Spotlight Initiative

To eliminate violence against women and girls

FINAL NARRATIVE PROJECT REPORT

PROJECT TITLE: SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE GLOBAL PLATFORM

PROGRAMME START DATE: 1 APRIL 2021

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 APRIL 2021 – 30 APRIL 2024

Programme Title & Programme Number	Priority regions/areas/localities for the programme
Programme Title: Spotlight Initiative Global Platform MPTF Office Project Reference Number:[1] 00128649	Global
Recipient Organisation(s)	**Key Partners**
UN WOMEN	• United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women
Programme Cost (US$)	**Programme Start and End Dates**
Total budget as per the Spotlight Initiative Global Platform Project Document: USD 927, 837.00	**Start Date:** 13 April 2021 **End Date:** 30 April 2024
	Report Submitted By:
	31 August 2024

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[1] 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.

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Acronym List and Abbreviations

Compendium	Compendium of Innovative and Good Practices and Lessons Learned
COSI	Community of the Spotlight Initiative
CS-GRG	Civil Society Global Reference Group
CS-NRG	Civil Society National Reference Group
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCO	Development Coordination Office
DG INTPA	European Union Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA)
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation
EVAW	Ending Violence Against Women
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GKPT	Global Knowledge Product Tracker
HIVE Programme	Spotlight Initiative's High-Impact Programme for Violence Elimination by 2030 (HIVE Joint Programme)
KM	Knowledge Management
Learning Centre	Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre
SD Direct	Social Development Direct
SVRI	Sexual Violence Research Initiative
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNTF	United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VAW	Violence Against Women
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
WPHF	Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund

Executive Summary

Drawing upon the abundance of knowledge and experience gained from Spotlight Initiative's impactful investments in over 26 countries, the foremost objective of the Global Platform project was to amplify and disseminate the successes, insights, and best practices generated by the Initiative, with the critical aim of sustaining the impact of its interventions.

This report outlines the progress made by the Global Platform in achieving its three core objectives. From the foundation and scale-up of an online knowledge exchange hub on ending violence against women and girls (EVAWG) to codifying and disseminating critical knowledge in line with strategic moments in the EVAWG space, while facilitating global exchanges and strategic convenings to advance collaboration and advocacy, the Global Platform has **fostered a robust coalition of EVAWG actors** and made invaluable contributions to the ecosystem as a whole. Significantly, the work of the Global Platform has resulted in the investment of additional resources from the European Union to take forward its mandate. This additional investment will support the Spotlight Initiative's High-Impact Programme for Violence Elimination by 2030 (HIVE Joint Programme), which is being implemented from 2024 onwards.

Overall, the following key results were achieved:

The results, lessons, and good practices generated by Spotlight Initiative have been amplified and disseminated through 12 peer, cross-regional, and intra-regional exchanges. These exchanges have drawn over **2,300 participants** from the UN, government, civil society, and other stakeholders, facilitating the exchange of expertise among a broad network of practitioners working to end violence against women and girls. The thematic focus of each knowledge exchange has been demand-driven, encompassing diverse topics such as addressing harmful practices and SRHR, engaging the private sector to end VAWG, and innovative coordination in the spirit of UN reform. Feedback surveys circulated following these exchanges have captured the impact of the sessions in enhancing stakeholders' knowledge and expertise on the topics concerned, and in deepening connections between stakeholders within Spotlight Initiative's global community and beyond.

A bespoke, multi-stakeholder online space for exchange and co-creation on EVAWG has been developed through the medium of the **SHINE** hub. A collaboration with the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (UNTF), the SHINE platform is the first online knowledge exchange hub to bring together government, civil society, the UN, the EU, and other practitioners to actively engage in ending violence against women and girls and the co-creation of knowledge. Accessible in more than 50 languages, SHINE presents a strategic online space for stakeholders to share expertise on key thematic areas, engage in networking groups, and access tailored resources in service of global policy, programming, and advocacy on EVAWG. Throughout the duration of the Global Platform project, engagement on SHINE has become increasingly active and dynamic. With over **2,100 users** to date, **thirteen online** discussions have been conducted, **four communities of practice** have been set up, and **67 tailored resources on EVAWG** have been disseminated widely.

48 knowledge briefs highlighting key results, lessons, and good practices generated by Spotlight Initiative on a breadth of topics related to EVAWG have been developed and shared widely. Several of these knowledge products were released in line with strategic moments to promote wide utilization and amplify the Spotlight Initiative's model and results, including the event of the Group of Friends for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls at the margin of the Sixty-Seventh Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 67), and the Spotlight Initiative Press Conference at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28). **Over 1,000 knowledge products, briefs, and tools** produced by country and regional programmes, as well as by the Secretariat, were consolidated into a single repository, the [Global Knowledge Product Tracker](#), ensuring the accessibility and visibility of all Spotlight Initiative resources to practitioners working in the EVAWG space, as well as a new generation of Spotlight Initiative programmes. **Overall, the knowledge products developed throughout the Global Platform project have supported the advancement of the global evidence base on EVAWG and facilitated the accessibility and replicability of the key insights, learnings, and good practices generated by Spotlight Initiative.**

The work undertaken within the Global Platform portfolio has also laid the foundation for **modeling comprehensive EVAWG programming in the UN system and beyond**. One of the foremost tools developed throughout the project was the **[Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre](#)**, which synthesizes the Initiative's wealth of knowledge and successes, innovative and promising practices, and lessons learned **into a definitive guide on how to design and implement comprehensive EVAWG programmes.** A legacy of the Initiative, and a tool in service of global policy, programming, and advocacy on EVAWG, the Learning Centre is intended to sustain the learnings of Spotlight Initiative and ensure its experience and practices can be modeled widely. A capacity development tool by design, the Learning Centre was developed in close consultation with a User Reference Group encompassing key stakeholders of the Initiative, ensuring it presents the most critical information and evidence in an intuitive, easily navigable format.

Throughout the duration of the Global Platform project, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat also invested deeply in **enhancing coordination on knowledge management on EVAWG across the UN system.** This was achieved through regular meetings of the **Knowledge Management Focal Points Network**, as well as the **UN HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG**. Both networks have been pivotal in identifying opportunities for collaboration and strengthening synergy across parallel efforts to end violence against women and girls.

The activities of the Global Platform will be advanced and deepened through the Spotlight Initiative's High-Impact Programme for Violence Elimination by 2030 (HIVE Joint Programme), which is being implemented from 2024 onwards.

Project Governance, Coordination, and Project Partnerships

With the objective of amplifying the lessons and good practices generated by the Spotlight Initiative and providing a convening and advocacy platform on ending violence against women and girls, the implementation of the Global Platform has encompassed a diverse range of stakeholders. The effective management and coordination of key groups and structures, including the Civil Society Global Reference Group, the Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Group, the Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG, and the Spotlight Initiative KM Focal Points Group, have greatly supported the successful implementation of the Global Platform project.

a) Spotlight Initiative Governance Structure

Prior to the establishment of the Global Platform, the European Union (EU) and Spotlight Initiative organized a joint workshop on 23 February 2021. The purpose of this workshop was to distinguish the role of the EU in the governance mechanisms and the process of designing the Global Platform. The status of the Global Platform as an outcome of the Generation Equality GBV Action Coalition was also underscored.

The governance structures covering Spotlight Initiative were also utilised to oversee the implementation of the Global Platform throughout the duration of the project. The governance structure covering Spotlight Initiative is outlined in the Fund Operations Manual Compendium.

The European Union

The implementation of the Global Platform project has been grounded in a vision of deep partnership between the EU and the UN. To this end, existing meeting spaces between the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat and the EU broadened their focus to include regular updates on the progress of the Global Platform. As outlined below, the EU worked closely with the Secretariat in the implementation of the Global Platform project, and where necessary, side meetings were convened to connect on critical approaches and decisions.

This partnership has been particularly valuable in the development of the Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre, as well as in arranging and scoping global knowledge exchanges and in disseminating knowledge products within the EU network. Since the project's inception, and increasingly throughout its implementation, the EU has worked to increase the engagement of Member States, under the principle of universality. This will enable more countries to benefit from the wealth of knowledge, lessons, and promising practices on EVAWG generated by Spotlight Initiative.

