



# Spotlight Initiative

FINAL NARRATIVE PROGRAMME REPORT

PROGRAMME TITLE: SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE SAMOA

PROGRAMME START DATE: JANUARY 2020 – DECEMBER 2023

REPORTING PERIOD: 01 JANUARY 2020 – 31 DECEMBER 2023



<b>Programme Title &amp; Programme Number</b>		
Programme Title: Samoa Spotlight Initiative MPTF Office Project Reference Number: <sup>1</sup> 00119126		
<b>Recipient Organization(s)</b>		
UN Women UNDP UNICEF UNFPA UNESCO		
<b>Programme Cost (US\$)</b>		
Total Phase I budget and (where OSC approved) Phase II budget as per the Spotlight CPD/RPD: UUSD 5,020,903.00		
Phase I and (where OSC approved) Phase II Spotlight funding: <sup>2</sup> 4,142,857 USD.		
Agency Contribution: USD 878,046		
Spotlight Funding and Agency Contribution by Agency:		
<b>Name of RUNO</b>	<b>Spotlight Phase I + II, where OSC approved) (USD)</b>	<b>UN Agency Contributions (USD)</b>
UN Women	639,011	65,988

<b>Priority regions/areas/localities for the programme</b>
<b>Nationwide</b>
<b>Key Partners</b>
Government: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Ministry of Women Community and Social Development. Ministry of Education Sports and Culture. Ministry of Health, Ministry of Communications, and Information Technology. Samoa Bureau of Statistics. Ministry of Justice Courts and Administration. Law Reform Commission. Ministry of Police. Office of the Ombudsman/National Human Rights Institution f: Civil Society National Reference Group. Samoa National Council of Women. Samoa Fa’afafine and Fa’atama Association. Apelu Sports. Samoa Association of Sports and National Olympics. Brown Girl Woke. Teen Challenge Samoa. Faataua le Ola. Nuanua o le Alofa. Clarence Sebastian. Samoa Umbrella of NGO’s. Samoa Victim Support Group. Adventist Development and Relief Agency. Tiapapata Art Centre. RIVER digital growth agency. Makeki Online Niimedia/Sleeping Giant. National Light of Hope Toefuataina, Tofa Sinasina, Samoa Cultural Center. TV5 Beta Multimedia, Nadya Vaa Publishing, Journalists Association of Samoa. Academic Institutions - University of Samoa. University of the South Pacific;
<b>Programme Start and End Dates</b>

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

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



UNDP	1,321,631	167,671
UNICEF	451,005	149,000
UNESCO	957,769	214,904
UNFPA	773,441	280,482
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>4,142,857.00</b>	<b>878,046</b>

Start Date: (01 January 2020 - End Date: 30 December 2023)

Report Submitted By:  
Themba Kalua, UN Resident Coordinator Samoa

## ACRONYMS

ADRA	Adventist Development Relief Agency
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CSF	Clarence Sebastian Foundation
CSNRG	Civil Society National Reference Group
DHS/MICS	Demographic Health Survey/ Multiple Index Cluster Survey
DV/IPV	Domestic Violence/ Intimate Partner Violence
EVAWG	Eliminating Violence Against Women and Girls
EUD	European Union Delegation for the Pacific
FAST	Faatuatua I le Atua Samoa ua Tasi (Political Party)
FBO	Faith-Based Organisations
FLE	Family Life Education
FLO	Faataua Le Ola / CSO focusing on suicide prevention
FPNSW	Family Planning New South Wales
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GoS	Government of Samoa
GRB	Gender-Responsive Budgeting
HFRSA	Health Facility Readiness Service Availability
IESG	Interagency Essential Service Guide
IP	Implementing Partner
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation



JAWS	Journalists Association of (Western) Samoa
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
KAP	Knowledge, Attitude, Practice
KBB	Knowledge, Beliefs and Behaviors
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex
LJS	Law and Justice Sector
LNOB	Leaving No One Behind
LSC	Life Skills Coach
MCIT	Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
MCO	Multi-Country Office
MESC	Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture
MFAT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MJCA	Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOH	Ministry of Health
MWCSD	Ministry of Women, Community, and Social Development
MTA	Mid-Term Assessment
NCC	National Council of Churches
NGO	Non-Government Organizations
NHRI	National Human Rights Institute
NOLA	Nuanua o le Alofa (Council/ National Body for Persons with Disability)
NPF	National Prevention Framework
NSC	National Steering Committee
NUS	National University of Samoa
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
REACH	Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion
RUNO	Recipient United Nations Organizations
SBS	Samoa Bureau of Statistics
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEN	Samoa Education Network
SFA	Samoa Fa'afafine Association
SFHA	Samoa Family Health Association
SLRC	Samoa Law Reform Commission
SOE	State of Emergency
SOGIESC	Sexual Orientation Gender Identity and Expression and Sexual Characteristics
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SRC	Samoa Red Cross
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights





STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
SUNGO	Samoa Umbrella for Non-Government Organizations
SVSG	Samoa Victim Support Group
SWAP	Sector-Wide Approach
TNA	Training Needs Analysis
UN	United Nations
VFSC	Village Family Safety Committee
VFSP	Village Family Safety Programme
VR	Village representative



## **ORDER OF CONTENTS**

- 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.**
- 2. SIGNIFICANT CONTEXTUAL SHIFTS AND OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION STATUS**
- 3. PROGRAMME GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION**
  - 3.1 National Steering Committee
  - 3.2 Civil Society National Reference Group.
  - 3.3 Inter-agency coordination, technical committees, and other governance mechanisms  
RUNO Technical and Coordination Meetings
  - 3.4 Use of UN Reform inter-agency tools
- 4. PROGRAMME PARTNERSHIPS**
  - 4.1 Government Partners
  - 4.2 Civil Society
  - 4.3 European Union Delegation
  - 4.4 Other Partners
- 5. RESULTS**
  - 5.1 Capturing Broader Transformations Across Outcomes
  - 5.2 Capturing Change at the Outcome Level
    - A. Legal and Policy Framework
    - B. Institutions
    - C. Prevention and Norm Change
    - D. Quality Services
    - E. Women's Movement
- 6. RIGHTS HOLDERS (SPOTLIGHT PROGRAMME “BENEFICIARIES”)**
- 7. CHALLENGES AND MITIGATING MEASURES**
- 8. LESSONS LEARNED AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES**
- 9. INNOVATIVE, PROMISING OF GOOD PRACTICE**
- 10. COMMUNICATIONS AND VISIBILITY**
- 11. LOOKING FORWARD—SUSTAINING THE SPOTLIGHT MOMENTUM**



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The launch of the Spotlight Initiative program in Samoa occurred amidst challenging conditions. Introduced on March 6, 2020, just two weeks later, Samoa declared a State of Emergency, leading to an extended lockdown in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, despite these uncertainties, the program adjusted and moved forward with its implementation, ultimately achieving its purpose. Reflecting on its success, four distinct areas illustrate how the Spotlight Initiative fulfilled its mission.

### Investment

The Spotlight Initiative made substantial investments totalling approximately USD 4 million, directly contributing to enhancing ongoing national efforts to address domestic violence (DV) and intimate partner violence (IPV). Nearly half of this funding was allocated to empower civil society organisations (CSOs) and women's groups, facilitate prevention initiatives and advocacy campaigns, and deliver gender-based violence (GBV)- related services.

A notable portion supported the establishment and operations of the Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG), amplifying CSOs' visibility and influence within the program's governing mechanism. The initiative also strengthened policy, legislation, institutional capacity, and workforce training, with over 50% of funds directed towards supporting government partners in these areas, including crucial efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This investment ensured that the Spotlight Initiative took a comprehensive approach to combatting gender-based violence, and it made significant strides in raising awareness, improving support services for survivors, enhancing legal frameworks, and empowering communities to prevent violence against women and girls.

### Beneficiaries

This aligns with its core principles of inclusivity, which are 'do no harm' and 'leave no one behind'. Rights-based approaches, the Spotlight Initiative directly assisted over 60,000 women and girls, including survivors, those with disabilities, and marginalised communities. Moreover, indirect beneficiaries, from government officials to educators and community leaders, were impacted by the initiative's activities, showcasing its broad community reach.

### Collaborations and Engagement.

The initiative's success was significantly bolstered by collaboration, with partnerships formed across government ministries and civil society organisations, resulting in several key achievements. These collaborations facilitated valuable data collection on the prevalence and impact of violence, empowered the education sector to prevent domestic violence, improved data management for GBV cases, facilitated survivor support through mobile apps, and enhanced legal frameworks and policy responses. Notably, the initiative received global recognition for its inclusive approach and innovative models, further underscoring its effectiveness and impact.

### Global Recognition and Best Practices

In 2022, the Programme earned the Leave No One Behind Award in Cancun, Mexico, for its inclusive approach to addressing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).





In 2023, the UNDP and its government partner received the Gold Gender Seal for their work influenced by the Spotlight programme.

Also, in 2023, the UNFPA, with collaborators, won the Best Family Life Education (FLE) Innovative Model award for training teachers and CSO members as FLE Facilitators.

