



# Spotlight Initiative

*To eliminate violence  
against women and girls*

## COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

### ECUADOR

August 2020

*Initiated by the European Union and the United Nations:*



<p><b>Programme Title:</b> Spotlight Initiative Country Programme in Ecuador</p>	<p><b>Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs):</b> UNDP, UNFPA, UN WOMEN</p>
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<p><b>Programme Country:</b> Ecuador</p>	<p><b>Programme Location (provinces or priority areas):</b> Azuay (<i>Cuenca canton</i>), Cañar (<i>Azogues canton</i>), Manabí (<i>Chone and Portoviejo cantons</i>), Morona Santiago (<i>Morona canton</i>) and Pastaza (<i>Puyo canton</i>).</p>
<p><b>Programme Description:</b> The Spotlight Initiative will contribute to reducing femicide in Ecuador by developing and strengthening strategic interventions that prevent and respond to violence against women and girls in the country. The programme will work in five provinces: <i>Azuay (Cuenca canton), Cañar (Azogues canton), Manabí (Chone and Portoviejo cantons), Morona Santiago (Morona canton) and Pastaza (Puyo canton)</i>. Special emphasis will be placed on groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.</p>	<p><b>Total Cost of the Spotlight Country Programme (including estimated Unfunded Budget): 4,034,237 USD</b></p> <p><b>Total Funded Cost of the Spotlight Country Programme (Spotlight Phase I and UN Agency contribution): 3,220,681 USD</b></p>

<sup>1</sup> Note: Many CSOs will be implementing specific activities, but they will be selected through a public call for proposals. This is the reason why they are not yet listed here.

Estimated No. of Beneficiaries			Breakdown of Total Funded Cost by RUNO:		
Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect	Name of RUNOs	Spotlight Phase I (USD)	UN Agency Contributions (USD)
Women	7,521,051	12,759,399	UNDP	698,079	125,611
Girls	1,135,696	1,236,823	UNFPA	698,079	52,109
Men	2,600,131	1,299,891	UNW	1,503,842	142,960
Boys	1,187,059	1,284,631	TOTAL	2,900,000	320,680
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,443,937</b>	<b>16,580,744</b>			
<p><i>Note: A breakdown and analysis by intersecting forms of discrimination is provided in the body of this document.</i></p>			<p><b>Start Date: As per OSC Decision<sup>2</sup></b></p> <p><b>End Date: 31 December 2022</b></p>		

<sup>2</sup> Pre-funding start date from 1 January 2020 as per OSC decision.

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Initiated by the European Union and the Government



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## Executive summary:

The Spotlight proposal for Ecuador departs from strategically identifying the existing gaps for implementing the General Comprehensive Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (LOIPEVCM) and the legal framework on femicide. It has been developed with ongoing EU support to ensure that the pre-established criteria are met. Several consultations have been held with the State and with civil society organizations and a CSOs Interim Referral Group has also been established to support the process.

The LOIPEVCM and the criminal-law definition of femicide are of recent development, therefore, the national and local legal architecture for their implementation is still under construction. The proposed intervention is key for strengthening aspects that coincide with Spotlight's pillars: i) public policies and secondary laws must be created/amended; cooperation and coordination among the legislative, executive and judicial branches is required; and, institutions comprising the National Protection System must be reinforced (Pillar 1 and 2); ii) public service providers, organized women, HR advocates, CSOs and other key stakeholders must be updated on new contents and procedures established by the laws (Pillars 2, 3, 4, 6); iii) national and local services must meet quality standards and be accessible for all (Pillars 2, 4 and 6); iv) strong participation by organized women and other CSOs in prevention and advocacy efforts must be strengthened (Pillars 3, 4, 6); and, v) data analysis and generation must provide evidence all the above (Pillar 5).

The United Nations System (UNS) has been providing technical assistance to the entities included in the LOIPEVCM and has the necessary background, expertise and networks to foster their transition and specialization to implement the new legal framework. UN agencies will ensure CSOs participation and the integration of rights-based, gender and inter-cultural approaches, as well as the consideration of the local context for law implementation. Agencies' added value includes their long-standing knowledge of institutional and CSOs processes that enabled this second-generation Law that defines femicide, so their flexibility, creative and high-quality technical experience will be at the service of this initiative. Leave no one behind principle will guide the program implementation.

Implementing this initiative under the new global scenario generated by the COVID-19 emergency poses a greater challenge considering it's socio economic impact, especially for women, but it also represents an opportunity to innovate, adapt strategies that combine face-to-face interaction with social distancing, and to use new technologies to attain the proposed results.

## PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

### I. Situational Analysis:

In Ecuador, 50.4 % of the population are women (Chart # 1); almost 4 million of them are of reproductive age (15 to 49) and just over 2 million are in the Economically Active Population. Those belonging to indigenous peoples and nationalities, Afro-descendant and montubio people (Chart # 2), they are generally living in conditions of greater vulnerability to gender-based violence.



In general, 65 out of every 100 women from 15 to 49 years of age have experienced some form of violence during their lives (Chart # 3). The worst affected sectors include women with the lowest degree of literacy or only basic education, age 18 to 44, afro-descendants and indigenous peoples and nationalities (Chart # 4).

Moreover, femicide, defined in the Comprehensive General Criminal-law Code (COIP) in 2014, according to official figures (INEC) reached 382 cases from August 2014 to March 2020; nevertheless, the “Alliance to map femicides”<sup>3</sup> (civil society) reports 748 cases, almost twice as many, in that same time period.

Chart # 2: Ethnic self-identification in Ecuador.  
Source: INEC, 2010

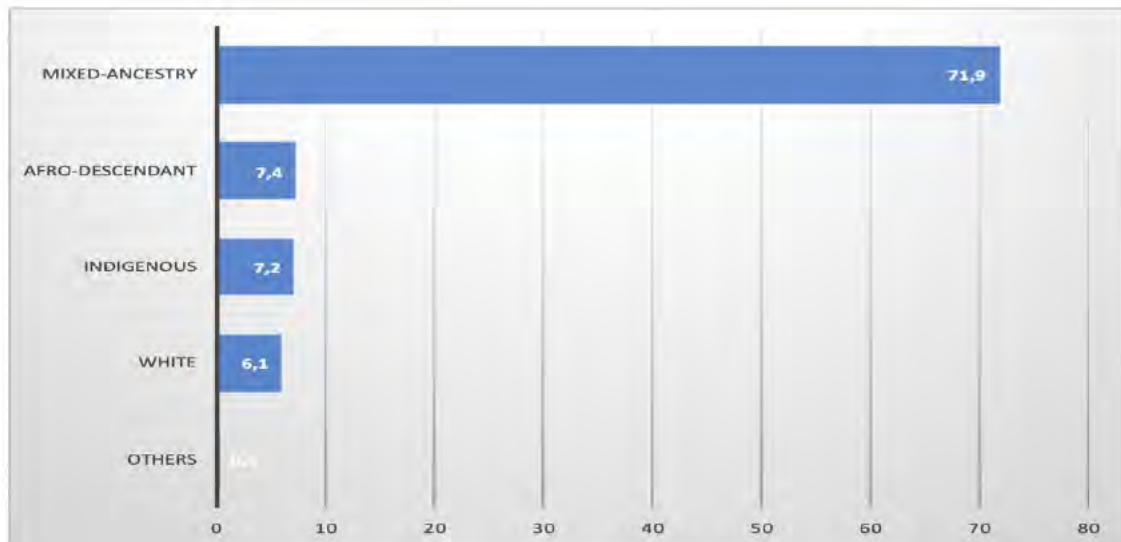


Chart # 3: Prevalence of violence in women aged 15 and over  
Source: ENVIGMU, INEC 2019

	National	Urban	Rural
Total violence	64.9%	65.7%	62.8%

<sup>3</sup> An Alliance of four SCOs (CEDHU, ALDEA, National Network of Shelter Homes, Women’s Communication Workshop, and CoPPA).



## Iniciativa Spotlight

Para eliminar la violencia contra las mujeres y las niñas

Psychological violence	56.9%	56.7%	57,4%
Physical violence	35.4%	34.4%	38,2%
Sexual violence	32.7%	36.6%	22,9%
Economic violence and regarding one's possessions	16.4%	17.0%	14,9%
Gyneco-obstetric violence	47.5%	44.7%	54.8%

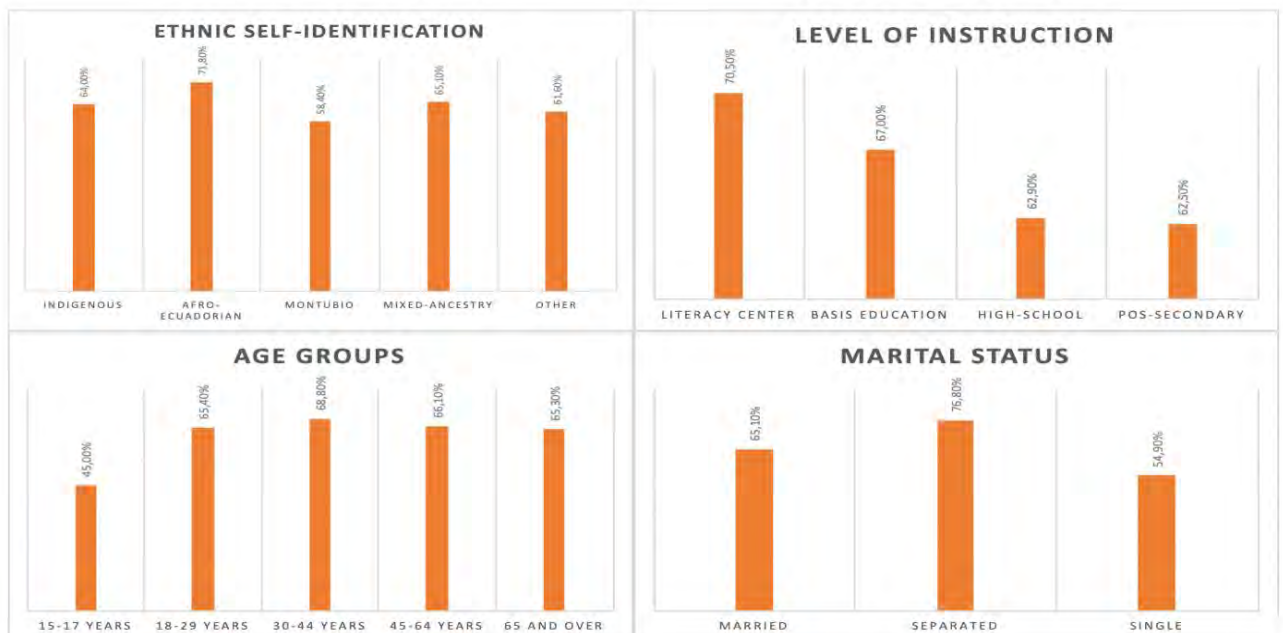
Victims are mostly women from age 20 to 34. Crime locations are often public places (vacant lots, stadiums, streets and roads), usually in urban zones. Over 68% of women who are victims of femicide were mothers, leaving at least 600 children orphaned. According to the Agenda 2030 progress report, the rate of femicides per 100,000 women in 2017 was 1.2, and dropped to 0.69 by 2018.

Ecuador's Constitution is the main legal framework guaranteeing full exercise of human rights throughout the life cycle, according to diversities and specific needs; without any sort of discrimination because of age, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity, among others. The **right to a life free of violence** is recognized in public and private settings. Therefore, the State will adopt the necessary measures to prevent, eliminate and penalize all forms of violence, especially against women, girls, boys and adolescents, elderly adults, persons con disability and against all persons in situations of disadvantage or vulnerability, as well as against slavery and sexual exploitation. The Constitution explicitly provides for gender equality, in Chapters 1 and 2.

Through these and other related articles, the Constitution ensures that women in vulnerable conditions (including those affected by intersecting forms of discrimination and violence) are considered as priority group in terms of policies, plans and programs of prevention and response to violence.

### Chart # 4: Total prevalence of violence in women aged 15 and over (happening during one's life)

Source: ENVIGMU, INEC 2019



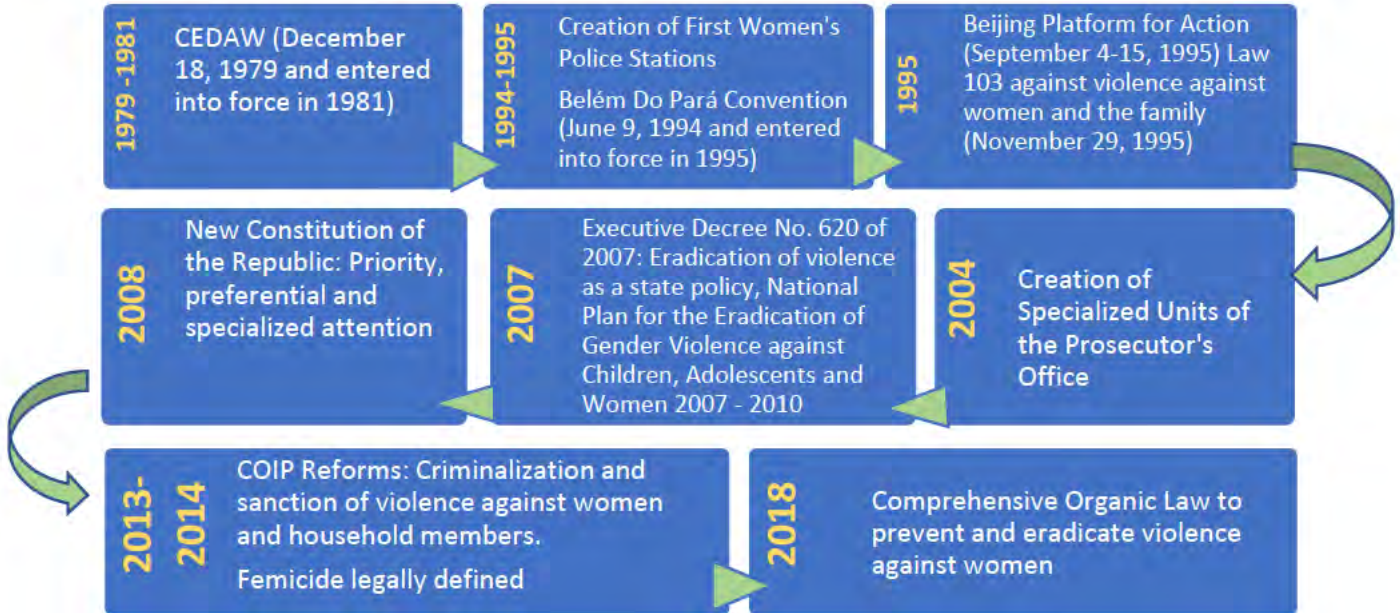
The National Development Plan "Toda Una Vida" 2017-2021 (NDP), aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2030, proposes substantial changes to make violence un-natural and eliminate impunity by generating equal conditions for enjoyment of human rights, changes in socio-cultural patterns and strengthening domestic, group, and community





relationships. There is also a national law on preventing and addressing violence against women and girls and femicide (VAWG), which resulted from the historical lobbying process, data analysis and reports, and the persistently advocacy and demands from women's movements (Chart # 5).

**Chart # 5 Advances in the international and national legal framework.**

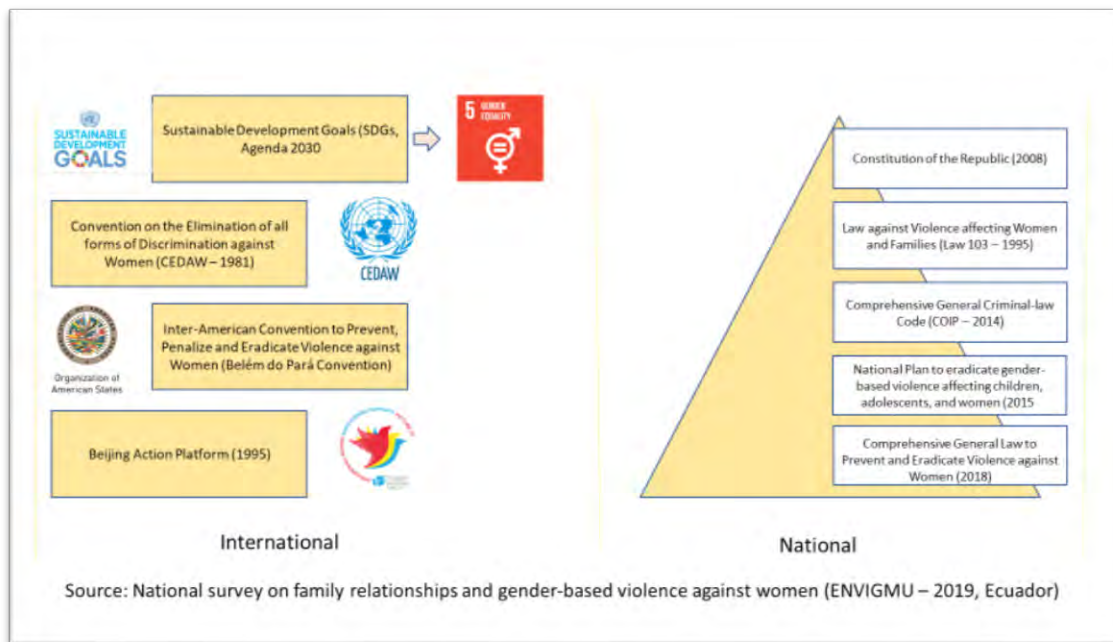


Adapted from ENVIGMU, INEC 2019

Organized women have constantly advocated for changes in norms and public policies, budget allocation, and institutional arrangements for addressing VAW<sup>4</sup>. In the last few years, they have gotten femicide into public, political and, finally, legislative debate. These efforts have allowed for national norms to be aligned with the international human rights standards and with the SDGs (Chart #6)

**Chart # 6: National and international legal framework**

<sup>4</sup> They also got other laws approved: the Law of Labour Support, the Law of Quotas, the Law of Maternal and Child Care Free of Charge (LMGYAI), creation of the Mechanism for Women's Advancement and the National Council on Women (CONAMU); the Equal Opportunities Plan was approved as public policy; plans to prevent and eradicate violence against women, girls, boys and adolescents; and to prevent and eradicate trafficking in persons.



The 2018 Comprehensive General Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (LOIPEVCM) targets “girls, adolescents, youth, adult women and elderly adult women, in all their diversity, in both public and private settings”, especially those in situations of vulnerability or at risk. The Law: i) urges the approval of holistic policies and actions for prevention, support, protection and reparations for victims; ii) promotes work on new masculinities; and, iii) establishes, as priority, actions to transform the “socio-cultural patterns and stereotypes that treat as natural, reproduce, perpetuate, and sustain inequality between men and women”.

The LOIPEVCM is a young Law that bolsters the nation’s legal framework and proposes key mechanisms for its implementation: i) comprehensive Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Violence; ii) operating Model for the National System of Prevention and Eradication of VAWG; iii) single National Data Register; iv) integrated strategy to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls; and, v) users’ committees to observe application of the Law and demand its enforcement.

This new normative and public policy framework requires support to achieve its objectives, opening lines of intervention that coincide with the Spotlight pillars: i) public policies and secondary laws must be created/amended; cooperation and coordination among the legislative, executive and judicial branches is required; and, institutions comprising the National Protection System must be reinforced (Pillar 1 and 2); ii) public service providers, organized women, HR advocates, CSOs and other key stakeholders must be updated on new contents and procedures established by the laws (Pillars 2, 3, 4, 6); iii) national and local services must meet quality standards and be accessible for all (Pillars 2, 4 and 6); iv) strong participation by organized women and other CSOs in prevention and advocacy efforts must be strengthened (Pillars 3, 4, 6); and, v) data analysis and generation must provide evidence all the above (Pillar 5).

Among these six pillars, there is a connecting thread making it possible to put the theory of change into practice individually and overall. The programmatic integration will be enhanced by the diverse participation of sectors and stakeholders, opening greater possibilities for sustainability. The intervention will also foster national and local articulation and the implementation of context specific and relevant interventions to ensure they are accessible and sustainable for the most vulnerable women in remote and de-concentrated zones.

The International Cooperation Gender Coordination Group (MEGECI) promote actions to advance women’s rights and gender equality in order to influence governmental agencies and public opinion. New alliances and coordination arrangements will be explored under the European Union “Civil-Society Organizations” (CSOs) Thematic Program, for the 2014-2020 period, including the citizen



dialogue groups; SDGs monitoring in Ecuador; and collaboration among civil-society organizations and universities. The European Union Delegation, UN Women, UNFPA and UNDP are part of this mechanism.

The MEGECI will serve as a channel for dissemination and as an important means of feedback and also to create synergies with this program. Furthermore, since MEGECI is composed by high-level officials from international cooperation institutions, it will contribute to escalate the debate and the decision-making at the highest level. Thus, this coordination mechanism is considered as an important mechanism to influence the public agenda on VAWG and femicide.

The three UN Agencies (RUNOs) that are part of the Initiative have an extensive experience and several important lessons learned, as a result of the enduring partnership with the State in addressing VAWG and femicide, for instance institutionalizing prevention and response policies. Moreover, the RUNOs interact systematically with Civil Society as a key actor in debates and processes linked to the approval of the Legal Framework on VAWG and enforcing women's rights. A central role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) will continue to be the key factor to avoid setbacks, particularly in the current complex context, resulting from the interaction of underpinning challenges and the COVID-19 pandemic consequences.

Among the processes supported in the past, it is worth mentioning that previous efforts have contributed to put in place a management model and the costing for the National Comprehensive System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence Against Women; this Initiative will enrich the system with a costing at local level (GADs).

Moreover, the assistance provided by these Agencies to the shelter homes for women victims of violence contributed to develop their technical and institutional capacities, allowing them to play an important role and to be recognized, both nationally and internationally.

In order to continue to play this important role, the shelter homes require continuity and they need to deepen and support their permanent learning processes, as well as to strengthen the quality of the assistance provided to women; finally they need to take care and consolidate their work teams to avoid burnout.

Currently, these shelter homes and care centers for women victims of gender violence must align with the new legal framework. In addition, they have to adapt their services and assistance procedures and methodologies to the new needs determined by the health emergency caused by COVID-19.

An unavoidable challenge is to contribute to the strengthening and re-articulation of the relationship between social movements and women's movements. It is important to create training spaces dedicated to women on the gender equality agenda and women's rights. Fostering articulated and informed social action is crucial, especially bearing in mind that the critical mass of women and social movements has been dramatically debilitated during the last 15 years, and that the positioning of women's movement face to other social organization processes has been weakened too.

Another significant good practice that will be taken into account is the Program *We Decide* and its focus on the response to GBV against women with disabilities. This program fostered a research process addressed at generating evidence and promoting advocacy in order to include this topic in the LOIPEVCM and the policies and programs of the National Council on Disabilities (CONADIS). Finally, it fostered the adoption of the Citizen Guide on GBV and SRHR.

The UN Agencies have developed specific approaches, as well as practical evidence, on the links between prevention and response to VAWG in development, emergency, and humanitarian contexts. This allowed the strengthening of government and civil society capacities and led to the creation of specific procedures and protocols for complaint.

Finally, implementing this initiative under the new global scenario generated by the COVID-19 emergency poses a greater challenge considering its socio economic impact, especially for women, but also represents an opportunity to innovate, adapt strategies that combine face-to-face

interaction with social distancing, and to use new technologies to attain the proposed results.

***Outcome 1: legislative and political frameworks***

The country has put in place policies and legislation to prevent and address VAWG and femicide, resulting from advocacy efforts by women's, CSOs mobilization and governments' political will to make progress with instruments responding to the context and aligned with international standards. However, challenges remain, including the implementation of the laws and the consolidation of political and legal mechanisms to guarantee access to justice.

The LOIPEVCM is a young normative instrument that stands for an integrated system for protection of women who are victims of the different forms of gender-based violence. It guarantees women's access to justice but requires a specific policy and clear guidelines to coordinate the over 15 institutions in order to enforce the Law within national and local jurisdictions.

These public institutions, from the Executive and Judicial Power, are part of the Comprehensive National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women. The LOIPEVCM considers this system as "The organized and articulated set of institutions, norms, policies, plans, programs, mechanisms and activities aimed at preventing and eradicating violence against women." In the framework of this initiative, in Ecuador the coordination of all these institutions will be assured in line with Chapter III of the LOIPEVCM, which defines each department scope and role (health, education, work, justice, economic and social inclusion, etc.).

There exists also the need to reinforce and articulate laws to adequately response to VAWG and to foster legal amendments to the general codes for children and adolescents (CONA), criminal law (COIP), territorial organization, autonomy and decentralization (COOTAD) and the judicial branch (COFJ). It is essential to guide these processes, to ensure a rights-based approach, according to the Constitution and higher-ranking laws, such as LOIPEVCM.

The evaluation of the first national plan to prevent and eradicate violence, carried out in 2019, and the progress report on Beijing recommends the development of a public policy to implement mechanisms for reparations pursuant to LOIPEVCM. For that purpose, there is the need to provide technical assistance for public policy design and education among those entities responsible for their implementation. There is also the need to strengthen mechanisms to provide reparations for children and adolescents orphaned by femicide, through an economic subsidy created by Executive Decree in 2019. The reparation mechanism will serve for reconstructing their family and social lives ad will also contribute to an effectively exercise of rights.

Additionally, the proposal will support the adaptation of the national protocol on criminal investigation of femicide, so it complies with the quality standards provided by the Latin American Protocol for investigation of women's violent deaths, ensuring its compliance with international standards.

