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Seventh Consolidated Annual Progress Report on Activities Implemented under the UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict Fund

**Report of the Administrative Agent of the UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict Fund
for the period 1 January – 31 December 2015**

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau of Management
United Nations Development Programme
<http://mptf.undp.org>

31 May 2016

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
	Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
	Office of the SRSG on Sexual Violence Conflict
	Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS
	UNDP (MDTF/PUNO only)
	UN Department of Political Affairs
	UN Department for Peacekeeping Operations
	United Nations Population Fund
	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
	UN Children's Fund
	UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
	World Health Organization

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¹ The Governments of Belgium, Estonia, Irish Aid, Japan, Luxembourg, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates contributed to the Team of Experts.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BINUCA	United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic
CAR	Central African Republic
CRSV	Conflict-Related Sexual Violence
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DPA	United Nations Department of Political Affairs
DPKO	United Nations Department for Peacekeeping Operations
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DSRSG	Deputy Special Representative to the Secretary-General
FARDC	Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo
GBV	Gender-based violence
GBVIMS	Gender-Based Violence Information Management System
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
HR WPA	Human Rights Women's Protection Adviser
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
IRC	International Rescue Committee
MARA	Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements
MINUSMA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MPTF Office	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office UNDP
MONUSCO	United Nations Stabilization Organization in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPR	Office of the Personal Representative of the President on Sexual Violence and Child Recruitment (Democratic Republic of the Congo)
OSRSG-SVC	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
PBSO	Peacebuilding Support Office
PRST	Presidential Statement
PSVI	Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative (United Kingdom)
RC	Resident Coordinator
RMC	Resource Management Committee

RoLCRG	Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group
SCR	Security Council Resolution
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SRN	Stop Rape Now campaign
SMSG	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
SMSG-CAAC	Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict
SMSG-SVC	Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
SVC	Sexual Violence in Conflict
TOE	Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict
TOR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UN Action	UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNAMA	United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
UNAMID	African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan
UNOCI	United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
UNSMIL	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
UNSOM	United Nations Assistance Mission in Mali
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WPA	Women's Protection Adviser

DEFINITIONS

Allocation

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

Approved Project/Programme

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Commitment

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

Contributor Deposit

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

Delivery Rate

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect Support Costs

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

Net Funded Amount

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

Participating Organization

A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

Project Expenditure

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

Project Financial Closure

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

Project Start Date

Date of transfer of first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

Total Approved Budget

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

US Dollar Amount

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This seventh Consolidated Annual Financial Progress Report for the UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN Action MPTF) is prepared by the UN Action Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in its capacity as the Administrative Agent of the UN Action MPTF. It is based on information provided by the Participating Organizations. In accordance with the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the Fund, the Administrative Agent consolidates financial reports from the Participating UN Organizations and combines this with the narrative report, which is prepared by the UN Action Secretariat.

The UN Action MPTF was established in December 2008, and made operational in January 2009 with the first contribution to the Fund from the Government of Norway. In late 2014, the UN Action Steering Committee endorsed an extension of the MPTF through the end of 2019. This Progress Report provides information on **key achievements** by the UN Action network during 2015, as they relate to deliverables specified in UN Action's **Strategic Framework** for 2015-16. It provides financial information for the period 1 January – 31 December 2015.

2. OVERVIEW

United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action) unites efforts across the UN system with the goal of ending sexual violence during and in the wake of armed conflict. Launched in 2007, it represents a concerted effort by the United Nations to “deliver as one” – improving coordination and accountability, amplifying advocacy and supporting country-level efforts to prevent conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and respond more effectively to the needs of survivors. As of 2015, the UN Action membership includes the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the World Health Organization (WHO). UN Action is chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG-SVC), a post that has been held by Mrs. Zainab Hawa Bangura since September 2012. The SRSG-SVC is both the chair of UN Action and the global “voice” in condemning CRSV, calling for an end to impunity, and advocating on behalf of survivors. Through strategic advocacy and political dialogue, the SRSG-SVC galvanizes action to combat sexual violence in countries affected by conflict and unrest.

The principal aims of UN Action are: (i) to support the development and implementation of Comprehensive Strategies to combat sexual violence, as mandated by Security Council resolution 1888 and a number of country-specific resolutions; (ii) to encourage joint programming by the UN system, in keeping with “one UN” principles, bridging peace and security, humanitarian affairs, human rights and development actors; (iii) to accelerate implementation of the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence (MARA) and other operative demands of Security Council resolutions 1820, 1888, 1960 and 2106; (iv) to support capacity-building efforts, including by enabling the UN to deploy skilled, field-based professionals and Women's Protection Advisers (WPAs) to drive the UN's response; and (v) to roll out and disseminate relevant advocacy tools and knowledge products that have been developed since UN Action's inception.

Efforts will be guided by best practice and international human rights, humanitarian, criminal and refugee law, and implemented in close collaboration with Government and NGO partners.

UN Action's work is funded by voluntary contributions from a range of governments, including: Norway, Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Bahrain and Switzerland, whose funds are pooled in a Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) managed by the UNDP MPTF Office, who have directed funds to UN Action entities to support specific UN Action deliverables. With a view to becoming more responsive to international and donor communities, the UN Action Coordinator has committed to ensuring that UN Action will engage in results-based reporting and monitoring of its activities and will deepen partnerships and collaboration with civil society.

3. CONTEXT

The robust series of resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council since 2008 has concretely framed sexual violence in conflict as a tactic of war and a threat to international peace and security. Resolution 1820, adopted in June 2008, following concerted strategic advocacy, including a landmark conference of Security Council members and peacekeepers convened by UN Action in May 2008, demanded the "immediate and complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence against civilians". Resolution 1888, adopted in September 2009, called for concrete measures to operationalize and institutionalize the commitments made through resolution 1820. It requested the UN Secretary-General to appoint an SRSG-SVC to provide coherent and strategic leadership working primarily through the interagency initiative UN Action, and called for the creation of a team of rapidly deployable experts on the Rule of Law, the deployment of Women's Protection Advisers (WPAs) in peacekeeping and special political missions and the development of joint UN-Government Comprehensive Strategies to Combat Sexual Violence.

Resolution 1960, adopted in December 2010, ushered in a new accountability and compliance regime. It called upon the Secretary-General to include information in his annual reports on parties "credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence in situations on the Security Council agenda" and reiterated the Council's intention to adopt or renew targeted sanctions against persistent perpetrators. In addition, it called upon the SRSG-SVC and senior UN officials at the country level to engage in dialogue with parties to armed conflict to secure specific, time-bound commitments to end the use of sexual violence in conflict. Resolution 2106, to which UN Action also lent impetus and has helped to frame the UN system response, stresses women's participation as essential to any conflict prevention or resolution efforts and makes the prevention of CRSV a priority.

All four of the above mentioned Security Council resolutions reference UN Action as the primary mechanism for improving cooperation, information-sharing and coordination across the UN, and fostering a system-wide approach to ending CRSV in partnership with governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). This builds upon the June 2007 decision of the Secretary-General's Policy Committee, which endorsed UN Action as "a critical joint UN system-wide initiative to guide advocacy, knowledge building, resource mobilization and joint programming around sexual violence in conflict". In December 2010, the Secretary-General's Policy Committee further tasked the network to develop an analytical and conceptual framing note to define CRSV; monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on patterns, trends and perpetrators of CRSV; a framework of early-warning indicators; and a guidance note on reparations for CRSV.