The Village Family Safety Programmes, developed with the National Human Rights Institute (NHRI) established mechanisms to combat DV and IPV, recognised globally for promoting community responsibility in violence prevention.

While celebrating the accomplishments of the Spotlight Initiative, it is imperative to acknowledge that the journey towards ensuring a violence-free life for all women and girls must persist. Despite the tangible progress made, sustaining efforts and commitments in this regard remain paramount to achieving lasting change and societal transformation.

## **2. SIGNIFICANT CONTEXTUAL SHIFTS AND OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION STATUS**

Amidst the challenges posed by the Covid-19 lockdown and the 2021 post-election period, significant support bolstered progress.

In November 2019, Samoa faced its first nationwide public health State of Emergency (SOE) due to the measles epidemic. This SOE lasted six weeks, followed by the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, prompting another SOE to be declared on March 20, 2020. This declaration caused delays in implementation.

Between March and May 2020, data from Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) indicated a 48% rise in reported domestic violence cases compared to the same period in 2019, encompassing sexual, emotional, physical, and verbal abuse.

Despite these obstacles, the Spotlight Programme swiftly adjusted its initiatives to offer immediate support to government partners, civil society organisations, and critical stakeholders in responding to the anticipated surge in domestic violence. This involved reallocating funds to address critical needs, including providing free helplines for survivors of domestic violence through established local GBV service providers like the SVSG.

Samoa held general elections on April 9, 2021, which initially resulted in no clear electoral majority. Subsequent events, culminating in the Court of Appeal declaring Faatuatua I le Atua Samoa ua Tasi (FAST) as the new Government on July 23, 2021, underscored opportunities to enhance the rule of law in Samoa.

The complexity of petition cases arising from the election significantly delayed government formation and parliament sitting. Although a court ruling in July 2021 enabled the FAST party to form a government, delays in convening the new parliament necessitated operating on emergency provisions until September







2021. Finally, in October 2021, a new national budget was approved after the new parliament was sworn in. Additionally, the political deadlock postponed the new Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS), which came under review to align with the new Government's priorities.

The Spotlight Initiative closely monitored Samoa's political situation, communicating regularly with implementing partners and addressing challenges through the Joint Steering Committee. Despite significant challenges, particularly regarding funds transferred via Government systems due to the political situation, the Initiative persisted.

The newly elected Government in 2021, led by Samoa's first female Prime Minister, Hon. Fiame Naomi Mataafa, demonstrated a renewed commitment to the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) agenda. They allocated WST 500,000 to Non-governmental organisations, addressing gender-based violence in the 2022-2023 national budget, highlighting the importance of national ownership in addressing this critical issue.

The Government recognised the invaluable partnership between the European Union and the United Nations through the Spotlight Initiative to advance ongoing national EVAWG initiatives. The EU's steadfast commitment to this cause is notable. It provides crucial support alongside delivering UN agencies. Their guidance and resources are well-received in the quarterly Multi-Country Joint Steering Committees coordinated by the Resident Coordinator's Office.

### **Significant partnership with the EU**

The European Union's support of the Spotlight Initiative is a testament to its commitment to addressing and eradicating violence against women and girls, in the Pacific region. The financial support from the EU has been significant in enabling the design and delivery of crucial activities across the six pillars. It significantly mobilised technical expertise that led, monitored and reported on the progress of the Programme.

Throughout the Programme, the EU collaborated closely with the Resident Coordinator Office and other stakeholders to ensure a coordinated and comprehensive response to gender-based violence. The EU was informed on challenges over implementation through the Joint Steering Committee Meetings (JSC) and was able to offer substantial advice on certain matters including budget revisions and delays in implementation.

The EU high-level leadership were engaged and supportive in key advocacy campaigns and events. The former EU Ambassador H.E Sujiro Seam and the current EU Ambassador H.E Barbara Plinkett engaged in CSO events and meetings by delivering remarks and dialoguing on crucial areas of community support to EVAWG that required continuous financial support.





At the management level, the Programme in Samoa received guidance, support and acknowledgement from Pedro Velazquez Hernandez and Silvio Lazzari of the EU delegation in the Pacific which extended to the CSO National Reference Group proceedings.

Overall, the EU's support in the Spotlight Initiative attests to a shared commitment in promoting gender equality, ending violence, and creating safer and more inclusive societies.

### **3. PROGRAMME GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION**

#### **3.1 National Steering Committee**

The Spotlight Initiative Samoa Program was overseen by the Joint Steering Committee (JSC), which was co-chaired by the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the UN Resident Coordinator. The Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) organized four JSC Meetings to inform stakeholders of program progress and address challenges. The involvement of civil society representatives in JSC meetings ensured accountability, with over 30% of resources allocated to their engagement. The visible involvement of civil society representatives in the JSC meetings played a crucial role in the program's accountability and resulted in consistent, meaningful engagement with civil society organizations.

#### **3.2 Civil Society National Reference Group.**

Established in 2020 the CSNRG advised on concrete measures to end violence against women and girls. They advocated for more accessible pathways to resources, particularly for community-based organizations, in alignment with the "Leaving No One Behind" principle.

The CSNRG also pushed for inclusive engagement spaces with UN (Recipient UN Organisations) and the Government, aiming for sustainable organizational structures and engagement mechanisms based on genuine partnership and equal participation.

Furthermore, the CSNRG advocated for a coherent and coordinated approach to ending violence against women and girls (EVAWG) efforts nationally, both within civil society affiliations and as part of government and donor projects. They emphasized accountability to Spotlight Initiative mechanisms and each other.

Their diverse composition ensured that Spotlight Initiative designed activities that integrate religious and cultural values, appropriate language; that are supported with adequate resources, and facilities tailored to institutional and community needs. Guided by their knowledge and experiences, the CSNRG's advisory, advocacy, and monitoring work anticipated positive changes in the lives of women and girls affected or at risk of violence.



The CSNRG consists of ten members

- (1) Fuatino Pamela Sua - Women's Rights Movements and Governance
- (2) Fagalima Tuatagaloa - SOGIESC (Fa'afafine & Fa'atama)
- (3) Lemau Palaamo - Faith-Based Organizations
- (4) Mailo Helen Tanielu - Researchers and Academics
- (5) Gabrielle Apelu - Women in Sports and Media
- (6) Lualua Tautu - Traditional Leaders and Rural Communities
- (7) Mataafa Faatino Utumapu - Persons with Disabilities
- (8) Samuel Fruean - Essential Services and Human Rights
- (9) Taimalelagi Ramona Tugaga - Young Women Leaders & Youth
- (10) \*Gutu Michael Faasau - Men and Boys.
  - Gutu Faasau replaces Dr Walter Vermullen, who represented the Men and Boys seat in 2020 and resigned in 2022.

Beyond its core functions, their expertise supported the UN Country Team's key activities, including facilitating community consultations to develop the UN Sustainable Development Framework for the Pacific 2023-2027 from May to June in 2022. The CSNRG also provided sound advice and support to develop the Phase 2 Proposal. They conducted all their activities and functions with the funding support of approximately USD 65,064 since its establishment in 2020.

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

#### *RUNO Technical and Coordination Meetings*

UN Women initially chaired these meetings as the Technical Coherence Lead, with the support of the RCO in coordinating and convening them in Phase 1. This was the operational platform for discussions on the progress of activities and challenges encountered. These meetings were important for assessing progress and discussing alignment and partnerships to ensure program coherence.

#### *RUNO Bi-monthly coordination meetings*

Some RUNOs, like UNESCO, organize bi-monthly meetings to enhance coordination among implementing partners. These sessions provide updates on implementation progress, thematic discussions, and synergy-building opportunities. Other RUNOs and CSNRG Co-Chairs are invited, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange.

#### *Civil Society Organization / Samoa Umbrella of Non-Government Organizations (SUNGO) Taskforce*

The Taskforce, established by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), was a vital coordination and engagement mechanism within the EVAWG space. Comprising thirteen CSOs, six representatives from various organisations, and three government agencies, it aimed to improve peer training, learning, and resource mobilisation. The Initiative supported the task force's activities, including specific training initiatives.



SUNGO and the EU Commission in Apia also organised a Pacific consultation on youth and civil society engagement within the EU-Samoa Partnership Agreement. This event involved African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS) members, drawing on insights from the Spotlight Samoa program. Discussions emphasised distilling key lessons and promoting sustainable synergies, particularly regarding resource allocation for gender equality and youth empowerment. The importance of civil society coordination, exemplified by mechanisms like the CSO Reference Group, was highlighted to advance long-term goals within the Samoa Protocol – EU partnership, specifically in youth empowerment and gender equality.

#### *UN Pacific Strategy Outcome Group 2: Gender Equality*

As noted in the previous Annual Reports, the UN Pacific Strategy (UNPS) 2018-2022 is the strategic framework that outlines the UN System's collective response to the development priorities of 14 Pacific Island countries and territories. There are six outcome areas, with Outcome 2 focusing on Gender Equality.