Throughout the duration of the Global Platform, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat has produced multiple knowledge briefs presenting information on the tools produced within the Global Platform framework to support the EU in communicating the results and impacts of the project. More broadly, the Secretariat has provided technical inputs based on activities undertaken as part of the Global Platform portfolio to briefing notes and talking points utilized by EU representatives. For example, the Secretariat provided inputs to an outcome statement issued following a meeting of

the Group of Friends during the 16 Days of Activism, which explored strategies for engaging men and boys in efforts to eliminate gender-based violence.

In 2023, the partnership with the EU expanded to include additional stakeholders. The Spotlight Initiative Secretariat presented information on the Initiative's comprehensive approach to GBV programming, including tools and resources generated as part of the Global Platform such as SHINE, during the GBV training convened for EUD Gender Focal Points in Brussels. Similarly, in November 2023, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat provided a cross-learning demonstration of resources produced under the Global Platform to EU Technical Focal Points.

Overall, this strategic partnership has contributed significantly to the progress of the Global Platform's objectives. The partnership has resulted in the investment of additional resources from the EU to take forward the ambitions of the Global Platform through the **Spotlight Initiative's High-Impact Programme for Violence Elimination by 2030** (HIVE Joint Programme).

b) Civil Society Global Reference Group and National Reference Groups

The Civil Society Global Reference Group (CS-GRG) and National Reference Groups (CS-NRG) are key elements of the governance structure for Spotlight Initiative at the global, regional, and national levels and have been integral partners in the design, development, and implementation of the Global Platform. The CS-GRG is an established institutional mechanism of 17-20 peer-selected women's rights activists who advise the Fund and hold Spotlight Initiative accountable to its commitments to civil society, including through the Global Platform. This level of civil society oversight and accountability has made an important contribution to the Global Platform, ensuring it upholds Spotlight Initiative's values of inclusivity and increased decision-making for civil society, is continuously needs-driven, and aligns with the principle of *leaving no one behind*.

The Civil Society Global Reference Group has been the main point of contact in supporting meaningful civil society engagement through the Global Platform. Specifically, the CS-GRG has supported the dissemination of information on key exchanges and knowledge products to Spotlight Initiative's civil society networks, helping to ensure the broader reach of these activities among national and grassroots civil society organizations. The CS-GRG has also been pivotal in helping raise awareness on SHINE, an online knowledge hub on EVAWG, produced by the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (UNTF) in collaboration with Spotlight Initiative. Members of the CS-GRG were engaged in the development of SHINE and provided critical feedback to ensure that it was accessible and responsive to the needs of civil society.

Throughout the duration of the Global Platform, the CS-GRG has co-hosted demonstrations of the SHINE platform to over **100 Civil Society National and Regional Reference Group (CS-RG) members** from Argentina and the Africa, Caribbean, and Latin America Regional Programmes, helping to ensure that national and grassroots civil society organizations benefit from this convening space. Furthermore, the CS-GRG has contributed to the organization of online discussions and exchanges on SHINE to increase the accessibility of these forums and ensure they best meet the needs of local and grassroots organisations. In September 2023, CS-GRG members co-led the SHINE online discussion on exploring Spotlight Initiative's contribution to

movement building, meaningful engagement with civil society, and its approach to "leaving no one behind", the findings of which were used to inform the Thematic Assessment of the Spotlight Initiative. The contribution of civil society members to this discussion ensured the voices of a range of stakeholders (including women's rights organizations) were captured.

The partnership with civil society has also supported the Global Platform's objective of amplifying the lessons learned and good practices generated by Spotlight Initiative. For example, Civil Society National Reference Group members took the lead in organizing side events at the Global Learning Symposium, including the event on CSOs and Women Movements – Overcoming Barriers and Advancing Sustainability of Results in EVAW and the event on Sustaining the Civil Society Reference Group Functions in Future Programming.

Members of CS-GRG and the CS-NRG were also represented on the User Reference Group (URG) which accompanied the development of the **Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre**, ensuring the content of the platform was responsive to the needs of civil society actors working in EVAWG. Members supported the review of substantive content for the Learning Centre and provided critical inputs to its scope, navigability, and visual presentation. CS-NRG members also produced promotional videos to support the dissemination of the Learning Centre.

Overall, close engagement with the CS-GRG and CS-NRGs has advanced the Global Platform's strategic objectives of strengthening coalitions among key EVAWG stakeholders and connecting local and grassroots organizations with duty-bearers for increased advocacy and impact.

c) Inter-agency coordination, technical committees, and other governance mechanisms

HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG

In 2021, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat set up a coordination mechanism of Knowledge Management (KM) focal points at the headquarters level to strengthen synergy in knowledge management among different funds and initiatives. Over the years, the Global Platform achieved its goal of leveraging this mechanism to foster a system-wide working group on knowledge management for EVAWG to strengthen evidence-based programming and coordination. Initially, the group included representatives from the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), the UNTF, and UN Women. The group has now been further expanded to include representatives from all other relevant agencies, including UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNAIDS, IFAD, OHCHR, and IOM, to facilitate system-wide collaboration on EVAWG knowledge management. This coordination mechanism has been leveraged to exchange on respective initiatives, identify potential areas of collaboration, and foster a more cohesive approach to knowledge curation on EVAWG.

Specific meetings of the HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG have been dedicated to discussing the activities of the Global Platform to ensure it builds on, rather than duplicates, existing initiatives and meaningfully benefits EVAWG efforts within the UN system. For example, at the inception stage of the project, an open line of communication was established with UN Women to ensure that the Global Platform addressed identified learning gaps and adequately supported evidence generation on EVAWG. To this end, efforts were made to ensure the Global Platform did not duplicate the provisions of the UN Women's Virtual Knowledge Centre (VKC). Through

dialogue, it was established that the scope of the Global Platform, including SHINE, would center around dynamic engagement on EVAWG, in contrast to the VKC, which serves as a repository of foundational resources on EVAWG.

Overall, the quarterly meetings of the HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG have been instrumental in drawing concrete synergies between the Global Platform and existing knowledge management initiatives on EVAWG in the UN system. The progress generated speaks to the effectiveness of this coordination mechanism and the dedication of all involved in working to collaboratively advance EVAWG efforts.

Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Group

In September 2021, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat joined the Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Group led by the UN Development Coordination Office (UNDCO). Convened every month, the Group brings together representatives from across the UN system to share relevant tools, resources, and experiences to identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination of knowledge management activities within and across agencies. The Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Group is distinct from the HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG in that the former group addresses knowledge management activities across the entire UN system, while the latter focuses exclusively on knowledge management initiatives among colleagues working on EVAWG. The Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Group has greatly supported the roll-out and amplification of the Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre and the Compendium of Innovative and Good Practices and Lessons Learned among key stakeholder groups.

During its engagement with the Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Group, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat invited UN agencies represented within the Group to join Spotlight Initiative's HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG. This is one example of how the Global Platform has supported Spotlight Initiative's objective of working in alignment with the principles of UN Reform.

Spotlight Initiative Knowledge Management Focal Points Network

In 2019, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat developed a Knowledge Management Focal Points Network across its programmes. Encompassing over **50 members**, the Network is attended by at least one focal point from each Spotlight Initiative country and regional programme. Over the years, the Secretariat has hosted quarterly meetings with the Network, during which KM focal points have provided critical insight on the needs at regional, country, and local levels and provided continuous feedback on the Global Platform, including in the organization of the Global Learning Symposium and in providing inputs to the subject of multiple webinars. In response to feedback from focal points, a splinter group of regional knowledge management focal points was also convened on several occasions to address their unique programming needs. In this context, a regional-focused event, titled Engaging a Regional Response: Experiences from the Africa and Pacific Regional Programmes, was organized at the Global Learning Symposium to exchange on the experience and learnings of Spotlight Initiative regional programmes.