The implementation and enforcement of public policies and laws for women, especially for those belonging to indigenous nationalities and peoples, Afro-Ecuadorian and montubio communities, and people with disabilities, remains a challenge as established by the special rapporteur's on VAWG that highlighted the outstanding obligation of the State to address the particular needs of these groups through adequate intercultural strategies.

***Outcome 2: institutional strengthening***

In the past UNDP supported the Human Rights Secretariat (SDH) for developing the management model of the Integrated Protection System, established by the LOIPEVCM. This support was based on the lessons learned from UNDP/CAF project on strengthening national capacities, which is a regional initiative implemented in Peru, Argentina and Ecuador.

This model of the Integrated Protection System constitutes the mechanism of inter-institutional coordination at the national and local level and it is a starting point to make the System operational in local governments. Additionally, the costing tool for the management model and public policy is being developed.



UNDP derived some guidelines from the previous process and, in the framework of the Spotlight initiative, it will continue to strengthen the System, focusing on the development of its costing at the local level.

These two antecedents (management and costing model) will allow the SDH to modify and adjust the coordination priorities of the System according to the needs of the context determined by the recent Covid 19 emergency.

In a second phase, the model will be spread at the national level and transferred from national entities to the local level, considering the specific social and cultural contexts, in order to strengthen the local Protection System and its coordination mechanism with the national level. The transfer to the local level should include a gender-based planning process, which comprises management indicators and costing tools.

Key actors for this intervention will be the Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs') considering their deconcentrated and decentralized governance and their competence to localize policies for equality and protect rights. GADs have established gender commissions as part of their structure, that coordinate with citizen networks.

At national level, a marker will make it possible to verify how gender policies are being incorporated in the budget design and implementation. A spending classifier has also been designed for GADs to promote and guarantee a life free of violence. Spotlight Initiative will support the articulation of both instruments and the development of a single one, scalable, to gather common information and assess national and local progress. Generating and applying this instrument will demonstrate the priority given to these problems in sectorial and sectional public policy.

Institutional strengthening will ensure the enforcement of the LOIPEVCM, in order to tackle with VAWG and femicide at different levels. UNDP, based on its experience on public administration, will also apply strategies grounded in components of "Equality Seals" and in science for changing behaviour. The UNDP Acceleration Laboratory will bring into the table innovative and gender responsive tools and methodologies for this purpose. The intervention will support the strengthening of the organizational culture, management and planning, with women's leadership.

The above coordinated actions will support women access to justice, security and full reparation in order to guarantee women and girls rights, with a gender approach, under the principle of equality and non-discrimination.

### ***Outcome 3: prevention – changing norms and behaviours***

The LOIPEVCM provides for the establishment of an Integrated National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women, overseen by the Human Rights Secretariat (SDH). The system competence includes coordinating policies and programs to prevent VAWG as well as developing and implementing policies to detect risk, in order to refer cases to responsible agencies (art. 41). This pillar is grounded in the ecological approach promoting holistic interventions in social, community, family and individual settings and include actions interconnected with other pillars.

This pillar addresses intersectoral governance and the inclusion of population groups that face multiple discrimination: indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian and women with disabilities. National and local actions will require ongoing incorporation of social, economic, political, cultural, religious, ethnic, geographical and physical dimensions of individual women and communities. The cross-cutting approach of non-violent masculinities will also be incorporated.

Proposed actions will contribute to the implementation of existing public policies and norms, with emphasis on supporting and coordinating actions included in the other pillars to enhance prevention as a key aspect for medium- and long-term social change.

Previous successful initiatives to prevent VAWG have been identified and will be reinforced (i.e. work on masculinities, young preventers, people's tribunal, etc.), updating their contents and strategies to the new framework and context. Key and diverse stakeholders will be involved: community/citizenry; communication, GADs, the educational sector, among others. As part of the



## Iniciativa Spotlight

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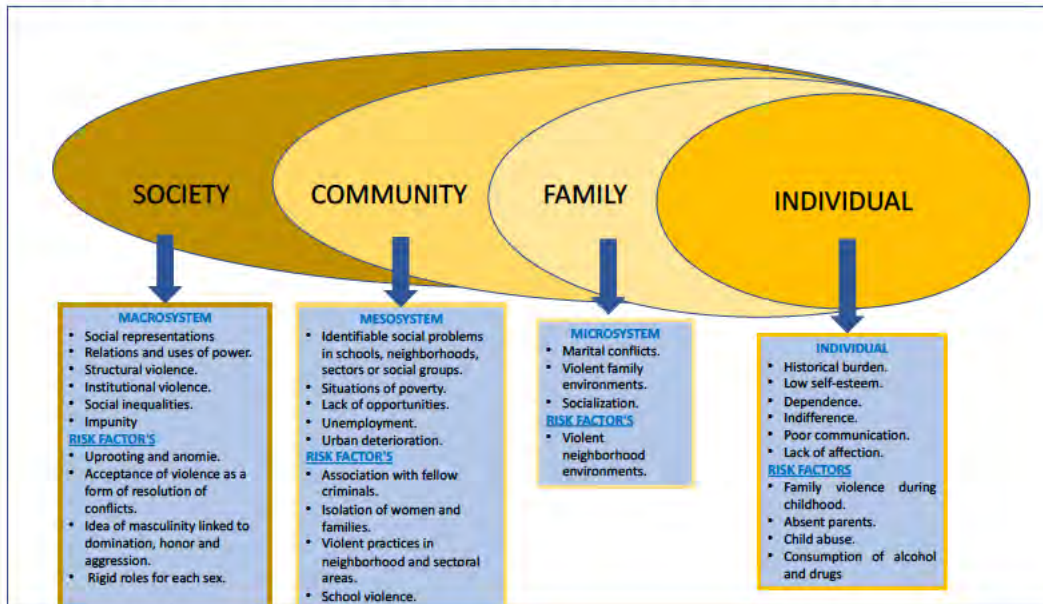
strategies, messages will be spread using new technologies and media distribution channels, adapted to different audiences, including women with disabilities. Contents on new masculinities will also be included as a strategy to change socio-cultural patterns, practices and attitudes that foster VAWG and femicide.

The Ecuadorian State, supported by the National Gender Mechanism, implemented two campaigns between 2010 and 2015. The first one, “React Ecuador, Machismo is Violence”, based on educational and communicational tools, broadcasted messages on national and local mass and alternative media and its second phase “Ecuador, act now, no more gender-based violence” (2014) focused on gender-based violence against children and adolescents. The second campaign, named “Get Informed, Speak up and Act” was focused on messages for sensitization about gender-based violence and implemented by the SDH.

The National Council for Gender Equality conducted an evaluation of the campaign “React Ecuador, machismo is violence”, finding that: i) recurrence is mostly at home; ii) women, girls and boys are the most vulnerable groups; and, iii) the perception of machismo is marked by at least two dimensions: social practices and behaviour and the socialization process of girls and boys. The evaluation provided useful insights on the definition, relationship of violence and identification of victims, violence against women and machismo<sup>5</sup>. Another initiative to be considered is the program to prevent gender-based violence at the workplace, implemented by the National Telecommunications Corporation (2014) that trained and certified its staff on GBV.

The pillar of prevention will contribute to the country’s pending challenge of developing safer community environments from a rights-based and gender approach for women and girls. The ecological approach will allow the understanding of the multi-causal and intersectoral nature of violence, as well as the identification of risk factors and their relationships in the community and the social, cultural and historical dimensions of the problem (Chart # 7). This comprehensive understanding of VAWG and femicide will enable prevention strategies to contribute to healthy, peaceful and diverse coexistence, with zero tolerance for VAWG, in line with the other pillars and the LOIPEVCM.

Chart # 7: Ecological Approach to Factors Related to Gender-Based Violence<sup>6</sup>



<sup>5</sup> Commission for Transition toward the Council of Women and Gender Equality. React, Ecuador, machismo is violence. Study of the campaign. Workbook, “Qualitative Study of the Campaign ‘React, Ecuador, machismo is violence’”. Quito, December 2011.

<sup>6</sup> Ferreto & Incháustegui. Ecological Model for a life free of gender-based violence. Conceptual proposal. National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women. Mexico, 2011.



Finally, it should be considered that currently the Agencies that are part of this initiative do not have a joint work program with the Ministry of Education, responsible for children and teenagers ages 4-18. The positioning of this entity of the State in respect to VAWG issues (especially the ones linked to sexual and reproductive rights), does not allow a favorable framework to conclude any agreement since it would require more time for negotiation with the competent Authorities (beyond the 18 months of this initiative's period).

Furthermore, due to the COVID-19 health emergency, currently virtual education is being held indefinitely (how long is basic and secondary education going to be carried out in these terms for girls, boys and adolescents?). In our country virtual education is still at an early stage, especially in rural areas, where access and costs are an additional obstacle.

An open dialogue with religious leaders or faith-based organizations it is not expected either, since they were not considered as a priority group during the consultations with CSOs nor in the multi-stakeholder meeting. Besides, it should be considered that there are no such organizations open to a rights-based approach. Nowadays, the Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI), which has been for a while an UNFPA's ally, does not operate in the country.

#### **Outcome 4: quality services**

The National Report Beijing+25 (2019) recommends to consolidate and to integrate a qualified system of services in the national territory, as required by LOIPEVCM. Regarding this recommendation, this pillar proposes to strengthen knowledge, capacities and institutional mechanisms in local and central level. In addition, LOIPEVCM disposes the creation of an Early Warning System to prevent GBV and femicide, as an essential component of the system of services. This EWS will be operated by the Ministry of Government and National Police and will be required upgrading public servants' skills.

Following what LOIPEVCM disposes and the National Report's recommendation, will be implemented the "Package of Essential Services for women and girls who are victims of violence". Under this umbrella, the project will develop -or update- guides for care provision, tools for optimizing each service according its specificity, and will reinforce effective coordination mechanisms among the justice, health and security (police) services, as well as to include psychosocial and economic empowerment support.

This pillar hinges significantly on the principle of inclusion, promoting compliance with the Constitution's provisions about the priority of serving women in conditions of greater vulnerability (girls, adolescents, elderly adults, women from peoples and nationalities, with disabilities, from the poorest quintiles, etc.).

Security (National Police): Women victims of violence have reported the difficulties of accessing emergency services, among other reasons because of weak coordination between the police and Canton Boards for Protecting Rights, especially when they are not available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. One strategy to address this challenge is to have a National Police Force trained to use the new provisions of the LOIPEVCM on using Administrative Measures for Immediate Protection, granted by Canton Boards for Protecting Rights and their key role so women can turn to them.

The National Police is the first government agency to respond to situations of VAWG and femicide, therefore, its staff must be trained on the new Law's provisions and its protocols. Following the National Report's recommendation and the LOIPEVCM provisions, selected canton's local police will be part of the training process.

Judicial services: Justice national response to VAWG and femicide includes Judicial Units for Violence against Women and Families, which belong to specialized Judicial Units; and, where there are no such units, this jurisdiction is delegated to Judicial Units for Families, Women, Children and Adolescents. In addition, the new legal framework emphasizes on women in conditions of greater vulnerability, such as indigenous and disability. These services and their staff must respond to a judicial system restructuring due to new procedures outlined by LOIPEVCM and the legal definition of femicide.



Restructuring the system includes updating and studying theoretical frameworks, national and international legal and methodological frameworks to be aligned to the LOIPEVCM and femicide legal provisions, as well as the international human and women rights standards. Accordingly, the curriculum of Judicial Branch School must incorporate the new subjects on concepts and procedures, as well as to include quality guidelines and standards for intercultural service and not re victimizing women from indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and montubio who are victims of these crimes.

As a complement for these capacity-building processes, the law calls for formulating a System of Performance Evaluation and Punishment for Judges to ensure due process and determination of responsibilities.

Health-care services: Ministry of Public Health (MSP) has specific competences and norms to deal with and to refer cases of GBV.

MSP's services includes first-line care in emergency rooms around the country, and 15 first-care rooms for GBV cases into the biggest public hospitals (most populated cities). Norms establish that health-care personnel must follow strict standards of confidentiality, non-revictimization conducts and acting in a timely manner. Staff must include experts accredited by the Judicial Oversight Council. Accreditation is granted approving the training in the National Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences Service of the National Prosecutor's Office of the Nation (FGE).

MSP's staff must report GBV cases to judicial system, using the mandatory form for notifying cases of presumed gender-based violence and serious human rights violations. After providing initial care, health-care services are obliged to refer the case to the Prosecutor's Office and, if necessary, get them to a shelter-home, to avoid further aggression.

The current norms were updated in 2019, so it is pending to install capacities to use this instrument with health-care personnel, especially first-line care services and facilities. The personnel who are not part of the specialized care, but still need to know the procedures that will help avoid re-victimization, must be trained also.

Psycho-social support: Ecuador counts with a network of shelter-homes and centres for women who suffer gender violence; all of them belongs to women social organizations and most of them depends on GADs and government contributions. This network is the pillar of care for women in the country. Centres and shelters must update their model of management to be aligned to the LOIPEVCM provisions. The Law sets forth the actions required to guarantee protection for victims of violence in shelter homes and centres, as well as the responsibilities of GADs to ensure that services are qualified (infrastructure, professionals, care methodologies, perspectives and reporting).

In this context, there are two major challenges: first, to update and reinforce knowledge about the procedures established by LOIPEVCM; second, to strengthen coordination and multi-disciplinary work between the network with public services, observing procedures of confidentiality, non-revictimization, inclusion and intercultural understanding.

Finally, regarding the global Covid-19 health emergency context, shelter homes for women who are victims of violence must be adapted to respond according the situation. Thus, methodologies, protocols, modalities of care, supplies and operation issues should be elaborated and implemented to respond accurately. New management will protect both, women beneficiaries of the services and shelters staff.

Economic empowerment: Feminization of poverty is not an exception in Ecuador; therefore, it is necessary to contribute to economic empowerment for women, not only for helping to overcome incomes gaps, but for promoting an opportunity to stop the cycle of violence. In the project context, the contribution to economic empowerment aimed to victims of violence and their dependents when they orphaned by femicide.

To face this challenge, the project will reinforce the strategy of the State to improve women access





to financial resources and capacity-building for work and employment. Project will focus on women who are victims of violence prioritizing women with disabilities, adolescent mothers, and rural/indigenous women. To reinforce the national strategy, the project will involve the financial sector and promote alliances with shelter homes, which have the conditions and methodology to help channel these resources efficiently and effectively.

Respect with economic empowerment, the government of Ecuador approved “Mission for Women” (November 2018). This is a public policy aims to enhance women situation contributing their comprehensive autonomy. This policy includes an economic empowerment component to promote and enforce women economic rights. Implementation considers the diversity of women since territory, nationality, economic situation and the gender approach, developing proposals oriented toward achieving workplace relations based on equality; valuing the unpaid work done by women in their homes, and paid domestic work, as well as services caring for vulnerable persons.

In addition, national government creates a financing program for women experiencing violence: "No more violence – Women Grow", targeting women in vulnerable situations. Accessing to these resources requires training on financial education, business plans to apply for loans, trade fairs to facilitate market integration, and providing credit and production inputs to start up enterprises headed by women.

#### **Outcome 5: data**

Before having official data about violence against women (2011 and 2019), women’s organizations were the main data supply. These initial figures made it possible to pursue advocacy actions from 1980 to 2010. Currently, official statistics promotes legal frameworks, sustain and strengthen public policy and programs, as well as generate capacities in governmental institutions focusing on preventing, caring for, protecting, making reparations, and eradicating VAWG and femicide.

In 2019 Ecuadorian government developed the second national survey on Family Relations and Gender-Based Violence against Women (ENVIGMU 2019). Survey findings will be analysed to provide decision-makers with elements to manage policy according of the VAW situation in Ecuador. Moreover, this analysis will offer civil society the instruments for follow-up and demand for action to turn formal advancements into substantial change.

LOIPEVCM provides the generation and production of quality disaggregated data, considering the intersections of different forms of discrimination leading to violence and femicide. Gathering information from each institution involved will enable the following: raising warnings based on records of care provided in these services; supporting implementation of protocols to detect and appraise risk; establishing guidelines to improve information and referral. The National Register of Violence (RUV) is the instrument that will enable the above, and also standardize, process, and update the information from institutions comprising the National Comprehensive System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women. The RUV must be built up with consensus-based standards through dialogue with the State, women’s and civil-society organizations; this includes establishing the femicide rate, taking into account that several CSOs have specialized in tracking and characterizing femicides. The dialogue about technical experience between CS and the State will enhance the contents of the RUV and the femicide indicator.

Further, the LOIPEVCM also provides for operating and strengthening the National Observatory of Violence against Women. The Observatory must prepare reports, studies, and proposals to improve the overall response to these problems and orient public policy guidelines. To contribute to this legal mandate, synergy with civil-society organizations and with academia will be promoted to conduct scientific studies to complement data on current prevalence and incidence. These specialist studies include, among others, gathering socio-economic profiles of femicidal murderers and victims, applying an approach of intersecting factors, and a feminist methodology of analysis.

To complement the above, the project will contribute to national and local capacity transfer to reinforce public policy and operation of the Comprehensive National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women. Proposal will take existing progress and strengthen it to effectively implement the norm and public policies derived from the LOIPEVCM. All this will be coordinated inter-institutionally with the Human Rights Secretariat (SDH), Ministry of the Interior,



Judicial Council, National Gender Equality Council (CNIG), and Ecuadorian Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC).

### **Outcome 6: strengthening women's organizations**

The LOIPEVCM provides “participation by women, societal and community organizations and other social stakeholders at all levels of government, also recognizing the importance for women’s networks, collectives, movements, and organizations to monitor, track, follow up, and exercise societal oversight or observation of the actions by agencies comprising the system set forth in that Law.”

This participation will be encouraged by assisting networks of women's organizations at different levels (national, local, community); and by helping them partner with other human rights advocacy CSOs, community and neighbourhood organizations. This strategy will allow women's organizations positioning the EVAW agenda into civil society movement, and to generate, as a whole, activities and programs to create safe spaces and defend women's right to a life free of violence. This joint work will contribute to prevent and eradicate femicide and other forms of VAWG.

Further, the LOIPEVCM provides for the formation of Users' Committees (UC) aimed to oversee local enforcement of the Law.<sup>7</sup> These committees are formed by women from civil-society who will be trained in procedures and management of technical records to contribute to improve services through permanent feedback and assessments. Each service (justice, health, security) will be provided of information about its performance to guarantee a permanent improvement. Women part of UC will be empowered by enabling them to exercise their right to observe and demand their rights from public institutions.

Ecuador has a history of participation and advocacy by organized women to get their rights enforced, to denounce VAWG and femicide, and to obtain laws to prevent, address, and eradicate this human right violation. Permanent participation has enabled a living organizational matrix which is continually transforming; nevertheless, to keep the process it is necessary to strength new leaderships as a constant, as a habit from the women's movement. Accordingly, the project will work to bolster women's organizations and women's leadership for policy advocacy, promotion of rights, and prevention of violence, as an effective strategy to place women's rights as a priority on the public agenda and on other sectors' agendas.

As already mentioned in the context analysis, during the last 15 years women's organizations have suffered a severe weakening including the lack of organizational and training spaces in women's rights and gender equality, and insufficient financial resources to sustain the organizations. Despite these conditions, women's organizations demanded the approval of laws, the definition of policies and the budget allocation to eradicate VAWG and femicide. This might seem contradictory given that the articulation between women's organizations and other social movements has not been a common practice in the country. Hence, the women's movement is also affected by an increasing violence against human rights defenders, and the risks they face by not having a strong social support.

That is why this pillar is focused on strengthening the capacities of women's organizations to create spaces for designing and articulating a common agenda to defend the right for a life free of violence.

Regarding indigenous and afro-Ecuadorian women, the project will reinforce their current political and social participation training programs with VAWG and femicide issues to strengthen their performance as well as to include VAWG in political and social women's activism to wide their agendas. Most indigenous and afro descendant women leaders on politics do not include VAWG issues in their action; however, they are very important actors to include this issue in the public and politics agenda. Therefore, they must strengthen their leadership training to advise and guide their organizations, to claim, learn about, and demand their right to live free of violence. The project will work on developing women's skills and capacities to influence their local governments, their local

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<sup>7</sup> This proposal is based on Users' Committees under the former Law for Maternity and Care for Children Free of Charge (1998 to 2014), a successful experience in Ecuador that contributed to strengthening social organization, women's empowerment, and service improvement.



parties and their local populations to work for eradicating violence. The project will contribute to honing their skills to train new women and organizations, as effective spokespersons vis-à-vis society and government at local and national levels.

Two leadership training schools that have extensive experience and capacity to mobilize their communities for effective participation will be part of this work: one for Afro-Ecuadorian women and the other for Amazonian women.

Finally, organized women who caring for female victims of violence are affected by VBG too, they are other kind of victims. Permanent contact with VBG affects their mental and physical health. Therefore, it is indispensable to care of them, not only upgrading their skills and building their capacities, but also responding to their own needs to recover from the rigors of their daily work

Further, this pillar prioritizes strengthening of women's organizations and women leaders on conceptual and methodological knowledge to prevent and eradicate femicide and VAWG. This pillar pretends to create and reinforce alliances with other civil-society organizations at national, and local levels -communities and neighbourhoods- for joint advocacy and joint programs to prevent and eradicate violence. Activities of this pillar will bolster women skills on media and strategic litigation regarding VAWG and femicide.

## **II. Programme Strategy**

The Spotlight initiative in Ecuador is aligned with the Constitution and laws on preventing and eradicating VAWG and femicide. It will support the implementation of human rights standards and SDGs 5, 11 and 16. The program was developed in consultation with the Delegation of the European Union, the State, women's organizations and CSOs and bears in mind the recommendations by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women that provided criteria for prioritizing actions.

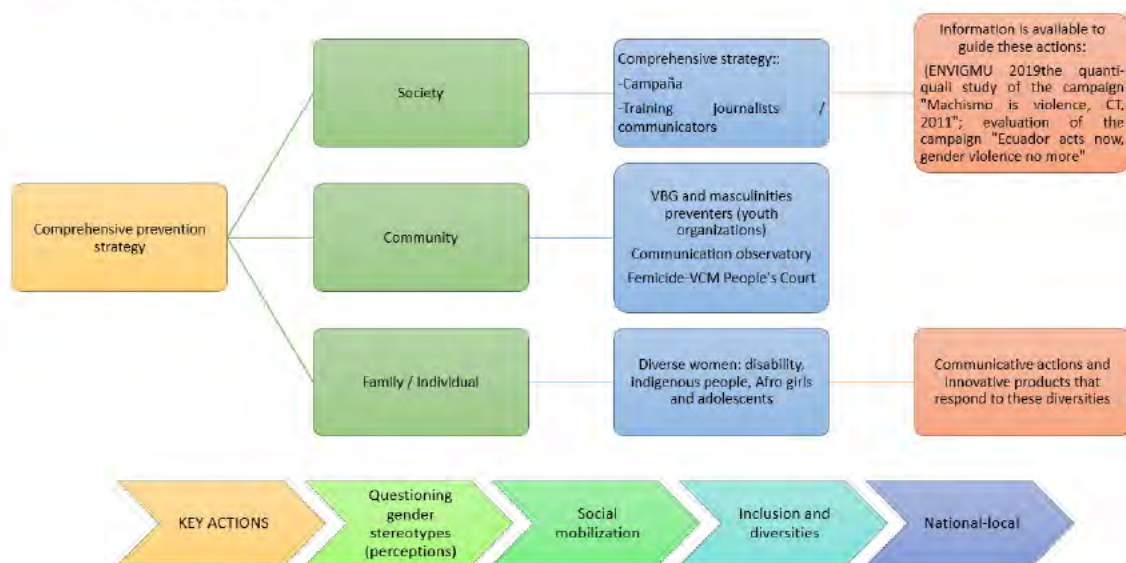
A key strength of the United Nations System (UNS) to implement this initiative is the knowledge and previous experience with entities and actors involved in the implementation of the LOIPEVCM. Knowing their strengths, gaps and dynamics will facilitate the implementation of the new legal framework and the required public policies.

The UNS has technical competencies and experience to support legislative processes, coordination and articulation between national and subnational governments and between State functions. It has also experience on working with local governments for the development of norms and planning instruments as well as on the implementation of local human rights protection systems.

The UNS will ground its work on human rights standards and principles, emphasizing women's rights anchored in the Beijing Action Platform, CEDAW, the Cairo Action Program and the Belém do Pará Convention. The gender and inter-cultural approaches will also be mainstreamed and the actions will be implemented bearing in mind the SDGs localization, especially 3, 5, 16 and 17. The work on non-violent masculinities will also be integrated and the leave no one behind and non-re victimization principles will guide the program implementation.

The ecological approach will frame the intervention to develop holistic strategies with community, family and individual participation (Chart # 8). The actions will complement capacity-building (pillars 2, 3, 4, and 6), institution building (pillar 2) and service provision (pillar 4) (chart # 9); and, will also respond to the requirements for new normative and policy frameworks pursuant to LOIPEVCM (pillar 1).