The UNPS Outcome Group (OG) 2 leads on gender-related initiatives, and the Spotlight Initiative contributes strategically under the EVAWG umbrella during monthly meetings and annual reporting. The intention is that DV/IPV/ GBV are not viewed as projects but rather embraced as integral components that interconnect and impact a country's development.

### **3.4 Use of UN Reform inter-agency tools**

The Spotlight Initiative explores ways to enhance UN Coherence and reforms through its activities. As recommended in the MTA, the One UN approach requires strengthening and more focus by the RUNOs. To address this, the Spotlight Initiative will engage with the Samoa Operations Management Team to identify areas in the Business Operations Strategy that can support the Initiative's work in Samoa.

## **4. PROGRAMME PARTNERSHIPS**

### **4.1 Government Partners**

The partnerships illustrate a comprehensive approach to addressing gender-based violence (GBV) and violence against women and girls (VAWG) in Samoa through the Spotlight Initiative. Overall, these partnerships highlight a coordinated effort involving multiple sectors and stakeholders to address GBV and VAWG comprehensively in Samoa. Each partner contributes unique expertise and resources towards achieving the program's objectives, demonstrating the importance of multisectoral collaboration in tackling complex social issues.

**1. Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD):** This is the leading entity responsible for inclusive development and gender equality promotion. The Spotlight Initiative collaborates closely with MWCSD, engaging with high-level officials and leveraging its advocacy and policy implementation platform. The partnership ensures effective coordination, technical coherence, and the development of joint annual work plans.



**2. Ministry of Justice Courts and Administration (MJCA):** Crucial for strengthening legislative frameworks and coordinating multisectoral efforts to address domestic violence laws. Through leadership and commitment, the MJCA facilitates the integration of VAWG into legal and justice sector plans, resulting in significant advancements in policies and strategies.

**3. Samoa Law Reform Commission (SLRC):** The SLRC partners with the Spotlight Initiative to review family laws, aligning legislation with Samoa's cultural context and international human rights standards. The SLRC's commitment to community consultations ensures relevant inputs in the legal reform process.

**4. Ministry of Health (MOH):** This partnership is Essential for improving health services related to sexual and reproductive health rights and addressing GBV. It focuses on training health workers, strengthening data collection on GBV, and ensuring survivors' access to comprehensive care.

**5. Ministry of Education, Sports, and Culture (MESC):** This ministry plays a crucial role in implementing the Family Life Education curriculum to address VAWG within the education sector. The partnership aims to enhance educators' understanding of abuse's impact on children's learning outcomes.

**6. National Human Rights Institution (NHRI):** The NHRI collaborates with the Spotlight Initiative to prevent violence against women through community-based programs and advocacy. The NHRI's involvement in the Out of School Family Life Education project contributes to developing and localising educational materials.

**7. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT):** The MFAT provides oversight and coordination for the Spotlight Initiative, ensuring alignment with national priorities and sustainable development goals. The MFAT's role as the Co-Chair of the Joint Steering Committee reinforces program effectiveness and relevance.

**8. Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT):** Facilitates communication strategies to raise awareness and prevent DV and VAWG through partnerships with media outlets. The MCIT's collaboration with the Spotlight Initiative strengthens the media's capacity to report on VAWG issues.

**9. Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS):** Collaborates to improve data collection and analysis of GBV, enhance understanding of the GBV landscape, and inform policy and service delivery. The partnership focuses on capacity building and strengthening data systems.



**10. Ministry of Police (MoP):** The MoP updates training curricula and policies on domestic violence and delivers rehabilitation and counselling services for affected individuals. Its involvement spans various pillars of the Spotlight Initiative, ensuring a holistic approach to addressing GBV.

#### **4.2 Civil Society Partnerships**

The partnerships with civil society organisations demonstrate a concerted effort to engage with grassroots organisations and leverage their expertise to address various aspects of gender-based violence (GBV) and violence against women and girls (VAWG). These partnerships highlight the diverse range of CSOs involved in the Spotlight Initiative and their crucial role in implementing programs, providing services, and advocating for the rights and well-being of marginalised populations in Samoa.

**Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG):** SVSG is a leading CSO that addresses GBV and child protection issues. It collaborates with multiple UN agencies to implement Spotlight Initiative activities. SVSG focuses on community engagement, reaching marginalised populations, and using cultural and performing arts to promote gender-equitable norms.

**Faataua le Ola (FLO):** FLO, an NGO focused on mental health and suicide prevention, partners with UNDP under Pillar 6 to provide counselling services and outreach awareness programs, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Samoa National Council of Women (SNCW):** SNCW, with a rich history in advocating for women's rights, partners with UNDP under Pillar 6 to strengthen primary prevention advocacy and services at the village level. They also collaborate with UNESCO on knowledge exchange forums.

**Samoa Umbrella for Non-Government Organizations (SUNGO):** SUNGO, an umbrella organisation for civil society, collaborates with UNDP under Pillar 6 to provide capacity development support and coordinate a CSO task force mechanism for advancing gender equality.

**Nuanua O le Alofa Council of Persons with Disabilities (NOLA):** NOLA, an advocacy organisation for people with disabilities, partners with UNDP under Pillar 6 to address violence against women with disabilities, including capacity-building and research initiatives.

**Brown Girl Woke (BGW) focuses on women's empowerment and human rights. It partners with UNDP under Pillar 6 to provide youth-friendly peer counselling services and with UNESCO under Pillar 3 to produce a musical play on intimate partner violence and domestic violence.**

**Samoa Fa'afafine and Fa'atama Association (SFA):** SFA, championing the rights of gender and sexually diverse individuals, partners with UNDP under Pillar 6 to support sex workers and address violence faced by LGBTQIA/SOGIE communities.



**Clarence Sebastian Foundation (CSF):** CSF partners with UNDP under Pillar 6 to address discrimination and violence against females with albinism, focusing on sensitisation and awareness campaigns in schools and communities.

**Tofa Sinasina (TSS):** TSS, founded by former policewomen, partners with UNDP under Pillar 6 to conduct counselling awareness workshops in collaboration with the Ministry of Police & Correction Services. The workshops aim to enhance service delivery and address gender-based violence.

### 4.3 European Union Delegation

The partnership between the European Union (EU) and the Samoa Spotlight Initiative exemplifies a robust and impactful collaboration aimed at addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Samoa. Through active participation in Joint Steering Committees and Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG) meetings, the EU Delegation in Suva, Fiji, has demonstrated a deep commitment to working hand in hand with local stakeholders.

This partnership extends beyond mere involvement in meetings; it is marked by tangible support through initiatives like the Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP). The EU's funding for CSOs, including the Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG), underscores their dedication to empowering communities and combating GBV on multiple fronts.

Notably, the EU's engagement goes beyond financial support. Their presence at key events, such as the 16 Days of Activism Knowledge and Learning Forum, alongside prominent leaders like the Prime Minister of Samoa and the UN Resident Coordinator, showcases a united front in tackling GBV.

By aligning and coordinating activities between the Spotlight Initiative and other EU-supported initiatives like the Nofotane Project and My Village My Pride, this partnership fosters synergies and maximizes impact. Together, the EU and the Spotlight Initiative are not only addressing immediate challenges but also laying the groundwork for lasting change and empowerment in Samoa.



#### 4.4. Other Partnerships

##### A. International and Regional Partners

###### *The Pacific Community*

The Pacific Community (SPC) is the leading technical and scientific inter-governmental organisation in the Pacific, supporting its members and Pacific Island governments along the sustainable development path. SPC facilitates the implementation of Pillar 5 as a Regional Technical Organization supporting the development of tools and capacity to conduct Population-Based Surveys, including the DHS-MICS. The DHS-MICS integrates the DV module of the DHS, strengthening the set-up of administrative data systems and providing support for the Samoan government on its recent DHS-MICS. The next round of data collection for the DHS-MICS 2023-2024 is in the planning phase, and once again, Spotlight Initiative funds will support the collation of data on the DV module.

The SPC was a partner of the Spotlight Initiative through UNFPA under Pillar 5.

###### *University of Melbourne (UoM)/Nossal Institute:*

The UoM/Nossal Institute worked alongside SPC in conducting secondary analysis on DHS-MICS datasets to publish knowledge products; in 2022, Samoa secondary GBV and sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) data analysis was performed, in addition to developing tools and guidance based on international standards on administrative data systems. The UoM/Nossal Institute also facilitated Samoa Bureau of Statistics training on the formal kNOwVAW data course and secondary data analysis.

The UoM/Nossal is a partner of the Spotlight Initiative through UNFPA under Pillar 5.

###### *Family Planning New South Wales (FPNSW)*

Family Planning NSW has substantial expertise and resources in comprehensive sexuality education/Family Life Education and was an essential partner in supporting the development of in-school and out-of-school curricula. It facilitates the implementation of Pillar 3 as a Technical Assistance Organization for developing both the In-School and Out-of-School CSE curriculum and the training of FLE facilitators.

Family Planning NSW was a partner of the Spotlight Initiative through UNFPA under Pillar 3







### *International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)*

IPPF and its Member Organization, Samoa Family Health Association— supported Pillars 3 & 5 implementation. IPPF works closely with the Ministries of Education, Ministries of Youth and FPNSW to roll out school CSE, including training, monitoring, and tracking outcomes of CSE at the beneficiary level.