Overall, meetings of the Knowledge Management Focal Points Network centered around discussion of knowledge management activities at the programme level and the exploration of

areas of synergy across programmes' initiatives. In particular, the Focal Points supported the knowledge management portfolio by facilitating the development of the [Global Knowledge Product Tracker](#) (GKPT). The GKPT captures all knowledge products produced by programmes in a single repository and features over 1,000 products.

The Network was also effective in strengthening the integration of knowledge management as a key function within the country and regional programming more broadly, with much discussion centering on how best to codify and sustain lessons learned and good practices. The Network supported KM Focal Points in their work to develop Annex Ds within Annual Programme Reports, which enabled the recording and systematization of innovative, good, and promising practices and lessons learned emerging throughout programme implementation. Similarly, the Network played a critical role in building capacity for knowledge management; discussions emerging from the Network led to the organization of knowledge management training in Malawi and Uganda, the development of a Compendium of Good Practices in Mozambique, the set-up of a KM Working Group across RUNOs in Nigeria, and the production of monthly newsletters by programmes to support cross-learning within countries and across regions. The WhatsApp Group set up for Knowledge Management Focal Points provided an additional layer of coordination among the Network, enabling ease of exchange and prompt sharing of new resources and tools.

During the process of programme closure, the Network also provided a pivotal space to explore how best to sustain programmes' interventions, including the retention of all knowledge products, and resources produced by programmes. Overall, the Network provided critical insights into the needs and experiences of programmes, illuminated challenges and opportunities related to knowledge management, and fostered a continuous learning journey among Spotlight Initiative stakeholders.

d) Cooperation with other UN agencies and funds

UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women (UN Trust Fund)

Given their shared objective of strengthening knowledge exchange on EVAWG, in 2021, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat partnered with the UNTF to develop the SHINE online hub. Advancing the deliverable of the *development and maintenance of a knowledge hub*, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat and the UNTF have met every month to facilitate the coordination of SHINE since the platform's inception. To effectively manage the partnership, a Terms of Reference was developed, which outlines institutional, management, financial, and human resource arrangements, stakeholder engagement plans, risk management and messaging, and guidelines for branding, visuals, and logos, among other matters.

The monthly meetings of the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat and the UNTF have provided a valuable space to share updates on planned activities for SHINE, in alignment with the jointly developed Content Action Plan, as well as to update the shared Terms of Reference, schedule online discussions, and support the creation of communities of practice. These meetings were particularly critical in coordinating the introduction of new features, including user polls and video upload functions.

Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF)

In 2021, through the HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat and the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) identified an opportunity to strengthen their existing partnership in the form of a Joint Peer Exchange. Titled *Coalition Building on the Front Lines: Advocating for Women's Rights and Ending Violence Against Women and Girls*, the Peer Exchange was organized through the medium of the Global Platform and the WPHF's global community of practice. Centering around the theme of strengthening women's movements, which is a key pillar of Spotlight Initiative and a core element of the WPHF's mandate, the event featured presentations by grassroots civil society representatives and facilitated in-depth exchange and analysis of knowledge, good practices, and lessons learned on coalition building. To capture the insights generated by the discussion, a knowledge brief and accompanying infographic were developed following the event, both of which were co-created with civil society inputs and feedback.

The partnership with WPHF has directly supported the implementation of the *Leave No One Behind* principle by elevating the experiences and participation of grassroots women's rights advocates across different regions. It has also directly supported feminist cross-movement building by providing a space for civil society partners to share their strategies, experiences, results, and lessons learned related to advocacy movements and coalition building on ending violence against women and girls, including in conflict and crisis-affected environments.

Results

Capturing Change Against the Results Framework

The impact of the Global Platform in strengthening coalitions and promoting knowledge sharing on EVAWG is showcased under three overarching deliverables within *Output 1: Global, Regional, and Country networks of key decision-makers, practitioners, and local, grassroots actors are strengthened; lessons, good practices, and solutions are made accessible and amplified; and uptake of knowledge across stakeholders supports comprehensive EVAWG programming*. The three deliverables are the following: 1) development, maintenance, and engagement of Knowledge Hub; 2) EVAWG knowledge production and dissemination; and 3) global exchange and strategic convenings and advocacy.

Deliverable 1: Maintenance and Engagement of Knowledge Hub

As part of the partnership formed between the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat and the UNTF to develop an online hub for global exchange on EVAWG, SHINE was launched on 1 March 2022. SHINE, developed by the UNTF in collaboration with the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat, is a first-of-its-kind multi-stakeholder online space through which users can co-create knowledge, access tailored resources and similar knowledge platforms, and engage in networking groups and communities of practice on key programming elements. Accessible in more than **50 languages**, users of the platform are able to create profiles and connect with other practitioners from around

the world. The public introduction of SHINE took place during a knowledge exchange on *Resiliency to Crises: Lessons from Civil Society Organizations in the Prevention of Violence against Women*, which was co-hosted with the UNTF. Attended by **1,018** registered participants, the event underscored the platform's objective of connecting a range of partners and changemakers from across civil society and women's organizations, the United Nations, practitioners, academics and researchers, the private sector, EU, donors, and other partners to co-create, collaborate, and amplify knowledge and learning to end violence against women and girls.

By April 2024, the platform had a total of **2,152 users, an increase of 47.3%** from 2022. The increase in users of SHINE indicates a greater awareness of the platform within the EVAWG space. Throughout the duration of the Global Platform, significant investment has been made in raising awareness of SHINE, including through a demonstration for partners delivered in collaboration with the UN Trust Fund. Demonstrations of SHINE have also been conducted for over 100 Civil Society Reference Group members from Argentina, Africa, Latin America and Caribbean Regional Programmes, members of the EU's DG INTPA, technical agency focal points, and participants at the Global Learning Symposium. This is a positive development for the EVAWG movement, given SHINE's value in facilitating dynamic engagement, advocacy, and co-creation among EVAWG practitioners.

SHINE Audience Statistic & Demographic
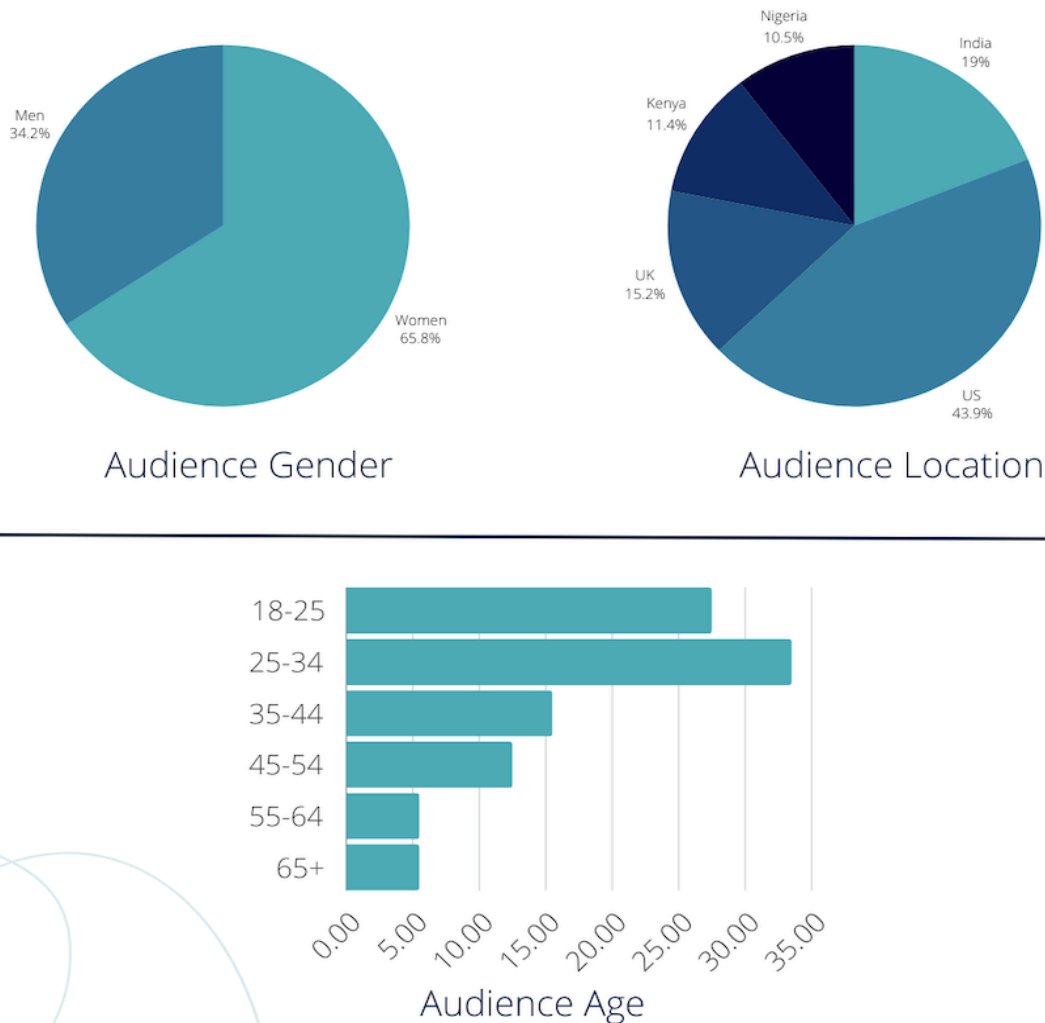
01 January - 31 December 2023