### **Chart # 8: Comprehensive prevention strategy**

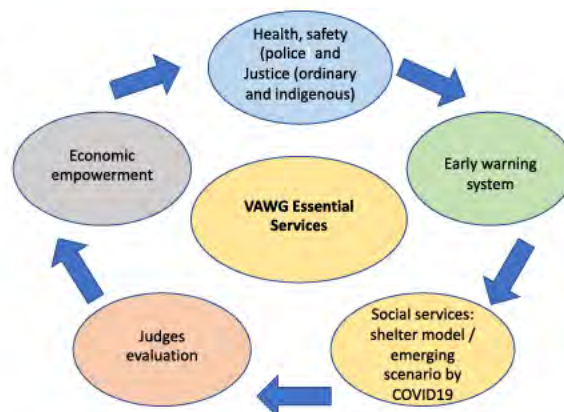


**Chart # 9: Essential services: Basic approaches and principles**

## VAWG Essential Services

### Basic approaches and principles

- Integrality
- Multidisciplinary and articulated response
- Accessible, timely, quality services, focused on the victim.
- Avoid revictimization
- Indicators with intercultural relevance



The methodology developed by UNDP, based on behavioural science and applied to changes in cultural patterns related to violence, represents a key strategy for institutional strengthening (pillar 2). The mainstreaming of the gender approach will be ensured, by implementing responsive and transformative planning standards. These standards will be based on the analysis of the perceptions of gender stereotypes, so that the response to VAWG and femicide is properly focused.

UNDP will draw on its experience in institutional strengthening to improve public administration. Innovative strategies, based on the "Seals of Equality" or on the behavioral science for behavior change, will be applied. Moreover, UNDP will refer to its previous work aimed at strengthening the local protection system, improving the inter-institutional coordination mechanism at the local and central levels and at promoting a gender-sensitive organizational culture to achieve better public policies management and implementation.

On the other hand, UNDP will apply its experience in organizational structures and human resources, in establishing protocols to prevent violence and sexual harassment and in improving



work environment quality; this by putting women's participation at the core of the organization administration and management.

The UNDP Acceleration Laboratory will provide tools for strengthening organizational culture, management and planning, putting women's leadership at the core. It will also foster the implementation of behavioral change tools, to accelerate internal processes. This will improve the coordination, planning and implementation of VAWG and femicide public policies.

**Key principles** that will be guaranteed throughout the Programme are: inclusion ("Leave no one behind"), accessibility, comprehensive security, non-discrimination and non-re-victimization; promoting comprehensive reparation to victims under the principle of equality and promoting transparency, legality, participation.

**Capacity-building strategies include:** i) provide a common vision and operating framework on VAW and femicide (laws, policies and protocols) – as specified by the LOIPEVCM; ii) increase the knowledge and skills of diverse actors to address VAW and femicide: judicial, security, health and social service operators; and, iii) develop and expand alliances (networks and inter-institutional coordination). These actions will guarantee sustainable results because the actors will own and support the development and implementation of the conceptual and methodological framework and tools required by the LOIPEVCM (2018) and the legal definition of femicide as a crime (2014). Training and engaging methodologies will be adapted to each target, including adult learning and accessibility considerations for persons with disability.

By increasing technical capacities of operators to implement the norms and public policies on VAW and femicide, they will be in a better position to comply with due process and determine responsibilities; construct plans and budgets with a gender approach; advocate at various levels; improve leadership and self-care; promote participation and networking; challenge socio-cultural patterns and stereotypes that naturalize violence; and, integrate the work on new masculinities as an alternative for structural changes in gender relations.

The intervention will also include CSOs and will give due consideration to their capacities and experience on advocacy, data collection and contributions to improve the judicial services. For that purpose, participatory methodologies will be used and adapted to local realities.

A participatory monitoring and follow-up plan will be established to assess the status of implementation, the connection between pillars and the application of guiding principles and approaches.

**The zones selected**, in consensus with the Government and with CSOs, are six cantons located in three of the country's four geographical regions (Chart # 10).

Selection criteria were:

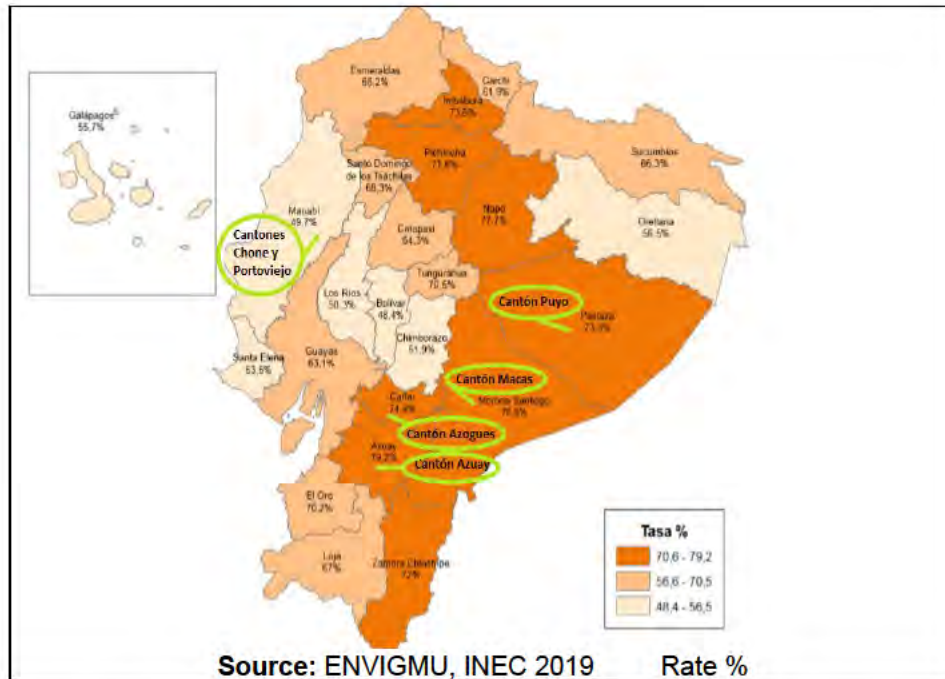
- √ the highest percentage of VAWG recorded by the Survey on Family Relations and GBV in 2019,
- √ The presence of ethnically diverse women (indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian and montubio) in whose context's factors intersect to increase their vulnerability because of their socio-economic situation (quintiles of poverty) (Chart #12); and
- √ exposure to multiple forms of violence.



**Chart # 10: Selected cantons**

Region	Province	Selected cantons
Coast	Manabí	Chone Portoviejo
Highlands	Azuay	Cuenca
	Cañar	Azogues
Amazon region	Pastaza	Pastaza
	Morona Santiago	Morona

**Chart # 11: Proportion of violence by province**



The localization of actions will be guided by the General Code for Territorial Organization, Autonomy and Decentralization (COOTAD) and the LOIEPVCM. The responsibilities and obligations of decentralized governments to prevent and eradicate VAW throughout women's life cycle, which are directly related to this proposal, include:

- designing, formulating and enforcing local norms, policies and plans;
- reinforcing Canton Boards to Protect Rights;
- guaranteeing that women who are victims of gender-based violence receive integrated services from shelter homes with specialist personnel;
- promoting campaigns;
- establishing mechanisms to detect and refer cases;
- designing and implementing a system to gather information on cases to update the RUV;
- implementing protocols for detection, risk appraisal, information, and referral;



## Iniciativa Spotlight

Para eliminar la violencia  
contra las mujeres y los niños

- submitting the necessary information to construct statistics regarding the type of infraction, without harming the confidential nature of this type of cases;
- promoting local initiatives (inter-sector working groups, local, regional, and provincial networks).

### Chart # 12: Women by ethnic self-identification

Source: ENVIGMU, INEC 2019

Self-identification: Indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian, Afro-descendant, Black, Mulatto Montubio Mixed White Other

Province (Men/Women) (decimal points for thousands)

Provincia	Auto identificación												Total	
	Indígena		Afro ecuatoriano/ Afro descendiente Negro, Mulat		Montubio		Mestizo		Blanco		Otro			
	Hombres	Mujeres	Hombres	Mujeres	Hombres	Mujeres	Hombres	Mujeres	Hombres	Mujeres	Hombres	Mujeres	Hombres	Mujeres
AZUAY	8.332	9.302	7.898	7.764	1.666	1.263	300.206	336.402	17.521	19.091	683	621	336.306	374.443
CAÑAR	15.372	18.831	2.981	2.892	1.349	917	80.176	91.629	4.595	4.926	214	173	104.687	119.368
MANABI	1.357	1.113	42.809	40.709	141.477	128.152	480.113	485.453	32.349	32.771	2.094	1.803	700.199	690.001
MORONA SANTIAGO	35.823	35.715	1.024	820	226	103	35.029	33.876	2.352	2.213	393	364	74.847	73.091
PASTAZA	16.687	16.712	655	576	214	132	23.380	23.003	1.264	1.184	60	66	42.260	41.673

To achieve sustainable results benefitting women from the most vulnerable groups in the selected cantons, we noted the estimated target for the local level and calculated 60% of total adolescent and adult women who are victims of violence, according to official statistics. These figures are part of the estimates given for each pillar:

Cantons	Women, adolescents, and elderly women
Cuenca	159,652
Azogues	22,785
Chone	387,924
Portoviejo	85,233
Morona	12,326
Pastaza	18,655
<b>Total</b>	<b>686,575</b>

The detailed proposals for each pillar are presented below. Priority implementation partners will be civil-society organizations, except for Pillars 2 and 5 which will be direct implementation, in consultation with CSOs. Counterparts will include governmental institutions, women's organizations, specialized CSOs on VAWG and femicides and grassroots organizations in the selected territories.



Mainly, there has been special attention to include women who were or are victims of different forms of violence, frequently intertwined and affecting different areas of their lives and health. To ensure a much diverse participation of women in each canton, this proposal has taken into consideration: the percentages of VAWG, ethnic and socio-cultural diversity and the existence of women's organizations.

UN agencies from the interagency thematic group on gender will also be part of the implementation and will support the implementation of activities related to their mandates: UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, UNESCO, among others.

## PILLAR 1 –LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL FRAMEWORKS

*OUTCOME 1: Evidence-based public policies and legislative frameworks on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, aligned with international human rights standards, implemented and considered in planning.*

### **Theory of change**

If (1) women and experts on VAWG/femicide participate in evaluating, developing, and implementing policies and legislation to end femicide

(2) implementation of laws and policies is supervised

Then (3) a favourable legislative and political environment is established to address violence against women / femicides and other forms of discrimination, resulting in planning to guarantee women's and girls' rights

BECAUSE (4) legislative and policy frameworks, effectively implemented, address impunity and promote coordinated action, including in the areas of prevention, services, and data compilation

(5) so, laws and programs are developed, implemented, and supervised to integrate VAWG issues into SRRs services.

### **Expected results and strategic priorities**

The LOIPEVCM, recently enacted, makes headway and represents an important step in translating governments' international obligations into enforceable actions at the national level. It sets out the framework for coordination and calls for the improvement of structures and technical capacities for an effective implementation. Remaining processes must be evaluated, strengthened and adapted to the new legal framework, at national and local level, so the institutions responsible for service provision can deliver efficiently: justice, health, security and social services.

In coordination with State institutions and with CSOs, key strategic areas for intervention have been selected for the LOIPEVCM implementation. The program will support the development of a public policy to operationalize the Law through the National System to Prevent and Eradicate VAWG. In articulation with pillars 2 and 4, this pillar will also work with legislative commissions responsible for amending legislation related to VAWG in order to enable the judicial system for dealing with cases of VAWG and femicide. Stronger norms and policy will also influence social and cultural behaviour, linking this intervention with pillar 3.

The program will support the revision of the National Protocol on criminal investigation of femicide, to ensure its articulation with the Latin American Protocol for investigating violent deaths of women and to ensure proper investigation. This Protocol will provide standards and guidelines, among others, to have reliable data on the number of femicides. Currently, femicides are not ruled out as such but catalogued as other type of crime.

These actions will be part of the Integrated National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women. Therefore, the 15 institutions part of this System will have a broad participation, as well as local governments with specific mandates for law enforcement. Also, the views and expertise of diverse women and organizations will be included.





**OUTCOME 1: Public policies and legal frameworks for all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, evidence-based, aligned with international human rights standards, implemented and taken into account in planning**

**Output 1.1 National partners have built capacities to assess gaps, reinforce or update existing policies and legislation to eliminate violence against women and girls (VAWG).**

**1.1.1. Specific national output:** Participatory design of public policy for institutionalizing the National System to Prevent and Eradicate VAWG.

Define a draft proposal, prepared intersectorally:

- Feedback workshops with CS,
- Feedback workshops with relevant State sectors
- Multi-stakeholder validation

**1.1.2 National output:** Four consensus-based draft proposals to amend four legal norms regarding eradicating VAWG and femicide (CONA, COOTAD, COIP and COFJ).

Technical assistance to the National Assembly for legislative processes:

- Help draft proposed amendment according to the legislative agenda for laws related to VAWG and femicide
- Working meetings with the National Assembly (Parliamentary Group for Women's Rights)
- Working sessions with Civil society

**1.1.3 National output:** Adapted and piloted the National Protocol for Criminal Investigation of Femicide based on the Latin American Protocol for Investigating women's violent deaths (femicide)

Technical assistance to the executive entities and judicial commission to adapt the Protocol:

- Comparative review and analysis of the national protocol versus the Latin American protocol
- Define gaps and similarities in protocols' investigation process
- Prepare the proposal for adaptation
- Validate and pilot the adapted protocol.

**1.1.4 National output:** Participatory design of public policy for reparations to victims of VAWG and dependents of victims of femicide

Assistance to design the reparations policy:

- Legal analysis comparing with the Belém do Pará standards and other referents.
- Compile and classify information on judicial and administrative processes and mechanisms for restitution, indemnification, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.
- Identify institutional competencies and coordination mechanisms within the respective National System.
- Design the proposal
- Validate the proposal
- Identify a standard mechanism.

**Output 1.2: National partners have increased capacities to develop and finance evidence-based national and/or subnational action plans to end VAWG.**

**1.2.1 National output:** The National Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Violence Against Women and Girls and femicide is validated and has a system to monitor and follow-up on its implementation

Cooperation in the third phase of constructing and validating the national plan and preparing the monitoring and evaluation system:

- Prepare and validate the final document
- Virtual platform to discuss and validate the document with the institutions of the Integrated National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women, women's organizations and other CSOs.
- Construct monitoring and evaluation instruments

**Output 1.3: National and subnational partners have increased knowledge on human rights standards, laws and policies to guarantee the rights of women and CSOs and human rights advocates have increased capacity and skills to move the agenda forward.**



**1.3.1 National output:** Increased number of women with enhanced capacities to advocate and promote laws and policies for preventing and eradicating VAWG, with focus on ethnic diversity and persons with disabilities.

Edu-communicational products to socialize laws, policies and key messages on VAWG and femicide:

- Pedagogical mediation of the Plan and international standards on women's rights
- Dissemination and awareness raising of the Plan, the Law, and international standards for preventing and eradicating VAWG in women's organizations and CSOs that will be part of this proposal and others that have a national legitimacy for advocacy.
- Edu-communicational material to contribute to women's advocacy processes.
- Identifying new spokespersons and leaders in the women's movement.

Counterparts	Implementing partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat.</li> <li>- National Council for Equality.</li> <li>- Prosecutor's Office</li> <li>- Council of Judicial Oversight</li> <li>- National Assembly</li> <li>- Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs)</li> <li>- Provincial women's organizations</li> <li>- CSOs specializing in the selected areas</li> <li>- Shelter centers and homes for women who are victims of violence</li> <li>- Local facilities for integration to achieve a life free of violence</li> </ul>	<p>Specialist civil-society organizations<sup>8</sup></p>

This pillar will be **led by UN Women** based on its experience in law and policy development and in providing technical assistance to judicial and legislative bodies on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. UN Women's contribution has been key to advance national legislation, according to international human rights standards. UN Women experience is strong both for advocacy at the highest level and for facilitating dialogue among decision-makers, civil society and grassroots organizations.

Additionally, UN Women as leader of the United Nations Inter-agency Group for Gender Equality and Human Rights, has facilitated inter-agency work on key issues for women's rights, including integrated technical assistance for the LOIPEVCM.<sup>9</sup>

**Lessons learned** include the relevance of building alliances between different sectors of the society to move forward the agenda on women's rights. Working closely with the legislative and judicial branches, at the highest political and technical level, has made it possible to promote allocation of resources to administer justice and to strengthen legislators and jurists' capacities to amend or propose new laws.

UN Women has supported the establishment of a commission, within the National Assembly, to review laws and provide inputs for gender mainstreaming. The group include experts from civil society and has become a neutral space to provoke dialogue on sensitive issues and even in times of polarization between CSOs and state actors. This group was globally recognized in 2017 as a good practice strengthening democracy.

<sup>8</sup> Agreements with civil society for the following activities: a) *National Plan M&E System*; b) *Improving civil-society capacity for advocacy and promotion of laws and policies focusing on VAWG*, with priority for ethnic diversity and accessibility. Civil-society organizations specializing in this area will be publicly invited to make their bids, and the best will be selected.

<sup>9</sup> Such actions are possible because of the skill developed by UN Women to work from an inter-agency perspective, due to the bounties and challenges of its mandate.

### Sustainability of the actions planned:

The sustainability of the proposed actions is guaranteed because they are anchored in existing policies and laws that require mechanisms for implementation. The actions will also be implemented as part of the National System to prevent and eradicate VAW, led by the Human Rights Secretariat, main counterpart of this proposal. As for the work with the legislative, proposed actions are part of the agenda of specialized commissions and are expected to be approved by the Plenary.

The work and alliances with women leaders will increase their capacity to advocate and move the agenda forward, as well as to sustain the achievements.

### Priority groups:

The work in this pillar will target public officials with decision making capacities, who are part of the Integrated National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women, legislators, investigation and other officials in the judiciary and with women human rights defenders.

<b>BENEFICIARIES – PILLAR 1</b>		
	<b>Direct: Public officials</b>	<b>Indirect: Public</b>
<b>Women</b>	300	3,047,000
<b>Girls</b>		668,175
<b>Men</b>	100	
<b>Boys</b>		690,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>4,405,526</b>

For direct beneficiaries, the numbers include officials, decision-makers and women human rights defenders who will be involved in the proposed activities. Support for public actions related to public policies will be complemented by technical assistance from the EU through their Euro social + regional program.

To calculate indirect beneficiaries, it is estimated that 60% of the population living in violent situations are 60% women age 15 and higher, and 30% are girls and boys age 0 to 14.

### Inter-agency Coordination

UN Women leading role in this pillar will complemented with UNDP and UNFPA support and technical advice. UNDP will be responsible for the reparation's mechanisms.

## PILLAR 2 –INSTITUTION BUILDING

*OUTCOME: National and subnational systems and institutions plan, finance and offer evidence-based programs to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and harmful practices.*

### Theory of change

If (1) decision-makers and relevant stakeholders from all sectors of the government are informed and mobilize to address VAWG, including femicide.

If (2) all institutional levels and relevant stakeholders have strengthened their capacities against VAWG including femicide.

If (3) national and subnational negotiations are effective, overcoming any obstacles to collective action to address and prevent VAWG and femicide.

If (4) there are sufficient resources.

Then (5) the institutions will develop, coordinate and implement programs including eliminating VAWG plus other SDG targets in development planning.

Because (6) institutional changes require appropriate capacities, adequate financing, and political commitment and leadership to sustainably address VAW and femicide.

### Expected results and strategic priorities

This pillar will focus on institution building, at national and local level, to ensure an adequate response to VAWG and femicide, according to the LOIPEVCM. UNDP will support the Human Rights Secretariat (SDH) for developing the operating and coordination model of the Integrated Protection System, established by the LOIPEVCM, that comprises more than 20 institutions. In a second phase, the model will be transferred from national entities to the local level. The work on gender markers will also be strengthened to ensure adequate budget is allocated for VAWG.

The actions will result in decision makers and technical personnel with increased capacities to prevent and respond on VAWG, as provided by the LOIPEVCM. Local actors will be in a better position to articulate the response with the national system and to provide efficient services in the areas of care, penalization, prevention and reparations.

UNDP has a solid record of collaborating with local governments to mainstream the SDGs in their planning instruments. They have worked with the Consortium of Provincial Autonomous Governments of Ecuador (CONGOPE), the Association of Municipalities of Ecuador (AME) and the National Council of Competencies (CNC) on SDGs localization, which has opened up channels for coordinating this pillar's implementation.

The institution-building actions will include strategies from the "equality seal" UNDP methodologies in order to find suitable solutions, with innovative and participatory approaches. Public institutions that promote gender equality in their own facilities also generate changes in their institutional culture and enhance their capacities to analyse and better understand the causes of inequality and assess how they impact on women and men.

The outcomes achieved under this pillar are related with, and will contribute, to the proposals of Pillars 3, 4 and 5.

<b>OUTCOME 2: National and subnational systems and institutions plan, fund and offer evidence-based programs to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and harmful practices.</b>
<b>Output 2.1. Key officials at national and subnational levels in all relevant institutions have increased capacities to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG.</b>
<b>2.1.1. National Output:</b> National and local protection institutions have internal mechanism to promote gender equality for transform their cultural patterns and promote access of women to leadership positions
Building national and local institutional capacities for transforming their cultural patterns and promote access of women to leadership positions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluate capacities</li> <li>- Build quality institutional indicators</li> <li>- Build or improve institutional plans</li> </ul>
<b>Output 2.2: National and/or subnational coordination mechanisms are established and/or strengthened, have adequate resources and mechanisms for multi sectoral participation and inclusion of the most vulnerable women groups.</b>
<b>2.2.1 National output:</b> Mechanisms for coordination and integration is adapted to local governments, as part of the National Prevention System Management Model in order to strengthen the local protection system.
Implement the operating model for the National System to Prevent and Eradicate VAW, strengthening its integration at the local level (deconcentrated and decentralized management). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- System of management and evaluation indicators for the entire system, nationally and locally (process, results)</li> <li>- Mechanisms to detect and refer cases of gender-based violence against women to the System's institutions</li> <li>- Support strengthening of local protection networks</li> <li>- Design, edit, and layout a publishable version of the highlights of the Operating Model.</li> <li>- Publications (digital and hard copy, decided with the HR Secretariat)</li> </ul>

- Public discussion workshops locally (TBD) (rapporteurs' reports and communicational dissemination)
Standardize a single, general, applicable, scalable instrument for costing the operating model, at a deconcentrated and decentralized level (care for victims, penalties, prevention, reparations, and formulating and implementing local protocols and plans): - Workshops at the pilot GADs to gather information (Canton Boards) - Pilot programs with GADs
Output 2.3: Partners (parliamentarians, key governmental officials, and women's rights advocates) nationally and / or sub nationally have <b>greater knowledge, capacities, and tools on Gender-Responsive Budgeting</b> to end VAWG, including DV / VP
<b>2.3.1 National output:</b> The national catalog for public spending on gender equality has a specific system for reporting on VAWG and femicide
The public spending catalog reports the budget allocated and raised for VAWG and femicide: - Technical assistance to include indicators on VAWG and femicide in the spending catalog (gender classifier) - Training on using and applying the catalog (priority sector: selected GADs) - Training women for monitoring and societal oversight

Counterparts	Implementing partners
- Human Rights Secretariat - Ministry of Finance - Selected decentralized autonomous governments - Judicial Council	Civil-society organizations <sup>10</sup>

UNDP will be the **lead agency** for this pillar because of its experience in public administration, planning and methodologies to mainstream the gender approach, focusing on public policies to prevent, care for and eradicate gender-based violence and femicide in Latin America. Ecuador will take advantage of the experiences of the Spotlight in Argentina, El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico, where UNDP also fostered the of national systems for protection, inter-institutional coordination mechanisms for an integrated response and mechanisms to generate information and data on prevalence and incidence of violence against women and girls.

UNDP has the mandate to strengthen efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, participation and accountability of public institutions. One priority of UNDP's Strategic Plan is to reverse structural gender inequity, including the prevention of gender-based violence. The UNDP integrating role for Agenda 2030 will facilitate the connection between gender equality actions and the SDGs.

UNDP will coordinate actions with UN Women, responsible for developing the updated spending classifier for gender equality. UN Women has the necessary experience on gender-responsive budgeting methodology for all the Latin America Region and, in the case of Ecuador, developed, with the Women's Advancement institution (CONAMU) the spending classifier that will now be updated.

**Lessons learned:** UNDP developed the operating and coordination model for the Integrated National System to prevent and eradicate violence against women. On this basis, UNDP will continue supporting its implementation at local level.

UNDP is working on SDGs localization and it counts on good practices at local level related to governance, gender mainstreaming in planning instruments and citizen participation, especially with women's organizations. Local governments are often more open to adapt national policies, mechanisms or methodologies; generating impact and becoming scalable and/or replicable with other GADs.

The spending classifier for reporting the budget allocated to gender equality is an instrument

<sup>10</sup> *Spending catalog: agreement with civil society.* Civil-society organizations specializing in this area will be publicly invited to make their bids, and the best will be selected.



already being used by sectors of the Executive and by diverse levels of subnational governments. It requires an update to report on VAWG and femicide, including an application policy and guidance, based on the experience acquired at national level with the Ministry of Finance.

**Sustainability of the actions planned:**

The sustainability of Pillars 2 and 5 is based on international standards on equality, non-discrimination, and violence against women and girls in the Inter-American Human Rights System. Further, the pillars are based on the final Observations made for Ecuador by the CEDAW Committee, sustainability and they have been designed in the framework of SDGs 5 and 17.

