existing institutional capacity and resource. The Joint Programme will also engage external companies/ consultants for various assignments as deemed necessary.

9. Financial resources

Budget required to implement the communication activities estimated to be USD 580,000 (about 5% of the total budget).

Table B: Communication Activities

S/N	Main communication activities	Responsibilities for delivering the activities	Communication tools chosen	Measures for the different tools proposed	Provisions for feedback
1	Organise global and regional events to commemorate the International Day of Zero Tolerance of FGM (6 February) Side-events on FGM at the UN General Assembly, Africa Union Summit (RECs) and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)	• HQ • Regional Offices	• Meetings (with speeches by senior level representatives of member states and UN, donors, panel discussions, debate…) • Press release • Social media (Facebook and Twitter)	• Number of global and regional advocacy events organised on FGM • # of social media posts / # of individuals reached	

2	Share information about the Spotlight/Joint Programme initiatives, best practices/innovative approaches and emerging evidence related to FGM	• HQ • Regional Offices • Country offices	Use UNFPA and UNICEF websites Use websites of donors, including EU Social media Publications, videos, infographics, animations, movies.	• Number of posts on UNFPA and UNICEF websites • Number of posts on different social media channels • # of publications, videos, and infographics	
3	Development of an annual report consolidating achievements at country, regional and global level.	• HQ	Publish the annual report Share the report online	• # of annual reports disseminated	• There is an ongoing mechanism of getting feedback from donors/Steering Committee members
4	Organize annual journalist field visits to countries	• HQ (with support from regional and country offices)	Field visit Generate articles /pictures/videos	• # of journalists who participate in the visit (together with their media organisation) • Number of articles in international newspaper, broadcasts, photo archives and video clips generated after the field visit.	
5	Organize annual donor field visits to countries	• HQ (with support from regional and country offices)	Field visit to programme areas Report	• # of donors took part in the field visit	• There will be formal sessions where donors will give feedback to the Joint Programme team

Annex 7: Data for All (DFA) platform

Since 2015, the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation has leveraged open-source, online tools to strengthen the planning, monitoring and reporting, an adaptation of applications from Data for All (DFA) toolkit.

DFA provides a leading-edge information technology platform, to leverage the role of the programme data, to support the overall normative and analytical work required for successful monitoring of SDG 5.3. DFA promotes compliance with emerging international statistical standards endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission. These standards advance the technical processes for data and metadata storage and exchange, particularly in areas where the UN is providing global leadership and technical support, such as: the SDG indicator framework management, SDG indicator metadata, customization of SDG indicators to regional and national priorities, and SDG progress reporting.

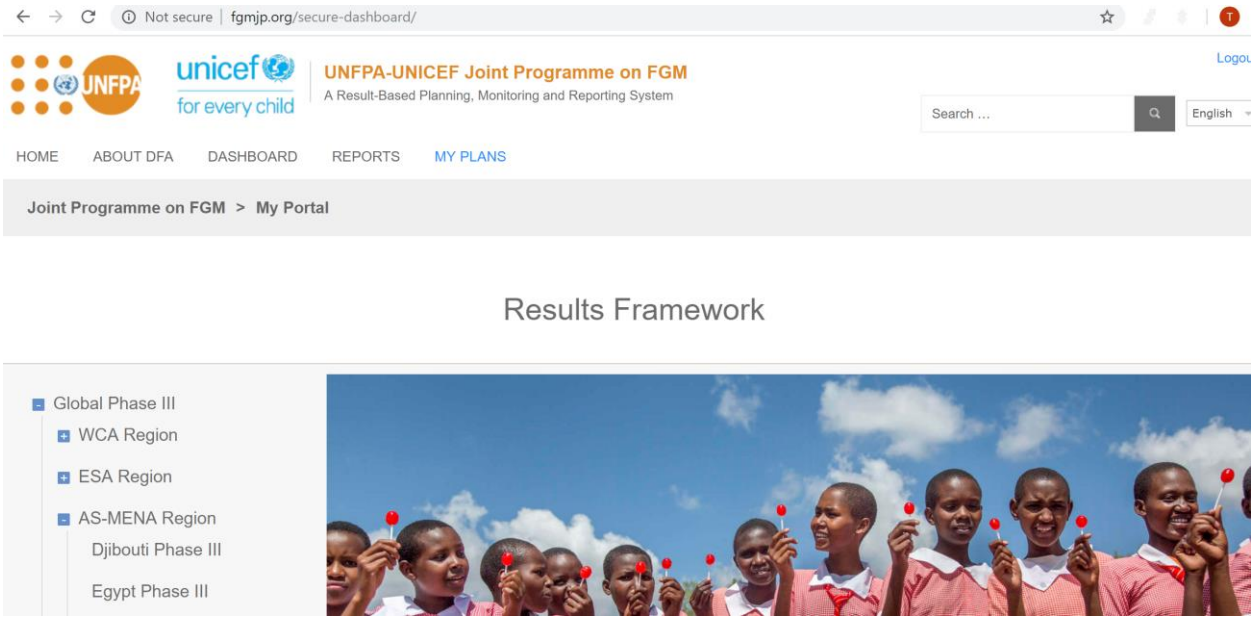
In 2017, a portal was launched, featuring access a global dashboard and access to country framework. In 2018, the platform has been updated to reflect the goals, targets and associated indicators of the Phase III of the Joint Programme. **The "UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM: A Result-Based Planning, Monitoring and Reporting System"** is intended to facilitate evidence-based planning, monitoring and reporting of the Phase III Joint Programme Results Framework.