3,700	7,924	2,152
Number of new visitors	Number of sessions	Number of users

Top 1 Referral: **www.spotlightinitiative.org**

Audience Gender

Audience Location

Audience Age

In March 2023, to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the launch of SHINE, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat and the UNTF launched a joint social media campaign on Instagram to raise awareness of the platform and amplify its value as a bespoke space for EVAWG experts and practitioners to share, learn, connect and exchange ideas. To complement this effort and increase overall engagement with SHINE, a survey was circulated to assess users' experience of the platform.

Analysis of user data (Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 below) indicates that weekly visits to the platform are the norm for most SHINE users. Users indicated an overall satisfaction with SHINE and noted that they are 'highly likely' to recommend the platform to others. The top "user expectations" captured include 'sharing experiences and learning from others working on EVAWG' and 'networking and convening opportunities to advocate for change'. The feedback collected provided valuable insight into how the SHINE platform can better meet the needs of its users, and has been utilised to inform strategies for online engagement moving forward.
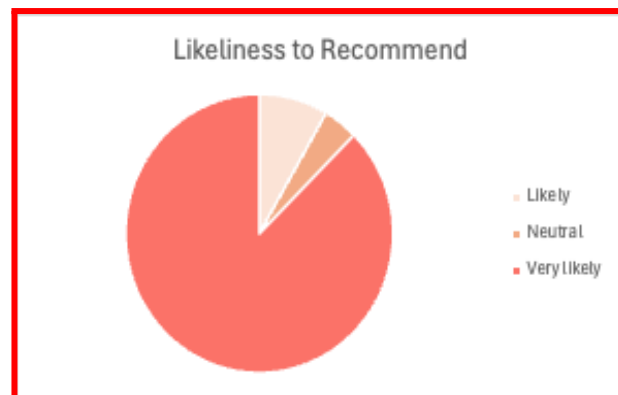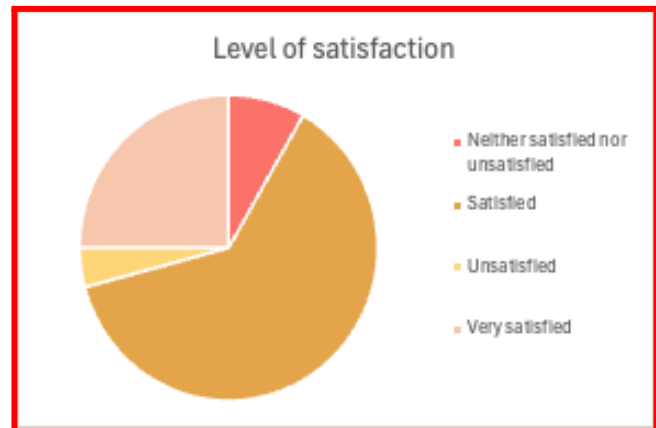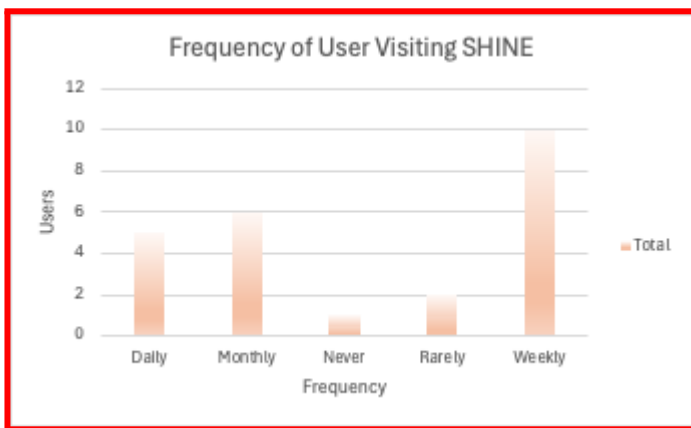
**Co-creating knowledge through online exchanges**

Over the duration of the Global Platform, a total of **five online discussions** were hosted on SHINE by the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat. In addition, a Community of Practice on Prevention and Women's Movements was set up, and a total of **43 tailored resources** were uploaded for use by practitioners. The online discussions convened covered the topics of EVAWG programme sustainability, engaging the private sector to end violence against women and girls, and the sustainability of the Civil Society Reference Group mechanism in future Spotlight Initiative programming, among others.

The first online discussion led by Spotlight Initiative centred around the theme of *Engaging the Private Sector to End Violence Against Women and Girls.* The discussion was preceded by a global exchange on lessons and good practices for engaging the private sector, which was undertaken in collaboration with the Spotlight Initiative Zimbabwe Programme. The online discussion took place from 7-18 February 2022 and was led by two moderators from the Secretariat. Participants reflected on the value of engaging the private sector as a strategic partner in addressing VAWG, as well as the need to hold private sector actors accountable and ensure they 'walk the talk' on furthering gender equality principles, including addressing sexual harassment in the workplace and promoting equal pay. Following the online

discussion, a knowledge brief on engaging the private sector was developed to synthesize and amplify the insights generated.

Increasing awareness on EVAWG programme sustainability

With Spotlight Initiative programmes culminating at the end of 2023, during the latter stages of implementation of the Global Platform, significant attention was dedicated to reflection and knowledge sharing on how to ensure the sustainability of programme gains. Throughout 2022 and 2023, multiple SHINE discussions took place on this theme, with a particular focus on civil society engagement, service provision for survivors, and data collection.

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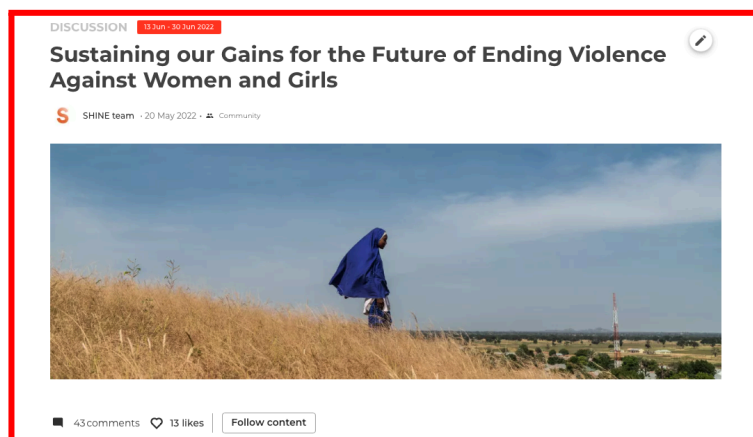
As a precursor to the Global Learning Symposium, the Secretariat hosted a SHIINE discussion on _Sustaining our Gains for the future of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls_ from 13-30 June 2022. Led by three moderators, the discussion generated active engagement, with a total of 43 comments. The discussion prompting questions explored what factors guide programme sustainability, what key lessons had been learnt by programme teams, and which strategic stakeholders ought to be involved in the development of programme sustainability strategies. In the course of the discussion, participants emphasised the importance of establishing national ownership of interventions and building local capacity and systems, the necessity of accountability, the value of developing context-specific and effective capacity development tools, and the importance of sustained multi-stakeholder engagement (see the discussion summary in Annex A).