Considering that Ecuador is in a pre-electoral year, the Spotlight Initiative will focus on building the institutional capacity and developing policies, norms and guidelines to sustain actions in response to VAWG, pursuant to the Constitution. The integration of national and local actors from CSOs will also guarantee continuity of actions.

**Priority groups:**

GADs and State institutions comprising the National Prevention System under the LOIPEVCM are the stakeholders for this pillar.

<b>BENEFICIARIES – PILLAR 2</b>		
	<b>Direct: Public Officials</b>	<b>Indirect: Women who use the protection system</b>
<b>Women</b>	300	2,974,699
<b>Girls</b>		
<b>Men</b>	100	
<b>Boys</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>2,974,699</b>

For direct beneficiaries, we used the same criteria as for pillar one. Indirect beneficiaries were estimated using the number of women age 15 and over who were habitual residents of urban and rural areas in Ecuador (Second National Survey, 2019), and taking 64.9% of them as victims of some form of violence.

**Inter-agency Coordination:**

The pillar will count on the technical support from UNFPA and UN Women and actions will be planned jointly to ensure resource optimization when processes can be combined. Actions will also be discussed within the UN inter agency group on gender.

**OUTCOME 3 – PREVENTION- CHANGE OF NORMS AND BEHAVIOURS**

*OUTCOME: Gender inequitable social norms, attitudes and behaviours change at community and individual levels to prevent violence and harmful practices against women and girls.*

**Theory of change**

If (1) we have a comprehensive prevention strategy that integrates:

- a) the education of future professionals in new forms of more equitable relations between women and men;
- b) mass communication outlets using new technologies with messages structured in a single production line;
- c) social mobilization actions to demand media production free of violence that deconstructs the gender stereotypes that make violence seem like something natural;
- d) actions by young violence preventers to understand and exercise individual and social



power to transform relationships and create protective environments to keep women and girls from having to live with violence, and reduce femicide.

Then (2) social norms, attitudes and behaviours that are favourable at the community, individual and social level will be promoted, generating respectful and egalitarian relationships that reduce violence against girls and women.

Because (3) initiatives for prevention coordinated among multiple stakeholders that reinforce each other can effectively change individual and sociocultural norms, including those that limit positive social valuing of female adolescents, women, and their sexuality, and which tolerate femicide.

### **Expected results and strategic priorities**

This pillar will serve as platform for coordinating current prevention initiatives. Based on data provided by the National Survey on Family Relations and Gender-based Violence (ENVIGMU 2019), this pillar will gather perceptions regarding VAWG and the cultural patterns that reinforce it. Additional information is available from evaluations of previous campaigns to prevent violence and promote new masculinities. Other past experiences in Ecuador that have mobilized the citizenry, communities, neighbourhoods, human rights advocates, organized women and other CSOs to prevent violence will also be analysed and integrated.

The contents of this pillar have been formulated with the ecological approach that itemizes inter-relationships among society, each community, each family and each individual, as well as factors that generate violence and the importance of addressing them all to prevent VAWG and influence change in cultural patterns (See above in Chart # 7).

These actions will be interconnected with the other pillars of the intervention. The proposed strategy includes actions in the fields of education, communication and social mobilization. An alliance with the academia will be fostered and media journalists will also receive capacity building to communicate on cases of VAWG and femicide.

Based on previous successful experiences and lessons learned, the pillar puts forward a comprehensive prevention strategy including a mass communication campaign and involving stakeholders at national and local level.

The strategy includes using a feminist tool of citizen mobilization, aimed at transforming attitudes and practices: a people's court will be held on femicide, with participation by high-level national and international experts who can contribute to positioning prevention as a fundamental element of social change to break free of socio-cultural patterns and stereotypes that reinforce VAWG and femicide. This People's Tribunal will have the value added that the paradigmatic cases selected and documented may be submitted to national or international courts, as has happened in other cases, and may thereby generate jurisprudence or serve as referents.

The materials produced in this pillar will be adapted to each target group, considering criteria such as: translation into the predominant indigenous language, sign language or braille language. Graphic design will also be essential to transmit key messages. The contents will be validated with women from the most vulnerable groups, who have suffered intersectional violence in their lives; criteria of ethnicity, age and disability will be prioritized.

For this Pillar, a comprehensive and sustainable GBV prevention strategy is proposed, due to operational and format reasons it has been broken down in independent activities, nevertheless they are interrelated also with other pillars, as detailed below:

**OUTCOME 3: Knowledge, attitudes and practices change in communities and individuals, to prevent VAWG and harmful practices.**



<p><b>Output 3.1: National and/or sub-national evidence-based programmes are developed to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviors, including on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in line with international standards, for in- and out-of-school settings.</b></p>
<p><b>3.1.1 National output:</b> Validated mechanisms to apply the policy to prevent and eradicate harassment and VAWG in the higher education system.</p>
<p>Strengthened academic participation in preventing GBV and femicide, under the national strategy to prevent VAWG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exchange experiences and good practices to determine progress</li> <li>- Action plan to implement basic mechanisms to operate the policy in higher education, and its protocols.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.2: Prevention platforms established/strengthened to promote strategies and programs (community dialogues, public information and promotion campaigns) about knowledge, attitudes, and practices with gender equity, including women's and girls' SDSR, self-esteem and transformation of harmful masculinities.</b></p>
<p><b>3.2.1 National output:</b> Designed, implemented and evaluated a comprehensive, innovative strategy to prevent VAWG and femicide.</p>
<p>The strategy will encompass communication, education, and social mobilization actions. <sup>11</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A mass communicational campaign, with an approach of non-violent masculinities, intercultural understanding, and accessibility, considering social diversities:</li> <li>- community radio stations; "timeless" material; using social networks.</li> <li>- Develop a computer App to prevent femicide, targeting women</li> <li>- Specialty training for journalists working with the mass media, in adequately handling information about violence against women and femicide, as well as for media production:</li> <li>- Prepare the specialty training</li> <li>- Review and adapt experiences implemented in other countries (Argentina and Mexico)</li> <li>- Design and apply the training</li> <li>- Political advocacy to influence editorial policy of private, public and community media (select media by relevance: local and national media).</li> </ul>
<p>Prepare and/or adapt the training methodology for young people who are preventers of VAWG and femicide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Map youth organizations</li> <li>- Implement training with the prepared methodology</li> <li>- Plan replication of the training received</li> <li>- Replicate that training</li> <li>- Plan sustainability</li> <li>- Prepare training and dissemination material to strengthen SCOs on new masculinities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.2.2 National output:</b> Implement local platforms for citizen mobilization with non-sexist communication (based on experiences tested by Civil Society in Ecuador)</p>
<p>Develop 3 local citizen platforms for citizen mobilization around media production for non-violence, integrating key stakeholders to implement the platforms (communication observatories)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Train for technical studies on mass media communicational items</li> <li>- Apply studies</li> <li>- Gather citizen mobilization strategies</li> <li>- Advocacy and integrating local governments</li> <li>- Transfer the methodology</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 3.3: Decision-makers in non-government institutions and informal key decision-makers are in a better position to advocate for implementation of legislation and policies to end VAWG, including DV /VP, and for gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviors and for the rights of women and girls.</b></p>
<p><b>3.3.1. National output:</b> Implemented a National Citizen Tribunal to prevent femicide and VAWG as a tool for citizen mobilization and transforming attitudes and practices.</p>
<p>Design and apply a grassroots tribunal on femicide to mobilize society around preventing VAWG and femicide:</p>

<sup>11</sup> All actions for this pillar fall under the comprehensive prevention strategy; however, for the purposes of reporting by output and by Spotlight indicator, activities have been distributed separately.





## Iniciativa Spotlight

Para eliminar la violencia  
contra las mujeres y los niños

- Identify and document paradigmatic cases to define critical nodes and prepare recommendations
- Select members of the National Citizen Tribunal
- Hold the National Citizen Tribunal

Counterparts	Implementing partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Secretariat of Higher Education, Science and Technology (SENECYT)</li> <li>- Council of Higher Education (CES)</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- CSOs working to prevent VAWG ad femicide</li> <li>- Universities of Cuenca, Portoviejo and Puyo</li> <li>- Neighborhood youth organizations / sports leagues</li> <li>- Local territorial committees to access justice.</li> <li>- CSOs working with masculinities</li> <li>- Women's organizations specializing in this topic</li> <li>- Citizen observatory of communication in Cuenca</li> <li>- Canton GADs</li> <li>- Universities in localities</li> <li>- Ministry of Education - deconcentrated (in selected cantons)</li> <li>- Council for Regulation, Development and Promotion of Information and Communication.</li> <li>- National Union of Journalists</li> <li>- Academic institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CSOs working with masculinities</li> <li>- Women's organization specializing in this topic<sup>12</sup></li> <li>- Citizen observatory of communication in Cuenca<sup>13</sup></li> <li>- Specialized advertising agency<sup>14</sup></li> </ul>

UNFPA will be the **lead agency** for this pillar, based on their expertise on gender mainstreaming and reproductive rights. Relevant experience on provision of services for care, prevention and justice related to sexual and gender-based violence will also serve the program. UNFPA's work emphasizes creating and promoting rights-based strategies with a cultural sensitivity approach; getting more men (adolescents, youth and adults) involved in preventing gender-based violence; and generating and systematically summarizing information to help better understand the magnitude of violence.

In this pillar, UNFPA will coordinate actions with UN Women, who will be in charge of implementing the activity on higher education policy, in coordination with the entities governing higher education; this will be based on their previous work in this area. Also, considering its expertise in social mobilization and strengthening women's organizations local strategic alliances, UNFPA will help construct local platforms for citizen mobilization.

**Lessons learned** highlight the importance of sustaining the participation of multiple stakeholders in prevention actions, in order to generate changes in cultural patterns at various social and generational levels. Involving youth and adult men will recreate prevention messages and contents around new scenarios of social coexistence, new masculinities, technological developments, and the country's diverse realities.

<sup>12</sup> Civil-society organizations specializing in this area will be publicly invited to make their bids, and the best will be selected.

<sup>13</sup>A methodological and budgetary proposal will be requested from the Citizen Observatory of Communication. This OCC is a coalition of 9 civil-society organizations, one of which will administer the contract. With 15 years of experience in this field, the OCC is the only one of its kind in Ecuador and has a proven track record. They have a published methodology and are about to publish the systematic summary of their last 15 years.

<sup>14</sup> An open call to bid will be made, and the best proposal will be selected.

### Sustainability of the actions planned:

Two elements will guarantee the sustainability of this pillar's activities. First, the involvement of youth, whether organized or not, as significant stakeholders who may become preventers of violence with their peers and in their immediate surroundings. Secondly, to generate communication outputs that are up to date but not time-bound, linked to existing policies and laws and State initiatives to prevent violence. These prevention materials produced under this pillar will also be accessible to women who have differentiated needs; accordingly, the material will be produced in the Braille system and in sign language for women with a visual or auditory disability.

### Priority groups:

The direct and indirect beneficiaries of this pillar include: adult women, adolescents and diverse girls at the local and national level; adult men, adolescents and boys from the zones selected and nationally; women – organized or not, rights advocates, men participating in CSOs who work against VAWG and femicide.

<b>BENEFICIARIES - PILLAR 3</b>		
	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Indirect</b>
<b>Women</b>	5,306,824	2,653,412
<b>Girls and adolescents (*)</b>	973,454	486,727
<b>Men</b>	2,599,781	1,299,891
<b>Boys and adolescents (*)</b>	1,017,393	508,697
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,897,452</b>	<b>4,948,726</b>

(\*) Population from 0 to 19 years of age

This estimate includes beneficiaries of all actions, emphasizing those who will directly benefit from Activity 3.2.1 regarding communication strategy and participants in Activity 3.2.2 about citizen platforms. We have calculated 60% of the total number of women who live with GBV and 30% for the rest of the population, since “boys and girls” covers quite a broad population from age 0 to 19.

For the indirect beneficiary population, this was calculated as half the direct beneficiaries, estimating that only half of each group will reach a person in their surroundings.

### Inter-agency Coordination:

This pillar will merge the efforts of UNFPA and UN Women, as the agencies that have worked on issues of gender equality and preventing violence as one of their outstanding mandates. The experience of the two agencies in advocacy will also be coordinated to achieve the national outputs for this pillar. UNDP will offer its technical assistance, through the Acceleration Laboratory, reinforcing the actions to achieve sustained change in cultural patterns regarding violence against women and girls.

### **OUTCOME 4 – Quality services with a focus on prevention and resilience**

This pillar will emphasize capacity building of health, judicial, and security (police) services, to prevent and eradicate violence against women, as well as capacity building of shelter-homes and centre for women experiencing violence.

Fundamental inputs to strength capacities for services implies: clear concepts, available guides, effective protocols and tools, and monitoring and evaluation system, as well as institutional mechanism to prevent VBG and femicide. Regarding the last input, this pillar includes the consolidation of the early warning system (EWS/SATF) to activate the alarm in local territories, and to develop the steps to respond to risk of violence and femicide before the event happens. The SATF will be operated by Ministry of Government and National Police, according Law provision. The SATF will be one of the milestones to improve access for women and girls to violence response



services<sup>15</sup>. During Spotlight Initiative implementation, the project will identify synergies with the SART, focusing on Ecuador's northern border, which has other characteristics regarding scope, location, and beneficiary population. In any event, Ombudsman Function is part of the National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women, situation that allows coordination, information, and data exchange.

Strengthening justice system considers training judges on new Law provision and to structure a system to evaluate judges who are responsible in the specialized Justice Units (VAW). Evaluating judicial officials (judges) will streamline and enhance the ongoing preliminary process. In 2014, UN Women, in alliance with the Gender Directorate of the Judicial Council, conducted the so-called "Laboratory of judicial rulings on violence against women and domestic violence". This methodology analyses whether a random sampling of judgments (in this case on femicide) satisfy a series of indicators aligned with the principles and standards of women's human rights and access to justice, such as non-revictimization, reparations and restitution, promptness, and due process. The findings from this analysis, the provisions of human resources department and judiciary norms on judges' performance were inputs to develop the qualitative and quantitative parameters to evaluate the performance of judges with jurisdiction over violence against women. Additionally, the Judicial Council has a systematic training process including up-to-date conceptual and legal issues that judicial official, including judges, must integrate into their practice. We will move forward to the next step, transforming these contributions into tools and internal procedure to evaluate judges.

Building institutional capacities to respond women experiencing violence, especially those are most vulnerable, implies to guarantee access to services to them. Therefore, this pillar has focused on overcoming barriers (geographical, physical, language issues, disability, age, culture among others) that limits access to services. Thus, inter-cultural criteria and girls care specific parameters will be included in protocols, guides, and communicational material for health, justice and security services.

A series of activities articulated to institutional training processes framed in the national policies are proposed. The proposal is aimed at providing institutional capacities and guidelines for care services according to the new legal framework. These services must be sustainable as required by LOIPEVCM Law; thus, this initiative will provide tools for the generation of sustainable processes due to the existing legal framework. In other words, once this project is completed, the institutions will continue their work with tools strengthened and guaranteed by the State and judiciary.

Women's economic empowerment actions aims to overcome the difficulties of prior initiatives that couldn't find the formula to make resource management effective, to contribute to women's financial independence and improve their self-esteem.

Part of the services to prevent and address VAW are the shelter-homes and centres caring women experiencing violence. Improving their services implies to update the management model to the Law provisions. This project will work with them in the selected cantons to contribute in this area, as well as, to contribute to enhance their institutional capacities to respond to the current health crisis because of Covid-19 pandemic scenario. This is relevant due women living in these shelters are unstable population, they could live in for a week or for a month; so, risk of infection is high. These services need to develop protocols, guides, methodologies and operation activities according the crisis necessities, and they need specific supplies to guarantee an accurate response. In addition, these shelters have increased the demand because VAW in this crisis has increased also.

An important course of action for this output is the capacity building on remote assistance for the personnel of the technical teams of centers and shelter homes in selected areas. For this purpose, UN Women, UNFPA and UNICEF along with the Secretariat for Human Rights, have initiated a process for the professionalization of technical teams in shelter homes and care centers for the provision of remote assistance in three different areas: legal, psychological and social. There will

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<sup>15</sup> SART is an early warning and response system implemented at Ecuador's northern border to prevent and manage crises resulting from human rights violations in that zone of the country; i.e. in a localized zone with a specific topic, built by the UNS and the Ombudsman Function with EU support. SATF is an instrument focusing on femicide that will have nationwide scope.

be a strong synergy among the assistance services and the activities promoted by the project.

On the other hand and considering changes in the scenario that have a direct impact on women victims of gender violence, a sound specialization of the teams to provide emergency response has been foreseen.

Undoubtedly, these are not minor challenges, to achieve quality services under the health crisis implies knowledge, sensitivity, creativity, goodwill and resources. We are considering all of them.

<b>OUTCOME 4: Women and girls who experience violence and harmful practices use essential services that are available, accessible, acceptable, and quality, including for long-term recovery from the violence</b>
<b>Output 4.1: The relevant governmental authorities and women's rights organizations, nationally and sub nationally, have reinforced their knowledge and capacities to provide essential services, well-coordinated and with good quality, including SRR services and access to justice for women and girls who have survived GBV, including DV and VP, especially those who are facing multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination</b>
<b>4.1.1 National output: Femicide Early Warning System designed and validated (FEWS).</b>
Apply the road map established by the FEWS costing to improve the proposal for implementation.
<b>4.1.2. National output: System to Evaluate and Punish performance by judges in enforcing national norms and international human rights standards in effect in the country, designed and validated.</b>
System to evaluate and punish performance of judges under international HR standards
<b>4.1.3. National output: Strengthened capacities in the health, security, and justice sectors (including access to psychosocial support) to adapt and implement the Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence and Femicide (including the response mechanisms to VAWG).</b>
Capacity-building to implement the Technical Standard for dealing with GBV in health (including access to psychosocial support):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare and implement training</li> <li>- Print the Technical Standard</li> </ul>
Apply the second training phase for the police to apply administrative measures and urgent actions to protect women and girls from violence in the 6 prioritized cantons
Design and implement guidelines and standards for quality of service provided to women from indigenous peoples and nationalities for cases of VAWG and femicide (cultural appropriateness):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intercultural dialogues to define guidelines</li> <li>- Consensus-building workdays for guidelines</li> <li>- Prepare the document</li> </ul>
Technical assistance to implement the package of essential services for the justice sector
<b>Output 4.2: Women and girls are survivors of GBV, including DV and VP, and their families are informed and have access to quality essential services, including services and opportunities for recovery in the longer term.</b>
<b>4.2.1 National output: A mechanism designed for the economic empowerment of women who have been victims of violence including the financial system</b>
Design a mechanism for economic empowerment for VAWG:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Train on economic opportunities, business management, labor rights and obligations</li> <li>- Develop business plans</li> <li>- Technical and financial assistance</li> <li>- Psycho-social assistance</li> </ul>

**4.2.2 National output: Strengthened the model for managing shelter homes in the selected cantons, including new capacities to address VAWG in crises/emergencies.**

- Update the management model for shelter homes about VAWG:
  - Review the status of implementing the existing management model
  - Identify critical nodes
  - Design the implementation guide
  - Distribute the implementation guide
- 
- Adapt the protocol for action in addressing emergencies and providing basic inputs (COVID-19):
  - Train for emergency care
  - Provide edu-communicational material
  - Provide basic inputs
  - Adapt protocols

Counterparts	Implementing partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- National Police</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> <li>- Ministry of Health</li> <li>- BEDE</li> <li>- Central Bank</li> <li>- Shelter homes for battered women</li> <li>- Organizations of indigenous peoples and nationalities</li> <li>- Organizations of Afro-Ecuadorian women</li> <li>- Organizations of <i>Montubia</i> women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shelter homes for battered women<sup>16</sup></li> <li>- CSOs specializing in the top-priority issues for quality services.<sup>17</sup></li> </ul>

UNFPA will be the lead agency for this pillar and its fundamental input will be the “Package of essential services for women and girls experiencing violence”, which systematically summarizes the fundamental services that health-care, legal, police and social services must provide in order to offer quality care to women and girls who turn to their services because of violence. This document pulls together guidelines to improve processes and mechanisms for inter-institutional coordination, as well as to guarantee quality standards and to facilitate accessibility.

UNFPA has experience working with multiple State stakeholders: Ministries, Secretariats, Directorates for Health, Judicial, and Social inclusion, among others; and led the regional program of “Essential Services for women and girls who have been victims of violence”.

UN Women and UNFPA will work jointly with the Judicial Branch because of their prior experience with in this arena, to ensure coherence in the intervention. In the specific case of UN Women, the proposal for evaluation and punishment will be developed in harmony with international human rights instruments. Spotlight will enable an essential action that was curtailed because of a lack of resources. In addition, UN Women will be responsible jointly with the Ministry of Government to SATF develop, based in its previous experience in this area.

Another action handled by UN Women will be updating the shelter-homes management model to align it to the LOIPVCM, as well as developing capacities to accurate response to health crisis (COVID -19)

**As lessons learned,** different levels of public officials must be involved in training processes to

<sup>16</sup> Care centers and shelter homes for women who are victims of violence will be invited to make a proposal. Jointly with them, we will work on a proposal that will then be administered by one of the houses under the agreements reached with them.

<sup>17</sup> Guidelines for culturally relevant care: agreement for organization of society.



ensure that installed capacities will remain even though institutional changes are implemented. It is important to work for multi-sector participation to motivate effective coordination mechanisms in a highly complex problem situation such as VAWG and femicide.

UNFPA, under the Program of Essential Services has provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Health and to the Judicial Council to develop public policy instruments in the light of international standards, to improve access by women and girls to well-coordinated, quality, multi-sector essential services.

UN Women has worked with the Judicial Oversight Council during a decade. In 2019, UN Women developed indicators to evaluate performance of judges regarding VAWG and femicide. In another sphere, UN Women contributed to develop the first operating model for shelter-homes and their methodology to break the cycle of violence; this joint experience is the base to move on a second phase.

**Sustainability of the actions planned:**

The proposed actions are framed in agreements with main institutions providing services to address violence and are anchored to institutional obligations. The government agencies that are counterparts for this initiative have committed their political will to provide the framework of institutionalization required for sustainability. With respect to civil society, sustainability is guaranteed by the women's organizations commitment with eradicating VAW

**Priority groups:**

Public servants in justice, police and health sectors; women, adolescents and girls in diversity, including those living with disabilities and those belonging to indigenous peoples and nationalities and to the Afro-Ecuadorian and *montubio* peoples, as well as women, adolescents and girls who use shelter homes.

<b>BENEFICIARIES – PILLAR 4</b>		
<b>Staff</b>		
	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Indirect</b>
<b>Police</b>	600	3000
<b>Justice</b>	250	100
<b>Health care</b>	250	100
<b>Financial system</b>	100	50
<b>Shelter homes</b>	50	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>375</b>

This estimate is based on the direct and indirect beneficiaries from previous processes.

<b>BENEFICIARIES – PILLAR 4</b>		
<b>Users of the services reinforced</b>		
	<b>Direct</b>	<b>Indirect</b>
<b>Women</b>	2,211,177	1,105,589
<b>Girls and adolescents (*)</b>	162,242	81,121
<b>Men</b>		
<b>Boys and adolescents (*)</b>	169,566	84,783
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,542,985</b>	<b>1,271,493</b>

(\*) Covers the population from age 0 to 19

This estimate includes people using health-care, judicial, police, shelter-home, and financial system services. We have calculated 25% of the total number of women who live with GBV and 10% for the rest of the population, since “boys and girls” covers quite a broad population from age 0 to 19.



For the indirect beneficiary population, this was calculated as half the direct beneficiaries, estimating that only half of each group will reach a person in their surroundings.

#### **Inter-agency Coordination:**

In this pillar, UNFPA and UN Women will coordinate closely because their actions are complementary. Therefore, they will use a shared resource such as the Package of essential services, and they will complement each other's expertise in the areas of inter-cultural understanding which UN Women has emphasized in their work.

### **OUTCOME 5 – DATA MANAGEMENT TO INFORM POLICIES AND PROGRAMS FOCUSING ON VAWG AND FEMICIDE**

*OUTCOME: Quality data, disaggregated and comparable worldwide regarding different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, compiled, analysed, and used according to international standards to inform laws, policies, and programs.*

#### **Theory of change:**

If (1) mechanisms for measurement and methodologies for collecting data about VAWG including femicide are improved and strengthened

If (2) the capacity of national institutions responsible for gathering disaggregated data on VAWG and femicide based on global standards are strengthened and

If (3) disaggregated data (including data on age, ethnic group, geographical zone, socio-economic status, and disabilities whenever possible) are accessible and disseminated for use by decision-makers and civil society

Then (4) laws, policies and programs will be evidence-based and better able to respond to the specific context and realities of women and girls, including the most marginalized ones

Because (5) these initiatives quality, disaggregated, comparable data.

#### **Expected results and strategic priorities:**

Ecuador was one of the region's first countries to have statistics on gender-based violence, from the first National Survey on Family Relations and Violence against Women in 2011. This survey was updated in 2019. It makes a fundamental contribution to complying with the LOIPEVCM's provisions for national and local governments to perform their responsibility to improve data quality, considering international and inter-American ethical standards for compiling, using, and publicizing such data. Data must consider the intersections of factors in violence and must be disaggregated into variables that accurately portray the country's reality.