The most recent Security Council Resolution, Resolution 2242 adopted in October 2015, highlights the changing global context of peace and security, in particular relating to rising violent extremism. This resolution recognized the specific impact on the human rights of women and girls of terrorism

and violent extremism, including sexual and gender-based violence as a tactic of terrorism to advance the strategic objectives and ideology of certain terrorist and violent extremist groups, in order to increase their power, revenue and recruitment base, and to shred the social fabric of targeted communities, as described in the Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence published in 2015.

The 2016 Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, published on 20 April 2016 cites the important role of the UN Action MPTF in incentivizing cooperation and collaboration across the UN system, and calls upon Member States, donors and regional organizations to support the MPTF in order to ensure that UN Action can fulfill its critical role, particularly for the development and implementation of comprehensive national strategies to prevent and address CRSV in a coordinated and holistic manner. In 2015, UN Member States approved a new resolution commemorating 19 June as the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. The resolution recognized efforts by UN Action to facilitate coordinated responses to sexual violence during and in the wake of conflict. The International Day aims to raise awareness of the need to end CRSV, to stand in solidarity with the survivors, and to pay tribute to all those working on the front-lines, often at great personal risk, to eradicate this scourge.

4. UN ACTION MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND (MPTF)

Since its creation in 2008, the UN Action MPTF has served as a vehicle for mobilizing funds to support the Secretariat of the UN Action network and a range of joint catalytic activities. The MPTF aims to support agencies to address CRSV in a coordinated, multi-sectoral and holistic way by: (i) streamlining joint programming, (ii) strengthening governance and financial management systems, and (iii) standardizing reporting to donors. The UN Action MPTF is guided by a Resource Management Committee, a subset of the UN Action network, which selects project proposals for funding if they are in line with the UN Action Strategic Framework, and foster joint programming by a number of UN entities, thus encouraging the UN system to work as one. UN Action created a dedicated “window” for the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (TOE) within the fund, which allows donors to earmark funds specifically for work on the Rule of Law.

5. GOALS AND STRUCTURE OF UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

UN Action seeks to amplify existing efforts across the UN system, including by its peacekeeping operations and special political missions, to address CRSV - reinforcing good practice, strengthening coordination and avoiding duplication of effort. To achieve this synergy of action, it harnesses the comparative strengths of each UN entity for a “force multiplier” effect, recognizing that sexual violence requires a broad-based, multi-sectoral response. To achieve this, UN Action structures its planning and activities around three pillars: (i) **Country-Level Action**, which includes strategic support to UN Missions and UN Country Teams to help design Comprehensive Strategies to combat CRSV; incorporate early-warning indicators of sexual violence into their existing monitoring systems; and build systems to monitor, analyse and report on patterns and trends in CRSV to inform the policy and programmatic response; (ii) **Advocacy for Action** by raising public awareness through the Stop Rape Now Campaign and the Secretary-General’s UNiTE to End Violence Against Women campaign; generating political will on this issue, including by contributing to and shaping messaging, analysis and recommendations for the Secretary-General’s annual report, which serves as a global advocacy instrument for the CRSV agenda; and supporting the media engagements, public statements and missions of the SRSG-SVC; and (iii) **Knowledge-Building**, through research and the development of tools to improve data collection and analysis, enhance the provision of multi-sectoral services, and training to improve protection and prevention.

UN Action is governed by a Steering Committee, chaired by the SRSG-SVC and comprised of Principals and Senior Officials from the 13 member entities, as well as the SRSG for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG-CAAC). In addition, Focal Points from each entity convene for monthly meetings at the technical level. A Secretariat, situated in the Office of the SRSG-SVC and composed of a Coordinator, an Advocacy and Women's Rights Officer, and a Programme Assistant, provides technical and administrative support to the network, supports preparation of the Secretary-General's annual report, frames advocacy messages for the network and SRSG-SVC, supports and engages in joint missions, conducts training, briefings, outreach and the development of strategic partnerships, oversees the MPTF, facilitates the network's strategic planning, mobilizes resources, monitors implementation of agreed-upon deliverables, and evaluates and reports on the impact of the network's activities (UNA032).

To mark the five-year milestone since the creation of UN Action, the network commissioned an independent, external review to take stock of achievements, highlight strengths and challenges, and provide strategic advice on the network's future directions. The reviewer found that "UN Action has proven itself to be a uniquely well-structured, rapidly-mobilised, visible and effective mechanism in providing a global platform for advocacy, accountability and coordination of UN commitments and actions to work as one in addressing conflict-related sexual violence". The five-year review also found the UN Action MPTF to be a critical tool for coordination, noting: "It is not simply a channel for projects that can improve or support UN coherence on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence at global and field levels but is in itself a vehicle for greater coordination and cooperation among UN entities".

5.1 PILLAR 1: SUPPORT FOR COUNTRY-LEVEL ACTION

Security Council resolutions 1820, 1888, 1960, 2106 and 2242 positioned CRSV as a peace and security issue, demanding appropriate action by the full spectrum of peace, security, human rights, humanitarian and development actors. The multiple operational and practical challenges that field actors face in translating these mandates into effective interventions to prevent and address sexual violence during and in the wake of conflict are often compounded by weak coordination mechanisms and insufficient human and financial resources. With these challenges in mind, the UN Action network committed to provide strategic and technical support to the UN system (Peacekeeping Operations, Special Political Missions and UN Country Teams) in the following settings: the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), as well as emerging situations of concern like the Middle East and North African (MENA) region.

Under the umbrella of country-level support, and in line with the UN Action Strategic Framework, in 2015 the UN Action MPTF **continued to fund the deployment and work of Women's Protection Advisors (WPAs)** in both Côte d'Ivoire and the DRC to enhance UN system coordination around CRSV. WPAs in peacekeeping missions are called for by the Security Council in resolutions 1888 and 1960, as well as in several country-specific peacekeeping mandates. In line with paragraph 12 of resolution 1888 and paragraph 10 of resolution 1960, the Terms of Reference for WPAs were jointly prepared by DPA, DPKO, OHCHR and OSRSG-SVC in consultation with other members of UN Action.

In 2015, the UN Action MPTF supported the Human Rights WPA (HR WPA) in the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO). During the reporting period, the HR WPA established common standards for data collection and information storage, carried out and guided field investigations into CRSV, and coordinated and harmonized analysis of CRSV. The intended impact is that consolidated and high quality data will allow for stronger advocacy at the highest government levels, with the intention of reducing acts of sexual violence by the armed and security forces. The HR WPA also provided clarity on the role of different mission components through

regular briefings on CRSV in Protection of Civilian forums; increased understanding of the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) and other government security forces on the MARA and the listing/de-listing regime through regular briefings; provided support when required to the monitoring and evaluation committee for the implementation of the FARDC Action Plan. In relation to the mass rape that occurred in September 2015 in South Kivu, the WPA used their expertise in the investigation of CRSV to produce a report that served as an advocacy tool at the national and provincial levels. The authorities arrested the perpetrators and carried out an investigation shortly thereafter (UNA027).