Following the discussion at the Global Learning Symposium on sustaining Civil Society Reference Group mechanisms, an online discussion was hosted on SHINE from 5 December 2022 - 13 January 2023 on the theme of _Redefining and Sustaining the Civil Society Reference Group Mechanism in Future Programming_. Facilitated by three moderators, the discussion reflected on the need to ensure the Reference Group mechanism fosters robust partnerships with diverse members, respects local needs and contexts, and strengthens members' decision-making and accountability skills. Contributions from the discussion also informed the development of the sustainability guidance note on civil society engagement.

From 1-26 May 2023, Spotlight Initiative led a discussion on _Sustaining the impact of the Spotlight Initiative: essential services for survivors of violence_, which preceded a global exchange on sustaining essential services. Facilitated by three moderators, the discussion generated active engagement from SHINE users. The exchange explored successful approaches to ensuring continuity in the provision of essential services, considered which stakeholders should be engaged in these efforts, and reflected on common challenges.

Following the online discussion, a summary with key highlights was developed. These included the importance of fostering national ownership in relation to sustaining essential services, including embedding service provision in national development plans, the provision of funding for essential services, and ensuring accountability of national governments as primary duty bearers. Participants also highlighted the importance of institutionalising knowledge and tools developed during the implementation of frontline services. Most

importantly, the discussion also highlighted the critical role of civil society organizations in monitoring the quality of services, upholding the principle of leaving no-one behind, and guaranteeing that essential services truly serve rights holders. The discussion was followed by a virtual peer-exchange on sustaining essential services.
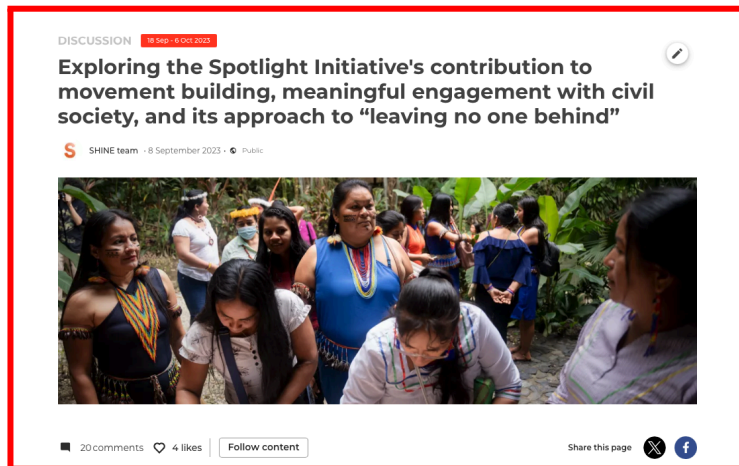
In collaboration with the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat, Social Development Direct also led an online discussion from 18 September - 6 October 2023 to support data collection for the Thematic Assessment on *Exploring the Spotlight Initiative's contribution to movement building, meaningful engagement with civil society, and its approach to "leaving no one behind*. In line with the theme of the Thematic Assessment, this discussion reflected on the way in which Spotlight Initiative has engaged with civil society, its support to women's and cross-movement building, as well as its approach to the principle of *leaving no one behind*.

Overall, SHINE has emerged as a powerful convening space for collective action on ending violence against women and girls. Through its focus on knowledge creation, exchange, and advocacy, SHINE has cultivated a first-of-its-kind holistic space for co-creation, networking and collaboration. By nurturing a vibrant online community and facilitating strategic convenings, SHINE has amplified and brought together the voices and experiences of a range of disparate partners working in EVAWG. This collaborative approach has increased the accessibility of good practice and learning, fostered innovation and enhanced the quality of programming, and ultimately driven progress towards a world free from VAWG.

Deliverable 2: EVAWG knowledge production and dissemination

Throughout the duration of the Global Platform project, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat has invested deeply in knowledge curation and production on ending violence against women and girls, with a focus on amplifying the innovative, promising and good practices, results, and lessons generated by Spotlight Initiative country and regional programmes, and on advancing the evidence base for global policy, programming and advocacy on EVAWG. The value brought to Spotlight Initiative country and regional programmes by this emphasis on knowledge curation and dissemination was underscored in the findings of the Meta-Review of the Spotlight Initiative, which noted that "the knowledge management function of the Secretariat was positively appreciated by many key informants who acknowledged its added value and relevance."
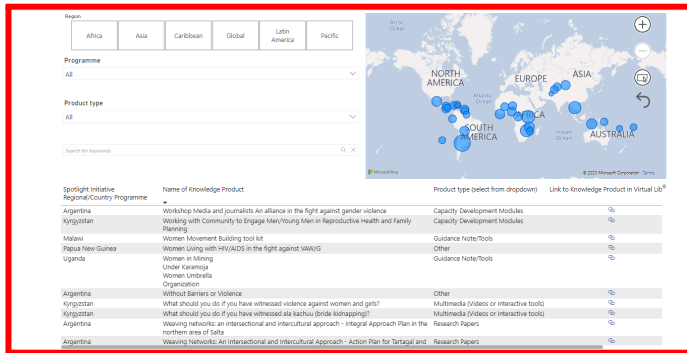
Knowledge production

Based on analyses of global, regional and country reports, as well as mid-term assessments, the Secretariat has produced a range of knowledge briefs on strategic themes related to ending violence against women and girls. Across the duration of the project, **48 knowledge briefs**, highlighting key results, lessons, and good practices generated by Spotlight Initiative, have been developed and disseminated widely (Annex A). Some of these have included: Lessons and Promising Practices of the Spotlight Initiative: Delivery of Quality Essential Services, Lessons Learned from Spotlight Initiative Programming: A Comprehensive and Transformative Approach to EVAWG, How we address online violence, Integrating gender-based violence prevention into climate action, Ending child marriage, and Engaging the private sector for EVAWG. Several of these knowledge products were developed and released in line with strategic moments to amplify
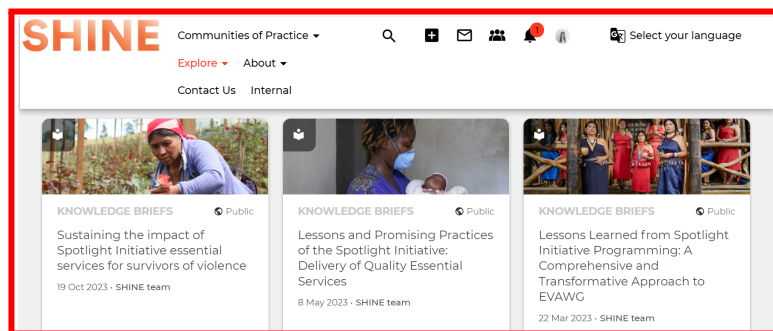
the Spotlight Initiative model and its results, and influence key policy decisions. For example, the knowledge product concerning how we address online violence was published ahead of the event hosted by the Group of Friends for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls at the margin of the Sixty-Seventh Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 67). Similarly, the knowledge product on Integrating gender-based violence prevention into climate action was released during a Press Conference convened by Spotlight Initiative at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP28). The latter knowledge product presented three actionable steps to support climate policymakers and practitioners to integrate gender-based violence prevention into climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives. A critical knowledge bank was also produced following the Global Learning Symposium (GLS), in the form of a **Resource Package** of knowledge briefs capturing key highlights generated by the 45 thematic sessions which took place. The Resource Package exhibits all presentations, tools and resources presented during the GLS, enabling those unable to attend the Symposium to access the rich knowledge generated. The Resource Package has emerged as the most visited page on the SHINE platform, demonstrating the value of the insights generated in enhancing stakeholders' knowledge and expertise.