IPPF was a partner of the Spotlight Initiative through UNFPA under Pillar 3.

## **B. Academia**

### *National University of Samoa (NUS)*

Established in 1984 by an Act of Parliament, NUS is the higher education institution best placed to provide support for activities under the Spotlight Initiative related to Social Sciences and to conduct participatory evaluations in both targeted and control-group facilities on knowledge, attitudes and behaviours associated with Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence. The Spotlight Initiative engages the support of the senior lecturers of the NUS as facilitators and advisors of several activities, including the development of policies, advocacy and research.

The NUS is a partner of the Spotlight Initiative through UNESCO under Pillar 3

### *University of the South Pacific*

The USP is the premier institution for higher learning in the Pacific, serving the region's needs for high-quality tertiary education, research, and policy. The Spotlight Initiative 2022 partnered with the USP Samoa Campus to conduct research on GBV in the agricultural sector. The Spotlight Initiative engaged the technical expertise of senior lecturers and USP researchers to collect, analyse, and produce qualitative research data that will inform the development of DV/IPV prevention strategies in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

The USP is a partner of the Spotlight Initiative through UNESCO under Pillar 3.

## **C. Media**

### **Journalist Association of (W) Samoa**

JAWS, founded in 1991, is Samoa's national journalists' association, advocating for a free press and journalists' rights. In 2023, it received UNESCO funding to train journalists on reporting stories about violence against women and girls under Pillar 3.

### **TV5 Beta Multimedia**

TV5 is a prominent private TV channel in Samoa known for family entertainment and interactive shows like TV Bingo and Virtual Trivia. They partnered with UNESCO under Pillar 2 to raise awareness about



domestic violence's impact on education and teachers' performance, conducting a Spotlight Trivia event with MESC and other organizations to reach high school students and the public in Samoa.

### **RIVER Agency Ltd New Zealand**

UNESCO Pacific partnered with NZ's digital agency, RIVER, for a tech solution supporting DV/IPV victims in Samoa in 2022. Further enhancements in 2023 led to a robust case management system, digitizing case officers' work for better coordination, reporting, and policy insights under the Spotlight Initiative's Pillar 5.

## **5. RESULTS**

### **5.1 Capturing Broader Transformations Across Outcomes**

Across the Outcomes, the Spotlight Initiative successfully supported both existing and new interventions against DV/IPV, ensuring their sustainability by integrating them into national, district, and community plans. The inclusion of the DV module in the Demographic Health Survey (DHS) in 2019/2020 provided crucial insights into violence rates in Samoa, which helped in designing effective programs.

Samoa made significant progress in training health staff to respond to GBV, aiming for comprehensive coverage across all health facilities. Cultural arts and performances were used effectively to challenge societal norms and promote positive change, leading to successful community engagement.

Partnerships with various stakeholders resulted in impactful initiatives such as Life Skills training for chiefs, televised discussions to raise awareness about DV/IPV, and collaborative efforts within the UN system for broader impact and knowledge sharing. The collaboration between government and civil society organizations (CSOs) strengthened child protection systems, including the endorsement of essential services guides and advocacy for legal reforms.

Efforts were made to reform family laws to address DV/IPV and protect marginalized groups, including specific rights for marginalized communities such as fa'afafine, fa'atama, LGBTIQ individuals, people with disabilities, and sex workers. Village safety committees, supported by the NHRI and village leaders, played a crucial role in promoting positive social norms and preventing violence at the grassroots level.

Moreover, frontline CSOs expanded their services using digital platforms like helplines, providing accessible support during emergencies. Training programs for youth and women leaders empowered them to advocate for EVAWG, ensuring that community voices were heard and transformational leadership was fostered.

### **5.2 Capturing Change at the Outcome Level** **Outcome 1– Policies and Legislation**



*Law and Justice Sector Plan 2021-2025*

*Review of Samoa Family Laws Report 2023*

*National Crime Prevention Policy and Strategy 2023–2028*

*Policy Report and Drafting Plan for Amendments to the Family Safety Act 2023*

The Samoa Law and Justice Sector has taken significant strides in addressing domestic violence and intimate partner violence (DV/IPV) through a coordinated approach outlined in their Law and Justice Sector Plan 2021-2025. Facilitated by the Spotlight Initiative and led by the Samoa Law Reform Commission (SLRC), phase 2 of a comprehensive reform process for six core family legislations was successfully concluded. This process involved thorough consultations with village stakeholders on Upolu Island, even amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, demonstrating a commitment to inclusivity and engagement of those most affected.

Key government ministries and institutions within the Law and Justice Sector, including the Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration, Ministry of Police and Prisons, Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Ombudsman, Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, Samoa Law Reform Commission, and the Ministry of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, collaborated with the Spotlight Initiative to conduct community and sectoral consultations. These consultations aimed to gather feedback for the development of a five-year plan integrating strategies to address domestic and intimate partner violence. This collective effort reflects a commitment to working collaboratively for improved prevention and response services.

These proactive initiatives, aligned with the Review of Samoa Family Laws Report 2022 recommendations, have amended and reinforced crucial laws and policies. The overarching goal is to enhance the protection and well-being of children, women, and vulnerable populations, including those with disabilities in Samoa. Mechanisms have been implemented to facilitate improved access to justice for all, demonstrating the government's commitment to gender equality and protecting Samoa's most vulnerable individuals. These endeavours reflect a transformative impact on Samoa's legal framework and societal norms, signalling a significant step towards a safer and more equitable society.

## **Outcome 2: Institutional Strengthening**

*Institutional and personnel capacities enhanced to design and deliver DV/IPV prevention measures.*

In Samoa, the Law and Justice Sector is strengthening its response to domestic and intimate partner violence (DV/IPV) through the Law and Justice Sector Plan 2021-2025. A Guide has been developed to enhance the effectiveness of duty bearers across seven ministries in addressing DV/IPV, promoting a coordinated approach.

The Spotlight Initiative has significantly contributed to Samoa's efforts to end violence against women and girls (EVAWG). Critical investments have been made in legislative and policy initiatives within the law and



justice sector, resulting in the development of crucial policies such as the National Crime Prevention Policy and Strategy 2023 - 2028 and drafting instructions for the Family Safety Act 2023.

These initiatives aim to improve protection for women and vulnerable communities, addressing critical gaps in policy frameworks. Ongoing work includes the development of drafting instructions for various laws related to family safety and child protection, reflecting tangible progress towards transforming gender norms and ending violence in Samoa.

### **Gender-Responsive Budgeting**

In the reporting period, over 46 senior staff members from the Ministry of Women, Community, and Social Development (MWCSD) underwent comprehensive training on gender analysis and gender-responsive budgeting (GRB). This training facilitated robust knowledge exchange and contributed to developing a contextualised GRB training manual by technical consultants facilitated through UNDP.

The Government of Samoa launched vital knowledge products, including the GRB training manual, during the 2022 16 Days of Activism public campaign, fostering continuous learning and skills building on GRB. The training session saw diverse participants, with 12 males, 32 females, and two fa'afafine or LGBTQI individuals actively engaged.

Furthermore, a Gender-Responsive Budgeting Core Group was established, comprising senior government and civil society representatives, including CSNRG members. Co-chaired by the Ministry of Finance (MOF) and MWCSD, this Core Group leads efforts to institutionalise and formalise GRB, advocating for cross-sector capacity-building opportunities and integrating gender mainstreaming in the government's budget process.

During this period, selected CSNRG members were directly engaged to advise and participate in the Spotlight Gender-Responsive Budgeting training aimed at senior government and civil society representatives. The CSNRG co-chair also serves as a member of the interim Gender-Responsive Budgeting group coordinated by the MWCSD, advocating for the institutionalisation of GRB across crucial government sectors and budget policy processes.

Significant decisions made during GRB work include contextualising the Samoan concept "Lufilufi Lima lelei" as an embedded approach to resource allocation, highlighting progress towards integrating gender perspectives into budgetary allocations.

### ***ToT on addressing the impact of DV/IPV in the Education Sector***

Leaders, staff, principals, and teachers in Samoa's Education Sector have significantly expanded their understanding of domestic violence and intimate partner violence (DV/IPV) through the Spotlight Initiative.



Research conducted by the Ministry of Education, Sports, and Culture (MESC) examined the impact of DV/IPV on the education sector, shedding light on how staff, teachers, students, and institutions were affected by such incidents. These insights informed the development of preventive measures, with active involvement from teachers, principals, students, and ministry staff in identifying institutional solutions to address DV/IPV issues. Additionally, the research laid the groundwork for a Training of Trainers (ToT) program implemented in selected educational institutions. Furthermore, the research findings guided the content design of training tailored for out-of-school youth, which was subsequently rolled out in Upolu and Savaii.

### **Outcome 3: Social Norms and Prevention**

Samoa is set to adopt its first-ever National Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls Framework (NPF) in 2024. Led by the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD), this framework prioritizes preventing violence, supporting survivors, holding perpetrators accountable, and strengthening existing prevention efforts.