This pillar will contribute to pillar 2, expecting that the main information mechanism to orient public policies, the National Register of Violence (RUV), will begin generating data. Although this poses a major challenge, the Spotlight Initiative will help standardize some institutional statistical platforms. This will be the first time that local governments have their own standardized data to guide their policy making and planning to prevent, address, and eradicate VAWG and femicide.

Analysing national and local data is expected to more accurately understand violence, victims, and aggressors, beyond age and sex, also by ethnic self-identification, disabilities, socio-economic, cultural, educational factors, etc. This information is expected to prove useful for a range of stakeholders: State, civil society, women's organizations, human rights advocates, etc.; and contributing to strengthening public policies, legislation, and enforcement of rights. In coordination with other pillars, it is expected that this pillar 5 will provide inputs for the contents on prevention established for pillar 3; will ground actions planned in pillar 1 and 2; and support what will be done in pillar 4 and 6.

Technical assistance is also proposed to construct the indicator for femicide, which will add value to public policies, since better understanding the problem will enable the government to compare information and respond in favour of women, girls and adolescents who are survivors or victims of

violence or in conditions of vulnerability that place them at risk of being exposed to violence. To publicize the indicator, we will discuss with the CSOs who comprise the Alliance for Mapping and Monitoring Femicides in Ecuador, one of which is the Latin American Association for Alternative Development (ALDEA).

The filter indicator (gender of the active subject (male) and gender of the passive subject (female); homicide is committed by – at least – one male) must be constant. The other main indicators (Relationship between the active and passive subjects), and contextual indicators (certain characteristics such as excessive violence; ongoing violence and special conditions of vulnerability by the victim's gender) are not exclusive or limiting. However, including them to determine when a death is a femicide entails probing and eliminating the conditioning that makes violence seem natural. Therefore, a process of sensitization and training must enable understanding of how serious the phenomenon of violence is, which could result in femicide. These indicators must be assessed contextually, bearing local realities in mind. This activity will yield important information for decision-making and constructing policies and norms to prevent and eradicate this problem. Further, it will yield comparable data among the region, which has been detected as an imperious need, to generate regional agreements to back national legislation on femicide.

In order to develop the Single Register of Violence (RUV), it is fundamental to work with the dialogue mechanism organized by the State, in which CSOs are part of. In this context, the project will provide support to improve their data collection and analysis capacities related to femicide and required for their advocacy work.

**OUTCOME 5: Quality data, disaggregated and comparable regarding different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, compiled, analyzed, and used according to international standards to inform laws, policies, and programs**

**Output 5.1: Key partners, including the technical players who are responsible for relevant statistics, service providers in the different ministries and under-secretariats of the State and women's rights advocates, have strengthened their capacities to regularly gather data regarding VAWG including DV/VP, in line with international and regional standards**

**5.1.1 National output: Strengthened the first phase of building the National Register of Violence and the indicator of femicide**

- Technical assistance for the first phase of implementing the RUV
- Building capacities of statistical technicians and personnel responsible for the register, to generate data
- Improving administrative records / instruments to standardize institutional files
- Map the geo-referenced records (instrumentalized)
- Have the computer program for this process
- Training guide: geo-referencing and consigning intersecting data (Baseline)
- Validate the training guide
- Workshops to improve skills and knowledge
- Exchange experiences

Technical assistance to develop the femicide indicator on the basis of consensus with Civil Society:

- Workshop strengthening of CSOs' capacities on data collection and management
- Dialogue groups to exchange knowledge among key institutions
- Infographs to use in advocacy and training activities developed by CSOs

Assisting the first phase of constructing the RUV with GADs will:

- Design and implement a system of collecting information about cases of gender-based violence to complete the Register of Violence Against Women.
- Transfer capacities to GADs to implement protocols to detect, assess risk, inform, and refer women under the guidelines derived from the RUV





<p><b>Output 5.2: Data on quality about the prevalence and/or incidence of VBG, including DV/VP, are analyzed, and made available to the public for monitoring and reporting on the MDG objective.</b></p>
<p><b>5.2.1 National output:</b> Generated studies and strategic information forums on VAWG and femicide to inform decision-making</p>
<p>Analytical study of the findings from the VAWG 2019 Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quantitative analysis of findings</li> <li>- Qualitative analysis</li> <li>- Prepare 24 documents</li> <li>- Design and layout</li> <li>- Publish and distribute</li> </ul>
<p><b>5.2.2 National output:</b> Mechanisms for quality data analysis and monitoring strengthened to inform public policy and contribute to strengthening the National System</p>
<p>Conduct specialty studies on socioeconomic and cultural contexts of femicides, to determine socioeconomic profiles for femicide perpetrators and victims, with an intersecting approach</p>
<p>Technical assistance to strengthen the National Observatory for violence against women (Art. 16 of the Law on Violence):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conceptual and methodological framework</li> <li>- Research defined in the Observatory</li> <li>- Protocol for integrating with system institutions</li> <li>- Validate the information</li> <li>- Coordinate the RUV</li> </ul>

Counterparts	Implementing Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- National Prosecutor's Office and its Technical Committee</li> <li>- Ministry of the Interior and National Police</li> <li>- National Gender Equality Council</li> <li>- National Institute Statistics and Census</li> <li>- Civil-society Organizations that are experts in this area</li> <li>- Universities</li> </ul>	<p>Academia<sup>18</sup> CSOs that belong to the Alliance for Mapping and Monitoring Femicides in Ecuador</p>

UNDP is the **lead agency** for this pillar because of their experience in capacity-building, and methodological transfer to generate and manage data in line with the activities to be done under Pillar 2. This pillar strengthens the Integrated National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women and enhance the quality of disaggregated about VAWG.

The action of analysing the findings of the Survey on Domestic Violence will be coordinated with UNFPA and with UN Women.

**Lessons learned** from constructing the System Operating Model and technical assistance on methodologies about violence against women that reinforce this pillar are the evidence-based policy advocacy initiatives that enable decision-makers to ground their political to prevent and eradicate VAWG and femicide. The investment in generating data means progress toward constructing and strengthening State mechanisms and advocacy by CSOs to position this issue

<sup>18</sup> The institution will be selected by an open call to bid, and the best bid will be selected.

strongly on the agenda of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches.

UN Women has contributed by preparing the first data analysis workbooks in the Domestic Relations Survey done in 2011. The experience has been considered a good practice, so this activity will be done with the findings of this new survey.

**Sustainability of the actions planned:**

The proposed actions are framed in agreements with the institutions responsible for gathering data on the prevalence and incidence of VAWG and femicide in Ecuador. Strengthening this area will build the democratic institutions addressed in Pillar 2. This pillar will also encourage civil-society participation, mainly by organizations that are experts in gathering and analysing data on femicide and already belong to the intersectoral coordination mechanisms working on VAWG and femicide.

The actions proposed for this pillar are built based on prior commitments agreed by the institutions overseeing the gathering of data on prevalence and incidence. Further, the actions of this pillar are complementary to those proposed in Pillar 2 and both contribute to strengthen democratic institutions. For example, the capacities on planning and budgeting linked to the protection system will enable the coordination that will yield quality data.

Civil society participation will be encouraged, mainly involving organizations that are experts in collecting and analysing data on femicide that are already part of these coordinated mechanisms.

**Priority groups:**

Public servants responsible for managing statistics on VAWG and femicide; decision-makers; adult women, adolescents, and girls.

<b>BENEFICIARIES – PILLAR 5</b>		
	<b>Direct: Public servants</b>	<b>Indirect: Women who use the protection system</b>
<b>Women age 15 and over</b>	300	2,974,699
<b>Girls</b>		
<b>Men</b>	100	
<b>Boys</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>2,974,699</b>

The same criterion was used as in Pillar 2.

**Inter-agency Coordination:**

The three agencies will coordinate their activities as they flow together under the different pillars, each from their own expertise and always with technical support on the issues that are part of their mission.

**PILLAR 6 – WOMEN’S MOVEMENT AND OTHER CIVIL-SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, STRENGTHENED FOR ADVOCACY FOR THE ERADICATION OF VAWG AND FEMICIDE**

*OUTCOME: Women’s rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing young people and groups facing multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, influence and advance more effectively in gender equality, women’s empowerment, and eliminating VAWG.*

**Theory of change:**

If (1) grassroots women are organized around specialized oversight mechanisms that reinforce monitoring of State action and contribute to empowering them to demand their rights,  
If (2) the women’s movement integrates with civil-society organizations such as community and



neighbourhood groups to promote actions to prevent violence and create healthful spaces in their localities,

If (3) the leadership of women from grassroots organizations is strengthened on addressing violence against women, in society's most excluded sectors, whose indicators of violence are the highest, such as for indigenous and Afro-descendant women,

If (4) women's organizations and women who care for women who are victims of violence and dependents of victims of femicide build their capacities and conditions so they can assure their own self-care,

Then (4) this will build and expand the critical mass of the women's movement and their allies to confront violence through innovative joint actions in policy advocacy to elicit responses, and in direct action to generate spaces free of violence for women and girls,

Because (5) activism by women's rights organizations, autonomous societal movements and civil-society organizations is a crucial driver of progress in efforts against VAWG and femicide.

### **Expected results and strategic priorities:**

Women's participation has gotten public policies built and laws enacted to prevent and eradicate violence. Their social mobilization is strategic to generate or bolster decision-makers' political will, but is also fundamental to influence local settings: communities, neighbourhoods, training, and participation. Therefore, it is fundamental to contribute to building networking, to strength local citizen oversight (Users' committees as proposed in the LOIPEVCM), to sustain leadership training, and to help to develop the appropriate tools for advocacy and strategic litigation to reinforce social action vis-à-vis government decision-making agencies (national and local). Self-care is not a minor issue; it enables women to improve their physical and mental conditions during personal and collective change regarding VAWG and femicide.

Further, it will enable women to participate in all their diversity. This is a cross-cutting aspect of all pillars, to materialize in specific, concrete actions to achieve the established national outputs.

The User Committees (**Cus**) will be comprised of women representatives of different CSOs and women representatives of the territories involved; this is ensured since the oversight will be carried out in the care services placed in their own territories (not in those placed in others regions, cantons or provinces). The model guiding this process is the one stated in the former LMGYA and its strategies will be adapted and updated at local level.

In the case of leadership schools, the right to a life free of violence and femicide related topics will be incorporated in the curriculum of existing schools in the target territories for the capacity strengthening of indigenous and Afro-descendant women. The contents to be included result from similar experiences with organized women in other territories. Moreover, the contents will be validated in two schools that were identified by this initiative (Afro-descendants and indigenous nationalities); hence, the contents will be defined based on the needs of each area, language, culture and other socio-cultural characteristics of the target group of women in this process.

After these interventions, it is expected that the women's movement will be strengthened, having had the possibility of updating their knowledge within the current legal framework, with networks strengthened despite the diversity of their points of view; and able to position VAWG and femicide as priority issues, on other organizations' and other sectors' organizational, community, educational agenda, etc.; and to lead alliances to enforce women's rights. The women's movement will be recognized as a key stakeholder in decision-making about VAWG and femicide and local or national authorities will consider women's organizations as essential partners for forecasting / planning, for accountability.

Finally, the UN's role and that of the agency leading this pillar will be to build bridges for dialogue between women's organizations and other CSOs to construct participatory, inclusive processes, policies, and norms to guarantee women's rights, specifically the right of living free of violence.



**OUTCOME 6: Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing young people and groups facing multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination / marginalization, influence and advance more effectively in gender equality, women's empowerment, and eliminating VAWG**

**Output 6.1: Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs have increased opportunities and support to share knowledge, establish contacts, associate, and advocate jointly for gender equality, women's empowerment, and eliminating VAWG, including DV/VP, sub nationally and nationally**

**6.1.1 National output:** Networks of women's and Civil-society organizations, especially neighborhood and community ones, at their different levels of intervention to prevent and eradicate femicide and other forms of VAWG, mobilize for a life free of violence.

Help prepare an integrated agenda of women's networks with Civil-Society Organizations that advocate for human rights:

- Involve women's organizations from 3 selected localities
- Train on intersecting and strategies for shared agendas
- Define partner organizations (neighborhood/community organizations not specializing in women's rights)
- Bilateral advocacy meetings with CSOs to incorporate the VAWG and femicide approach on their agendas
- Dialogue workshops with selected organizations not specializing but involved
- Train and sensitize partner CSOs
- Determine joint issues
- Develop joint agenda and advocacy strategy

**Output 6.2: Organizations of women and CS strengthened to use accountability mechanisms as part of actions for advocacy and influence for VAWG prevention and response, including DV and VP, and more broadly gender equity and women's empowerment.**

**6.2.1 National output:** Committees of users<sup>19</sup> in the implementation of the General Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (LOIPEVCM) have capacities for oversight and recording progress in four services to deal with VAWG pursuant to Law.

Technical assistance and advice to form 10 users' committees, which will include diverse women from the different territories:

- Prepare the instrument for analysis in health, justice, and rights protection boards
- Train women
- Prepare and provide reports as feedback to authorities

**Output 6.3: Women's and CS organizations, including groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination and marginalization have built their capacities to implement and monitor their own programs to eradicate VAWG including DV and VP**

**6.3.1 National output:** Leadership training schools for indigenous and Afro-descendant women, strengthened with conceptual and methodological knowledge to prevent and eradicate femicide and VAWG *previous organizing experiences and women's priorities*.

Develop and apply material about addressing VAWG to prevent femicide:

- Integrate training proposal for indigenous and Afro-descendant women's leadership schools based on previous experiences accomplished by leadership's school and on women's priorities
- Apply the entry profile
- Implement the module/subject
- Apply the exit profile

**6.3.2 National output:** Societal organizations with stronger capacity for public and political positioning from the strategy to prevent and eradicate VAWG and femicide

Build capacities of women's organizations in public / political advocacy, media training to prevent VAWG and femicide

Build capacities of women's organizations in strategic litigation to address VAWG and femicide.

<sup>19</sup> Users' committee are groups of citizens created under the norms of the LOIPEVCM Law.

Capacity-building of women's organizations on self-care and crisis response (COVID-19 or others)

Counterparts	Implementing partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Network of shelter homes for battered women</li> <li>- <i>Cabildo</i> of Women in Cuenca</li> <li>- Network of Women in Portoviejo.</li> <li>- Women's organizations</li> <li>- Organizations of Afro-Ecuadorian women</li> <li>- Organizations of indigenous women</li> <li>- Organizations of <i>Montubia</i> women</li> <li>- Organizations of women with disabilities, from the selected cantons</li> <li>- Neighborhood / community organizations</li> <li>- Canton Boards for Protection</li> <li>- GADs</li> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> <li>- Ministry of Public Health</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Antisuyo WarmiKuna Amazon Leadership School</li> <li>- National Afro-Descendant Women's Leadership School</li> <li>- Women's movement</li> </ul>	<p>Women's organizations specializing in the topics of training or other priority activities<sup>20</sup></p>

**UN Women** will lead this pillar because of their previous longstanding work with women's organizations and other national and local civil-society organizations. This close relationship has made it possible to contribute to progress with their organizational agendas through technical assistance and close mentoring. At the same time, women have been effectively involved under equal opportunities for leadership, as an ongoing exercise in political, economic, and public decision-making.

Taking an active part in capacity-building with women and their organizations has yielded a lesson learned, that full participation legitimizes democratic accountability and contributes to inclusive State agendas.

Women's CSOs comprise people with life experiences in social mobilization, with clear discourse about their reality and their needs; this expertise must be reinforced with technical knowledge for advocacy.

UN Women will coordinate with UNFPA to train women in strategic litigation.

**Sustainability of the actions planned:**

With adequate knowledge and tools, women can channel their proposals impactfully, grounded in sound data/information, to State decision-makers. This will ensure greater impact by their actions and sustainable long-term results, for their organizations and for society, but above all for women's lives.

This pillar will build capacities for leadership, advocacy, strategic litigation, media training, and self-care, as an array of inputs contributing to collectives and to individuals.

**Priority groups:**

**BENEFICIARIES PILAR 6**

<sup>20</sup> An open call to bid will be made so civil-society organizations specializing in these two issues (one tender per topic) so they can participate and submit their proposals.



## Iniciativa Spotlight

Para eliminar la violencia  
contra las mujeres y los niños

	Direct	Indirect
Women	2000	4000
Girls (*)		800
Men		
Boys (*)		800
<b>Total</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>5600</b>

BENEFICIARIES PILAR 6 Shelter staff		
	Direct	Indirect
Women	50	100
Girls (*)		100
Men		50
Boys (*)		100
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>350</b>

These are priorities for women's organizations and their members who represent ethnic and generational diversities, women with disabilities, etc. Alliances will be established with local organizations (provincial, cantonal or parish-level) in the selected zones, which have strengths in the areas planned under this pillar, and actively involved in the other pillars.

### Inter-agency Coordination:

The three allied agencies will maintain ongoing coordination while implementing each of the pillars, and for Pillar 6 will make sure to involve women's CSOs in the complementary activities.

### III. Alignment with SDGs and National Development Frameworks

The Ecuadorian Government, the European Union (UE) and the United Nations System are committed to pursue the nation's development goals and to link them with Agenda 2030; so, they work harmoniously to achieve significant progress under this integrated framework.

In this context, the Spotlight Initiative is an opportunity to pave the way towards the Sustainable Development Goals, in connection with the 17 SDGs, and to promote their joint application, according to the partnership model. In Ecuador, the Initiative will contribute in particular to achieving the following Goals: SDG 5 (Gender equality), SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and SDG 16 (Justice and strong institutions). The Initiative will also pursue inter-sectoral planning. The Spotlight Initiative owns and promotes the principles associated with the SDGs: the human rights-based approach, the universal nature of those rights, and the commitment to "leave no one behind".

The Spotlight Initiative will contribute, along with other projects under way, to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2019-2022 (UNSDCF). It will contribute specifically to Direct Outcome 1, on *access to quality services and social protection and improved resilience, promoting gender equality and reducing violence*, linked to SDG 5 and to Direct Outcome 4, *institutions strengthened and coordinated to favour public action and citizen participation to protect rights, consolidate a democratic society, of peace and equality*, linked to SDGs 11 and 16.

Both the SDGs and the Outcomes of the Cooperation Framework are aligned with Ecuador's National Development Plan, particularly with the following goals: Goal 1 (*Guarantee a decent life of dignity with equal opportunities for all persons*); Goal 2 (*Affirm*



*inter-cultural understanding and pluri-nationality, revaluing diverse identities); Goal 7 (Incentivize a participatory society, with the State close by service to the citizens); Goal 8 (Promote transparency and co-responsibility new social ethics) and Goal 9 (Guarantee sovereignty and peace, and strategically position the country in the region and the world).*

In the framework of the above agreements and goals, UN Agencies in Ecuador as well as the EU, are pursuing a series of projects and initiatives for gender equality and to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls and coordinate their interventions in the mentioned Inter-agency Gender and Human Rights Group (GTI-GDH) involving 10 Agencies of the System<sup>21</sup>. The Spotlight Initiative will join the efforts under way, becoming an opportunity for catalytic coordination for actions specifically focused on combatting VAWG.

#### IV. Governance Arrangements in Ecuador

The Spotlight Initiative in Ecuador will involve political and technical coordination. The multi-stakeholder Steering Committee will be co-chaired by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Ecuador (representing both institutions promoting this Initiative, the UN System and the EU), with the Human Rights Secretariat, as the government entity responsible for implementing the Integrated General Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (LOIPEVCM).

The main mission of the multi-stakeholder Steering Committee will be to ensure the Program's alignment with national priorities established through the Human Rights Secretariat, in line with national norms and international human rights standards. Particular emphasis will be put on the right to live a life free of violence, as enshrined by international agreements adopted by Ecuador. The Steering Committee will also guarantee the alignment with the recommendations made by the follow-up mechanisms of the international legal agreements such as the Observations made by the CEDAW Committee and those made by the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women. The Committee will also ensure the Program integrates with Agenda 2030 and with the Sustainable Development Goals and with the Beijing Action Platform's sphere D. The Committee will make its decisions under the principle of leaving no one behind. Finally, the Steering Committee will ensure the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative's guidelines.

The multi-stakeholder Steering Committee. This Committee is a supervision and strategic leadership body for top-level decision-making. Its membership will involve the following institutions:

- Human Rights Secretariat (SDH), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility (MREMH) and National Gender Equality Council;
- Resident Coordinator of the United Nations system in Ecuador;
- Head of the European Union Delegation;
- United Nations Agencies implementing the Spotlight Initiative: UN Women, UNFPA and UNDP;
- At least two (2) representatives of civil society<sup>22</sup> designated by women's organizations, who have a background in addressing violence against women, girls, and adolescents.

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<sup>21</sup> UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHRC, WFP, IOM, UN Women, UNHCR, FAO and WHO/PAHO (and the Office of the Resident Coordinator).

<sup>22</sup> Thereby ensuring that the civil-society representatives represent at least 20% of the Committee's membership.

Whenever needed, the multi-stakeholder Steering Committee may invite other interested parties to participate in the Committee's activities, such as planning activities, decision, and supervision. A similar participation mechanism is nowadays already in place with respect to the Vice Presidency of the Republic. This latter shall be invited to take part in the over mentioned Steering Committee because of its active role played in preventing and eradicating VAWG, along with other local and/or private-sector stakeholders who include the eradication of VAWG among their priorities.

The Steering Committee's main task will be to guide and supervise the implementation of the country's Spotlight Program by performing the following functions and responsibilities:

- Support participatory Program implementation at the national level, ensuring its alignment with national priorities and the strategic programming frameworks of the United Nations and the European Union.
- Approve the Program's annual work plans and review its results, indicating any necessary adjustments for successful implementation.
- Assure adequate communication and coordination of the Spotlight Initiative nationwide.
- Review and approve the Program's reports submitted by the United Nations implementing agencies.
- Approve any program or budget amendments approved by the Operational Steering Committee within the Program Document's limits.
- Review risk management strategies and guarantee that the Program manages and mitigates risks pro-actively.
- Manage relationships with interested parties, country-wide.

A Technical Committee (TC) will also be established for technical strategic advisory assistance as a quick-moving mechanism for decision-making process about key issues that are relevant for the overall technical consistence of the Program, from the point of view of its impact, sustainability and adequate management.

The Technical Committee's members will be: a technical specialist from UN Women; a technical specialist from UNFPA; a technical specialist from UNDP, the Coordinating Officer (OCR), the Spotlight Coordinator, and the European Union technical officer designated as the Spotlight focal point.

This Committee will meet at least every three months and whenever specific circumstances require a meeting. The Committee will be directed by the Officer of the Agency providing technical leadership for the Initiative in Ecuador (UN WOMEN); she will work based on consensus with the other RUNOs and other Committee members. Further, the UN WOMEN Official must involve, and keep the UN Coordinating Officer (OCR) constantly informed, who will summon the Committee's meetings and facilitate inter-institutional and inter-agency communication and coordination during Committee meetings and also between these latter.

The Committee, as an inter-agency body, will make sure of the Initiative's programmatic coherence and integration with the UN and agencies' cooperation frameworks (including coordination with the Inter-Agency Gender and Human Rights Technical Group - GTI-GDH) and with the principles governing the Spotlight Initiative.

The Committee will also be responsible for mobilizing the necessary experience and knowledge for greater and better project impact and providing advisory assistance to decision-makers (Steering Committee) and technical-strategic guidelines for the





Program's Technical-Operational Coordination Unit, to ensure an adequate and a timely Program implementation. The Committee will also assure pro-active involvement of the EU in its activities through regular consultations and by sharing technical<sup>23</sup> and/or political-institutional communications<sup>24</sup> with the competent officers working for the European Union Delegation (the Human Rights Officer or Head of Cooperation in the Delegation).

The Technical Committee's tasks include:

- Orienting the Program Coordinator on monitoring planned goals and on managing the Program (e.g., review and preapproval of annual work plans and monitoring reports).
- Approving technical proposals submitted by the different RUNOs, ensuring the consistency and integrity of the Initiative as a whole, and guaranteeing a common implementation strategy with all the involved institutional partners. Attention will be put on assuring the logical connection between activities so that they can achieve the prospected results.
- Follow-up activities in relation to financial disbursements to payee agencies, orienting their efficient and effective implementation.
- Reviewing the risk management strategies and guaranteeing that the Program manages and mitigates the risks proactively.
- Promoting, if deemed necessary, adjustments in the implementation strategy.
- Assuring coordination of the communication strategy implementation and advocacy of the Spotlight Initiative<sup>25</sup>, including the dissemination of success stories and lessons learned. This activity will be carried out in close collaboration with the European Union to ensure harmonious and consistent communication between the UN and the EU.
- Advising the knowledge management strategy<sup>26</sup> of the Spotlight Initiative, assuring that all these activities are correctly monitored, evaluated, and documented.
- Reviewing risk management strategies and guaranteeing that the Program manages and mitigates risks and conflicts proactively.
- Overseeing the coherence of all the relationships built with national counterparts and, if a joint resolution of issues relevant to Program implementation (or conflicts) is needed, gather and discuss with counterparts and/or key implementing partners of the Program in order to find a common shared solution.
- Assuring coherence and synergies with existing programs and, if needed (e.g., regarding phase II), developing a resource mobilization strategy, assisting the RC.
- If required, the Committee will provide technical and administrative support for the organization of meetings called by the National Steering Committee.
- Identify the implementing partners through an open or restricted call to bid, establishing an evaluation committee comprising the Agencies and the EU.
- Monitoring and following up on projects.