Dissemination of the suite of tools and resources produced within the framework of the Global Platform has primarily taken place through the SHINE platform, as well as through circulation of over 50 monthly newsletters. Similarly, the **Community of Spotlight Initiative (COSI) internal UN space** has been leveraged to amplify new knowledge products and ensure their accessibility for both Spotlight Initiative programme stakeholders and policymakers and practitioners working in EVAWG. The COSI mailing list has over 600 members, with over 530 conversations having taken place thus far. COSI members have further supported dissemination of materials within their respective partner networks.

Global Knowledge Product Tracker

During the final year of the Global Platform project, significant effort was dedicated to ensuring the accessibility and visibility of the knowledge products and resources generated by Spotlight Initiative. **Over 1,000 knowledge products**, resources and tools produced by country and regional programmes, as well as those produced by the Secretariat, were consolidated into a single repository, the Global Knowledge Product Tracker. Available through the MPTFO Gateway online portal, the Global Knowledge Product Tracker provides a one-stop space for ease of access to all Spotlight Initiative resources for practitioners working in EVAWG, as well as a new generation of Spotlight Initiative programmes.

Learning Centre - Modeling comprehensive EVAWG programming in line with the Spotlight Initiative model

The most significant tool produced under the Global Platform portfolio related to EVAWG knowledge production and dissemination was the **Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre**. The Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre is a first-of-its-kind holistic learning space aimed at individuals and organizations designing, implementing and managing comprehensive programmes to end violence against women and girls. A capacity development tool by design, the Learning Centre synthesises Spotlight Initiative's wealth of knowledge and successes, innovative and promising practices, and lessons learned together with wider evidence, expertise and tools emerging from the wider EVAWG field. A legacy of the Initiative, and a tool in service of global policy, programming and advocacy on EVAWG, the Learning Centre is intended to sustain the learnings of Spotlight Initiative and ensure its practices can be modelled widely.

The Spotlight Initiative Secretariat led the development of the Learning Centre in partnership with Social Development Direct. Following an initial consultation with key stakeholders, including programme teams and representatives from the UN, EU, government, and civil society, as well as a review of existing Spotlight Initiative materials and other relevant resources from the wider EVAWG space, an outline for the Learning Centre was developed. This outline was piloted with a User Reference Group, who provided feedback on the proposed thematic content, visual look and feel, and navigability of the platform. Based on the feedback of the User Reference Group and the Secretariat, the content was developed for **seven core modules, which aligned closely with the six original programming pillars of Spotlight Initiative, as well as key elements that make the Initiative's model distinct.** The modules include the following: Programme Design and Implementation, Effective Partnerships, VAWG Prevention, VAWG Response, Women's Movements, and Data, Evidence, and Learning. Each module was reviewed by the Secretariat in close consultation with members of the User Reference Group. In tandem, the design and navigation elements of the site were developed, with a focus on creating an intuitive, visually appealing, and easily navigable platform to ensure maximum utilization across different stakeholder groups. The Learning Centre was launched in June 2024, with significant attention

directed to promoting the new resource in key EVAWG spaces to support wide utilization. Thus far, demonstrations of the Learning Centre have been delivered to EU Technical Focal Points, the UN Development Coordination Office, and UN Agency Focal Points.

To further support programmatic learning and contribute to the broader evidence base on EVAWG, the Secretariat simultaneously commissioned a [Compendium of Innovative, Promising, and Good Practices and Lessons Learned](#) to document the extensive learning and experience generated by the first phase of Spotlight Initiative programming. Presenting a suite of over 50 case studies across six interconnected outcome areas, as well as cross-cutting themes, the Compendium is designed to provide policymakers and practitioners with practice-based knowledge on ending VAWG that is innovative, high-impact, sustainable, and localized. The development of the Compendium involved a participatory process, drawing on existing tools and research, as well as the expertise and contributions of Spotlight Initiative programmes. The rich evidence documented in the Compendium served as an invaluable source of information for the Learning Centre, with many of the Learning Centre Case Studies drawing from the experiences and lessons learned presented within the Compendium.

Throughout the duration of the Global Platform project, the consolidation of lessons learned generated by Spotlight Initiative programmes has been of great utility in enabling improved programme implementation and advancing the broader evidence base. This significant focus on knowledge curation will be sustained and deepened as a core focus of the HIVE programme.

Deliverable 3: global knowledge exchange and strategic convenings
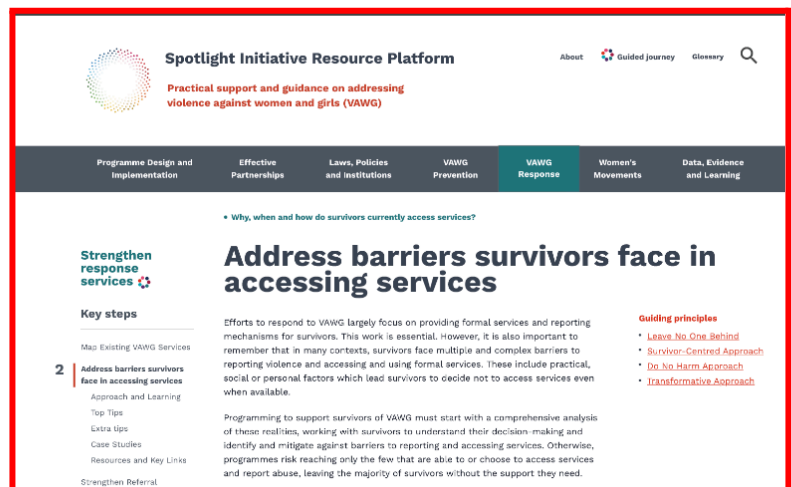
Throughout the duration of the Global Platform project, coordination on EVAWG knowledge management within the UN system has been strengthened through consultations with the HQ Knowledge Management Group on EVAWG, the Spotlight Initiative UN Agency Focal Points, and the Knowledge Management Focal Points Network. The focus of these consultations has ranged from demonstrations of SHINE, an online knowledge hub on EVAWG produced by the UNTF in collaboration with Spotlight Initiative, to the organization of the Global Learning Symposium, coordination on future convenings, and contributions to technical guidance notes and knowledge briefs. Meetings of the Agency Focal Points have provided a valuable space for constructive exchange and coordination around key technical activities on EVAWG taking place across UN agencies, with Agency Focal Points presenting on topics such as the integration of EVAWG into broader thematic portfolios, or good practice in prevention and response to violence against children. During the process of programme closure, these consultations primarily focused on the issue of sustainability and supporting the development of programmes' sustainability plans, which outlined how progress towards programme goals would continue and be locally owned and carried out by local, national, or regional stakeholders.

Peer, cross-regional, and intra-regional exchanges

Throughout the duration of the Global Platform project, a significant focus was placed on peer, cross-regional, and intra-regional exchange to enhance the quality of programme implementation and contribute to the exchange of expertise among a broader network of practitioners working to end violence against women and girls. Since the inception of the Global Platform project, the Secretariat has convened **12 global knowledge exchanges, reaching over 2,300 people,** strengthening a coalition of key actors working in EVAWG across the UN, the EU, civil society, donors, private sector, practitioners, academia and others, and facilitating diverse connections and fostering direct links between stakeholders, including local civil society groups and government (duty bearers). These efforts have moved beyond the Spotlight Initiative's traditional stakeholder base to engage the wider global community for increased decision-making power and impact on ending violence against women and girls. To this end, some exchanges have been hosted in collaboration with key entities working in EVAWG; for example, a global knowledge exchange specifically convened for civil society organizations on coalition- and movement-building for advocacy to end VAWG, including in conflict and crisis-affected environments, was convened by Spotlight Initiative in collaboration with the WPHF.

The thematic focus of every knowledge exchange has been demand-driven and based on inputs received from Spotlight Initiative programmes and partners. Since 2021, exchanges have encompassed diverse topics such as sustaining civil society engagement, engaging the private sector to end VAWG, and reflecting on the experience and learning generated by Spotlight Initiative as an SDG High-Impact Initiative. To ensure the inclusivity of exchanges, simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Russian has been provided for the majority of exchanges. Feedback surveys following exchanges have captured the impact of the sessions in enhancing stakeholders'

knowledge and expertise on the topics concerned and in deepening connections among stakeholders within the Initiative's global community. To support this effort, the majority of knowledge exchanges have been followed by the curation and dissemination of robust knowledge products distilling key results, lessons, and promising practices shared during the sessions.