UN Action has supported the HR WPA in the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) since 2014, to strengthen the capacity of UNOCI in implementing the CRSV mandate. In 2015, outputs generated by the WPA in UNOCI included: sharing of information through regular meetings on the MARA; improved access to justice for survivors of CRSV by continuing to support six legal aid clinics through improved capacities to prevent and respond to CRSV; and strengthened capacities of national partners in terms of monitoring, documenting and reporting on sexual violence against women and girls, including CRSV. The WPA also worked to ensure CRSV-related issues were integrated into all UNOCI planning and operational processes and reflected in situational and analytical reports. The expected long term outcomes of this project include implementation of the MARA; dialogue with parties to the conflict to obtain protection commitments; the facilitation and strengthening of the implementation of the National Strategy to Combat GBV; and mainstreaming of CRSV considerations into policies and operations of the mission. The UNOCI WPA also led several workshops and advocacy activities throughout 2015 (UNA031).

In March 2015, DPKO/DFS organized the annual **workshop for WPAs** in collaboration with DPA, OHCHR, OSRSG-SVC, the TOE, the UN Action Secretariat, and UNDP. 24 WPAs and WPA Focal Points participated from six peacekeeping and four special political missions (MINUSCA, MINUSMA, MONUSCO, UNAMA, UNAMI, UNAMID, UNMISS, UNOCI, UNSMIL and UNSOM). The workshop held at the United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi, Italy, was supported by a facilitator and resource persons from the above mentioned offices and included colleagues on site and those linked by video conference/telephone. The five-day workshop provided an opportunity for participants to discuss updates on the CRSV mandate, share challenges and good practices, and enabled all participants and facilitators to develop a common approach and harmonised understanding of responsibilities and functions assumed by WPAs. The workshop addressed CRSV within the frameworks of Women, Peace and Security, Rule of Law, and Protection of Civilians. It examined capacity gaps, best practices and challenges, and developed recommendations to strengthen the protection of women and girls from sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations. During the workshop, UN Action briefed the WPAs on the network, and also presented on the work UN Action has undertaken on Comprehensive Strategies.

During this reporting period, UN Action continued to support **the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS)**, the only globally-recognized system for safe and ethical collection, storage, sharing and reporting of GBV data in humanitarian settings. The GBVIMS was created to harmonize data collection on GBV in humanitarian settings, to provide a simple system for actors providing services to GBV survivors to collect, store and analyze their data and to enable the safe and ethical sharing of reported GBV incident data within and between relevant entities. The intention of the GBVIMS is both to assist service providers to better understand the GBV cases being reported, as well as to enable actors to share data internally across project sites and externally with agencies for broader trend analysis and improved GBV coordination. The GBVIMS team consists of UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, and the International Rescue Committee (IRC).

During 2015, the GBVIMS Steering Committee achieved the following: in-country technical support was provided in eight countries, namely Niger, CAR, Nigeria, Kenya, South Sudan, Lebanon, Jordan,

and Iraq, and remote support was provided in seven: Mali, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen, Ukraine, Ethiopia, and Mauritania. The GBVIMS system was introduced in Nigeria and Iraq, and data analysis workshops were facilitated in Lebanon, Jordan and South Sudan to improve the linkages between GBVIMS data and programming. Furthermore, an addendum on information sharing between the GBVIMS and the MARA on CRSV was developed and signed in South Sudan, as a first step for the pilot of the Guidance Note on the intersections between the two systems. The next generation of the GBVIMS (GBVIMS+) was introduced in Lebanon. New Technical Assistance Resources were developed and made available on the GBVIMS website (www.gbvims.com), including the Provisional Guidance Note on the Intersections between the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA) and the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GMBIMS), which was supported by UN Action. This Guidance Note was translated into French and Spanish in 2015, and published booklets will be disseminated to field missions and humanitarian actors in 2016 (UNA022).

In January 2015, a joint mission comprised of UN Action and the Regional Emergency GBV Advisor travelled to **Mali** to define the range of responsibilities to be undertaken by a GBV/CRSV expert sponsored by the Swiss Government. This scoping mission took into consideration the needs of the UN Country Team, with the ultimate goal of developing and implementing a National Strategy on sexual and gender-based violence, including CRSV. Based on these factors, the delegation was tasked to select a UN agency to host this expert. UNICEF has been chosen as the host agency of the expert, due to their capacity, field presence and means to support the work of the expert. Another recommendation from the mission was that it would be strategic to deploy a national staff post that would be located in the Ministry for Women, Children and Family to facilitate the work of the Swiss expert. That person would help with access to local grassroots organizations, facilitate the consultative process of developing the National Strategy and act as the liaison between the different Ministries. In addition, this post would help to build the capacity of national staff and ensure national ownership of the strategy. This is a unique opportunity to define a National Strategy that would integrate CRSV dimensions that have arisen during the conflict, including the promotion of an all-inclusive approach linked to advancing gender equality.

In April 2015, UN Action conducted a mission to **South Sudan**, which included the UN Action Secretariat, UNICEF, UN Women, and two donor representatives from the United Kingdom and Sweden. This unique mission composition followed recommendations emerging from the 2014 UN Action Donors' Conference and Strategic Planning Meeting to include interested donors in field missions to familiarize them with the work, tools and approach of the network, as well as the operational coordination challenges of addressing CRSV in integrated mission settings. This composition could be replicated in other settings as a way to familiarize donors and Security Council members with the work of UN Action. The primary aim of the mission was to follow-up at the technical level on the political groundwork laid by the SRSG-SVC during her visit of November 2014, by helping to keep this agenda high on the radar of relevant governmental, non-governmental, media and UN system stakeholders, and in particular to identify capacity and resource gaps for the implementation of the new *UN Strategy on Addressing CRSV*, developed by the MARA Technical Working Group, including to better understand how it relates to the Joint Communiqué and other relevant processes, such as the work of the GBV sub-cluster. The mission sought to identify ways that UN Action, in line with its mandate on advocacy, knowledge-building and country-level coordination support, could accelerate progress, including through the provision of technical and financial support, by familiarizing field counterparts with existing tools and resources, and empowering them to use and adapt generic guidance notes and frameworks developed at the global-level, such as the Matrix of Early-Warning Indicators of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and the Analytical Inventory of Peacekeeping Practice, to their specific situation on the ground.

At the end of 2015, UN Action allocated MPTF funds to support the second phase of a joint project in **Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)**, which is being implemented through the combined efforts of UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and the International Organization for Migration. Using the 2013 visit of the SRSB-SVC as a platform, the UN Country Team developed a Joint Project to comprehensively address the unresolved legacy of CRSV from the 1992-1995 conflict. The Project is designed to benefit both female and male survivors in the whole territory of BiH, and directly supports transitional justice with a survivor-centered approach. The intended impact is that this will enhance the status of, and provide redress to, survivors by ensuring the further development and expansion of equal access to justice, and efforts to combat the stigmatization of survivors of CRSV. The Project aims to identify and address gaps in existing care, support and justice systems, and create an effective and comprehensive approach for dealing with survivors of CRSV, in cooperation with BiH's government partners at all levels and civil society. The expected outcomes of the second phase of this Joint Project include: access to justice, care, empowerment and reparations for the survivors of CRSV, and their families; evidence-based targeted research that facilitates the design of CRSV relevant policies and provision of CRSV sensitive practice and service delivery; comprehensive care and support services are more effective, responsive, and accessible; equal access to reparations is advanced at all levels; outreach and advocacy programmes to combat stigmatisation and ensure equality of citizens are developed in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders. In 2016, UN Action will conduct a mission to BiH to assess progress in the implementation of phase two, as well as to collect best practices on joint UN programming (UNA037).