National Civil-Society Reference Group (GNRSC): This mechanism is designed to incorporate the participation and experience of civil-society organizations into the Spotlight Initiative. This happens mainly through their advisory assistance given in relation to the country Program. GNRSC functions include:

- Providing advisory assistance on current issues involving femicide and gender-

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<sup>23</sup> Through the UN WOMEN Officer or the Initiative Coordinator, as decided.

<sup>24</sup> Through the UN WOMEN Officer or the Coordinating Officer, as decided.

<sup>25</sup> Reinforcing the Coordinator's role in this process.

<sup>26</sup> Reinforcing the Coordinator's role in this process.



- based violence, and on the strategies and actions of the Spotlight Initiative.
- Providing an opportunity for dialogue and common learning between the Spotlight Initiative and women's rights organizations working on VAWG.
  - Providing other relevant information, analysis and lessons learned, to inform on current or future Program activities.
  - Advocating for and partnering with actions to achieve Program goals, particularly, contributing to the Initiative's advocacy and public communication activities.
  - Providing feedback for the Spotlight Initiative Country Program's Technical and Steering Committees<sup>27</sup>.

The Reference Group members will be selected nationwide, providing diverse representation of societal organizations with well-recognized background in promoting and protecting the rights of women, girls and adolescents, with practical experience practice in prevention and care for cases of violence against women, and with capacities for advocacy and coordinating work with government institutions and other civil-society organizations.

This group will meet regularly (every 6 months) with the Technical Committee. The group may request the Technical Committee to organize extra meetings with the Program Coordination team, when they feel that the latter is not achieving the proposed purposes and goals, or when the circumstances and context oblige them to review new strategies for intervention. In both cases, the request for extra meetings shall be based on evidence.<sup>28</sup>

On the other hand, the Technical Committee may invite the GNRSC to hold a meeting when unforeseen situations are affecting Program implementation.

**Governance Structure:**

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<sup>27</sup> Through their representatives (at least two) on the Steering Committee and regular meetings between the GNRSC and Technical Committee

<sup>28</sup> Reinforcing the Coordinator's role and responsibilities in this process



## V. Accountability:

The project's governance bodies and their roles and functions have been described in the prior section (Governance Arrangements). Therefore, this section will summarize the functions corresponding to each of the stakeholders involved in managing and implementing the project, in terms of management, and technical and operational roles. This will refer back to the guidelines established by the Spotlight Initiative for accountability.

### **UN Resident Coordinator:**

- Co-chairs the Country Steering Committee (on behalf of the UN System and of the EU), facilitates top-level political and institutional collaboration and dialogue among UNS Agencies, with Ecuadorian Government Representatives, with the European Union Delegation (Ambassador) and with civil-society representatives from the GNRSC.
- Makes sure that Spotlight has top-level political backing and acts as its Spokesperson for reporting on progress (e.g., to the UN Under-Secretary-General) and positioning relevant messages (e.g., at events for communication/visibility requiring his or her presence).
- As co-chair of the Steering Committee, supervises Program implementation, from a top-level strategic and institutional perspective, approving, based on evidence and inputs provided from the technical level<sup>29</sup>, key decisions for project management and funding. During the start-up

<sup>29</sup> UN WOMEN, as the Program Lead Agency, will be responsible for keeping informed and advising the RC about project technical



phase, approves the Program Document and confirms the role of RUNOs and of implementing partners. Subsequently, approves technical and financial reports to be submitted to global governance mechanisms of the Spotlight Initiative to other high-level national and international bodies).

- Intervenes in conflict resolution, when the Technical Committee cannot resolve disputes.
- Plays a key role in building alliances and partnerships, as well as in leading<sup>30</sup> resource mobilization to complement those received by the EU (i.e. for a possible second phase).

**UN fund-receiving agencies (RUNOs):**

All RUNOs work jointly and collaboratively to achieve the Program's strategic outcomes and each has specific roles and responsibilities.

In Ecuador, the three Agencies involved in the Spotlight Initiative (UNWOMEN, UNDP and UNFPA) are, at the same time, *(Co) implementing Agencies and Lead Agencies for some Pillar*.

As **Implementing Agencies**, they are in charge of contributing the annual Program planning, of implementing programmed activities (according to the joint work plan) and of the respective follow-up; they promote monitoring and coordination with partners; they report programmatic and financial progress, following the guidelines defined in the following documents: *Spotlight Global MOU* and the *Spotlight Operational Manual*.

Further, as **Pillar Lead Agencies**, they must coordinate implementation of programmatic activities for each pillar, to maximize their coherence, quality and coordinated impact.

From this standpoint, and in constant coordination with the Joint Program Lead Agency (UN WOMEN) and with the Program coordinator, they monitor the pillar's progress and results; they provide (to the Program coordinator and the UN WOMEN official who leads the technical committee) key, coordinated information about the pillars under their responsibility, they prepare the respective technical and financial reports; (if necessary) they represent the other Agencies involved in the Pillar vis-à-vis the Technical Coordinating Office to address specific challenges for that pillar; they promote and facilitate collaboration among the Agencies participating in that pillar, in order to provide coordinated technical assistance to partners.

Leadership for the different pillars has been defined as follows:

- Pillar 1- UN WOMEN
- Pillar 2- UNDP
- Pillar 3- UNFPA
- Pillar 4- UNFPA
- Pillar 5- UNDP
- Pillar 6- UN WOMEN

So that each Agency can thoroughly play this dual role in the Program's short implementation time (18 months), the current installed capacities in each Agency will be complemented by Spotlight funds, providing: a) one technical focal point, 100% dedicated to following up on the whole set of Spotlight activities, for each Agency; b) one administrative assistant per Agency, to help with relevant administrative and financial aspects.

To improve coordination and coherence, these persons, although assigned to each Agency, will report, at the same time, to the Program Coordinator, since they will be an integral part of the Program Technical-Operational Coordination Unit (and, in fact, they will share working space with the Unit's members).

**UN WOMEN** will be the **Agency that leads the overall Program, technically and operationally**. It will be responsible for ensuring the Program's wholeness and overall technical coherence, as well as coordination and synergies among its pillars and technical contributions by each Agency.

While it also plays an operational coordination role, UN WOMEN will also be the agency receiving

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progress and challenges and advise the RC on the basis of evidence, regarding decisions to be made in this regard. This will be assisted by the Officer from the ORC participating on the technical committee, who will facilitate and ensure proper inter-agency coordination and its connection with implementation aligned to results-based management (MBR).

<sup>30</sup> On the basis of the resource mobilization strategy developed by the Technical Committee.



funds for common and/or cross-cutting activities throughout the Program (e.g., common project management costs, joint activities for monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management and communication, and activities by the GNRSC).

Accordingly, UN WOMEN will be the Agency responsible for supervising and guaranteeing the quality and coherence of these activities: a) monitoring and preparing evaluations; b) communication and visibility; c) knowledge management; and d) support for the GRNSC.

Day-to-day operational implementation of these common and cross-cutting program activities will be among the tasks performed by the Project Coordinator (and by the Technical-Operational Unit, under his/her direction), but he/she will be supervised by UN WOMEN, specifically by the Official leading the technical group. Both the UN WOMEN Official and the Coordinator will have the responsibility of reporting on progress and challenges in these shared matters to the Technical Committee, so that Committee can make consensus-based decisions.

This reporting mechanism and method of coordination and decision-making will also be adopted for issues having to do with coherent, integral, effective and impactful project implementation: implementing agencies provide information and inputs about the activities they handle, the Program Coordinating team consolidates it all and, coordinating with the Senior Official from UN WOMEN, will bring up evidence-based analyses and proposals for the Technical Committee to make consensus-based decisions.

Because of the array of general leadership activities for the Program described above, UN WOMEN has been allocated a higher proportion of resources than to the other two implementing Agencies (30% to UNDP and UNFPA and 40% to UN WOMEN of the Programme Outcome Costs).

#### **Technical-Operational Coordination Unit:**

The technical-operational Coordination Unit will work directly under the Program Coordinator<sup>31</sup>, who will take part in technical decision-making and who has the responsibility to implement Program guidelines derived from the analysis and performance of agreements with higher levels of governance.

The UN Women officer responsible for this initiative will maintain a direct line of communication and coordination with the EU officer for this issue, and ensure their feedback as the process proceeds. The Unit has the responsibility of implementing the annual plan, completing budget implementation (guaranteeing proper budget use), preparing quarterly planning for follow-up, monitor for management by results, preparing the necessary documentation for evaluations, and implementing the knowledge management strategy (including developing conceptual and methodological instruments). It also has the responsibility to know and apply the Spotlight implementation guidelines and comply with procedures.

The Unit has the responsibility to implement the annual plan, complete budget implementation (guaranteeing proper budget use), prepare quarterly planning for follow-up, monitor for management by results, prepare the necessary documentation for evaluations, and implement the knowledge management strategy (including developing conceptual and methodological instruments). It also has the responsibility to know and apply the Spotlight implementation guidelines and comply with procedures.

1. *A Coordinator:* He/she will coordinate the Program's programmatic and operational activities; and coordinate and supervise progress by the United Nations Agencies involved in achieving the different outputs established in the six pillars of Spotlight for Ecuador. He/she will maintain technical relations with counterparts and with partners directly involved in the initiative. In coordination with UN WOMEN, he/she will assure communication with the European Union about programmatic aspects of the Initiative. In coordination with UN WOMEN, he/she will advise the CR about Program management.

As the person responsible for Program implementation, follow-up and monitoring, he/she may raise warnings about difficulties in progress of components as planned; and make sure narrative and financial reports are prepared, in coordination with the technical and finance

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<sup>31</sup> Who will, in turn, work under the supervision and orientation of the UN WOMEN Official designated to coordinate and oversee the overall Program.



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personal assigned to the project. The Coordinator is in charge of managing resources under policy and technical guidelines and priorities, participating on behalf of the Program the technical and operational meetings required to implement the project, guaranteeing coherence in mechanisms for implementation and Program discourse.

He/she will also coordinate design and implementation of the Program's knowledge management strategy, and its Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. Finally, in coordination with the Communication Specialist, he/she will supervise the implementation of the Program's communication strategy.

2. *A Communication Specialist*, under the Program Coordinator's supervision, will implement the chosen communication strategy, and be in charge of managing the Program's communication needs; he/she will work collaboratively with RUNOs' communication officers (who will provide inputs and advisory assistance) and with the focal point Spotlight and the officer responsible for communication and visibility from the EU Delegation.
3. *A Coordination administrative assistant*: This person will be devoted full-time to the Program's administrative and financial management, under the supervision of and supporting the Program Coordinator.
4. *Three technical focal points (one per RUNO)*: Will be responsible for accompanying direct implementation of each Agency's activities and planned according to the common work plan agreed upon with implementing partners and counterparts. They must also regularly report on progress and, if necessary, resolve substantive issues in planning and consult about any hurdles that cannot be resolved at their decision-making level. They will have a double reporting line, answering for their work to the official in charge in their Agency and, at the same time, to the Program Coordinator, who has the authority to coordinate focal points' work, assuring the achievement of the Program's shared aims.
5. *Three administrative and financial assistants (one per RUNO)*: They will work as a team with their Agency's technical focal point. They must make sure of administrative and budget management, continually reporting expenses according to the procedures established by each Agency. They must supervise coherent implementation of activities and budget and report on the process that is under way. They will prepare regular financial reports according to the reporting requirements for the Spotlight Initiative.

## VI. RUNO(s) and implementing partners:

At the end of each pillar, Section II (Programme Strategy) lists the counterparts and partners to implement each pillar. As specified in that Section, implementing partners will mainly be chosen by open call to bid (or by invitation from a short list when the issue is highly specialized), selecting the best bid and respecting each Agency's Procurement procedures.<sup>32</sup>

The selection criteria for implementing partners will be their experience in these issues (VAWG and femicide), the specialized technical knowledge in the specific area (communication, prevention, laws, public policy, research, etc.) and other competencies that guarantee quality outputs, among other criteria.

UN WOMEN	
Roles in Spotlight	UN WOMEN, as the Agency designated to lead and technically orient the overall program, will be responsible for ensuring the Initiative's quality and technical coherence, fostering coordination among the different pillars, and tapping synergies with initiatives pursued by the State and by Ecuadorian society regarding VAWG and femicide. Further, UN WOMEN will lead pillars 1 and 6.
Summary of the	UN WOMEN has given priority to work to prevent and eradicate

<sup>32</sup> See Section II for further details about the activities that partners will implement in each pillar. The selection modality is also specified for each.



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<p>comparative advantage to contribute to Spotlight</p>	<p>violence against women and girls since its creation in 2010. Through UNIFEM, it has been present in Ecuador since 1993. It has worked in close collaboration with the Ecuadorian Government and with civil society on the national normative framework in favor of women, girls and the LGBTBIQ collective. It has ample experience in work to support and integrate networks with national and subnational entities.</p>
<p>Operating Capacities</p>	<p>In Ecuador, it has the following <b>personnel</b> with expertise specifically relevant to Spotlight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an Official who is a specialist in VAWG and in mainstreaming the gender approach within the Government (30 years of experience).</li> <li>- a Program Analyst, in charge of monitoring the UN Women Office (10 years of experience with UN Women)</li> <li>- a Communications Associate, with 6 years of experience in UN Women office.</li> <li>- a Program Associate who has 10 years of experience with UN Women.</li> </ul> <p>These 5 professionals will provide direct technical assistance to Spotlight (% of their time).</p> <p>Another two specialists present in the office may also provide their expertise, but not full-time, focused on this program as a priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an expert in eliminating VAWG, in public policy, and caring for victims (15 years of experience);</li> <li>- a Specialist in Economic Empowerment (25 years of experience).</li> </ul> <p>In operational work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an Operations Associate (20 years of experience with UN WOMEN) and this person will also provide direct assistance to Spotlight.</li> </ul> <p>If necessary, the national UN WOMEN office can receive specialized technical advisors from the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. The advisor from the Regional UN WOMEN office for a life free of violence, in addition to having vast experience in preventing and eradicating VAWG, has specific experience with the Spotlight Initiative, as part of the design and implementation process for proposals in the region.</p> <p>In 2019, the <b>budget</b> implemented by the Agency was approximately 2.5 million USD (cf. the summary table at the end of this section for further details).</p>
<p>Positioning in Ecuador and Programmatic Capacities (VAWG)</p>	<p>UN WOMEN has worked in close collaboration with the Ecuadorian Government and with civil society in preparing and approving the national norms for gender equality, has provided technical assistance to prepare and approve the <b>General Comprehensive Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence Against Women</b> (LOIPEVCM, February 2018). In this area, the Agency has also supported and coordinated work among public, private, and civil-society entities.</p> <p>The <b>Safe Cities and Public Spaces for Women and Girls Program</b> has been implemented in Quito (2016), it is actually under way in Cuenca, and will be integrated in Guayaquil; local governments and women's organizations are the main partners for this program's implementation.</p> <p>The Program directly addresses prevention and access to services, contributing to generating a favorable environment for a legislative and normative framework in accordance with international standards on eliminating violence and other forms of discrimination. It also contributes to empowering women for access to services to recover from violence. The Program's main partners are the Ministry of the Interior and the National Police.</p>



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<p>Relations with key programmatic partners for Spotlight</p>	<p>The main partners in the Government with whom the Agency has a broad, consolidated relationship are the National Council for Gender Equality (the national machinery for women's advancement), the Human Rights Secretariat, Ministry of the Interior, National Police, National Assembly, Council of Judicial Oversight and Local Governments. These partners are key for design, implementation and sustainability of activities and expected outcomes proposed in the Initiative's different pillars. UN WOMEN has a longstanding relationship with women's movement organizations, with the network of shelter centers and homes, and with organizations of indigenous and Afro-descendant women. For the Spotlight Initiative, the Agency will provide direct technical assistance and facilitate activities and coordination with all kinds of counterparts, including the private sector and women's and civil-society organizations. Since women's and civil-society organizations are essential for advocacy and social oversight, UN WOMEN will provide technical assistance to build their specific capacities regarding VAWG. Implementing NGOs (Implementing Partners), in addition to being in charge of implementing certain Program activities for a sustainable, participatory approach, will provide for coordination among the State, women's movement and other CSOs. Specific civil-society organizations and the NGOs that will play a role of implementation partner will be identified on the basis of their specific expertise with regards to the activities approved for the Spotlight Initiative.</p>
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### UNDP

<p>Roles in Spotlight</p>	<p>UNDP is a co-implementing Agency for the Program (RUNO). It will also lead pillars 2 and 5. Its main programmatic function will be to strengthen the national and local protection system, as it has done in other Latin American countries that are also implementing the Initiative.</p>
<p>Summary of the comparative advantage to contribute to Spotlight</p>	<p>UNDP has worked in Ecuador since 1964 with public institutions, local governments, the private sector, CSOs and academia. It has technical, operational, and financial capacities to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities and exclusion. UNDP also assists the country in its efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. UNDP's new Strategic Plan identifies six foremost solutions, one of which is gender equality and women's empowerment. Fighting violence against women and girls is a priority if the country is to achieve sustainable development. UNDP has experience working together with United Nations agencies and funds, including UN WOMEN, UNFPA, UNICEF, WF, ILO, World Bank, CAF, and IDB. UNDP's work in Ecuador has strengthened public policy and decentralized autonomous governments, building democratic institutions, planning to prevent violence against women and girls. UNDP has collaborated with CSOs, such as the FARO Group, Esquel (citizen participation), and FFLA (SDGs). It has strategic alliances with universities such as FLACSO and UASB for studies on citizen security and Agenda 2030.</p>
<p>Operating Capacities</p>	<p>In Ecuador, UNDP has the following <b>personnel</b> with expertise specifically related to Spotlight: -<i>One program officer</i> who is an expert in public administration, and democratic governance (24 years of experience)</p>





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	<p>- <i>One specialist/advisor</i>, in gender, VAWG, public policy and sustainable development, who technically coordinates UNDP's specialized working groups and provides strategic advisory support to the Representation and coordinators of technical and operational areas (10 years of experience).</p> <p>- For innovation, UNDP has an <i>Acceleration Laboratory for Ecuador</i> to help the country explore innovative solutions to prevent and eradicate VAWG. Two staff of the Laboratory will provide part-time assistance to the Spotlight Initiative.</p> <p>Additionally, a <i>Gender Focus Group (GFG) comprising the coordinators of the technical and operational areas</i> (governance, economic development, environment, communication, HR, operations) of UNDP who have the capacities and skills for management and planning with a gender approach; an <i>inter-area group / committee</i> to work on the initiative of the Corporate Gender Equality label governed by the Ministry of Labor; a <i>focus group to support</i> issues of preventing sexual harassment, and preventing sexual abuse and exploitation (GFSH/SEA), which has the role of orienting the country team to implement institutional policies and the Secretary-General's guidelines.</p> <p>Institutionally, UNDP in Ecuador has its <i>2019-2022 Gender Equality Strategy</i> which gives priority to actions to eradicate VAWG, placing UNDP's expertise at the country's service, with its coordinated work and strategic alliances within the System (Common Chapter) and outside it.</p> <p>- <i>UNDP Ecuador participates in the Internal Gender Equality Seal</i> and has an action plan to mainstream gender, with quality standards in line with UNSAWP, applied to programmatic and operational areas, thereby guaranteeing sustained processes to implement specific programs and projects for eradicating VAWG and mainstreaming this issue in the program areas of Democratic Governance, Inclusive Economic Development, Risk Management, Environment, and Energy.</p> <p>- Complementing the country-level expertise on VAWG, the UNDP country office can source technical advisors from the Regional Center of UNDP-RBLAC. At the Regional Office, UNDP has a leader of the gender team who works alongside the Regional Coordinator of Projects on Violence Against Women and Girls on such initiatives. The Coordinator also has specific expertise with the Spotlight Initiative, advising countries on designing and implementing their proposals.</p> <p>In 2019, the <b>budget</b> implemented by the Agency was approximately 21 million USD (cf. the summary table at the end of this section for further details).</p>
<p>Positioning in Ecuador and Programmatic Capacities (VAWG)</p>	<p>UNDP in Ecuador is participating in a pilot project: "<i>Building State institutional capacities</i>" in alliance with the Latin American Development Bank (CAF). This regional project is being implemented in two other countries, Peru and Argentina. Here in Ecuador, UNDP is working in alliance with the Human Rights Secretariat and has developed the first output, regarding the "<i>Operating Model for the National Integrated System to Prevent and Eradicate violence against women</i>". The second output consists of developing <i>costing for the operating model and for national public policy</i>. UNDP has offered technical assistance to the Ministry of the</p>



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	<p>Interior (early warning and conflict prevention), the Police (good monitoring practices), the Ombudsman Function (rights-based approach and Agenda 2030), the Institute of Statistics and Census (measuring the SDGs), and the Planning Secretariat (national and local planning).</p> <p>UNDP is also helping the Ministry of Labor design the operating model for the Regional Corporate Label on Gender Equality for Public and Private Enterprise to adopt plans and actions fostering women's empowerment and eliminating discrimination and abuse in the public and private corporate workplace.</p> <p>UNDP, under the leadership of the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Production, and a strategic alliance with UN WOMEN, have developed a comprehensive assessment for the situation of women in the Amazon region, which contains information focused on VAWG. UNDP has provided assistance to the National Electoral Council on eradicating political gender-based violence, in coordination with and under orientation by UN WOMEN.</p>
<p>Relations with key programmatic partners for Spotlight</p>	<p>Regarding State institutions, UNDP has collaborated with such partners as the Human Rights Secretariat, the Vice Presidency, the Technical Planning Secretariat, Ministry of Economics and Finance, Central Bank, Judicial Oversight Council, GADs, INEC, and Universities. This will facilitate not only the planned capacity-building activities, but also collaboration by these entities in gathering data and implementing other activities and strategies, as well as potentially resource mobilization.</p> <p>UNDP collaborates with Civil Society organizations working in the prioritized cantons for strengthening the Local Protection System. And at the National level, UNDP is strengthening its alliance with organizations of experts in data collection and data management on femicide. It will also emphasize its work with Universities, which have scientific installed capacities in gender and violence studies, to produce quality research to complement data gleaned by the Second National Survey on family relations and gender-based violence against women in 2019, and data on incidence.</p>

### UNFPA

<p>Roles in Spotlight</p>	<p>UNFPA is a Program Co-Implementing Agency (RUNO). It will lead pillars 3 and 4.</p>
<p>Summary of the comparative advantage to contribute to Spotlight</p>	<p>For over thirty years, UNFPA has led or been part of a number of inter-institutional initiatives at the national and regional level, including the Program of Essential Services, as well as leading globally and nationally the Area of GBV Responsibility in humanitarian and emergency contexts (GBV AoR).</p> <p>In Ecuador, UNFPA participates actively in eradicating gender-based violence and all harmful practices, including child marriage and early marriage, which is one of the three main transforming outcomes of the Strategic Plan of the United Nations Population Fund for 2018 to 2030.</p>
<p>Operating Capacities</p>	<p>In Ecuador, UNFPA has the following <b>personnel</b> with expertise specifically relevant to Spotlight:</p> <p>UNFPA's country office has a total staff of 16; three (3) technical officers are in the sexual and reproductive health program; gender, intercultural understanding, and human rights; and humanitarian aid and youth.</p> <p>The entire staff has received training on gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), Human Rights (HR), and <i>Protection from sexual Exploitation and Abuse</i> (PSEA). UNFPA has three local offices along the northern border with Colombia: Carchi,</p>



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	<p>Sucumbíos, and Esmeraldas provinces.</p> <p>Among UNFPA staff, the following persons will dedicate part of their worktime to the Spotlight Initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A Programme Specialist</li> <li>- A Communications Associate</li> <li>- An Administrative Assistant.</li> </ul> <p>To complement the experience with gender-based violence, the country office will have the support of technical advisors from LACRO on gender equality, and adolescents and youth, especially. In 2019, the <b>budget</b> implemented by the Agency was approximately 2.1 million USD (cf. the summary table at the end of this section for further details).</p>
Positioning in Ecuador and Programmatic Capacities (VAWG)	<p>UNFPA implements programs and significant actions in Ecuador to prevent and provide holistic response to victims and survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), incorporating innovative issues such as addressing non-violent masculinities, research on GBV situations and disabilities. Its work includes supporting local GBV networks of Civil-Society Organizations, governmental and judicial agencies. UNFPA also provides technical assistance for the National Assembly, the Ministry of Public Health, the Judicial Oversight Council, and local governments, to help incorporate women's HR standards into national and local norms. It works to strengthen youth organizations and help develop community training methodologies on Sexual and Reproductive Rights (SRRs), GBV, and sexual and reproductive health.</p>
Relations with key programmatic partners for Spotlight	<p>UNFPA's partners include the agencies responsible for GBV and Gender, such as the Human Rights Secretariat and the National Gender Equality Council (CNIG), and civil-society organizations grouped into local networks, especially along the Northern Border, and national feminist organization networks committed to Sexual and Reproductive Rights.</p> <p>UNFPA will build its alliances with its strategic partners in this country to ensure adequate implementation and sustainability for the Initiative.</p>

Contribution of RUNOs' Staff to Spotlight	% of time (average in 18 months)
<b>UNWOMEN</b>	
Programme officer	30%
Programme Analyst (M&E)	15%
Communications Associate	20%
Programme Associate	15%
Operations Associate	15%
<b>Total Value UNWOMEN</b>	<b>142,960</b>
<b>UNFPA</b>	
Programme Specialist	25%
Communications Associate	25%
Administrative Assistant	10%
<b>Total Value UNFPA</b>	<b>52,109</b>
<b>UNDP</b>	



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Head of Experimentation - Accelerator Lab	15%
Head of Solutions Mapping - Accelerator Lab	15%
Programme Officer	15%
Gender Specialist	60%
Specialist in Communication	5%
Financial Assistant	10%
<b>Total Value UNDP</b>	<b>108,612</b>
<b>Total Value RUNOs</b>	<b>303,681</b>

Overall annual programme delivery (in USD)			
RUNO	2019 Budget		
Agency	Programmed	Implemented	Percentage implemented
UN Women <sup>33</sup>	2,573,792.35	2,465,249.36	95.78%
UNDP	22,000,000	21,100,000	95.91%
UNFPA	2,202,379	2,117,210	96.15 %

## VII. Partnerships:

The European Union Delegation played a very important role in the Program's design phase, accompanying the UNS in all relevant stages of consultation, particularly in the design workshop with civil-society organizations and the multi-actor validation workshop.