The NPF is based on a thorough study of Family Violence in Samoa, revealing the seriousness of intimate partner violence (IPV). Through collaboration with various stakeholders, including women's rights advocates and government agencies, the NPF is tailored to Samoa's needs to combat gender-based violence effectively.

Grounded in principles of kindness and respect, the NPF envisions a Samoa where women and girls can live without fear of violence. Supported by the Spotlight Initiative, it's a crucial step towards ending gender-based violence in Samoa. The NPF guides actions across sectors like government, media, and communities to achieve this goal.

Monitoring by the National Human Rights Institution and the Office of the Ombudsman shows progress in addressing domestic violence at the grassroots level, leading to positive outcomes like reduced cases in villages.

### **Performing arts increased awareness of the prevention of DV/IPV.**

In 2022, a report assessed the impact of using performing arts in campaigns like "My Village, My Pride 2021" to challenge gender norms and combat violence against women and girls (VAWG). The report also provided recommendations based on lessons learned.

Building on this success, in 2023, the initiative expanded to five more villages, integrating the Torch of Peace for robust community engagement. Additionally, a Samoan musical by BGW addressed harmful socio-cultural norms contributing to IPV/DV. This creative approach reached 105 secondary school students, emphasizing the potential of arts to prevent and address domestic and intimate partner violence.

### **Journalists' capacities are enhanced in addressing, framing, and covering stories on DV/IPV.**



Following the training for journalists from the JAWS Association in Samoa, the success of this training is reflected in their improved ability to address, frame, and cover stories related to domestic violence and intimate partner violence (DV/IPV) effectively. This training enhances their capacity to report on such sensitive issues with accuracy, sensitivity, and a deeper understanding. It contributes to more informed public discourse and awareness about DV/IPV in Samoa.

***The positive role of sports bodies promoted in DV/IPV Prevention.***

In 2023, SASNOC, alongside all sports bodies, implemented two recommendations outlined in the Institutional Review developed in 2022.

***Financing better police response to DV/IPV.***

In response to the rising cases of DV/IPV, the Samoa Police Prison and Correction Services (SPPCS) took proactive measures by establishing the inaugural Domestic Violence Division, complete with allocated human resources and a dedicated budget. Additionally, the Spotlight Initiative supported the Ministry of Police and Prisons in crafting a specialised training curriculum, which was subsequently delivered to the newly formed Domestic Violence Unit (DVU).

***Growing political interest and high-level national commitment to FLE in Samoa***

Since 2020, the Spotlight Initiative has promoted Comprehensive Sexual Education (CSE) and Family Life Education (FLE) to prevent issues like teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and gender-based violence (GBV), including intimate partner violence (IPV). In 2022, the initiative made significant progress by finalizing age-specific FLE curricula and training teachers. This effort, supported by high-level political endorsement, marks a step forward in integrating CSE/FLE into Samoa's education system to promote healthy relationships and prevent GBV..

By the program's conclusion, 15 teachers had been trained as FLE master trainers, and an additional 60 teachers from both Upolu and Savaii had received training under their guidance. This capacity-building endeavour signifies a significant step towards integrating comprehensive sexual and family life education into Samoa's educational landscape, contributing to the promotion of healthy relationships and the prevention of gender-based violence.

***Family Life Education Roll Out***

In 2022, efforts were made to implement the in-school curriculum by training 30 secondary school teachers and inspectors on FLE Curriculum Guidance. Additionally, 15 teachers and 5 Curriculum Development Officers completed a 10-day Micro-Credential ToT in FLE. They are now qualified to teach FLE across all grades. In the Out-of-School (OOS) FLE rollout, 30 facilitators were trained on the OOS FLE Facilitators Manual. Led by CSO Samoa Family Health Association with support from partners, including government ministries and NGOs, the program reached 1,000 young people, addressing SRH services access, gender norms, and respectful relationships.



### **Contextualising the 16 Days of Activism into the Malu I Fale Campaign.**

In 2023, the MWCSD launched the "Malu I Fale" multimedia campaign in Samoa, aiming to address Violence against Women and Children (VAC) by breaking the cycle of intergenerational violence. The campaign promotes positive discipline and life skills training through mainstream media, digital platforms, and community engagements. Parents report learning new caregiving tools, while adolescents gain social and emotional competencies. The campaign team's capacity in social marketing and behaviour change strategies has been strengthened for sustainability beyond funding.

During the 16 Days of Activism, journalists were trained in responsible reporting of Child Protection issues. The inaugural Children's Forum, with 130 participants, raised awareness of child protection and rights.

The 16 Days of Healing Campaigns, initiated in 2020, involve church leaders using national media platforms to challenge harmful social norms and behaviours. The Whole of Country approach, exemplified by the Torch of Peace relay, which engaged over 50,000 Samoans, demonstrates a collective commitment to ending violence.

A TV Spotlight Virtual Trivia Challenge targeted youth and attracted over 2,200 participants, emphasising the importance of youth involvement in addressing domestic violence.

### **Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence on Women engaged in Agriculture and Fisheries sectors in Samoa.**

According to studies conducted by the University of the South Pacific in 2022, despite numerous efforts by various organisations, violence against women persists in Samoa, as evidenced in five selected village sites. The study interviewed 102 women actively involved in fisheries and agriculture, revealing that 64% of them experienced household violence. Emotional violence is prevalent in semi-urban areas, while physical violence is more common in rural areas.

The primary causes of violence against women include income shortages, role disputes, and differences in opinions. Less educated women and those from low-income households are more likely to experience domestic violence. The research uncovered deeply entrenched gender stereotypes, such as women being held responsible for household food shortages and men having complete control over decision-making.

The study highlights a concerning acceptance of violence among women interviewed, with many regarding it as a normal part of life. Incidents of abuse are rarely reported to authorities, reflecting a global trend. To reduce violence against women, there needs to be a shift in mindset. It is essential to challenge harmful ideologies that perpetuate violence, such as the belief that it's acceptable for men to use violence to teach women or that women should accept violence as part of life. Changing these beliefs will encourage men to seek alternative conflict resolution methods and empower women to advocate for themselves.



### **Reinforcing EVAWG media messages into community action.**

The media campaign to reduce family violence engaged production houses and social media agencies, fostering dialogue between media partners and communities to develop impactful messages. This approach empowers communities to translate media messages into actionable social behaviour and norm changes. Positive parenting modules have been reviewed and contextualised to align better with Samoa's context, ensuring consistency in standards. Training of trainers will ensure sustainability in delivering these sessions. The campaign's launch significantly boosted MWCSO's social media presence, leading to increased engagement and inquiries for assistance. During the first week, audio-visual products received a remarkable increase in views and likes on the Ministry's official Facebook page, showcasing significant audience engagement.

### **It strengthened essential counselling services for front liners.**

In 2022, SVSG continued its crucial role in providing essential responsive services for Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV), mainly focusing on counselling services for children and life skills training. A total of 272 adolescents across seven villages in Samoa participated in life skills training sessions covering topics such as positive mental and social health, respectful relationships, prevention of interpersonal violence, and substance abuse. These sessions emphasised the impact of peer pressure and the importance of peer support. Following the training, 20 peer support groups were established under SVSG Juniors' guidance, providing a safe space and psychosocial support for adolescents dealing with various issues at home, school, and in relationships.

Additionally, 253 caregivers attended positive discipline sessions conducted by SVSG's community volunteers. Topics discussed included effective parenting techniques, understanding children's perspectives, and problem-solving. Participants reported acquiring new tools to support their children without corporal punishment. Some caregivers reflected on their upbringing and how it influenced their parenting styles. While acknowledging the challenge of changing ingrained practices, participants found value in alternative techniques such as deep breathing, taking time outs, and discussing consequences and responsibility with their children.

### **Outcome 4: Essential Services**

*It improved health services for women and girls victims of violence.*

Health workers' capacities to respond to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) were strengthened through training and the development of job aids to implement SGBV Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) across various healthcare levels in Samoa. A special task force was formed to ensure the integration of SGBV SOP guidelines into Primary Health Care SOPs and job aids.

Sixty health professionals, including Doctors, Registered Nurses, Nurse Managers, Midwives, and Nurse Aids in all health facilities, received training, resulting in enhanced service delivery capacity. Data collection on SGBV remains a challenge for the Ministry of Health (MoH). Still, it is being addressed within the broader Health Information System (HIS) framework to track Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and





GBV indicators. Within 12 months of country-wide healthcare worker training, 15 cases of SGBV were recorded.

Eighty women and young girls accessed GBV services through integrated community outreach efforts by the Samoa Family Health Association and Samoa Victim Support Group, targeting vulnerable populations in remote villages.

Furthermore, GBV indicators, including sexual violence, have been included in Samoa's Health Management Information System (HMIS). This integration enhances service quality for GBV survivors and provides data for evidence-based advocacy with government ministries.

#### *Inter-agency Essential Services Guidelines*

MWCSD, as the guardian of the Inter-Agency Essential Services Guidelines (IESG) published in 2020, conducted awareness training for government village representatives from six villages in Savaii, emphasising available GBV services. During the 16 Days of Activism, MWCSD disseminated IESG information to hundreds of women and girls through cultural activities. With support from UN Women, MWCSD organised training on IESG during the 2023 16 Days of Activism, benefiting over 600 participants nationwide.