As a result of the SRSB-SVC's mission to the **Middle East** in 2015, in which the UN Action Coordinator participated, UN Action is currently reviewing joint proposals from the Middle East and North Africa region and remains committed to working in this region in 2016. At the beginning of 2016, UN Action approved a project in Lebanon, which will be implemented by UNHCR, which will support LGBTI refugees who are victims of sexual violence. This project will raise awareness about specific protection concerns and risks for LGBTI, and ensure that survivors have unhindered access to a range of specialized services, including psychosocial and medical assistance.

In an effort to ensure that the UN System in the field is aware of the types of support that the UN Action network can provide, the UN Action Secretariat produced a **"Menu of Country-Level Support Options"** in April 2015, which has been disseminated to the UN system in UN Action's priority countries.

5.1.1 SUPPORT TO COUNTRY EFFORTS THROUGH THE TEAM OF EXPERTS ON THE RULE OF LAW AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT (TOE)

In accordance with its mandate under Security Council resolution 1888 (2009), the TOE continued to assist national authorities to strengthen the rule of law and address CRSV in the following areas: criminal investigations and prosecution; collection and preservation of evidence; military justice system investigation and prosecution; criminal law reform and procedural law reform; protection of victims, witnesses and justice officials; and reparations. Composed of experts from DPKO, OHCHR and UNDP, and supplemented by an expert seconded by the United Kingdom's Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative (PSVI), the TOE also maintains a roster of experts with a range of specializations. Through the provision of dedicated expertise, the TOE supports and complements the work of the United Nations system on the ground, by assisting national authorities in developing a more structured justice and security sector response to CRSV, often pursuant to high-level commitments secured by the SRSB-SVC.

In 2015, the TOE deployed to **CAR**, where it provided advice to the Government on the establishment of a rapid response unit within the gendarmerie, to ensure that crimes of sexual violence receive adequate attention. This unit, which is expected to be operational in 2016, is tasked

with responding to reports of sexual violence through timely investigation and referral of survivors to service-providers. In addition, the TOE contributed to efforts to create the country's Special Criminal Court for core international crimes committed since 2003. In particular the TOE ensured that CRSV is among the priorities of the Court. In **Colombia**, the TOE supported efforts of the SRS-G-SVC to ensure that CRSV considerations remain central in the peace process between the Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia - People's Army (FARC-EP). In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the TOE assisted in strengthening the capacity of the national army, the *Forces Républicaines de Côte d'Ivoire* (FRCI), to respond to CRSV. Through the Team's support, the FRCI developed an action plan on CRSV, which is currently being implemented. As a result, on 19 June 2015, 47 FRCI senior commanders signed undertakings prohibiting CRSV. Additionally, the TOE conducted a technical assessment mission in **Mali** that contributed to the identification of the current backlog of CRSV cases, setting up priority for their documentation and prosecution by the Government; as well as defined the role to be played by the Bar Association of Bamako in the provision of legal aid to survivors.

In the **DRC**, the TOE's assistance to the national army (FARDC), focused on supporting the implementation of its action plan on CRSV. This resulted in the issuance of command orders prohibiting sexual violence and the signing on 31 March 2015 by 12 commanders of undertakings to address CRSV. The TOE assisted in the development of a prosecutorial strategy for the backlog of grave sexual violence cases in violation of international and Congolese law. Also notable is the development of a legislative framework and other practical mechanisms for the protection of victims and witnesses, as a result of an experts' meeting held in Kinshasa in November 2015 with the technical support of the TOE and the Joint Human Rights Office. In addition, the Team assisted the High Council of the Judiciary in planning the deployment of 24 women magistrates to five civilian jurisdictions in eastern DRC to lead on CRSV investigations. With this support, for the first time ever, the DRC will have women magistrates in areas such as Bunia, Beni, Butembo and Uvira, who will constitute sexual violence units within these jurisdictions, in order to enhance the local investigative and prosecutorial capacity on CRSV, which will further lead to an increase in the number of adjudicated cases. Further, the TOE, in support to MONUSCO, and through an expert embedded in the Prosecution Support Cells in Goma, provided technical advice on investigations and prosecutions, including the mass rapes in Kikamba and Musenyi, and the rapes of children in Kavumu, South Kivu. Due to the support of the TOE expert, field missions to these areas were able to adequately document these incidents. Additionally, the TOE continued to support mobile courts in South Kivu and North Kivu, to hear cases of CRSV, as mobile courts remain the most successful way of adjudicating sexual violence crimes committed in remote areas, which increased the level of accountability for such crimes. The TOE further provided technical assistance to the Office of the Personal Representative of the President on Sexual Violence and Child Recruitment, the Special Police for Women and Children, and the DRC Senate Special Commission on CRSV, by advising on the implementation of their 2015 action plans.

In 2015, the TOE visited **Syria, Iraq, and neighbouring countries** affected by the Syrian crisis to identify avenues for support to governments to address accountability. In November and December 2015, the TOE provided technical advice to law enforcement officials in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, as well as to stakeholders in neighbouring countries affected by the Syrian and Iraqi crises, on how to document CRSV, identify patterns, and protect information.

In March 2015, the TOE supported the Government of **South Sudan** in developing a plan to ensure it meets its commitments under the Joint Communiqué on CRSV. This support led to enhanced ownership and commitment by the Government through the establishment of a Government-led Joint Technical Working Group on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (JTWG), an umbrella committee composed of Government ministries and national institutions, United Nations agencies, and representatives of civil society organizations, which oversees the implementation of the Joint

Communiqué, as well as five Task Forces established to facilitate the work of the JTWG. In September 2015, the TOE supported the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army-in Opposition (SPLM/A-IO) in developing an implementation plan for its unilateral communiqué on CRSV. The TOE’s support to the SPLM/A-IO resulted in the signing of undertakings that establish and reinforce individual and command responsibility for CRSV by 53 senior commanders, and the importance for commanders to cooperate with military justice officials investigating or prosecuting sexual violence crimes.

In line with a Framework of Cooperation between the SRSG-SVC and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the TOE, through the Kampala-based ICGLR Regional Training Facility on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence, organized training and facilitated experience sharing between 20 military justice officials from CAR, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda that helped to bridge knowledge gaps in the areas of evidence collection, evidence protection, case building, protection of victims and witnesses, and other areas of prosecution of sexual violence crimes.