Innovative adaptations for COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, multiple exchanges were convened to enable programmes to exchange on their approach to adapting programme activities to continue to deliver and ameliorate the impacts of the pandemic. In February 2022, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat convened a Pacific Regional Learning Session on Innovative Adaptations of Spotlight Initiative Programming in COVID-19 and other Emergency Contexts, which interrogated how programmes pivoted their activities to respond to the spike in violence against women and girls through COVID-19 and other emergency contexts. Through SHINE, the Community of the Spotlight Initiative (COSI), and its monthly newsletters, the Secretariat regularly shared information and resources on adaptation to the COVID-19 context to support programme implementation.

Sustainability exchanges

As noted previously, during the latter years of the first funding cycle, significant reflection took place among Spotlight Initiative programmes on how to sustain the impact of the Initiative beyond programme closure. In this context, the Secretariat developed a Guidance Note on Sustainability to support programmes to develop Sustainability Strategies, which outlined how progress toward programme goals would continue and be locally owned and carried out by local, national, or regional stakeholders. The Secretariat provided support to the development of these strategies through a process of review, quality assurance, and feedback on strategy drafts.

To support this process, several exchanges were also convened to reflect and exchange on the issue of sustainability. As a precursor to the Global Learning Symposium, which itself featured sustainability as its central theme, the Secretariat hosted a SHINE discussion in June 2022 on *Sustaining our Gains for the Future of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls*. Facilitated by three moderators, the discussion generated active engagement around the key factors that guide programme sustainability, key lessons learned by programme teams, and approaches to meaningful stakeholder consultation in the development of programme sustainability strategies. Multiple virtual peer exchanges were also convened to interrogate approaches to sustainability. The first of these took place in February 2023 in collaboration with programmes in El Salvador, Malawi, Timor-Leste, and Zimbabwe, with programme teams sharing their respective approaches to the development and implementation of Sustainability Strategies, including considerations around the role of key stakeholders, division of labour and accountability. Subsequently, a similar exchange was convened in March 2023 for programme teams in the Pacific Region, which featured a presentation from the Timor-Leste programme on their approach to integrating the principle of sustainability throughout their activities and provided a valuable space for programme teams to collaboratively reflect and request additional support. In collaboration with Spotlight Initiative programmes in Argentina, Mali, and Trinidad and Tobago, as well as UNODC and the UN Women Essential Services Programme, a final exchange on the theme of sustainability was convened in June 2023, which considered the issue of sustaining essential services for survivors of violence. Preceded by a three-week SHINE discussion on the same topic, the session featured presentations from programmes and partners on their respective approaches to sustaining the delivery of quality essential services and consolidating community- and government-level ownership of service provision.

Group of Friends

Throughout the duration of the Global Platform, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat has supported multiple exchanges led by the Group of Friends for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls (Group of Friends). Ahead of a meeting of the Group of Friends at the margin of the Sixty-Seventh Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 67), which considered the intersection between technology and gender equality as its priority theme, Spotlight Initiative published a knowledge product on How we address online violence, highlighting the Initiative's commitment to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls, including online violence. Similarly, during a meeting held during the 16 Days of Activism to discuss strategies and best practices for engaging men and boys in efforts to eliminate gender-based violence, the Global Platform provided inputs to the Group's outcome statement, facilitated the participation of a member of the CS-GRG, and showcased the *A Brighter Future* video, which illustrates the effectiveness of Spotlight Initiative's unique and comprehensive model through five human interest stories in Uganda.

Global Learning Symposium

One of the most strategic global convenings that was organized within the Global Platform portfolio was the **Global Learning Symposium (GLS),** which took place in September 2022 in Cancún, Mexico. Convened at the sidelines of the SVRI Forum, the **Global Learning Symposium (GLS)** drew over **200** participants from the UN, government, civil society, and other stakeholders, and aimed to consolidate the gains secured throughout the first five years of the Initiative. Centering around the theme of *Galvanising our Gains: past, present, and future*, the session programme was designed based on a preliminary mapping analysis of Spotlight Initiative resources, including mid-term assessments, programme annual reports, and Phase II programme proposals, as well as a global survey of participants to establish learning needs. This ensured the

development of a comprehensive agenda encompassing a breadth of thematic participant-led sessions, many of which were hosted by Spotlight Initiative programmes. In total, **45 plenary and thematic sessions** took place, providing a space for deep reflection and exchange of scalable results, lessons learned, and best practices across contexts, and supporting the development of a global community working to end violence against women and girls. The inaugural *Spotlight Initiative Awards* were also held during the Symposium, recognizing and honoring the outstanding performance of teams and individuals in working to end violence against women and girls, including in commitment to innovation, effective collaboration with CSOs, and successful leadership. Subsequently, a **Global Learning Symposium Resource Package** was developed and disseminated widely. The resource package summarizes key highlights from each session, and includes all presentations, relevant tools, and resources presented, enabling those unable to attend the Symposium to access the rich knowledge generated.

Communications and visibility

At global, regional, and national levels, Spotlight Initiative's communications and visibility efforts align with the objectives of the Global Platform by raising awareness on issues related to violence against women and girls and by amplifying Spotlight Initiative's impact and results within the communities it serves. Throughout the implementation of the Global Platform, the Secretariat employed various communications tools to amplify the SHINE platform, including social media messaging and assets, advocacy campaigns, videos, stories, and digital content.

Among the various communications channels utilised by Spotlight Initiative, the main platforms through which the tools generated by the Global Platform have been amplified have been the SHINE platform, the Community of the Spotlight Initiative (COSI) email group, social media platforms, including Twitter, Instagram and Youtube, MailChimp, and the Spotlight Initiative global website. Communications and visibility efforts have also been furthered through online discussions hosted on SHINE and COSI. COSI reaches over **600** UN personnel working on the technical, day-to-day implementation of Spotlight Initiative. COSI members have further supported the dissemination of materials within their respective partner networks.

To support communications and visibility activities for the Global Platform, the Secretariat developed a Technical Action Plan for each year of the project duration, which outlined all technical content developed within the project portfolio. The content of the Technical Action Plan included information related to knowledge production, as well as a learning plan outlining the schedule and subject of knowledge exchanges, convenings, discussions, and Communities of Practice (Annex B).

Challenges and Mitigating Measures

Over the implementation years of the Global Platform, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat navigated three main areas of challenges. These included (1) the development and maintenance of the knowledge hub, (2) internal procurement hurdles, and (3) timeline constraints. The mitigating measures undertaken demonstrate the continued commitment of the Secretariat to delivering the objectives of the Global Platform.

Development and Maintenance of the Knowledge Hub

During the initial months following the launch of the SHINE hub, users of the platform faced several technical difficulties. For example, during several online discussions, some users were precluded from posting comments due to automated messages indicating that the content of their messages was prohibited. Upon further investigation and coordination with the site developer, these technical glitches were resolved. Solving these challenges presented an opportunity to coordinate more closely with the site developer. As a result of this engagement, valuable features, including crown innovation, user polls, the addition of multiple editors, and video upload functions were integrated into the SHINE platform to support users' engagement.

Internal Procurement Hurdles

Internal procurement procedures impeded the timely delivery of certain projects. Notably, the organization of the Global Learning Symposium was delayed due to procurement setbacks, including issues in reserving hotel accommodation and procuring simultaneous interpretation services. These delays also impacted the communication timeline for the GLS. Furthermore, the process of generating a call for proposals and securing a service provider to lead the development of the [Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre](#) also presented challenges. To mitigate these issues, the Secretariat worked closely with procurement colleagues to ameliorate the challenges and ensure the smooth continuation and conclusion of the project activities.