#### **Outcome 5: Data**

##### *Quality GBV data informs national policies and decision-making.*

A consultative process with key partners informed the design of a technology solution, the Survivor Application, to support women and girls facing Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV) in Samoa. Developed by RIVER in collaboration with SVSG and other partners, this progressive web application (PWA) aims to empower case managers and improve responses to DV/IPV. The application digitises case management processes, streamlining existing practices and enhancing reporting capabilities. In the program's second phase, additional features were incorporated to improve efficacy and speed up case management and referrals. Staff capacity building and extended support ensure the sustainability of the application until January 2026.

##### *GBV Admin Data Group and Enumerators capacity enhanced.*

The multi-sectoral GBV Admin Data Taskforce, chaired by MWCSD and comprising key government ministries, CSOs, and international organisations, was established to coordinate data collection on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and support services. The task force conducted capacity training on secondary analysis of GBV data using population census and DHS-MICs surveys, training ten research officers. They developed a standard data collection tool and a memorandum of understanding for data sharing and acquired ICT hardware for an online GBV data platform. Coordination efforts have led to the establishment of a centralised database.



Targeted workshops in Upolu and Savaii improved the skills of Ministry of Education, Sports, and Culture (MESC) enumerators in collecting GBV-related data within the educational system. This enables MESC to gather more relevant data to inform policies and mechanisms within the education sector.

*GBV data was collected across the agriculture and fisheries sectors.*

A partnership with the University of the South Pacific (USP), Samoa Campus, researched the impact of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) on Samoa's agriculture and fishery sectors. Through desk reviews and field-based studies in five villages, the research identified the socio-economic vulnerabilities of women in these sectors and potential prevention strategies.

Additionally, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Sports, and Culture, training was provided to school enumerators on domestic violence data collection, enhancing data gathering on Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV) affecting students.

*Better data collection tools for GBV Admin Data Task Group.*

The program continued supporting the multi-sector GBV Admin Data group, coordinated by MWCSO, to establish an online platform with proper IT infrastructure. This platform enables support services to upload GBV admin data and track services offered to survivors. A harmonised data collection tool was adopted following a data mapping exercise, providing agencies with the necessary tools to collect and populate required fields. A data-sharing protocol was finalised among lead agencies, easing access and sharing of GBV data. Multiple layers of admin control and access are embedded in the platform to ensure the confidentiality of survivors' identities.

*More training opportunities for staff working on VAWG data*

Eight technical staff underwent training in the formal kNOwVAW data course and administrative data series workshops, enhancing their skills in various technical aspects of administrative data systems. Graduates applied their knowledge to secondary analysis of the DV module in the current DHS/MICS survey. They identified new analysis questions and gaps and will cascade their training across sectors.

The SRH and GBV correlation analysis of the MICS for Samoa was finalised and validated at an in-country workshop, enhancing research officers' skills in SPSS software. Senior research officers attended the kNOwVAW data course, sharing their knowledge with their team and relevant agencies.

## **Outcome 6: Civil Society Organisations and Women's Movements**

*CSOs and women's movements take the lead to end violence against women and girls.*

Despite resource constraints, the Spotlight Initiative empowered CSOs in Samoa to advocate against violence through campaigns like the 16 Days of Healing. The CSO Capacity Assessment tool, facilitated by SUNGO, identified gaps, enabling better support from government ministries. A scoping study on civil



society accreditation provided options for improving service quality. The initiative-funded rehabilitation programs such as Light of Hope and Teen Challenge Samoa successfully aided inmate reintegration. The Samoa Fa’afafine Association's RAHAB program addressed stigmatisation and violence against marginalised groups. Tofa Sinasina's counselling sessions for law enforcement addressed mental health needs. Empowering rural women through SNCW trainings facilitated crucial conversations on addressing VAWG at the village level. The National Reference Group and Civil Society Organisations advocated for policy changes and supported survivors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their collaborative efforts during the 16 Days of Activism Campaign and integration into government policies underscored a collective commitment to ending violence against women in Samoa.

## 6. RIGHTS HOLDERS (SPOTLIGHT PROGRAMME “BENEFICIARIES”)

Indicative numbers	Direct	Indirect	Comments / Explanations
Xx Women (18 yrs. and above)	20,920	74,165	MWCSD reports on social marketing and behaviour change communication training, coaching and testing; GBV evacuation shelter and referral SVSG reports from NHRI, SLRC, SNCW, MJCA, 2AP radio, ADRA, SVSG reports, MESC report, CSO NRG events and campaigns reports, consultations registrations, Malu I fale campaign UNDP GRB, FLO counselling OTT/Ahliki – Malu I fale Campaign, teachers, case workers, beneficiaries of the app, members of sports federations, beneficiaries of My Village My Pride, research participants, SVSG Torch of Peace National and village roll out; Samoa Cultural Center Performing Arts Siva; Light of Hope Rehabilitation for women report; NOLA Women with disability In Leadership forum report; Tofasinasina counselling with Police and Corrections registrations. BGW Hush Production on EVAWG. TV5 Spotlight Trivia on Domestic Violence. SVSG Infor Sessions for My Village, My Pride 2023.
Xxxx Girls (5-17)	15,862	19,509	Reports from NHRI, SLRC, SNCW, MJCA, SVSG reports, MESC reports, MWCSD reports on social marketing and behaviour change communication training, coaching and testing, CSO NRG events, consultations, Malu I Fale Campaign. (Indirect), beneficiaries of the app, out-of-school youth workshop participants, etc. SVSG Torch of Peace National and village roll out; Samoa Cultural Center Performing Arts Siva; Light of Hope Rehabilitation for women report; NOLA Women with Disability In Leadership forum



			report; registrations. SVSG Infor Sessions for My Village, My Pride 2023.
Xx Men (18 yrs. and above)	14,399	72,552	Reports from NHRI, SLRC, SNCW, MJCA, 2AP radio, ADRA, SVSG reports, MESC report; MWCSD reports on social marketing and behaviour change communication training, coaching and testing, CSO NRG events and campaigns, consultations, Malu I fale campaign; teachers, case workers, beneficiaries of app, members of sports federations, beneficiaries of My Village My Pride, participants in research SVSG Torch of Peace National and village roll out; Samoa Cultural Center Performing Arts Siva; SNCW Community Conversations Report, SUNGO report, Light of Hope Rehabilitation for women report; NOLA Women with disability In Leadership forum report; registrations. BGW Hush Production of EVAWG. TV5 Spotlight Initiative Trivia on Domestic Violence. SVSG Infor Sessions for My Village, My Pride 2023.
Xx Boys (5-17 yrs.)	11,218	18,674	Reports from NHRI, SLRC, SNCW, MJCA, SVSG reports, MESC report; MWCSD reports on social marketing and behaviour change communication training, coaching, and testing SVSG Torch of Peace National and village roll out; Samoa Cultural Center Performing Arts Siva; SNCW Community Conversations Report, SUNGO report, Light of Hope Rehabilitation for women report; NOLA Women with disability In Leadership forum report; registrations. SVSG Infor Sessions for My Village, My Pride 2023.
TOTAL xxxxx	62,399	184,900	

## 7. CHALLENGES AND MITIGATING MEASURES

- The challenges faced by the Spotlight Initiative in Samoa during 2022 reveal several systemic issues that hindered the timely implementation of its activities. Firstly, external crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the Tonga tsunami diverted attention and resources away from VAW/G issues, impacting the prioritisation of initiatives like Spotlight. Secondly, bureaucratic hurdles within partner organisations, including cumbersome procurement and financial processes, led to delays in project execution. Additionally, weak coordination, limited human

resources, and technical capacity within national governments and CSOs further compounded these delays.

- Moreover, staff turnover and changes in key government positions disrupted the continuity of project implementation, exacerbating existing challenges. The limited pool of expertise resulted in multiple agencies overburdening government teams, leading to unrealistic workloads and hindering effective coordination. Furthermore, poor alignment of activities and communication issues exacerbated implementation delays.
- Internally, staff transitions within the Spotlight Initiative, including critical roles like the Regional Coordinator and Technical Lead, posed significant challenges and impacted program continuity. Finally, delays in rolling out the National MultiMedia Campaign stemmed from competing priorities of crucial team members, particularly within the Ministry of Women, Community, and Social Development.
- Addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort to streamline bureaucratic processes, strengthen coordination mechanisms, enhance technical capacities, and ensure effective communication channels. Additionally, measures to mitigate the impact of staff turnover and changes in government positions are essential for maintaining project momentum and achieving meaningful outcomes.

## 8. LESSONS LEARNED AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES

- **Multi-Sectoral Collaboration:** The success of the Torch of Peace event and subsequent forums demonstrates the power of bringing together diverse stakeholders, including government, civil society, faith-based groups, academia, and development partners. This collaboration ensures a holistic approach to addressing VAW.
- **Alignment with National Priorities:** Aligning the objectives of the Spotlight Initiative with national strategic planning documents ensures sustainability and recognition of the initiative's importance at the national level.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are crucial for tracking progress and ensuring accountability. This involves regular reporting on achievements across various outcomes of the program.
  - **Communication and Coordination:** Effective communication and coordination among technical working groups, the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), and Civil Society Reference Groups (CSORNG) are essential for joint delivery, transparency, and timely decision-making.