5.2 PILLAR 2: ADVOCACY FOR ACTION: GALVANIZING POLITICAL WILL

Since its inception, UN Action has sought to elevate conflict-related sexual violence to a place on the international peace and security agenda. Its efforts have heightened awareness that CRSV is not exclusively a gender or developmental issue, but also a war tactic and an illicit means of attaining military, political and economic ends. UN Action built its political and strategic advocacy on the foundation of international humanitarian law and international criminal law, which recognize that sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, an act of torture, and/or a constituent act of genocide. This new paradigm affirms that sexual violence is not cultural or collateral, but criminal. It is not an inevitable by-product of war, but a tactic that can be commanded, condoned or condemned. The effect of this new understanding has been two-fold: it confirms that prevention is possible, and it expands the circle of stakeholders to embrace non-traditional constituencies such as peacemakers, peacekeepers and peacebuilders.

Advocacy efforts have taken this message to the general public under the campaign banner: “Get Cross! Stop Rape Now”. The aim has been to build a vocal, visible community for an issue that has been called “history’s greatest silence” and “the world’s least condemned war crime”. “Get Cross” refers to the need to galvanize global outrage. It also explains the significance of the campaign’s distinctive crossed-arm tag gesture and is shorthand for the “five key asks” of the campaign:

What is your country doing to enhance security for women affected by war?

- C** contributing troops or police – including women – to peacekeeping missions?
- R** esource-mobilization to fund services for survivors?
- O** versight and training of the security sector in rape prevention and response?
- S** upporting legal measures to end impunity?
- S** ponsoring women’s full and equal participation in peace talks?

UN Action’s website, www.stoprapenow.org, is a repository of advocacy resources, news stories, and field updates on CRSV for use by practitioners and the public. It is an interactive site for social mobilization, featuring a global photo map of people from all walks of life displaying the crossed-arm

gesture in a show of solidarity with survivors. High-profile personalities have been engaged in the campaign, including UN Messenger of Peace Charlize Theron, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman, Congolese surgeon Dr. Denis Mukwege, former peacekeeper Major General Patrick Cammaert, Liberian peace activist and Nobel laureate, Leymah Gbowee, as well as actresses Heather Graham and Robin Wright and a number of UN Executive Heads. 2015 saw increased traffic to the website, as well as to the Stop Rape Now campaign's YouTube channel (number of views?), Facebook page (over 32,000 fans) and Twitter (over 38,000 followers).

In 2015, UN Action continued to disseminate its key advocacy resources, including a tool kit on resolution 1820 and successor resolutions, consisting of a PowerPoint presentation explaining how Security Council resolution 1820 builds on its predecessor, resolution 1325; a poster outlining the obligations of Member States, the UN system and NGOs; lapel pins that promote the message "Stop Rape in War" in English, "Non au Viol" in French, and "معاً ضد الإغتصاب" in Arabic; and a pen with a retractable banner containing a "cheat-sheet" summary of Security Council resolution 1820. The CRSV team in DPKO/DFS has disseminated UN Action products (e.g. lapel pins, banner pens, press kits, Analytical Framework, Early-Warning Indicators) at all trainings and conferences organised in 2015, including the Training of Trainers on the Integrated Training Materials (ITM) held in Entebbe from 29 March to 1 April, and the ITM pilot held in MONUSCO from 20 to 23 October. In addition, UN Action has organized seminars for students and the academic community and posted advocacy articles and Op-Eds to guide understanding of when sexual violence constitutes a threat to international peace and security, to publicize the use of rape as a tool of political repression, and to explain why it has been war's "ultimate secret weapon". The UN Action Secretariat has helped to frame strategic advocacy messages for speeches of the SRSV-SVC, Op-Eds, media interviews and official statements, helping the UN to speak with one voice on CRSV, including by continuing to translate and disseminate key advocacy documents and reference tools for use at both Headquarters and country-level. In 2015, UN Action also published its inaugural newsletter, which was shared with donors and relevant stakeholders. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep stakeholders informed of the network's activities, especially at the country level.

UN Action's global Stop Rape Now campaign frames the UN system's efforts to deliver on Outcome 5 of the Secretary-General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign. In 2015, UN Action actively contributed to the UNiTE campaign's "orange days" to end violence against women, particularly those focused on CRSV by collaborating with UNiTE on their campaign and social media initiatives. This participation included the launch of a joint Stop Rape Now event as part of the 16 Days of Activism against GBV, primarily through online social mobilization and the dissemination of key message on SVC through social media.

The UN Action Secretariat continued to conduct briefings with strategic partners, such as UN Member States, Security Council members, the International Criminal Court (ICC), and supported a number of high-profile events featuring the SRSV-SVC, particularly during the General Assembly and Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). Other highlights include the participation of the Secretariat in a student mobilization event and panel at New York University, numerous briefings and presentations to student groups, visiting delegations of parliamentarians, and UN staff at headquarters and in the field, as well as at the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI Forum) in Cape Town, South Africa.

5.3 PILLAR 3: KNOWLEDGE GENERATION: CREATING A KNOWLEDGE HUB ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

UN Action continues to strengthen its knowledge base on CRSV to improve information on the patterns, trends and spikes in sexual violence in conflict, and to collate information on promising responses by the UN and partners, particularly around early warning and prevention. For example, in

the wake of an incident of mass rape in eastern DRC in 2010, the UN Security Council reiterated its call for timely information that could mitigate or prevent similar atrocities. The Secretary-General tasked UN Action to develop a matrix of early-warning indicators specific to CRSV. [In response, UN Women conducted a desk review of gender-sensitive early warning indicators and an analysis of salient features of past conflicts characterized by widespread or systematic sexual violence. Based on this, a working group comprised of the UN Action Secretariat, UN Women, DPKO, and the OSRSG-SVC distilled a matrix of indicators, which were used in consultation with DPA, OCHA, UNDP, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNICEF, and the Office of the Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide, the Protection Cluster and a range of NGOs.] The result is an illustrative, system-wide reference tool that can be adapted and integrated into existing and emerging early-warning and prevention systems at the local, national, and regional levels. It is meant to inform the tools used for planning, reporting, information-collection and analysis within DPKO-led Peacekeeping Missions, DPA-led Special Political Missions, UN Country Teams, or at Headquarters-level. The Matrix of Early-Warning Indicators of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence developed by UN Action continues to be adapted and used in several settings, including Côte d'Ivoire, the DRC, South Sudan and Sudan (Darfur).

In 2015, WHO in collaboration with UNHCR and UNFPA, developed and **piloted a psychological intervention for adult survivors of CRSV**. This project builds on previous funding from UN Action, which supported a WHO-UNICEF-UNFPA technical meeting in 2011 that recommended the development of manuals on evidence-based psychological treatment for survivors of CRSV and produced related guidance documents. The intended impact of the project is to improve the mental health of survivors of CRSV. With the support of the UN Action MPTF, along with funding from WHO Syria, WHO developed a 5 session audio intervention with an accompanying illustrated self-help book, which is delivered by trained facilitators. The package, called Self-Help Plus (SH+), is based on acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT), which is a form of cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) with distinct features. ACT has been shown to be useful for a number of different mental health problems and has previously been successfully delivered in a guided self-help format. The English version was extensively adapted for use with South Sudanese refugees living in Rhino Camp in Northern Uganda using a comprehensive adaptation protocol, which involved focus groups and community engagement work. The pilot, comprised of three pilot groups (two female and one male), was conducted in a section of the camp. Following advice from community groups, experts and ethical review committees, women and men with levels of stress indicative of common mental health problems were invited to the groups, regardless of their status as survivors of sexual violence. This strategy was adopted to avoid the unintentional identification of participants as survivors of sexual violence. Initial analysis of baseline data showed that there was a high proportion of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in the groups. Results from the pilot will become available in 2016, but at this stage it is possible to report that the pilot showed the group intervention was acceptable and feasible as demonstrated by the number of people who completed the five-week course, and positive anecdotal feedback from participants. WHO and partners have secured further funding to test the SH+ package in a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) in Uganda (UNA034).