Timeline Constraints

At the inception stage of the Global Platform, the CS-GRG wished to utilize the knowledge hub as a coordination mechanism for connecting with Regional and National Civil Society Reference Groups. However, the online hub was not yet in operation at that stage, meaning that the CS-GRG had to explore alternative options. When the SHINE platform was launched, the CS-GRG took forward its original intention, supporting a discussion on [Redefining and Sustaining the Civil Society Reference Group Mechanism in Future Programming](#). The SHINE hub remains available to be utilized as a coordination mechanism for Spotlight Initiative's Civil Society Reference Groups.

A further challenge that emerged in relation to timeline constraints was the expansion of the scope of the Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre, which affected the timeline for the project and resulted in an increase in the project budget. In close consultation with the European Union, the Secretariat was able to resolve this challenge and ensure the timely completion of the project.

Overall, the Spotlight Initiative Secretariat demonstrated unwavering commitment to the achievement of the Global Platform's objectives by proactively addressing the series of challenges that arose. Through the mitigating measures taken, the Secretariat was able to ensure the

functioning of the Global Platform as a valuable resource for diverse actors within the EVAWG space.

Lessons Learned and New Opportunities

a) Lessons Learned

Over the duration of the Global Platform project, several key lessons learned have emerged in the areas of (1) enhancing stakeholder engagement and (2) leveraging networks to amplify lessons and good practices in EVAWG.

Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement

Early in the implementation of the Global Platform, the UNDP SparkBlue team shared several lessons with the Secretariat related to stakeholder engagement, including the value of launching different communities of practice (COP) at a gradual pace rather than simultaneously, so as not to overwhelm users and deter them from engaging. This consideration was applied to the launch of the different COPs hosted by the SHINE hub.

In the immediate aftermath of the SHINE hub's launch, engagement during SHINE discussions was lower than anticipated. One lesson learned that emerged in this context was the importance of carrying out targeted outreach to engage stakeholders. After conducting more SHINE demonstrations, leveraging various networks such as the Knowledge Management Focal Points Network, and direct outreach to key stakeholders to invite them to share their experiences, engagement, and participation in subsequent discussions increased.

A further lesson learned related to enhancing stakeholder engagement emerged from the learnings generated by the Global Learning Symposium. During the GLS, participants indicated that more time should be allocated within knowledge convenings for stakeholders to be able to reflect and discuss topics in depth. A further lesson drawn from the GLS centered around the importance of leveraging knowledge convenings with a significant government presence to push for further commitments to ending violence against women and girls at the national level.

Leveraging Networks to Amplify Lessons and Good Practices in EVAWG

One of the most significant lessons learned over the implementation years centered around the invaluable role of the HQ Knowledge Management Group in enhancing the technical quality of activities. The feedback and technical inputs of the Group have not only strengthened the quality of Spotlight Initiative's work but also supported the expansion of grassroots civil society engagement through the Global Platform.

A further lesson learned that emerged was the importance of convening targeted quarterly meetings for Knowledge Management Focal Points from Spotlight Initiative regional programmes. In this context, a dedicated exchange space for regional programmes was set up during the Global Learning Symposium, enabling stakeholders to share ideas, approaches, and solutions to

challenges unique to regional programming. Furthermore, meetings of the Knowledge Management Focal Points Network also served as a highly strategic space for programme focal points to reflect on the process of programme sustainability, including the development of sustainability strategies, the maintenance of knowledge products, and the facilitation of transition and exit consultations with programme stakeholders.

Similarly, during the process of programme closure, the creation of spaces for all Spotlight Initiative programme stakeholders to exchange on approaches to sustainability became critical. In the final year of the 1.0 programme implementation, the Secretariat thus prioritized the facilitation of multiple consultations on sustainability and provided support to the development of programme sustainability strategies.

The lessons learned described above will be duly considered and applied to the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative HIVE programme, which is designed to expand on the mandate of the Global Platform.

b) New Opportunities

Launch of the Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre

Combining the wealth of experience and learning generated by the first phase of Spotlight Initiative with the wider expertise and tools emerging from the UN system and the broader field, the Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre is a valuable new resource for all types of stakeholders working in the EVAWG ecosystem. A legacy of the Initiative, the Learning Centre facilitates the accessibility and replicability of the good practices generated by Spotlight Initiative and enables its comprehensive approach to be modeled widely. By design, the Learning Centre promotes a holistic, rights-based approach to EVAWG programming, encouraging stakeholders to approach activities using a systems approach that takes account of intersecting elements. In this context, the Learning Centre presents many opportunities to establish and expand partnerships with key stakeholders and organizations working in EVAWG. Throughout 2024, significant attention will be directed to amplifying the platform in key spaces to support wide utilization, including demonstrations with the Prevention Collaborative and the UN Inter-Agency Knowledge Management Group. To strengthen uptake, a capacity development training programme, grounded in the content of the Learning Centre, will be developed for delivery to new Spotlight Initiative country and regional programmes.

Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) 2024

In October 2024, Spotlight Initiative will attend the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum, a global convening bringing together researchers, policymakers, and activists in dialogue and collaboration to address gender-based violence. The Forum presents an opportunity to exhibit Spotlight Initiative's comprehensive model, results and lessons learned, and the tools generated by the Global Platform, as well as to explore emerging research and build new partnerships with key partners working in the EVAWG ecosystem. Specifically, the Secretariat will host a participant-driven event showcasing the Compendium of Innovative and Good Practices and Lessons Learned, which will feature remarks from stakeholders whose work is highlighted in the

Compendium and draw out lessons in service of the global EVAWG ecosystem. The SVRI Forum will also present an opportunity to amplify the [Learning Centre](); demonstrations of the Learning Centre will be the focal activity of the Spotlight Initiative's Exhibition Booth to raise awareness and promote the utilization of the new platform among key stakeholder groups.

Strengthening Collaboration and Future Plans

The Group of Friends for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls will remain a key partner for Spotlight Initiative in joint advocacy and collaboration to end VAWG. Moving forward, Spotlight Initiative will also explore new partnerships outlined in the Collaborations Plan (Annex C), which will be taken forward within the framework of the HIVE Programme.

<u>**Sustainability**</u>

The 2024-2026 Spotlight Initiative **High-Impact Programme for Violence Elimination by 2030 (HIVE joint programme)**, funded by the EU, is a natural successor to the Global Platform project and will sustain and deepen the investments made within the project portfolio. The HIVE programme has four overarching objectives:

- Enhance and publish, at global and regional levels, evidence-based data and research from Spotlight Initiative programmes on ending violence against women and girls.
- Consolidate and disseminate evidence-based strategies, knowledge, and tools on ending violence against women and girls, together with a Technical Package based on the Spotlight Initiative model.
- Expand global and regional strategic partnerships to advance efforts to end gender-based violence.
- Increase expertise at the country level to ensure the development and sustainability of comprehensive programmes to end violence against women and girls, in line with the Spotlight Initiative model.

Through the framework of the HIVE programme, the Secretariat will scale up its work in **amplifying the lessons and good practices** generated during the first funding cycle to support the advancement of the global evidence base on EVAWG and provide a model for comprehensive EVAWG programming. To this end, the Secretariat has developed a **Knowledge Production and Exchange Plan** which outlines the strategic plan for all technical content, as well as all communications and visibility activities. Simultaneously, the HIVE programme will **connect and strengthen knowledge exchange among key actors** across the UN, EU, civil society, donors, the private sector, practitioners, and academia, among others. In this context, **[SHINE]()**, an online hub for global knowledge exchange on EVAWG, will serve as a key tool for knowledge convenings and co-creation.

The **[Spotlight Initiative Learning Centre]()**, a valuable new resource for the EVAWG ecosystem, will be disseminated widely through both digital and in-person forums to promote maximum uptake across different stakeholder groups. As part of this process, a capacity development training programme, grounded in the content of the Learning Centre, will be developed for delivery to new Spotlight Initiative country and regional programmes.

Annexes

Annex A: Knowledge Products 2021 - 2023

Annex B: 2023 - 2024 Final Technical Action Plan

Annex C: Knowledge Management Collaborations Plan