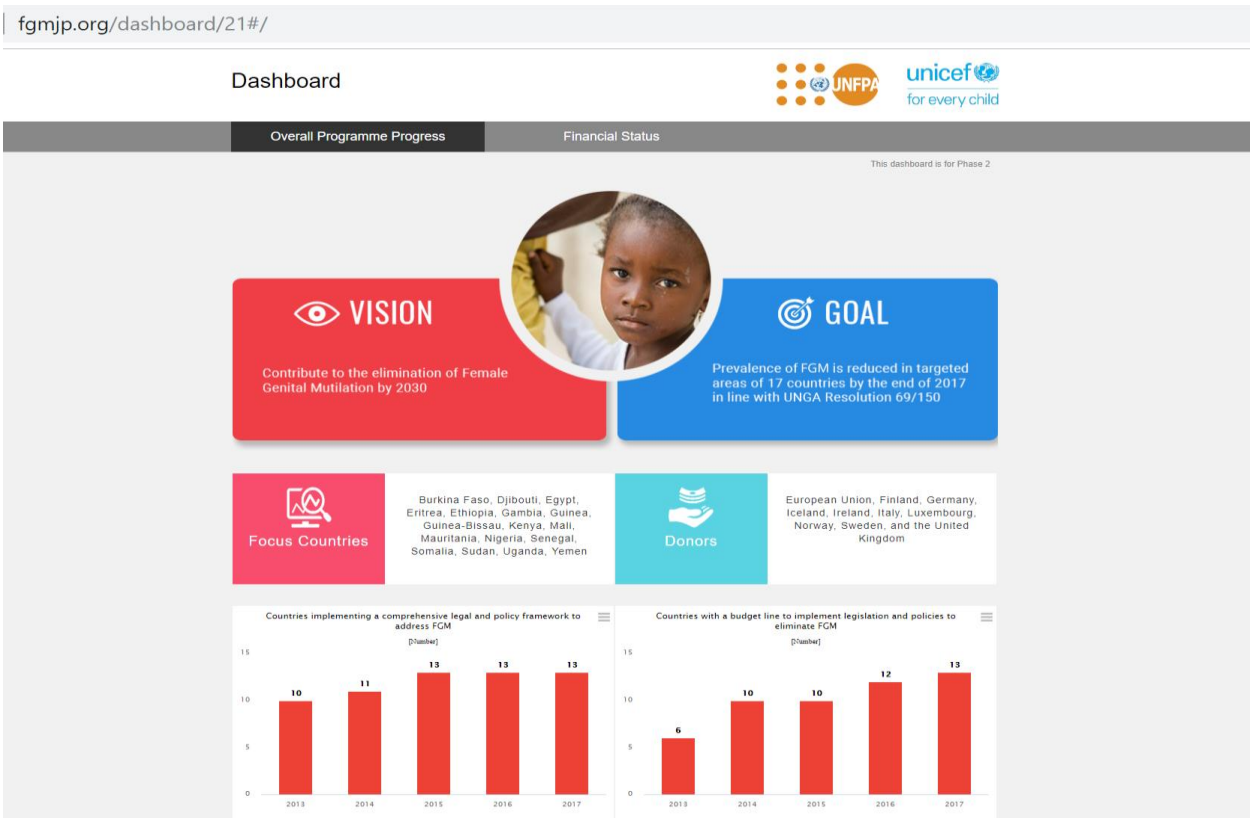
The platform allows users to generate an online version of the results framework for every country and region, and track progress of any indicator or result within the results framework for real time monitoring and reporting. Data can be analysed, and results communicated through standard reports and an interactive dashboard, containing visualizations, infographics available on the portal.

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM: A Result-Based Planning, Monitoring and Reporting System, with the Phase III plans, is currently fully operational for all countries and regions for the planning, monitoring and reporting on the Joint Programme.

Moreover, the **"UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM: A Result-Based Planning, Monitoring and Reporting System"** can be customized for the specific needs of countries and regions, and for any programme results framework, such as the Spotlight Initiative.

Global, Regional and Country Results frameworks

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Dashboard
UNFPA
unicef
for every child
Overall Programme Progress
Financial Status
This dashboard is for Phase 2
VISION
Contribute to the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation by 2030
GOAL
Prevalence of FGM is reduced in targeted areas of 17 countries by the end of 2017 in line with UNGA Resolution 69/150
Focus Countries
Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Yemen
Donors
European Union, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom
Countries implementing a comprehensive legal and policy framework to address FGM
[Number]
10
11
13
13
13
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
Countries with a budget line to implement legislation and policies to eliminate FGM
[Number]
6
10
10
12
13
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017