In 2015, UN Action also supported the WHO and UNODC project on **strengthening medico-legal services for sexual violence in conflict-affected settings**. This project aims to support national capacity in conflict-affected countries by addressing key gaps in policy and practice related to the collection and use of forensic evidence of sexual violence in these settings. The overall goal is to improve capacity in the fight against impunity. In 2015, the field testing version of the toolkit was finalized, including a set of job aids, background paper, and policy note. These were printed and released in November 2015. The job aids have been translated into French and designed. Field testing of the toolkit has begun in Kenya in partnership with Physicians for Human Rights USA (PHR), and working closely with the Government. To date, stakeholders in two locations, Nakuru and

Kisumu Counties, met to gain a shared understanding of service delivery in response to sexual violence in conflict situations, become introduced to the toolkit, and adopt a plan for evaluation of the toolkit. Stakeholders from all sectors of the medico-legal system were represented, including health workers (clinicians, nurses, lab technicians, and psychologists/counselors), social workers, Government representatives (from the Government chemist's office, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), and county health department), and representatives of the judiciary, social services, and members of civil society (NGOs and CBOs). As per the objectives of the project, stakeholders will identify gaps and challenges in the system including capacity gaps in some sectors and provide feedback on how the toolkit can help to strengthen the current systems and multi-sectoral working relationships in response to sexual violence in conflict, as well as non-conflict, situations. The field testing process is ongoing, and in 2016, UN Action will be supporting field testing of the toolkit in Somaliland. This project will contribute to knowledge-building by bolstering technical skills among key actors in the criminal justice chain on how to collect and treat medico-legal evidence to facilitate legal redress for sexual violence survivors, and how to coordinate between actors in the criminal justice chain to ensure the correct handling and treatment of medico-legal evidence (UNA028).

In December 2010, OHCHR and UN Women were tasked by the Secretary-General's Policy Committee to develop a **Guidance Note on reparations for CRSV**. The Guidance Note of the Secretary General on Reparations for conflict-related sexual violence is the result of an extensive study jointly commissioned by OHCHR and UN Women and has been formally endorsed by UN Action, as well as Principals of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group (RoLCRG). While the Guidance Note is targeted towards information the UN's engagement on this issue, it details principles that constitute best practice in the area of reparations for victims of CRSV, providing critical policy and operational guidance for UN agencies, as well as Member States, development actors, and civil society organizations in the area of reparations for victims of CRSV, including activities to advocate for and/or support the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of reparation programmes and initiatives directed at victims of CRSV. In order to ensure its wide dissemination, OHCHR and UN Women organized for translation of the Guidance Note into Arabic, Spanish and French, as well as its launch globally and in a number of countries where reparations programmes are being instituted. Funds will be used under this project to launch the Guidance Note in Tunisia. Participants will include members of Tunisia's Truth and Dignity Commission (TDC), which has been mandated to develop a comprehensive individual and collective reparations programme for victims of human rights violations, including sexual violence. A second regional launch will be held in Bosnia. This will serve as a workshop to share lessons learned from countries that have instituted specific laws for reparations for sexual violence survivors, such as Kosovo and Croatia, and initiate a dialogue on the possibility of a more coordinated approach to reparations at the regional level, as well as designing reparations programmes that address gender-based violations more generally in a sustainable and transformative manner.

The purpose of translating and launching the Guidance Note is to create broad awareness to ensure key stakeholders understand the principles and are involved in its dissemination to their partners and networks. Ultimately, however, implementation of reparations for CRSV will not be realized without the active engagement and commitment of all relevant parties (government, civil society and the UN). The long term outcome of the translation and launch of the Guidance Note is to

enhance UN system coordination and joint programming through disseminating principles and guidelines for operationalizing the transformative potential of reparations and streamlining the UN's work to support Member States, civil society and other key stakeholders in this area. The aim is for the UN system to engage Member States and other stakeholders to apply the key principles of the Guidance Note when designing and implementing their own reparations programmes. The project also seeks to enhance the UN system's coordinated response to implementation of Security Council resolutions 2106 and 2122 (2013), which recognize the right to reparations. The intended impact of this project is that the progress to date will be furthered through widespread understanding of the best practice principles of the Guidance Note in securing reparations for victims of CRSV, and that this understanding will be translated into the design and implementation of reparations programmes as vehicles for substantive change in the lives of women and men, boys and girls affected by conflict (UNA033).

At the end of 2015, the UN Action Secretariat conducted a **mapping of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda**, which looked at ongoing policy processes, emerging issues and trends, with the aim of identifying strategic entry points for UN Action. The key data were drawn from outcomes of interviews with UN Action Focal Points and stakeholders, meetings and events and a desk review of relevant documents. The mapping will be produced into a booklet for dissemination in 2016 as a UN Action knowledge and advocacy product that will help to guide the strategic direction of UN Action in the coming years.

6. MOVING FORWARD: PRIORITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR 2016

In 2015, UN Action engaged in discussions with donors and the network on ways to improve its work through reinforcing its Strategic Framework, including through the development of a Results-Based Framework (RBF). Donors recommended that UN Action develop a more strategic and results-based approach, highlighting impact, which UN Action has committed to achieving in 2016, along with a monitoring and evaluation framework. UN Action plans to hire a consultant with the relevant expertise to work with the network to create a Results-Based Framework and Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism.

In 2016, UN Action will intensify its strategic support to UN Missions and Country Teams in countries selected by the Steering Committee and SRSG-SVC. For example, following the 2016 Technical Planning Workshop, a UN Action Working Group on Information Sharing Protocol (ISP) has been created which provides technical support to actors on the ground, to ensure better synergy in management of information. Furthermore, in light of the current conflict in Syria and the humanitarian implications for refugees and internally displaced persons, the MENA region has been added as an additional area of concern for the network. UN Action will respond to requests for support from country-based SRSGs and RC/HCs on a case-by-case basis according to the specific strategic and technical needs of each UNCT/UN Mission. The criteria for inclusion on the list of UN Action focus countries were captured in the Five-Year Review (p.56), namely: that the country is on the Security Council agenda; there are credible reports of SVC; there is a UN-mandated mission in place; a request was received from the RC/DSRSG/SRSG; and/or support responds to a current crisis situation. The list of countries should also reflect a geographical balance.