This last workshop was attended by the EU Ambassador in Ecuador, who, along with the acting Resident Coordinator and the Resident Representatives of the other UNS Agencies, introduced and participated in the debate, along with a broad representation of governmental institutions, media, academia and the private sector and with different Ecuadorian civil-society organizations, selected to represent their thematic, territorial, and ethnic-cultural diversity and differentiated needs.

Additionally, we have shared preliminary planning for the Initiative's different stages with the EU Delegation's Officer in charge of Spotlight. A series of exchanges and bilateral meetings have also been held through the UNS Resident Coordinator's office and the technical team of the RUNOs involved in the Initiative. The EU delegation has provided useful insights and comments to the draft proposal.

As part of these exchanges, information has been requested about the EU's existing programs, in EU Member Countries or with other cooperation partners, to identify possible synergies and complementarities with each pillar of the Program.

Since Spotlight is a Joint Initiative between the UN System and the EU, constant communication and coordination will be maintained, technically, politically, and institutionally, and for spokesperson purposes.

The Spotlight Initiative in Ecuador was constructed with ample participation by governmental institutions, civil-society organizations and the women's movement, pursuing the principle of "leaving no one behind", with representatives of collectives of women affected by multiple forms of

<sup>33</sup> In the case of UN WOMEN, implementation is programmed through 31 October 2019, according to information available from this Agency's last budget.



discrimination and who are more exposed to violence. This work was done alongside the European Union and consulting (through the International Cooperation Gender Working Group (Megeci))<sup>34</sup>, with cooperation partners who are greatly involved in assisting Ecuador in preventing and eradicating violence against women.

The participatory formulation of the proposal gave priority to involving stakeholders from different sectors, with an eye to highly representative, diverse perspectives on this issue to be addressed by the Initiative, technical contributions based on experience, and promoting these stakeholders' engagement during Program implementation.

This has all enabled the Spotlight Initiative to integrate the LOIPEVCM's provisions and those of other national instruments on the subject, and to incorporate the progress and lessons learned from previous multi-stakeholder efforts in Ecuador, and the vast experience of the feminist movement and of civil-society organizations working on this subject. It has also involved new stakeholders in the reflection about VAWG, especially the media, academia, and the private sector.

For this purpose, in February and March, a series of meetings and consultations were held in three stages of formulation: a) identifying major needs in the context of existing challenges, b) deciding on the Program's strategic lines and priority actions; c) validating the Program's preliminary proposal as described herein. Attachment 1, "Multi-stakeholder engagement" describes these consultations and the stakeholders involved in detail.

This participatory, multi-actor approach will continue throughout Program implementation, making room for the National Civil-Society Reference Group (GNRSC) to play an active role, and eliciting exchanges and feedback from all partners determining the Program's success. This will be done through the project's ordinary governance mechanisms and through extra meetings, as required.

Additionally, since Spotlight is a Joint Initiative between the UN System and the EU, constant communication and coordination will be maintained with the EU, technically, politically, and institutionally, and for spokesperson purposes.

An alliance with the private sector will be taken into account. The Agencies participating in this initiative have expertise in generating and coordinating alliances with the private sector, in order to strengthen gender equality issues and to ratify commitments derived from direct alliances with women's organizations and other CSOs.

Finally, queries to the international cooperation agencies on Megeci will continue, to establish more precise ways to coordinate and create synergy, and regular communication mechanisms about progress and opportunities that the Spotlight Initiative opens for coordinated work.

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<sup>34</sup> The answer to the query to Megeci about current projects involving VAWG is attached.

## VIII. Programme's Results Matrix

### PILLAR 1

**OUTCOME 1: Public policies and legal frameworks for all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, evidence-based, aligned with international human rights standards, implemented, and taken into account in planning**

**Outcome indicators:**

- 1.1 Ecuador has laws and policies on VAWG/HP that adequately respond to the rights of all women and girls, including exercise/access to SRHR<sup>35</sup>, are evidence-based and in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations
- 1.2 National and/or sub-national evidence-based and costed action plans and M&E frameworks on VAWG/HP that respond to the rights of all women and girls and are developed in a participatory manner
- 1.3 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

**Output 1.1 National partners have built capacities to assess gaps, reinforce or update existing policies and legislation to eliminate violence against women and girls (VAWG).**

**1.1.1. Specific national output:** There is a policy for institutionalizing the National System to Prevent and Eradicate VAWG in its diverse forms.

Indicators	Ref.	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
1.1.1 Number of draft new and/or strengthened laws and/or policies on ending VAWG and/or gender equality and non-discrimination developed that respond to the rights of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination and are in line with international HR standards	1 consensus-based policy proposal	Define a draft proposal, prepared intersectorally: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feedback workshops with CS,</li> <li>- Feedback workshops with relevant State sectors</li> <li>- Multi-stakeholder validation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat.</li> <li>- National Equality Council.</li> <li>- Local, provincial and canton decentralized governments.</li> <li>- Provincial women's organizations.</li> </ul>	<b>UN WOMEN</b> UNFPA	There is a document on the operating model.

**1.1.2 National output:** There are four consensus-based draft proposals to amend four legal norms regarding eradicating VAWG and femicide (CONA, COOTAD, COIP and

<sup>35</sup> SRHR will not be a specific focus of Ecuador's Spotlight Initiative.

COFJ).					
Indicators	Ref	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
1.1.1 Number of draft new and/or strengthened laws and/or policies on ending VAWG and/or gender equality and non-discrimination developed that respond to the rights of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination and are in line with international HR standards.	4 (1 the first year and 3 the second)	Direct technical assistance to the National Assembly for legislative processes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Help draft proposed amendment according to the legislative agenda for laws related to VAWG and femicide</li> <li>- Working meetings with the National Assembly (Parliamentary Group for Women's Rights)</li> <li>- Working sessions with Civil society</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Assembly</li> <li>- CSOs specializing in the selected fields</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN UNFPA UNDP	Inter-agency mechanism for legislative technical assistance to mainstream the gender approach
<b>1.1.3 National output:</b> Adapted and piloted the National Protocol for Criminal Investigation of Femicide based on the Latin American Protocol for Investigating women's violent deaths (femicide)					
Indicators	Ref	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
1.1.1 Number of draft new and/or strengthened laws and/or policies on ending VAWG and/or gender equality and non-discrimination developed that respond to the rights of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination and are in line with international HR standards	One protocol adapted	Technical assistance for the combines executive and judicial commission to adapt the Protocol: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comparative review and analysis of the national protocol versus the Latin American protocol</li> <li>- Define gaps and similarities in protocols' investigation process</li> <li>- Prepare the proposal for adaptation</li> <li>- Validate and pilot the adapted protocol.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- Prosecutor's office</li> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN	Ecuadorian Government adopted a Protocol in 2016 but it was not adapted.
<b>1.1.4 National output:</b> Participatorily designed policy for reparations to victims of VAWG and dependents of victims of femicide.					
Indicators	Ref	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
1.1.1 Number of draft new and/or strengthened laws and/or policies on ending VAWG and/or gender	One policy designed on a	Assistance to design the reparations policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legal analysis comparing with the Belém do Pará standards and other referents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> </ul>	UNDP	LOIPEVCM Institutional, administrative,

equality and non-discrimination developed that respond to the rights of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination and are in line with international HR standards	consensus basis for reparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compile and classify information on judicial and administrative processes and mechanisms for restitution, indemnification, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition.</li> <li>- Identify institutional competencies and coordination mechanisms within the respective National System.</li> <li>- Design the proposal</li> <li>- Validate the proposal</li> <li>- Identify a standard mechanism.</li> </ul>			and judicial mechanisms
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**Output 1.2:** National partners have increased capacities to develop and finance evidence-based national and/or subnational action plans to end VAWG

**1.2.1 National output:** The National Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Violence Against Women and Girls and femicide is validated and has a system to monitor and follow-up on its implementation

Indicators	Ref	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
1.2.1 Number of draft evidence-based national and/or sub-national action plans on ending VAWG developed that respond to the rights of groups facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination with M&E frameworks and proposed budgets	1 National Plan validated 1 M&E instrument	Cooperation in the third phase of constructing and validating the national plan and preparing the monitoring and evaluation system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare and validate the final document</li> <li>- Public virtual discussion platform for validating the document with institutions of the Integrated National System to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women, and women's organizations and other CSOs</li> <li>- Construct monitoring and evaluation instruments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Civil-Society Organizations</li> <li>- Selected Decentralized Autonomous Governments (GADs)</li> </ul> In coordination with Open Government entities	UN WOMEN	National Plan in effect  There is no monitoring and evaluation system for the National Plan.

**Output 1.3:** National, subnational, and/or regional partners have more knowledge about human rights and promoting policies and laws to guarantee the rights of women, CSOs and human rights advocates to move forward in their agendas

**1.3.1 National output:** Increased number of women who are rights advocates with the capacity for advocacy and promotion of laws and policies focusing on preventing and eradicating VAWG, with priority for ethnic diversity and accessibility.



Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
<p>1.3.4 Number of women human rights defenders with strengthened capacities to contribute to the development of laws and policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSOs and women human rights defenders to advance the human rights agenda</p>	<p>60 women and 6 mechanisms for organizational and inter-institutional coordination</p>	<p>Edu-communicational products to socialize laws, policies and key messages on VAWG and femicide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pedagogical mediation of the Plan and international standards on women's rights</li> <li>- Dissemination and awareness rising about the Plan, the Law, and international standards for preventing and eradicating VAWG in women's organizations and other CSOs that will be part of this proposal and other organizations engaged in advocacy at national level</li> <li>- Edu-communicational material to contribute to women's advocacy processes.</li> <li>- Identifying new spokespersons and leaders in the women's movement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shelter centers and homes for women who are victims of violence</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Local integration agencies for a life free of violence</li> </ul>	<p><b>UN WOMEN</b> UNFPA</p>	<p>Women do not have accessible instruments of knowledge.</p> <p>The model for shelter homes and centers is being updated.</p>

## PILLAR 2

### OUTCOME 2: National and subnational systems and institutions plan, fund and offer evidence-based programs to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and harmful practices.

Outcome indicators:

2.1 Proportion of countries that have functioning national and/or sub-national coordination and oversight mechanisms at the highest levels for addressing VAWG/HP that include representation from marginalized groups

2.2 % or more of national budgets allocated to the prevention and elimination of all forms of VAWG/HP

**Output 2.1.** Key officials at national and subnational levels in all relevant institutions are better able to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG d, including DV/IPV, especially for those groups of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, including other sectors.

**2.1.1. National Output:** National and local protection institution have internal mechanism to promote gender equality for transform their cultural patterns and promote access of women to a leadership position.

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
2.1.6. Number of key government officials trained on human rights and gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours towards women and girls, including for those groups facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.	180 public officials trained at national and local level (2 institution each level)	Building national and local institutional capacities for transforming their cultural patterns, and promote access of women to a leadership position: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluate capacities</li> <li>- Build quality institutional Indicators</li> <li>- Build or improve institutional plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 GADs</li> <li>- 2 National Institutions to be defined (i.e. Human Rights Secretariat, Judiciary Council, Public Prosecution, etc.)</li> </ul>	UNDP	-Some institutional plans on VAWG -UNDP- Ministry of Labour cooperation to develop the Gender Equality Seal for Private and Public Enterprises

**Output 2.2: National and/or subnational coordination mechanisms with multiple interested stakeholders,** established and/or strengthened at the highest level are funded and include multi-sector representation including the most marginalized groups.

**2.2.1 National output:** Mechanisms for coordination and integration is adapted to local governments and it is funded and built as part of the National Prevention System Management Model in order to strengthen the local protection system.

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
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2.2.3 Proportion of national and sub-national multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms that are costed	A management model for inter-institutional coordination, between the local and central levels	<p>Implement the operating model for the National System to Prevent and Eradicate VAW nationwide, strengthening its integration at the local level (deconcentrated and decentralized management).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- System of management and evaluation indicators for the entire system, nationally and locally (process, results)</li> <li>- Mechanisms to detect and refer cases of gender-based violence against women to the System's institutions</li> <li>- Support strengthening of local protection networks</li> <li>- Design, edit, and layout a publishable version of the highlights of the Operating Model.</li> <li>- Publications (digital and hard copy, decided with the HR Secretariat)</li> <li>- Public discussion workshops locally (TBD) (rapporteurs' reports and communicational dissemination)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Selected GADs</li> <li>- Civil Society</li> </ul>	UNDP	<p>Existing Operating Model of the National System to Prevent and Eradicate VAW</p> <p>Minutes of meetings of National Crusades (working groups)</p> <p>Operating Model enhanced by deconcentrated management</p> <p>A catalog with the spending classifier in the Ministry of Finance</p>
	1 costing mechanism working according to the current norm	<p>Standardize a single, general, applicable, scalable instrument for costing the operating model, deconcentrated and decentralized (care for victims, penalties, prevention, reparations, and formulating and implementing local protocols and plans):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshops at the pilot GADs to gather information (Canton Boards)</li> <li>- Pilot programs with GADs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Ministry of Finance</li> <li>- GADs (6)</li> <li>- Civil Society</li> </ul>	UNDP	<p>Consultancy for costing of the operating model nationwide, including mapping of existing methodologies in this country (UNDP/CAF)</p> <p>UN WOMEN</p>

					methodology  A catalog with the spending classifier in the Ministry of Finance.
Output 2.3: Partners (parliamentarians, key governmental officials, and women's rights advocates) nationally and / or sub nationally have <b>greater knowledge, capacities, and tools on Gender-responsive Budgeting</b> to end VAWG, including DV / VP					
2.3.1 National output: The national catalog for public spending on gender equality has a specific system for reporting on VAWG and femicide					
Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
2.3.1 Proportion of dedicated and multi-sectoral programmes developed that include proposed allocations of funds to end VAWG	A catalog on public spending for VAWG and femicide	The public spending catalog reports the budget allocated and raised for VAWG and femicide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical assistance to include indicators on VAWG and femicide in the spending catalog (gender classifier)</li> <li>- Training on using and applying the catalog (priority sector: selected GADs)</li> <li>- Training women for monitoring and societal oversight</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Finance</li> <li>- Canton GADs</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN	A catalog with the spending classifier in the Ministry of Finance

### PILLAR 3

#### OUTCOME 3: Knowledge, attitudes and practices change in communities and individuals, to prevent VAWG and harmful practices.

Outcome indicators:

3.3 Proportion of countries with at least 3 evidence-based, transformative/comprehensive prevention strategies/programmes that address the rights of those marginalized and are developed in a participatory manner

Output 3.1: National and/or sub-national evidence-based programmes are developed to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviors, including on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in line with international standards, for in and out of school settings.

**3.1.1 National output:** Validated mechanisms to apply the policy to prevent and eradicate harassment and VAWG in the higher education system.

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
3.1.1 Proportion of countries with draft new and/or strengthened programmes for femicide and VAWG prevention in line with international standards	A policy implemented	Strengthened academic participation in preventing GBV and femicide, under the national strategy to prevent VAWG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exchange experiences and good practices to determine progress</li> <li>- Action plan to implement basic mechanisms to operate the policy in higher education, and its protocols.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Secretariat of Higher Education, Science and Technology (SENECYT)</li> <li>- Higher Education Council (CES)</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN UNFPA	An approved policy and protocols.

Output 3.2: **Prevention platforms established/strengthened to promote strategies and programs** (community dialogues, public information and promotion campaigns) about **knowledge, attitudes, and practices** with gender equity, including women's and girls' SDSR, self-esteem and transformation of harmful masculinities.

**3.2.1 National output:** Designed, implemented, and evaluated a comprehensive, innovative strategy to prevent VAWG and femicide. The strategy will encompass communication, education, and social mobilization actions.<sup>36</sup>

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
3.2.5.-Number of campaigns challenging harmful social norms and gender stereotyping,	Comprehensive strategy to prevent VAWG and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A mass communicational campaign, with an approach of non-violent masculinities, intercultural understanding, and accessibility, considering social</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- CSOs working to prevent VAWG and femicide</li> </ul>	UNFPA	Campaign "machismo is violence"

<sup>36</sup> Under the comprehensive prevention strategy fall all actions for this pillar; however, for the purposes of reporting by output and by Spotlight indicator, activities have been distributed separately.

including of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, developed, and disseminated.	femicide implemented	<p>diversities: - community radio stations; “timeless” material; using social networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a computer App to prevent femicide, targeting women</li> </ul>			
	1 specialty training process implemented under the policy for preventing VAWG and femicide	<p>Specialty training for journalists working with the mass media, in adequately handling information about violence against women and femicide, as well as for media production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare the specialty training</li> <li>- Review and adapt experiences implemented in other countries (Argentina and Mexico)</li> <li>- Design and apply the training</li> <li>- Political advocacy to influence editorial policy of private, public and community media (select media by relevance: local and national media).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Journalists Union</li> <li>- Academic institutions</li> <li>- Council for Regulation, Development and Promotion of Information and Communication.</li> </ul>	<b>UNFPA</b> UN WOMEN	1 training process given in 2019 by the Council for Regulation
	A validated methodology	<p>Prepare and/or adapt the training methodology for young people who are preventers of VAWG and femicide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Map youth organizations</li> <li>- Implement training with the prepared methodology</li> <li>- Plan replication of the training received</li> <li>- Replicate that training</li> <li>- Plan sustainability</li> <li>- Prepare training and dissemination material to strengthen SCOs on new masculinities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Universities of Cuenca, Portoviejo and Puyo</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat (under the agreement with UC and USFQ to train trainers)</li> <li>- Neighborhood youth organizations / sports leagues</li> <li>- Coordinate with local working groups for access to justice.</li> <li>- SCOs working with masculinities</li> </ul>	<b>UNFPA</b> UN WOMEN	Zero (include baseline if the HRS has it)
<b>3.2.2 National output: Implement local platforms for citizen mobilization with non-sexist communication (based on experiences tested by Civil Society in Ecuador)</b>					
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Ref #</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Counterparts</b>	<b>Parties responsible</b>	<b>Baseline</b>
3.2.4 Number of communities with advocacy platforms established	3 cities generate platforms for	Develop 3 local citizen platforms for citizen mobilization around media production for non-violence, integrating key stakeholders to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Citizen observatory of communication in Cuenca</li> <li>- Canton GADs</li> </ul>	<b>UN WOMEN</b> UNFPA	A platform in Cuenca

and/or strengthened to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviors, including in relation to women and girls' sexuality and reproduction	citizen mobilization	implement the platforms (communication observatories) - Train for technical studies on mass media communicational items - Apply studies - Gather citizen mobilization strategies - Advocacy and integrating local governments - Transfer the methodology	- Women's organizations - Local universities - Ministry of Education, deconcentrated (in selected cantons) - Council for Regulating, Developing and Promoting Information and Communication.		
<b>Output 3.3: Decision-makers in non-government institutions and informal key decision-makers are in a better position to advocate for implementation of legislation and policies to end VAWG, including DV /VP, and for gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviors and for the rights of women and girls.</b>					
<b>3.3.1. National output: Implemented a National Citizen Tribunal to prevent femicide and VAWG as a tool for citizen mobilization and transforming attitudes and practices.</b>					
Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
3.3.5 Number of key informal decision makers and decision makers in relevant non-state institutions with strengthened awareness of and capacities to advocate for implementation of legislation and policies on ending VAWG and for gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and women and girls' rights.	1 specific Tribunal held on femicide and VAWG	Design and apply a grassroots tribunal on femicide to mobilize society around preventing VAWG and femicide: - Identify and document paradigmatic cases to define critical nodes and prepare recommendations - Select members of the National Citizen Tribunal - Hold the National Citizen Tribunal	- Organize women with specialty training on the topic.	UNFPA	Two Tribunals on the topics of SRRs and ESCRs

**PILLAR 4**

**OUTCOME 4: Women and girls who experience violence and harmful practices use essential services that are available, accessible, acceptable, and quality, including for long-term recovery from the violence**

Outcome indicators:

4.1 Proportion of women, including those facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, who report experiencing physical or sexual violence who seek help, by sector.

Output 4.1: The relevant governmental authorities and women's rights organizations, nationally and sub nationally, have reinforced their knowledge and capacities to provide essential services, well-coordinated and with good quality, including SRR services and access to justice for women and girls who have survived GBV, including DV and VP, especially those who are facing multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination

4.1.1 National output: Femicide Early Warning System designed and validated (FEWS).

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
4.1.1 Proportion of countries with centralized risk assessment systems and/or early warning systems in place bringing together information from police, health, and justice sectors	One FEWS implemented	Apply the road map established by the FEWS costing to improve the proposal for implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- National Police</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN	Reference documents created by the HRS and other institutions

4.1.2. National output: System to Evaluate and Punish performance by judges in enforcing national norms and international human rights standards in effect in the country, designed and validated.