- o Cost-sharing and Joint Delivery: Encouraging cost-sharing and joint delivery of activities, particularly among partners with overlapping objectives, optimises resources and enhances effectiveness.
- Timely Planning and Visibility: Timely planning of activities and visibility campaigns contribute to effectively measuring results.
  - o Legal and Institutional Reforms: Undertaking comprehensive reviews and reforms within the legal and justice sectors, including developing new sector plans and policies, strengthens prevention and response services for survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence.
- Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB): Integrating gender analysis and responsive budgeting into government processes ensures that resources are allocated effectively to address gender-based disparities and support initiatives combating VAW.
- Academic Research and Activism: Collaboration between academic institutions and activists drives evidence-based interventions and reshapes perspectives on GBV. By engaging students in research on GBV, awareness is raised, and critical thinking around gender inequalities is promoted.
  - o These lessons highlight the importance of a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to addressing VAW grounded in evidence-based interventions aligned with national priorities and institutional frameworks.

a) *New Opportunities*

- The caliber and value of Spotlight Initiative partners, including media agencies and CSOs, are crucial in accelerating efforts for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) in Samoa. Building strong relationships with these partners ensures continued support for the initiative's success.
- SUNGO and the EU Commission collaborated on a Pacific consultation in Apia, focusing on youth and civil society engagement within the EU-Samoa Partnership Agreement. The aim was to develop a specific Samoa protocol for practical implementation, drawing from the Spotlight Samoa program to promote sustainable synergies in resource allocation for gender equality and youth empowerment. Civil society coordination, like the CSO Reference Group tailored to Samoa's needs, was emphasized to achieve long-term goals in youth empowerment and gender equality within the Samoa Protocol – EU partnership.

•



## 9. INNOVATIVE, PROMISING OR GOOD PRACTICES

- National and sub-national coordination mechanisms in Samoa support Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and Family Life Education (FLE), exceeding their roles by driving innovations that increase national ownership and institutionalization of these programs both in and out of school. For instance, a teacher training sub-committee proposed and oversaw the development of proposals for a micro-credential for in-service teachers and incorporating CSE/FLE into the Bachelor of Education program at the Samoa National University. These proposals, now awaiting approval, aim to enhance education on gender equality and youth empowerment. Moreover, the Samoa Family Health Association, in coordination with the government, developed a manual and curriculum for out-of-school FLE, training 30 community facilitators. This collaborative approach between civil society and government partners in Samoa is a model for addressing gender norms and combating gender-based violence.
- The National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) in Samoa, in partnership with the Spotlight Initiative, launched the Village Family Safety Committee (VFSC) program to empower village leaders and members to address domestic violence within their communities. This culturally responsive approach, rooted in the 'fa'aSamoa,' has established VFSCs in six villages, fostering advocacy for zero tolerance towards violence and building capacities to understand the root causes of gender-based violence. Gender inclusion is a key aspect, ensuring diverse perspectives and promoting positive changes in societal attitudes towards violence against women and girls.
- Engagement with Samoa's political leadership and line ministries in Spotlight Initiative events has led to increased understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) magnitude, resulting in integrated GBV efforts into District Development Plans and Samoa Village Safety Plans. Additionally, the GRB Core Group's establishment reflects sustained commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment within the Ministry of Finance.
- The Samoa Spotlight Stories of Change Magazine and videos document key achievements, amplify women and girls' voices, and serve as advocacy tools, earning recognition with the Leave No One Behind award. Furthermore, the initiative's use of digital technologies enhances data collection and decision-making regarding violence against women and girls (VAWG), contributing to sustainable interventions.
- The inclusion of diverse communities, such as Fa'afafine and SOGIE/LGBTQI+ groups, in the Spotlight Initiative promotes inclusivity and meaningful contributions to societal change. Similarly, leveraging sports as a vehicle for change empowers women and challenges discriminatory practices, fostering a culture of respect and support.
- Lastly, the UNDP's public call for proposals supports grassroots organizations, reaching marginalized individuals and groups often left behind, thus demonstrating a commitment to the Leave No One Behind principle and advancing gender equality initiatives under the Spotlight Initiative.

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS AND VISIBILITY



## **a. Overview**

Orange and black have become symbolic colors in villages and workplaces, representing the commitment to "End Violence Against Women and Girls." Despite initial communication and advocacy challenges, the Spotlight Initiative successfully promoted its message and impact on Samoa's efforts to address this issue through various media platforms over two years. Government leaders actively participated in events and campaigns, emphasizing that ending violence against women and girls is a collective responsibility.

During this period, more than 60 news items about Spotlight Initiative activities were broadcast on radio, television, social media, and online newspapers, reaching approximately 150,000 people. The 16 Days of Activism Campaign, initiated in 2020, sparked community discussions on the causes and prevention of violence against women and girls. Eleven videos featuring diverse community representatives were widely shared, reaching over 66,700 viewers and reigniting national conversations.

In 2023, the UNDP and the RCO recruited a skilled media correspondent to produce social media content for the 16 Days of Activism Campaign, resulting in 14 impactful pieces shared across various platforms. This effort documented lessons learned and amplified the campaign's reach and impact, showcasing the Spotlight Initiative's commitment to addressing violence against women and girls in Samoa.

[National Council of Women's Message](#)

[Traditional leaders and rural villages' message](#)

[Persons with disability message](#)

[UN Resident Coordinator Themba Kalua Message](#)

[UNDP Resident Representative Aliona Niculita's message](#)

[Building happy families: Wisdom for young women, mothers, young men and fathers](#)

[Step up to eliminate VAWG](#)

## **b. Messages**

Campaign Theme –

*'A e malu I fale, e malu I fafo'*:

The Samoa proverb emphasizes family roles in ensuring safety and well-being. The 'Malu I Fale' Campaign stresses that ending violence is everyone's duty, teaching non-violent values at home.

*Social Media and TVC messages –*

*E amata ia oe le matua faata'ita'iga lelei – Parents are the best role models for safe and happy families.*





The Spotlight Initiative's media campaign urged parents to be positive role models by listening, communicating, and loving their children. It advocated for constructive correction instead of harsh actions.

*E le saua le alofa – Love is not abusive/ Love is not violent*

The Spotlight Initiative aligns with the message from 1 Corinthians 13 that love is patient and kind. It emphasizes that violence stems from the absence of love and the presence of anger and hatred. In relationships, true love should never tolerate violence as it contradicts the very essence of love.

**c. Media and Visibility Events**

**d. Campaigns**

*Malu I fale Campaign.*

The Spotlight Initiative was given high-profile visibility at the Malu I Fale Campaign and the Official Launch of the National Media Campaign to reduce family violence through speeches, media coverage, and products, including TV promotions, publications, and T-shirts.

The 'Malu I Fale' supported by the Spotlight Initiative was launched at the official ceremony to mark the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism with critical speakers including Prime Minister Hon. Fiame Naomi, Minister of MWCSD, Hon. Leota Laki Sio, Resident Coordinator Simona Marinescu and the participation of government ministries, private sector and civil societies was a vast gathering. The Malu I Fale also officially reintroduced the colour black as a symbol of unity and strength of a community underpinned by respect for and in honour of their women.

The Spotlight Initiative "Leave No One Behind" Award was presented to the PM, Hon. Fiame Naomi Mataafa at this event.

*Reducing family violence campaign*

The multi-media Campaign to reduce violence in Samoan families was at the forefront in 2022 with the launch of its media products and campaign under the Ministry of Women Community and Social Development's Umbrella term for the Campaign – Malu I Fale, - Our homes are our haven' generated national support.

This was later followed by the 16 Days of Activism, when the campaign was at the forefront of the movement, with its third TVC launch and the rollout of its Child Protection and Positive Parenting messages. Both national events gained much publicity and visibility through extensive coverage by the local media on the various topics that the events focused on, with a specific focus on the elimination of violence against girls, women and children, as well as on the activities that were being carried out and the impact on the communities and the country as a whole. The 16 Days of Activism became a nationally recognised event with the majority of Government Ministries marching together with independent bodies, non-government organisations, faith-based organisations and schools in recognition of those affected by any form of abuse and the movement by a nation to rid itself of such violence.



### **e. Human interest stories**

#### **f. Testimonials**

The National Multimedia Campaign Launch in August was officially opened by the Associate Minister of Women together with the UNICEF Pacific Representative, Jonathan Veitch, who emphasised that 'Exposure to violence in childhood is strongly associated with future victimisation and perpetration of abuse.

Mr Veitch added in his testimonial that any form of violence decreases a child's ability to function, and this impact may be irreversible. He further added that Every child should always feel safe and protected.