The UN Action network will continue to raise awareness and foster public outrage against the use of sexual violence as a tactic of war, a tactic of terrorism, and an impediment to the restoration of

peace and security. Led by the SRSG-SVC, it will galvanise political support for a more effective and timely response, and mobilise resources to end sexual violence during and after the cessation of conflict. Emphasis will be placed on supporting partners in countries where CRSV has been identified as a significant concern, with a view to triggering action by Government authorities and non-State actors. Advocacy strategies will include harnessing key media moments, building the capacity of local media to support the safe and ethical reporting of CRSV, public events, development of publications and knowledge products, and lobbying to raise awareness and generate political will for action to prevent and punish the scourge of sexual violence.

7. 2015 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the UN Action Agst Sexual Violence using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2015. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/UNA00>.

7.1 SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2015, 13 contributors have deposited US\$ 35,436,414 in contributions and US\$ 246,275 has been earned in interest,

bringing the cumulative source of funds to US\$ 35,682,690.

Of this amount, US\$ 28,504,355 has been transferred to 12 Participating Organizations, of which US\$ 18,682,013 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$ 354,364. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the UN Action Agst Sexual Violence as of 31 December 2015.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2015 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2014	Annual 2015	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Gross Contributions	9,191,308	7,063,174	35,436,414
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	19,169	43,236	216,947
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	14,567	4,296	29,328
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF	-	-	-
Other Revenues	-	-	-
Total: Sources of Funds	9,225,043	7,110,707	35,682,690
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	7,295,712	6,201,304	28,504,355
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	(104,660)	(144,521)	(749,403)
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations	7,191,052	6,056,783	27,754,952
Administrative Agent Fees	91,913	70,632	354,364
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	-	-	-
Bank Charges	405	405	1,493
Other Expenditures	-	-	-
Total: Uses of Funds	7,283,370	6,127,819	28,110,809
Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	1,941,673	982,887	7,571,881
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	4,647,320	6,588,994	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	6,588,994	7,571,881	7,571,881
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations	7,191,052	6,056,783	27,754,952
Participating Organizations' Expenditure	3,393,768	5,081,363	18,682,013
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			9,072,939

7.2 PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2015.

Table 2. Contributors' Deposits, as of 31 December 2015 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2014	Current Year Jan-Dec-2015	Total
BAHRAIN, Government of	-	100,000	100,000
BELGIUM, Government of	330,970	-	330,970
ESTONIA, REPUBLIC OF, Government of	130,260	54,265	184,525
FINLAND, Government of	5,850,715	163,542	6,014,257
IRISH AID	129,020	-	129,020
JAPAN, Government of	2,150,000	2,550,000	4,700,000
LUXEMBOURG, Government of	65,185	-	65,185
NORWAY, Government of	4,264,784	463,446	4,728,230
SWEDISH INT'L DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION	13,676,068	1,756,755	15,432,823
SWITZERLAND, Government of	117,538	-	117,538
TURKEY, Government of	50,000	-	50,000
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, Government of	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
UNITED KINGDOM, Government of	1,608,700	975,166	2,583,866
Grand Total	28,373,240	7,063,174	35,436,414

7.3 INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent ('Fund earned interest'), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations ('Agency earned interest') where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest

to the AA. As of 31 December 2015, Fund earned interest amounts to US\$ 216,947 and interest received from Participating Organizations amounts to US\$ 29,328, bringing the cumulative interest received to US\$ 246,275. Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2015 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2014	Current Year Jan-Dec-2015	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	173,711	43,236	216,947
Total: Fund Earned Interest	173,711	43,236	216,947
Participating Organization			
UNDPKO	19,686	1,293	20,979
UNDP	717		717
UNWOMEN	2,560	3,003	5,562
UNDPA	2,070		2,070
Total: Agency earned interest	25,032	4,296	29,328
Grand Total	198,743	47,532	246,275

7.4 TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2015, the AA has transferred US\$ **28,504,355** to **12** Participating Organizations (see list below).

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2015 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2014			Current Year Jan-Dec-2015			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
OCHA	428,271		428,271				428,271		428,271
OHCHR	1,153,683		1,153,683	546,903		546,903	1,700,586		1,700,586
OSRSG_SVC	3,041,261		3,041,261	213,358	(50,932)	162,426	3,254,619	(50,932)	3,203,687
UNAIDS	171,414		171,414				171,414		171,414
UNDP	5,039,550	(441,910)	4,597,640	2,351,000	(13,299)	2,337,701	7,390,550	(455,209)	6,935,341
UNDPA	497,871	(127)	497,744				497,871	(127)	497,744
UNDPKO	5,732,759	(123,011)	5,609,748	2,834,774	(59,286)	2,775,488	8,567,533	(182,297)	8,385,236
UNFPA	1,196,395	(31,299)	1,165,096	129,069	(6,733)	122,336	1,325,464	(38,032)	1,287,432
UNHCR	343,134		343,134				343,134		343,134
UNICEF	1,174,271	(8,535)	1,165,736		(14,272)	(14,272)	1,174,271	(22,807)	1,151,464
UNWOMEN	2,802,192		2,802,192	126,200		126,200	2,928,392		2,928,392
WHO	722,250		722,250				722,250		722,250
Grand Total	22,303,051	(604,882)	21,698,169	6,201,304	(144,521)	6,056,783	28,504,355	(749,403)	27,754,952

7.5 EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported for the year 2015 were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

7.5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ **27,754,952** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ **18,682,013**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **67** percent.

Table 5. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2015 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2014	Current Year Jan-Dec-2015	Cumulative	
OCHA	428,271	428,271	428,271		428,271	100.00
OHCHR	1,700,586	1,700,586	1,009,041	197,922	1,206,963	70.97
OSRSG_SVC	3,254,619	3,203,687	656,043	706,730	1,362,773	42.54
UNAIDS	171,414	171,414	171,414		171,414	100.00
UNDP	7,390,550	6,935,341	1,674,412	2,192,321	3,866,733	55.75
UNDPA	497,871	497,744	199,214	0	199,214	40.02
UNDPKO	8,567,533	8,385,236	4,242,013	1,503,783	5,745,796	68.52
UNFPA	1,325,464	1,287,432	1,153,130	2,529	1,155,659	89.76
UNHCR	343,134	343,134	343,134		343,134	100.00
UNICEF	1,174,271	1,151,464	1,057,717	72,726	1,130,443	98.17
UNWOMEN	2,928,392	2,928,392	2,391,796	(639)	2,391,157	81.65
WHO	722,250	722,250	274,465	405,991	680,456	94.21
Grand Total	28,504,355	27,754,952	13,600,650	5,081,363	18,682,013	67.31

7.5.2 EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT

Table 5 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organization.

Table 5.1 Expenditure by Project within Sector, as of 31 December 2015 (in US Dollars)

Sector / Project No.and Project Title		Participating Organization	Total Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Total Expenditure	Delivery Rate %
UN Action Against Sexual Violence						
00071098	UNA003 Peace Negotiations and	UNWOMEN	99,992	99,992	99,992	100.00
00072448	UNA002 Dvpt of SOPs to address	UNHCR	58,514	58,514	58,514	100.00
00072560	UNA001 UNIFEM Support to UN	UNWOMEN	68,881	68,881	68,730	99.78
00073077	UNA004 UNIFEM UN Action Secret	UNAIDS	50,932	50,932	50,932	100.00
00073077	UNA004 UNIFEM UN Action Secret	UNDP	98,520	98,520		0
00073077	UNA004 UNIFEM UN Action Secret	UNDPKO	45,090			0
00073077	UNA004 UNIFEM UN Action Secret	UNWOMEN	2,542,369	2,542,369	2,197,597	86.44
00073078	UNA007 UNICEF benchmarks	UNICEF	55,005	55,005	55,005	100.00
00073079	UNA008 UNICEF prevention: stre	UNICEF	79,324	70,789	70,789	100.00
00073809	UNA005 Gender Marker roll out	OCHA	149,550	149,550	149,550	100.00
00074224	UNA010 Strategy to Combat GBV	OCHA	63,198	63,198	63,198	100.00
00074506	UNA011 Implementation of Opera	UNDPKO	1,000,000	950,350	950,350	100.00
00075673	UNA012 UNSC 1888 Team of Exper	OHCHR	183,345	183,345	183,345	100.00
00075673	UNA012 UNSC 1888 Team of Exper	UNDP	236,845	236,845		0
00075673	UNA012 UNSC 1888 Team of Exper	UNDPKO	579,138	562,471	562,471	100.00
00076324	UNA013 Special Adviser Cote D'	OCHA	72,926	72,926	72,926	100.00
00076683	UNA014 Strengthen Accountabili	UNFPA	245,469	214,170	214,170	100.00
00076943	UNA015 WHO Psychosocial & Ment	WHO	128,400	128,400	128,400	100.00
00076945	UNA016 DPA Sustainable Peace &	UNDP	199,341	199,214	199,214	100.00
00076946	UNA017 DPKO Accelerate Impleme	UNDPKO	361,874	361,874	351,691	97.19
00077794	UNA019 UNAIDS Scientific Plann	UNAIDS	69,550	69,550	69,550	100.00
00078606	UNA018 Eastern DRC SV Landscap	UNDP	203,747	190,448	190,448	100.00
00080048	UNA020 OCHA Accelerated Implem	OCHA	142,597	142,597	142,597	100.00
00080200	UNA021 DPKO Consultant on sexu	UNDPKO	50,144	38,540	38,540	100.00
00080903	UNA022 UNFPA/UNICEF Accelerate	UNFPA	615,250	615,250	612,545	99.56
00080903	UNA022 UNFPA/UNICEF Accelerate	UNHCR	284,620	284,620	284,620	100.00
00080903	UNA022 UNFPA/UNICEF Accelerate	UNICEF	650,517	650,517	629,495	96.77
00080904	UNA024 DPKO-OSRSG-SVC Funding	UNDPKO	372,375	313,089	313,090	100.00
00081401	UNA025 DPA WPA in CAR	UNDP	298,530	298,530		0
00081402	UNA026 UNICEF Strengthening co	UNICEF	299,600	285,328	285,328	100.00
00081403	UNA027 OHCHR WPA in MONUSCO	UNDPKO	254,262	254,262	225,002	88.49
00082137	UNA029 UNFPA GBV Cote d' Ivoir	UNFPA	335,676	328,943	328,943	100.00

00082194	UNA028 WHO Strengthening medic	WHO	197,950	197,950	174,379	88.09
00083267	UNA030 UNICEF OCHA 5-Year Rev	UNICEF	89,825	89,825	89,825	100.00
00085352	UNA031 DPKO Streng. the	UNDPKO	619,871	619,871	253,157	40.84
00085811	UNA032 OSRSG-SVC Funding UN Se	OSRSG_SVC	3,254,619	3,203,687	1,362,773	42.54
00085811	UNA032 OSRSG-SVC Funding UN Se	UNAIDS	50,932	50,932	50,932	100.00
00089251	UNA033 UN WOMEN OHCHR	UNWOMEN	90,950	90,950	24,837	27.31
00090474	UNA034 WHO Psychological inter	WHO	395,900	395,900	377,677	95.40
00096500	UNA037 CRSV BIH	UNDP	244,740	244,740		0
00096500	UNA037 CRSV BIH	UNFPA	129,069	129,069		0
00096500	UNA037 CRSV BIH	UNWOMEN	126,200	126,200		0
UN Action Against Sexual Viole: Total			15,095,637	14,788,144	10,930,614	73.91

UN Action Team of Experts						
00080902	UNA023 UNSCR 1888 DPKO-OHCHR-U	OHCHR	970,338	970,338	970,338	100.00
00080902	UNA023 UNSCR 1888 DPKO-OHCHR-U	UNDP	2,514,737	2,072,827	1,929,847	93.10
00080902	UNA023 UNSCR 1888 DPKO-OHCHR-U	UNDPKO	2,450,005	2,450,005	2,355,726	96.15
00092613	UNA035 DPKO-OHCHR-UNDP ToE DRC	UNDP	1,985,701	1,985,701	1,746,438	87.95
00094137	UNA036Team of Experts Phase II	OHCHR	546,903	546,903	53,281	9.74
00094137	UNA036Team of Experts Phase II	UNDP	358,260	358,260		0
00094137	UNA036Team of Experts Phase II	UNDPKO	2,834,774	2,834,774	695,769	24.54
00097368	UNA038 UNDP ToE DRC II	UNDP	1,748,000	1,748,000		0
UN Action Team of Experts: Total			13,408,718	12,966,808	7,751,398	59.78

Grand Total			28,504,355	27,754,952	18,682,013	67.31
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7.5.3 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure are reported in the new eight categories. The old and new categories are noted to the right.

Table 6 reflects expenditure reported in the UNDG expense categories. Where the Fund has been operational pre and post 1 January 2012, the expenditures are reported using both categories. Where a Fund became operational post 1 January 2012, only the new categories are used.

2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

2006 UNDG Expense Categories

1. Supplies, commodities, equipment & transport
2. Personnel
3. Training counterparts
4. Contracts
5. Other direct costs
6. Indirect costs

Table 5.2 Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2015 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2014	Current Year Jan-Dec-2015	Total	
Supplies, Commodities, Equipment and Transport (Old)	33,662	-	33,662	0.19
Personnel (Old)	2,744,111	-	2,744,111	15.68
Training of Counterparts (Old)	277,104	-	277,104	1.58
Contracts (Old)	412,165	-	412,165	2.36
Other direct costs (Old)	401,696	-	401,696	2.30
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	5,262,503	2,163,312	7,425,815	42.44
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	(490,296)	(26,836)	(517,133)	(2.96)
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	67,307	130,099	197,406	1.13
Contractual Services (New)	1,871,664	1,096,766	2,968,429	16.96
Travel (New)	1,567,508	905,673	2,473,181	14.13
Transfers and Grants (New)	83,806	65,346	149,152	0.85
General Operating (New)	528,926	403,598	932,524	5.33
Programme Costs Total	12,760,155	4,737,958	17,498,112	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	840,495	343,405	1,183,900	6.77
Total	13,600,650	5,081,363	18,682,013	

¹ **Indirect Support Costs** charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

7.6 COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2015, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ **70,632** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2015, US\$ **354,364** has been charged in AA-fees.
- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ **343,405** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ **1,183,900** as of 31 December 2015.

7.7 ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

7.8 DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as Fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In 2015, there were no direct costs charged to the Fund.