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
4.1.9. Proportion of countries that have developed and/or strengthened national guidelines or protocols for essential services that specifically address the needs of women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination	A System, operating	System to evaluate and punish performance of judges under international HR standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN UNFPA	Qualitative and quantitative parameters to evaluate performance by judges in the judicial branch



<b>4.1.3. National output: Strengthened capacities in the health, security, and justice sectors (including access to psychosocial support) to adapt and implement the Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence and Femicide (including the response mechanisms to VAWG).</b>					
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Ref #</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Counterparts</b>	<b>Parties responsible</b>	<b>Baseline</b>
4.1.4 Number of government service providers who have increased knowledge and capacities to deliver quality and coordinated essential services to women and girls who are survivors of violence	40 officials per canton	Capacity-building to implement the Technical Standard for dealing with GBV in health (including access to psychosocial support) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare and implement training</li> <li>- Print the Technical Standard</li> </ul>	- Ministry of Health	UNFPA	An updated standard
	600 police agents with capacities generated for implementation	Apply the second training phase for the police to apply administrative measures and urgent actions to protect women and girls from violence in the 6 prioritized cantons	- Ministry of the Interior - National Police	<b>UN WOMEN</b>	A virtual sensitization course and approach to the law and administrative measures.
4.1.9. Proportion of countries that have developed and/or strengthened national guidelines or protocols for essential services that specifically address the needs of women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination	Guidelines for intercultural care, validated	Design and implement standards for quality of service provided to women from indigenous peoples and nationalities for cases of VAWG and femicide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intercultural dialogues to define guidelines</li> <li>- Consensus-building workdays for guidelines</li> <li>- Prepare the document</li> </ul>	- Judicial Oversight Council - Organizations of indigenous peoples and nationalities - Organizations of Afro-Ecuadorian Women - Organizations of Montubia Women.	UN WOMEN	A basic document proposed by women from the indigenous movement
	A guide or protocol with standards included	Technical assistance to implement the package of essential services for the justice sector	- Judicial Oversight Council - National Police - Ministry of Health	UNFPA	Package of essential services designed

**Output 4.2: Women and girls are survivors of GBV, including DV and VP, and their families are informed and have access to quality essential services, including services and opportunities for recovery in the longer term.**

**4.2.1 National output: A mechanism designed for the economic empowerment of women who have been victims of violence and dependents of victims of femicide, including the financial system**

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
4.2.2 Number of women and girls' survivors/victims and their families, including groups facing multiple and intersecting forms or discrimination, that have increased knowledge of and access to accompaniment/support initiatives, including longer-term recovery services	30 women who are victims of GBV have capacities for economic entrepreneurship	Design a mechanism for economic empowerment for VAWG and dependents of femicide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Train on economic opportunities, business management, labor rights and obligations</li> <li>- Develop business plans</li> <li>- Technical and financial assistance</li> <li>- Psycho-social assistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BEDE</li> <li>- Central Bank</li> <li>- Shelter homes and centers</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN UNFPA UNDP	Financial product for women who are victims of violence from the Bank of the State / Central Bank.  Proposal for economic empowerment by the Casa María Amor

**4.2.2 National output: Strengthened the model for managing shelter homes in the selected cantons, including new capacities to address VAWG in crises/emergencies.**

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
4.1.9. Proportion of countries that have developed and/or strengthened national guidelines or protocols for essential services that specifically address the needs of women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination	A guide for implementing the model of managing shelter homes, validated and operating	Update the management model for shelter homes about VAWG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review the status of implementing the existing management model</li> <li>- Identify critical nodes</li> <li>- Design the implementation guide</li> <li>- Distribute the implementation guide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shelter homes for women who have been victims of violence</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> </ul>	UNFPA UN WOMEN	A consensus-based management model.
	Protocol for addressing crises/emerg	Adapt the protocol for action in addressing emergencies and providing basic inputs (COVID-19):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shelter homes for women who are victims of violence</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN UNFPA	UNFPA Manual for VAW in emergencies



# Iniciativa Spotlight

Para eliminar la violencia  
contra las mujeres y las niñas

	encies for shelter homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Train for emergency care</li><li>- Provide edu-communicational material</li><li>- Provide basic inputs</li><li>- Adapt protocols</li></ul>			
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**PILLAR 5**

**OUTCOME 5: Quality data, disaggregated and comparable regarding different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, compiled, analyzed, and used according to international standards to inform laws, policies, and programs**

Outcome indicators:

5.1 Globally comparable data on the prevalence (and incidence, where appropriate) of VAWG/HP, collected over time.

5.2 Publicly available data, reported on a regular basis, on various forms of VAWG/HP (at least on intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, harmful practices when relevant, and trafficking and femicide) at country level

Output 5.1: Key partners, including the technical players who are responsible for relevant statistics, service providers in the different ministries and under-secretariats of the State and women's rights advocates, have **strengthened their capacities to regularly gather data regarding VAWG** including DV/VP, in line with international and regional standards

**5.1.1 National output: Strengthened the first phase of building the National Register of Violence and the indicator of femicide**

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
5.1.2 Percentage of targeted countries with a system to collect administrative data on VAWG/HP, in line with international standards, across different sectors	A proposal for guidelines to strengthen the consensus-based System and approved for implementation	Technical assistance for the first phase of implementing the RUV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Building capacities of statistical technicians and personnel responsible for the register, to generate data</li> <li>- Improving administrative records / instruments to standardize</li> <li>- institutional files</li> <li>- Map the geo-referenced records (instrumentalized)</li> <li>- Have the computer program for this process</li> <li>- Training guide: geo-referencing and consigning intersecting data (Baseline)</li> <li>- Validate the training guide</li> <li>- Workshops to improve skills and knowledge</li> <li>- Exchange experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> </ul> Specific coordination with other members of the Technical Group	UNDP	A methodology for the RUV with a conceptual framework and geo-referenced records
	An indicator of femicide developed	Technical assistance to develop the femicide indicator on the basis of consensus with Civil Society:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prosecutor's office</li> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- National Police</li> </ul>	UNDP UN WOMEN	Indicator of violent deaths

	on a consensus basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshop: strengthening of CSOs capacities on data collection and management</li> <li>- Dialogue groups to exchange knowledge among key institutions</li> <li>- Infographs to support advocacy and training actions developed by CSOs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- CSOs with expertise on the topic (Aldea)</li> <li>- INEC</li> </ul>		A process of adapting the protocol along the way
	1 document with guidelines to gather data in the field	<p>Assisting the first phase of constructing the RUV with GADs will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Design and implement a system of collecting information about cases of gender-based violence to complete the Register of Violence Against Women.</li> <li>- Transfer capacities to GADs to implement protocols to detect, assess risk, inform, and refer women under the guidelines derived from the RUV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Ministry of the Interior</li> <li>- Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion</li> <li>- GADs</li> </ul>	UNDP	Existing norms and processes collected by the Human Rights Secretariat and the Equality Council

**Output 5.2: Data on quality about the prevalence and/or incidence of VBG, including DV/VP, are analyzed, and made available to the public for monitoring and reporting on the MDG objective.**

**5.2.1 National output: Generated studies and strategic information forums on VAWG and femicide to inform decision-making**

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
5.2.1 Number of knowledge products developed and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders to inform evidence-based decision making	24 workbooks analyzing VAWG and femicide prepared and distributed (1 per province)	<p>Analytical study of the findings from the VAWG 2019 Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quantitative analysis of findings</li> <li>- Qualitative analysis</li> <li>- Prepare 24 documents</li> <li>- Design and layout</li> <li>- Publish and distribute</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- National Gender Equality Council</li> <li>- National Institute of Statistical and Census</li> </ul>	<b>UN WOMEN</b> UNDP UNFPA	Survey conducted on in-family relations

**5.2.2 National output: Mechanisms for quality data analysis and monitoring strengthened to inform public policy and contribute to strengthening the National System**

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
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5.2.1 Number of knowledge products developed and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders to inform evidence-based decision making	Two studies on femicide profiles	Conduct specialty studies on socioeconomic and cultural contexts of femicides, to determine socioeconomic profiles for femicide perpetrators and victims, with an intersecting approach	- Human Rights Secretariat - Ministry of the Interior - Universities	UNDP	zero
	A document with the mechanism of the Observatory defined by law, in operation	Technical assistance to strengthen the National Observatory for violence against women (Art. 16 of the Law on Violence): - Conceptual and methodological framework - Research defined in the Observatory - Protocol for integrating with system institutions - Validate the information - Coordinate the RUV	- Human Rights Secretariat - National Gender Equality Council	UNDP	Reports from two technical assistant missions by ECLAC on the Observatory of the Law

**PILLAR 6**

**OUTCOME 6: Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing young people and groups facing multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination / marginalization, influence and advance more effectively in gender equality, women's empowerment, and eliminating VAWG**

**Outcome indicators:**

6.1 Women's rights organizations, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, increase their coordinated efforts to jointly advocate on ending VAWG

6.2 There is an increased use of social accountability mechanisms by Civil society in order to monitor and engage efforts to end VAWG.

6.3 Proportion of women's rights organizations, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, report having greater influence and agency to work on ending VAWG.

**Output 6.1: Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs have increased opportunities and support to share knowledge, establish contacts, associate, and advocate jointly for gender equality, women's empowerment, and eliminating VAWG, including DV/VP, sub nationally and nationally**

**6.1.1 National output:** Networks of women's and Civil-society organizations, especially neighborhood and community ones, at their different levels of intervention to prevent and eradicate femicide and other forms of VAWG, mobilize for a life free of violence.

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
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 VAWG at local, national, regional, and global levels	3 Local networks of Civil-Society Organizations (neighborhood / community networks) incorporate a strategy in their agenda to prevent and eradicate VAWG and femicide	<p>Help prepare an integrated agenda of women's networks with Civil-Society Organizations that advocate for human rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Involve women's organizations from 3 selected localities</li> <li>- Train on intersecting and strategies for shared agendas</li> <li>- Define partner organizations (neighborhood/community organizations not specializing in women's rights)</li> <li>- Bilateral advocacy meetings with CSOs to incorporate the VAWG and femicide approach on their agendas</li> <li>- Dialogue workshops with selected organizations not specializing but involved</li> <li>- Train and sensitize partner CSOs</li> <li>- Determine joint issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Network of shelter homes for women who are victims of violence</li> <li>- <i>Cabildo</i> of Women from Cuenca</li> <li>- Network of Women from Portoviejo.</li> <li>- Organizations of Afro-Ecuadorian women</li> <li>- Organizations of indigenous women</li> <li>- Organizations of <i>Montubia</i> women</li> <li>- Organizations of women with disabilities, from the selected cantons</li> <li>- Neighborhood / community organizations</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN UNFPA	1 National network

		- Develop joint agenda and advocacy strategy		Coordination with local governments for public and political advocacy		
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**Output 6.2: Organizations of women and CS strengthened to use accountability mechanisms** as part of actions for advocacy and influence for VAWG prevention and response, including DV and VP, and more broadly gender equity and women's empowerment.

**6.2.1 National output:** Committees of users<sup>37</sup> in the implementation of the General Law to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (LOIPEVCM) have capacities for oversight and recording progress in four services to deal with VAWG pursuant to Law.

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
6.2.1 Number of supported women's right groups and relevant CSOs using the appropriate accountability mechanisms for advocacy	10 users' committees formed and operating	Technical assistance and advice to establish 10 users' committees which will include diverse women from the different territories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare the instrument for analysis in health, justice, and rights protection boards</li> <li>- Train women</li> <li>- Prepare and provide reports as feedback to authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canton Protection Boards</li> <li>- GADs</li> <li>- Judicial Oversight Council</li> <li>- Ministry of Public Health</li> <li>- Women's organizations</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN	Basic methodology developed with local police authorities ( <i>Tenencias políticas</i> )

**Output 6.3: Women's and CS organizations, including groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination and marginalization have built their capacities to implement and monitor their own programs to eradicate VAWG including DV and VP**

**6.3.1 National output:** Leadership training schools for indigenous and Afro-descendant women, strengthened with conceptual and methodological knowledge to prevent and eradicate femicide and VAWG

Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
6.3.2 Number of women's rights groups and relevant CSOs using knowledge products developed by the participating UN agencies in the design of their own	150 women from the two leadership schools, for indigenous and Afro-	Develop and apply material about addressing VAWG to prevent femicide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrate training proposal for indigenous and Afro-descendant women's leadership schools based on previous organized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amazon women's leadership school, Antisuyo WarmiKuna</li> <li>- National School for Afro-descendant Women's Leadership</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN	2 schools for women leaders, without any specific module or knowledge about VAWG

<sup>37</sup> Users' committee are groups of citizens created under the norms of the LOIPEVCM Law.



programmes on ending VAWG	descendant women.	<p>experiences carried on in the leadership schools and on women's priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Apply the entry profile</li> <li>- Implement the module/subject</li> <li>- Apply the exit profile</li> </ul>			
<b>6.3.2 National output:</b> Societal organizations with stronger capacity for public and political positioning from the strategy to prevent and eradicate VAWG and femicide					
Indicators	Ref #	Activities	Counterparts	Parties responsible	Baseline
6.3.1 Number of women's rights groups and relevant CSOs representing groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization that have strengthened capacities and support to design, implement, monitor, and evaluate their own programmes on ending VAWG	12 organizations build their capacities	Build capacities of women's organizations in public / political advocacy, media training to prevent VAWG and femicide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Network of shelter homes and centers in selected cantons</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Women's movement</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN	Advocacy 0
	6 organizations are stronger in strategic litigation	Build capacities of women's organizations in strategic litigation to address VAWG and femicide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Network of shelter homes and centers in selected cantons</li> <li>- Human Rights Secretariat</li> <li>- Women's movement</li> </ul>	UNFPA UN WOMEN	
	12 organizations build their capacities	Capacity-building of women's organizations on self-care and crisis response (COVID-19 or others)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Network of shelter homes and centers in selected cantons</li> <li>- Women's movement</li> </ul>	UN WOMEN UNFPA	Self-care, 1 shelter home and one care center

## IX. Intersectional approach:

In Ecuador, there are factors that accentuate women's vulnerability to violence, including the following: age, ethnic heritage, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and HIV serum status. Chart # 3, in the first section, shows the magnitude of violence in Ecuador; the percentage of violence in rural zones is nearly as high as in urban areas.

In the selected cantons, which are quite rural, there is a diversity of indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian and *montubia* women, the ethnic groups most vulnerable to violence. Further, these cantons are located in provinces with high number of people with disabilities (Manabí over 44 thousand; Azuay over 23 thousand; Cañar over 7 thousand; Morona over 4 thousand and Pastaza over 2 thousand); 44% of these people are women and only 46% of these women with disabilities have access to the State subsidy they are entitled to.

These women face threefold discrimination (as women, who are poor and indigenous/Afro-Ecuadorian/ *montubia* and who have disabilities). This exposes them to situations of sexual violence, above all for the girls and adolescents.

3% of women with a disability had their firstborn between age 10 and 14; 43% had their firstborn between age 15 and 19 (2010 Population and Housing Census); most of these pregnancies are directly related with GBV.

Child and adolescent pregnancy grew by 74% from 2000 to 2010, reaching in 2016 a total of 2960 girls coming to health-care services because of complications with their pregnancies. Many of these cases involve sexual violence by people close to the family circle.

This context makes the Spotlight Initiative an opportunity to contribute, through its six pillars, to curbing violence and reinforcing prevention, providing quality services, and eradicating VAWG and femicide, taking intersections and vulnerabilities into account that women are exposed to, over their life cycle.

The chart below shows the Initiative's beneficiary groups and identifies the most vulnerable women, at the greatest risk, exposed to multiple forms of discrimination because of their identities and specific conditions. For each group, the table and detailed description of actions planned for each pillar (cf. the budget and AWP, attached) identify focused actions/strategies that the Spotlight Initiative will take under each pillar to serve this type of population group. This approach and these efforts will be monitored through various specific indicators that have been included in the results framework.

Similarly, for each pillar of the initiative, civil-society organizations will be actively involved, and especially those representing these collectives, to ensure that their demands and specific needs are included in the different parts of the integrated strategy integral to respond to and prevent violence against women and girls.

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 when possible
Group 1: Indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian and montubia women	Pillars 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unfavorable conditions to design and reinforce specific policies and norms</li> <li>- Lack of application of the current norm regarding VAWG and femicides in view of practices affected by discriminatory socio-cultural patterns</li> <li>- Persistence of cultural patterns that perpetuate VAWG</li> <li>- Limited access for children and adolescents to alternatives for participation and access to timely, up-to-date, truthful information.</li> <li>- Weak services in culturally adapted response</li> <li>- Cultural barriers conditioned by parameters of use and customs and indigenous justice.</li> <li>- Services and institutions with weaknesses in implementing quality standards for addressing VAWG and preventing femicide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guarantee prior, free, well-informed consultation for the Spotlight Initiative or renewal of existing agreements, in cases of indigenous organizations.</li> <li>- Inform women leaders about the Initiative in their territories / communities or organizations, with ample involvement of beneficiaries.</li> <li>- Involving women in local settings (e.g., Canton Boards for Protecting Rights) to motivate these groups to pay attention to VAWG.</li> <li>- identify priority measures leading to greater access to health, justice, and social services.</li> <li>- Culturally sensitive communicational messages and activities, according to the people one belongs to.</li> <li>- Guarantee that their cultural (and language) perspectives are integrated into policies, institutions, and services.</li> <li>- Promote accountability to these groups</li> <li>- Include ethnic variables in data collection and analysis</li> <li>- Involve and collaborate with male and female leaders of these population groups and cultural intermediaries</li> <li>- Promote and strengthen training and participation in indigenous, montubia and Afro-Ecuadorian women.</li> </ul>	<p>3,000 women 1,000 men 1,000 boys and girls from indigenous, montubio and Afro-Ecuadorian peoples.</p>
Group 2: Women and girls with	Pillars 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social exclusion at all levels.</li> <li>- Little interest in these issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote participation by and support from family members and for persons with</li> </ul>	<p>50 women 50 young women</p>



disabilities		<p>among institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No recognition of their rights, and discrimination</li> <li>- Difficulty in accessing services</li> <li>- Lack of adequate services</li> <li>- Lack of data on women with disabilities</li> </ul>	<p>disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote the rights of persons with disabilities, in families, communities, society and institutions</li> <li>- Define specific policies</li> <li>- Guarantee access to specific services with trained personnel</li> <li>- Generate data on women with disabilities, including the variable of disability in administrative records.</li> </ul>	
Group 3: Women and girls who are victims / survivors of violence, including sexual violence	Pillars 1, 3, 4, 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social exclusion</li> <li>- Not knowing their rights</li> <li>- Socio-cultural patterns that reinforce the low visibility of VAWG and femicide and justify it</li> <li>- Personal and family conditions affected for making decisions about one's life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop and reinforce specific protection and reparation measures for these groups</li> <li>- Build capacities for officials in the different sectors responsible for preventing, caring for and eradicating VAWG and femicide.</li> <li>- Produce knowledge about new forms of violence against women</li> <li>- Produce communications material and knowledge transfer mechanisms regarding new masculinities.</li> </ul>	25,000 women
Group 4: Women's organizations devoted specifically to preventing and eradicating VAWG	Pillars 1, 3, 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reinforcing policies and laws to address VAWG and femicide, under way but with reduced State funding.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop mechanisms to build capacities for advocacy, strategic litigation, media training and self-care.</li> <li>- Strengthen networks for coordination and support among women's organizations.</li> </ul>	100 defenders
Group 5: Survivors of femicide / children of women murdered	Pillars 1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of protection and assistance</li> <li>- Lack of institutional priority for these problems</li> <li>- Weak enforcement of mechanisms for economic reparations for this group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare the policy for holistic reparations</li> <li>- Greater protection and mechanisms for social reintegration</li> <li>- Generate knowledge about access to financial support for victims of violence</li> </ul>	100 children of women murdered. 200 family members of victims of VAWG and femicide
Group 6: Adolescents and youth	Pillars 3 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limitations on access to information and services relevant to sexual violence and sexual and reproductive health</li> <li>- Risky attitudes and practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Generate conditions for young people to take part in activities for prevention, and access to services proposed in pillars 3 and 4.</li> <li>- Strengthen work in university settings to prevent and eradicate harassment.</li> </ul>	5000 adolescents and youth



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		<p><i>encouraged by discriminatory socio-cultural patterns</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empower girls and adolescents and develop skills for life in organizations, community, and educational settings</li> <li>-Involve young people in activities to prevent VAWG and femicide in families, communities, and institutions, using evidence of the impact of VAWG and femicide.</li> </ul>	
<p><i>Group 7: LGBTIQ population</i></p>	<p><i>Pillars 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discrimination and violence because of their sexual orientation</li> <li>- Non-recognition of their rights</li> <li>- Some conservative and religious viewpoints are against accepting the norms to eradicate violence against LGBTIQ persons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recognize the rights of sex and gender diversities</li> <li>- Publicize contents, elements and rights regarding sexual orientation and gender identity</li> <li>- Publicize the standard for health-sector care for GBV against sex and gender diversities.</li> <li>- Build specific capacities in the health and justice sectors for providing their services</li> <li>- Recognize VAWG because of sexual orientation in administrative records, clinical histories, investigations, and other records.</li> </ul>	<p><i>To be defined.</i></p>

## X. Risk Management (Table 2)

Program implementation (July 2020- December 2021) will fully coincide with various factors that will influence the Initiative: i) an electoral period and a governmental transition, ii) amidst a socio-health crisis (COVID-19), iii) an economic crisis (pre-existing, but worsened by the health emergency); and iv) unresolved societal tensions in the wake of the October 2019 confrontations.

The above may have various implications, which have been itemized in Table F: “programme risk management matrix”.

## XI. Coherence with existing programmes

Will be held, with activism and campaigns led by university youth, in community settings, to transform stereotyped gender roles.

In the case of **Pillar 4**, we will move forward with implementation of the VAW Essential Services Package, which includes tested international standards and is applied locally to improve the quality of and access to services. To work with shelter homes, their operating model will be updated, including capacities, instruments/tools, and inputs to provide care at times of crisis, based on the current global crisis facing humankind.

**Pillar 6** will stress training for female attorneys in strategic litigation in line with queries to the Human Rights Secretariat. Capacity building for women and their organizations on media training, plus self-care, will be an innovation, including more personal aspects of one’s well-being, to heighten women’s performance in advocacy.

Complementarily, innovations will:

- Be incorporated into policy-making to improve enforcement of laws and compliance with the mechanisms they establish. This must be consensus-based with State agencies that have their own mandate and involve a diverse group of stakeholders, mainly women, to contribute from their own different, heterogenous contexts.
- Diverse societal stakeholders will be involved in participatory settings representing the intersecting nature of factors influencing VAWG and femicide, which are not highly visible for society or even by decision-makers in this area.
- One fundamental challenge is to ensure that the planned actions are institutionalized, to make them nationally and locally sustainable.
- Upscaling experiences and spreading them effectively throughout territories must respond to local realities of the most vulnerable, diverse women's groups.
- Consensus-based actions can have resonance with local realities in both contents and format, contributing to preventing VAWG and femicide with different audiences and beneficiaries.
- Political actions work together with access to quality services and women’s societal participation with other CS groups working on these issues, which opens up different fronts of action, and provides feedback to reinforce, improve and take advantage of progress made with this Program.
- Involve the private sector, as part of their commitment to achieving the SDGs, in preventing VAWG and femicide in business settings.

### b. Operational Innovation

The Spotlight Initiative is a new occasion to demonstrate that inter-agency work, combining different UN Agencies’ technical and operational capacities is effective, and can provide concrete value added.



This will be an opportunity for the UN Agencies co-implementing the Initiative (RUNOs) to make progress and innovate in inter-agency coordination mechanisms operationally as well.

UNCT is working on its Joint Operating Strategy (BOS), based on a series of agreements and common services shared by agencies to make their operations more efficient.

For this reason, Spotlight proposes for operational focal points (if possible, operations managers) from the three RUNOs to form a working group to analyze the planned programmatic and operational activities to determine whether it will be advisable to use agencies' administrative, procurement, and operating resources to improve the Program's cost/benefit ratio. Proposals to consider include: developing a Coordinated Procurement Plan; creating a shared repository of available LTAs and launching useful ones jointly for activities by several RUNOs (after coordinating TORs); coordinated early launch of the Program's key procurement, such as hiring personnel for the technical-operational coordination unit, beginning with the Spotlight Coordinator and Communication Officer, or engaging the company to conduct the baseline and the consultant to develop the monitoring and evaluation plan for the Initiative.

In line with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution January 2018 "United Nations system operational activities for development" ([A/RES/72/236](#)), this working group may be set up as a pilot effort to move forward into a UN system joint/coordinated operations strategy, contributing to accelerating achievement of the SDGs. Spotlight is one of the five emblematic strategic initiatives by the United Nations system to support implementation of the SDGs and must be seized as an opportunity to demonstrate efficiency and capacity for innovation operationally as well.

In fact, the Spotlight Initiative contributes to implementing reforms in the United Nations Development System and poses the need to contribute jointly and holistically to the SDGs producing multiplier effects on the basis of each Agency's comparative advantages. Achieving the above is highly important, since Spotlight aims to materialize the reforming vision from the Secretary-General's report on "*Repositioning the United Nations Development System*". Particularly, Spotlight aims to show how the UNS can improve its effectiveness, coherence, leadership, and capacity for accountability.

Finally, the Coordination Unit team will be working together (sharing the same physical space in the same building as the Technical Committee), which will save costs and enhance coordination.

## **XII. Knowledge management:**

A Technical-Operational Coordination Unit will be created, under the direct supervision of UN Women, as the lead Agency, with the power to ensure effective knowledge management in the Program. This will call for ensuring monitoring and evaluation of activities and reporting, and effective dissemination and systematic summarization of the information generated by the Spotlight Initiative. This activity will be performed, as already done for monitoring and evaluation, by the Technical Coordination Unit, in particular by the Program Coordinator, the Office of the Resident Coordinator, and UN WOMEN, who will provide technical assistance, with their installed technical capacities, along with the mechanisms of UNFPA and UNDP.

A Knowledge Management Strategy will be designed to compile, analyze, organize, and systematically summarize the data, information, and knowledge generated, by both the Monitoring and Evaluation System, and by the active participation of implementing partners. This will add value to interventions in the Program's various areas, summarize experiences, good practices and lessons learned, generating learning.

The material, analyses, and lessons learned that have been collected will be shared with relevant interest groups through forums, publications, audiovisual material and experience exchanges, to build their capacities and increase the knowledge of stakeholders so they can make a greater impact on preventing VAWG and femicide, e.g.: journalists, scholars, groups specializing in preventing femicide



and other forms of violence against women, adolescents and girls, civil-society organizations, women's organizations and movements, public officials and employees, and international cooperation agencies.

Additionally, the UNS is constantly working to publicize Agenda 2030 in Ecuador with stakeholders from the Government, private sector, and academia, explicitly highlighting SDGs 5 and 16 and mentioning Spotlight as an initiative created specifically to make headway toward those SDGs.

### **XIII. Communication and visibility:**

Communication and visibility will hinge upon the goal of raising awareness about femicide, its prevalence in Ecuador and prevention mechanisms. Progress and impacts will be continually aired under a Communication for Development (C4D) approach.

At the outset, the UNS and the UE will agree on the Initiative's procedures for the communicational and visibility strategy for the most outstanding flagship outputs, in order to highlight the specific contribution of the Spotlight Initiative to preventing and eradicating violence in Ecuador.

The communicational guidelines specifically provided for this Initiative will take into account the communication strategies of the UNCT and the UNS Agencies involved, such as regarding the links between Spotlight and the SDGs. Further, the contents publicized will be adapted to the national and local context, will be culturally sensitive, and in easily-used, accessible and user-friendly formats. Contents will include sign language, voice, and Braille for women and girls with disabilities.

Both strategic partners, the EU and the UNS, will unceasingly guide Program activities, in which communication will be the keystone of their most effective implementation. Every top-level communicational event will involve the EU Spotlight focal point or communications officer starting with early design, to harmonize and grant approval pursuant to the EU Visibility Manual.

Additionally, the selection process for the communication post will be carried on along with the EU from the beginning, this implies, that the EU will be participating in the definition of the ToRs, the knowledge and skills interview and in the selection board. The EU delegate for this project will participate in the meetings organized for the definition of the communication strategy and its implementation. In the same way, in case a response to the juncture is required from the communication area, the participation of the delegate will be requested.

Community engagement: alliance with Ecuador's universities, civil-society organizations, community organizations and the private sector to hold workshops in the field, and workdays for sensitization to spread the key messages of Spotlight.

National and community media will be our allies to generate reports and broadcast contents on violence against women and girls.

The public will receive key information including core, relevant data illustrated, developing infographs to facilitate transmission and understanding of the statistical evidence, formatted for digital support, social networks, and for traditional media.

Mid-term and final accountability presentations will be accompanied by adequate supporting material for decision makers and representatives of all societal sectors that will take part in this Initiative.