ANNEX A.4

**MULTI-DONOR TRUST FUND FOR**

**UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT**

FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT COVER PAGE

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| **Participating UN Organization(s):**  UNICEF (lead), UNFPA, UNDP, and OCHA | **Project[[1]](#footnote-2) Title:** Towards the Operationalization of SCR 1888: Development of benchmarks and proposals to improve monitoring and reporting of the UN’s response to sexual violence |
| **Focal Point of Participating UN Organization receiving funds:**  Name: Mendy Marsh, UNICEF  Telephone: Marsh 212 824 6313  Email: [mmarsh@unicef.org](mailto:mmarsh@unicef.org) | **Report Number:** |
| **Project Location(s): UNICEF** Headquarters (New York) one-to-two field sites |
| **UN Action pillar of activity**:  Advocacy  Knowledge building  Support to UN system at country level | **Reporting Period:** November 10, 2009 – August 31, 2010 |
| **Project Budget:** US $ \_55,005 | |

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| **List Implementing Partners:**   * All UN Action agencies participated in this project as well as the OSRSG for Children and Armed Conflict’s office. * A number of international NGOs participated in this project including: International Rescue Committee, International Medical Corps, Care International, Save the Children Alliance, Women’s Refugee Commission, Watchlist for Children and Armed Conflict, **NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, and Open Society Institute. A number of independent consultants were consulted as well.** | **Project Coverage/Scope:**  Project was carried out from the headquarters level with engagement with interagency headquarters focal points and field actors in approximately 14 conflict affected countries. |

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| **Project Duration/Closed Project:**   * The project was approved on November 11, 2009 and ended August 31, 2010 The original project period was for four months, but this was extended for an additional six months. No budget revisions were made. * The project was closed as expected at the end of the project period. |

# Purpose

The overall purpose of this project was to engage a consultant(s) to assist the UN Action network to finalize a set of indicators/benchmarks to gauge programmatic response to sexual violence, and to develop and negotiate proposals for the Secretary General to establish a monitoring and reporting mechanism that can be used at country level to ensure that information on the indicators is collected, analyzed and reported upon.

The main outcomes and outputs of the project include:

The development of a standard set of benchmarks to identify gaps and improve UN efforts to prevent and address sexual violence (also referenced as annex 1 below).

A proposal that responds to the request contained in Operative paragraph 26 of SCR 1888 by presenting recommendations on how to create an effective monitoring and reporting mechanism to improve the protection of women and children from rape and other forms of sexual violence.

Annexes associated with the proposal that were developed include: (*see all annexes as well as the overall proposal attached as an annex to this report*):

* Annex 1: Set of Standard Benchmarks for SCR 1820 and 1888
* Annex 2: Inter-agency Evaluation of the UN’s Response to Sexual Violence- Terms of Reference, which is a standard terms of reference template to guide real-time evaluations in chosen countries for assessing the UN response.
* Annex 3: Summary of Key Initiatives related to Monitoring and Reporting on Protection of Women and Children from Sexual Violence in Conflict Settings
* Annex 4: At-a-Glance Summary of Key Challenges and Recommendations in Implementing a Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on Protection of Women and Children from Sexual Violence in Conflict

This proposal falls under the *Knowledge Generation Pillar – “development of benchmarks and proposals to improve monitoring and reporting of the UN’s response to sexual violence.”*

This project did not have implementing partners beyond UNICEF, however, all UN Action agencies participated in this project as well as the Office for the Special Representative to the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict’s office. UNFPA also provided extensive support to UNICEF during the project period, and UNIFEM, UNFPA, OCHA, DPKO, WHO, DPA also provided very extensive comments on the proposal and the benchmarks and they participated in a number of the project related consultations.

A number of international NGOs participated in this project including: International Rescue Committee, International Medical Corps, Care International, Save the Children Alliance, Women’s Refugee Commission, Watchlist for Children and Armed Conflict, **NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, and Open Society Institute, and a number of independent consultants were consulted as well.** The above mentioned agencies participated in a series of consultations and phone calls and they provided written feedback on the development of and drafts of the proposal and benchmarks.

1. **Resources**

While other specific funding sources were not allocated to this work, UNICEF contributed significant in-kind support through its GBV Specialist in Emergencies and the Senior Child Protection Advisor for Child Protection in Emergencies. No budget revisions were made.

1. **Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements**

UNICEF consulted with a number of UNICEF staff and inter-agency partners working in the Monitoring and Reporting Task Forces in 14 countries and the Gender-based Violence Area of Responsibility Working Groups within those same 14 countries. The project consultant also had access to a number of UNICEF field staff who currently work in conflict affected countries and who were able to share their expertise in relation to monitoring and reporting on the six grave violations against children (Security Council Resolution 1612).

UNICEF’s Specialist on GBV in Emergencies at the headquarters level monitored the progress of the project, and was readily available to the consultants hired under this project. The Specialist also provided overall project guidance in coordination with the UN Action Focal Points and key members of the GBV AoR Working Group.

A survey questionnaire was sent out to 14 countries that are currently implicated through Security Council Resolution 1612. The questionnaire was sent out in English and French. Thirty-seven individual respondents representing UN and NGO staff from Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Columbia, DRC, Iraq, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan (South Sudan and North Sudan), Thailand, and Uganda responded to the survey during the period of December to January 2010. The survey aimed to collect information on lessons learned in relation to monitoring and reporting on sexual violence and key challenges in relation to ensuring that information on both child and adult survivors is effectively collected and followed-up upon.

**IV. Results**

UNICEF hosted a series of consultations to collect information on lessons learned, challenges and the development of solutions for improved monitoring and reporting on sexual violence in conflict as well as on how to measure or assess the UN’s response to sexual violence in conflict. The first consultation was held in September 2009 right after SCR 1888 became a reality. The next consultation was held November 2009 with NGO partners, the third consultation was held with UN actors in late November 2009, and the last consultation was held in December 2009 with UN Action focal points.

In addition, UNICEF shared the draft proposal and the set of benchmarks with several UNICEF country offices and inter-agency UN and NGO partners for their consideration and feedback. All feedback has been used to revise and strengthen the proposal and benchmarks.

All of the inter-agency consultations helped build a proposal and a set of benchmarks that are representative of the lessons learned at the field level in terms of engaging in monitoring and reporting on sexual violence in conflict. The NGO consultations helped to infuse the proposal and to develop the Terms of Reference for the real-time assessments in a way that will promote the objective review of the UN’s response to sexual violence in conflict.

Implementation constraints included major delays and obstacles to obtaining feedback from the UN Action Focal Points, and the tendency of UN Action Focal Points to provide inputs based on their individual opinions rather than provide feedback that is based on their agency’s point of view.

Lessons learned include the need to add additional time to projects that require inter-agency agreement and sign-off, and the need to better include the other UN Action Focal Points and assign them with tasks for which they are accountable to facilitate improved participation.

1. The term “project” is used for projects, programmes and joint programmes [↑](#footnote-ref-2)