<https://www.facebook.com/MinistryofWomenCommunityAndSocialDevelopment/videos/572078697792841>

In the context of ending violence against women and girls, Lualua, representing Traditional Leaders and Rural Communities, played a pivotal role in ensuring that the Spotlight Initiative in Samoa was not just a project with a temporary impact. Recognising the typical pattern of projects entering Samoa with initial enthusiasm and then fading away, Lualua emphasised the importance of the initiative being Samoa-driven and owned. Lualua focused on aligning the Spotlight Initiative with Samoan women and girls' urgent needs and priorities, ensuring interventions were contextually relevant. Central to his approach was a commitment to sustainability, with Lualua stressing that the initiative's success lies in the hands and hearts of the Samoan people. He says, "The community's belief in the initiative and their active involvement, driven in the Samoan way, is crucial for its success". Furthermore, Lualua played a critical advisory role in the development and execution of the 16 Days of Healing Campaign. Leveraging his traditional knowledge and expertise, he contributed to crafting a campaign that resonates with the hearts of the Samoan people, aiming to foster their commitment as Champions for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) in various locations across Samoa.

The main difference between the NHRI Village Family Safety program and the establishment of village safety committees is that it has brought advocacy and placed the advocacy responsibility on the shoulders of the community members. It has brought together all the different organs of the village, namely the council of chiefs, daughters of the town (nu'u o solo), faletua ma tausí (wives of chiefs and orators), untitled men and women (nu'u o image)." - Maiava Visekota Tuia, Vaie'e VFSC member, 2022

In response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, SUNGO, under the Spotlight Initiative, initiated a training program to enhance the capacity of CSO trainers in psychosocial support and psychological first aid. Recognising the pandemic's profound social, economic, and mental impact, SUNGO CEO Fuimaono Vaitolo Ofoia emphasised the value of this skill set, particularly for women and girls. The three-day training brought together over 50 participants from more than 15 CSOs, led by qualified local counsellors and trainers. The focus was on providing vital Psychological First Aid, addressing the pressing need to enhance emotional and spiritual well-being in the face of the pandemic's psychological, emotional,



and physical toll. The initiative demonstrated a commitment to supporting the Samoan people's well-being, addressing the global pandemic's multifaceted impact through culturally sensitive and holistic psychological first-aid approaches. "Women and girls in sports continue to be victims and survivors of violence, and we, as a sports organisation, must be able to offer support. We take our role as a sports organisation seriously in pushing gender equality within the sports sector, and we will continue to strive for a safe and secure environment for all our female athletes — that's why being part of this training is crucial for us." - Anasis Saipele, Apelu Sports, a participant in the training.

### **g. Photos**

### **h. Videos**

*The Spotlight Initiative | Making an Impact.*

This is a series of short videos featuring testimonies from some of the Spotlight Initiative's leading partners on the impact they have observed in their institutions and village settings because of the initiative's support.

- Key reflections on the impact of work to address domestic violence and violence against women and girls by the dedicated and hard-working from SVSG SamoaVictim Support Group, Program Manager Afioga Muliagatele Pepe Tevaga and the Ministry of Women, Community & Social Development, Chief Executive Officer, Dr Mema Motusaga. [Watch | Facebook](#)
- This video features reflections from Ms Loukinikini Vili-Lewaravu | Director of the Human Rights Office of Ombudsman, and [#VFSC](#) representatives from Vaie'e and Lalovi Mulifanua testifying on the use of a fit-for-purpose community engagement model ( best practice) using [#evidence](#) based DV data and contextualised cultural and human rights approaches to prevent and respond to violence within their domestic settings. [\(1\) Facebook](#)
- This video shares information on legislation reviewed and reformed to respond better and address the need to prevent family and domestic violence. [https://youtu.be/kS\\_Mv4mm2ec](https://youtu.be/kS_Mv4mm2ec)
- Samoa National Council of Women is a crucial partner of the Spotlight Initiative. Through UNDP, they were supported in delivering transformational leadership training that integrated the principles of the Spotlight Initiative for grassroots women. They trained over 300 women from 15 villages in Savaii and Upolu. <https://youtu.be/TJfOyA5a6A>
- Men as traditional leaders have engaged and moulded through the Spotlight Initiative to lead the cause of ending DV/IPV in the villages. <https://youtu.be/IXCnW6MVFd0>
- Key reflections on reviewing, consulting, and integrating domestic and family violence in the Law and Justice Sector Plan for the next five years. <https://youtu.be/DY7tqgcDzXs>

*Reducing family violence – the role of parents*

The campaign videos were all in line with one theme to push home the role of parenting in a family under the banner

'Matua e amata ia oe/ Parents, it starts with you.



- (1) <https://www.facebook.com/MinistryofWomenCommunityAndSocialDevelopment/videos/603719734525611>
- (2) <https://www.facebook.com/MinistryofWomenCommunityAndSocialDevelopment/videos/5657515037674352>

*Minister of Education speaks of the Family Life Education.*

The Ministry of Education adapted and implemented the Family Life Education curriculum with the high-level support of the Hon Minister Seuula Ioane.

<https://www.mesc.gov.ws/family-life-education-program/>

## 11. LOOKING FORWARD—SUSTAINING THE SPOTLIGHT MOMENTUM

After two years of implementation, the Spotlight Initiative has garnered significant attention and support. The European Union, United Nations, and Government have strongly advocated at the leadership level for addressing violence against women and girls (VAWG) due to its profound social and economic costs. The Initiative's multi-stakeholder consultations, policy reviews, capacity building efforts, and advocacy campaigns have led to institutions and communities taking ownership and leadership roles in tackling VAWG.

The Initiative has delivered impactful activities, generated meaningful results, and demonstrated a strong commitment to scaling up efforts to end VAWG. The focus has been on strengthening institutional capacity, generating data, reviewing policies, raising awareness, and empowering existing Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). Community-led activities like "My Village, My Pride" and continuous broadcasting of Initiative content on 2AP Radio have also emerged.

The Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG) plays a critical role in sustaining and enhancing civil society engagement in addressing VAWG. Its diverse expertise, active inclusion in program design and implementation, and emphasis on accountability and data-driven decision-making have been paramount. Regular gatherings and knowledge exchange symposiums have strengthened collaboration and shared learning among CSOs, leading to a more unified and impactful approach.

Best practices identified include prioritizing CSO-led grassroots initiatives, establishing coordination and monitoring mechanisms early on, and advocating for adequate financial and capacity investments in CSNRGs and CSOs. These practices contribute to sustained impact and systemic change in addressing violence against women and girls.

### Next Steps

The design of Spotlight 2.0 for Samoa focuses on four key areas to continue the fight against violence targeting women and girls and advance gender equality and women's empowerment:

**Systematic Legislative and Policy Change:** Spotlight 2.0 partners with stakeholders to integrate "leave no one behind" principles into legal and policy frameworks addressing VAWG. This collaboration





strengthens institutional capacity and ensures the effective integration of prevention and response policy initiatives into national plans.

**Prevention and Changing Social Norms:** The program emphasizes community engagement and aligns District Development Planning Frameworks with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) using innovative financing and digital tools. Culture-centric approaches expand initiatives like the Village Family Safety and My Village My Pride programs, integrating DV and GBV into village and district development. Influencer engagement amplifies awareness, including men and boys through innovative rehabilitation programs and education on social norms and respectful relationships.

**Women's Economic Empowerment:** Spotlight 2.0 focuses on leveraging technological tools and virtual platforms to empower women and youth economically. Initiatives include capacity-building within economic empowerment programs, emphasizing ending violence against women and girls and good governance principles. Flexible funding modalities strengthen civil society and women's movements, particularly in upskilling women entrepreneurs in the informal economic sector.

**Quality Services and Holding Perpetrators Accountable:** The program commits to improving service quality and accountability measures by building a skilled workforce, providing training for counsellors, and extending services for survivors. Rehabilitation and restorative justice programs, especially for at-risk youth and male inmates, are scaled up, linking to economic or sports initiatives for a holistic approach to transformation.

Spotlight 2.0 engages collaboratively with various stakeholders, including UN agencies, Government Ministries, civil society organizations, and the private sector, under the leadership of the Recipient UN Implementing Organization (RUNO). This collaborative effort aims to realize the transformative vision of Spotlight 2.0, bringing about profound change and empowerment.



## ANNEXES

**Please hyperlink to each annexe here or attach the annexe directly to the report.**

### Annex A: Results Framework

*Reporting against the Results Framework will be captured through SMART (the Spotlight Monitoring and Reporting Tool). Your programme will format and attach the data as an annexed table (Annex A) to your report.*

### Annex B: Risk Matrix

*Please fill in Annex B and include a link to the annexe here, or attach the annexe to the report.*

### Annex C: CSO Engagement Report

*This year, Annex C will be submitted online (through Jotform) instead of in Excel as in previous years. The form follows the same structure as the previously used Excel sheet, and programmes are still asked to report on the cumulative data on CSO funding from the programme's start. Please visit the accompanying guidance for more information. Please attach Annex C to your report (the Secretariat will share a PDF of Annex C with you).*

### Annex D: Innovative, Promising or Good Practices Reporting Template

*Please complete Annex D and include a link to the annexe here or attach it to the report.*

### Annex F:

