



Spotlight Initiative

ANNUAL NARRATIVE PROGRAMME REPORT

THE SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE VANUATU

PROGRAMME START DATE: 01 JANUARY 2020

REPORTING PERIOD: 01 JANUARY 2021 – 31 DECEMBER 2021



Programme Title & Programme Number			Priority regions/areas/localities for the programme
The Spotlight Initiative Vanuatu MPTF Office Project Reference Number: ¹ 00119128			All Vanuatu provinces
Recipient Organization(s)			Key Partners
UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, and IOM			Associated UN Agencies: UN WOMEN Government and commissions: Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination; Prime Minister’s Office; Ministry of Justice and Community Services; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education and Training; Department of Women’s Affairs; National Disaster Management Office; Ministry of Youth and Sport; Vanuatu National Statistics Office; Department of Labour and Employment Services; Judiciary – Office of Public Prosecutions. Civil Society partners: ActionAid, SISTA, Vatu Mauri, ACTIV, The General Council of the Assemblies of God, ISRAAID, Silae Vanua, Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum; Vanuatu Family Health Association; Wan SmolBag; Vanuatu Council of Churches; National Youth Council; IPPF, World Vision. Academia: Nossal Institute/University of Melbourne
Programme Cost (US\$)			Programme Start and End Dates
Total Phase I approved budget as per the Spotlight CPD/RPD: 2,475,000 USD Phase I Spotlight funding: ² 2,475,000 USD Agency Contribution: 310,042 USD			Start Date: 01/01/2020 End Date: 31/12/2022
Spotlight Funding and Agency Contribution by Agency:			Report Submitted By:
Name of RUNO	Spotlight Phase I (USD)	UN Agency Contributions (USD)	Sanaka Samarasinha, Resident Coordinator, UNRCO Fiji
UNFPA	1,120,944	88,456	
UNDP	624,725	62,586	
UNICEF	440,840	141,000	
IOM	288,491	18,000	
TOTAL: 2,475,000 USD			

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](#).

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



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Acronym List

CCA	Common Country Assessment
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CP	Country Programme
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CS-NRG	Civil Society – National Reference Group
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CFP	Community Facilitation Package
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia
DHS MICS	Demographic Health Survey - Multi Indicator Cluster Survey
DSPPAC	Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination
DV	Domestic Violence
DWA	Department of Women's Affairs (part of MJCS)
EU	European Union
EVAWG	Eliminating Violence Against Women and Girls
FBO	Faith-based organization
FLE	Family Life Education
FPA	Family Protection Act
FPNSW	Family Planning New South Wales
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GBViE	Gender Based Violence in Emergencies
GEWE	Gender Equality Women Empowerment
HR	Human Rights
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IEC	Information Education and Communication
INGO	International Non-Government Organisation
IP	Implementing Partner
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
KABP	Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs, Practices
KM	Knowledge Management
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MFAT	New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MHMS	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
MICS	Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey
MJCS	Ministry of Justice and Community Services
MOET	Ministry of Education and Training
MOYS	Ministry of Youth and Sports
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Services



NGEP	National Gender Equality Policy
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NSO	National Statistical Office
NYC	National Youth Council
Pacific Fund	Pacific Fund to End Violence Against Women
Pacific Women	Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development
PCC	Pacific Council of Churches
PICT	Pacific Islands Countries and Territories
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PJSPV	Policing and Justice Support Program Vanuatu
PMO	Prime Minister's Office
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
REACH	Relationship Education about Choices and Healing
RRF	Regional Results Framework
RRRT	Regional Rights Resource Team
RUNO	Recipient UN Organization
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDPs	Service Delivery Protocols
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SI	Spotlight Initiative
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SPC	The Pacific Community
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
SRHiE	Sexual Reproductive Health in Emergencies
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
UNSDCF	UN Pacific Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UoM	University of Melbourne
VAC	Violence Against Children
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VCC	Vanuatu Christian Council
VFHA	Vanuatu Family Health Association
VNCW	Vanuatu National Council of Women
Vanuatu IGF	Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum
VSPD	Vanuatu Society for People with Disability
VWC	Vanuatu Women's Centre
WEIS	Women Enabled International
WHO	World Health Organisation
WSB	Wan SmolBag



Executive Summary

Despite the compounding complex crises of TC Harold, COVID19 and natural calamities including volcanic ash fall, acid rains, flooding, drought and the Ambae volcanic recovery, the Spotlight team continued to navigate a complex environment for the Spotlight Initiative's implementation. The programme has been catalytic in mobilizing UN agencies in Vanuatu to combine diverse, complimentary mandates, expertise, and technical contributions to provide effective, comprehensive, and coherent support to EVAWG in the country. The programme's country steering committee has evolved into broader EVAWG country level committee with number of donors, government, UN, and civil society representatives providing strategic direction of UN's tailored support to EVAWG, which is anchored in the newly passed National Gender Equality Policy (NGEP). The civil society representatives actively engage in consultations with UN agencies providing critical inputs in developing locally contextualized responses.

In Vanuatu, the Spotlight initiative has supported implementation across humanitarian and development nexus. The programme has developed multi-stakeholder essential services and standard operating procedures to respond to women survivors of violence and child protection, which were also adapted to natural disasters' response, migration and COVID19 safe guidelines. The program has also worked with key stakeholders to progress GBV integration into Evacuation Centre Management guidelines, ensuring that GBV prevention and response is prioritized in time of disaster. These are just a couple examples of how Initiative is enabling government to address VAWG in times of "calm" as well as crisis through various sectors.

In 2021, the increased collaboration between the Spotlight Initiative and the Pacific Partnerships programme resulted in better coordination and understanding of the programmes among government leaders and technical ministries. The initiative's outcomes have been incorporated in the NGEP implementation plan and results framework, under Strategic Area 1 of eliminating discrimination and violence against women and girls; Strategic Area 4, on institutional capacity for policy implementation and reporting; and, Strategic Area 5, that seeks protection of women, children, and people with disabilities in emergencies through coordinated humanitarian action. The integration of Initiative's interventions into the national level multi-year Gender Equality Policy framework has strategically positioned programme activities beyond its implementation period and have been embedded into long term goals to eliminate violence against women and girls. For the first time, the Department of Women Affairs have also agreed to coordinate and chair a functional mechanism on ensuring harmonization and linkages of Administrative Data Systems aligned to the Multi-Service Delivery Protocols for GBV case management and attendant capacity building interventions for the relevant stakeholders.

Contextual Shifts and Implementation Status

In 2021 the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative has continued to be affected by a complex set of compounding factors. Since March 2020, the Government of Vanuatu declared a State of



Emergency due to COVID-19 in the region. In the midst of the COVID-19 emergency, the Category 5 Tropical Cyclone (TC) Harold made landfall in Vanuatu in April 2020. The double disaster shifted the Government and key partners' focus to respond to the effects of the cyclone and prepare for a potential outbreak and community transmission of COVID-19 in Vanuatu.

To date Vanuatu has been free from community transmitted COVID-19 due to strict border controls since March 2020. Measures for containing a potential spread of the coronavirus disease were imposed, including a curfew, prohibiting social gatherings of more than five people and closure of schools, closure of all international Vanuatu ports. These measures have effectively averted the risk of the pandemic spreading. However, these protective decisions have come at a heavy economic cost, particularly the evaporation of tourism. Initially, COVID-19 border closures led to the suspension of labour mobility schemes in Australia and in New Zealand, further impacting the income of Ni-Vanuatu who rely on these schemes for income. Over the course of late 2020 and 2021 these schemes have resumed with progressively higher numbers of workers travelling overseas for work, and IOM has responded by providing pre-departure training targeted at helping these workers and their families better navigate the challenges associated with overseas work, which often can lead to violence (especially economic and emotional) in couples.

The difficulties have been further exacerbated by extensive damage caused by TC Harold and volcanic ashfall on Tanna Island. The aerial surveillance assessment report estimated that the total affected population was 159,474 – over half of the country. It caused extensive damage to crop and livestock and further compromised food security and the economic well-being of those impacted. The Government's conducted assessment estimated the total damage and losses associated with TC Harold and COVID-19 anywhere between US\$525-600M, more than half the GDP forecasted for 2020. The physical damage to infrastructure and assets was estimated at US \$251M while the economic losses associated with the cyclone were estimated to be worth US\$257M.

The effects of COVID19 and climate shocks had a significant impact on livelihood, including increase in food prices, food shortage and lack of work. The Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping in Vanuatu data showed that reliance on stress coping strategies increased to 38% in April 2021. The main coping strategies reported were spending savings, reducing health expenses, borrowing money/food and begging (which was higher during the rainy season). Women and girls were disproportionately affected. Between 2020 and 2021, the number of youths needing support who registered through Youth Challenge Vanuatu, increase from 369 to 634 youths. Of this number, 189 of the registered youth were young men and 445 were young women.

An emerging consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic that has been reported in the Pacific is the movement of people from urban to rural areas, to their villages and provinces. In Vanuatu, this movement increased women's unpaid labour, caring for relatives migrating or returning from urban areas. Furthermore, COVID-19 increased Vanuatu's women's workload as schools closed.

Damage to infrastructure reduced access to quality, affordable health care in Vanuatu and supply chain disruptions lowered the likelihood of rapid repair. Many women on Malo Island have reported that they cannot afford to travel and pay for health services in the closest urban centre. Disruption of supplies has also resulted in a shortage of sanitary pads for women and girls.

The direct impact of the cyclone and the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impose programmatic and operational challenges for the Spotlight Initiative. Due to limited availability of national implementing partners (IPs) in country with capabilities and competencies to undertake interventions that require specialized skills for Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), prevalence data surveys, administrative data sets, it led the programme to heavily rely on regional IPs who also have their own internal bureaucracies and procedures leading to further delays, further also impacted by COVID-19. The recurrent lockdowns and the government vaccination programme negatively impacted the undertaking of the DHS MICS with integrated DV module data collection, as government limited all field-based activities. While health facilities and schools across half the country were also affected, interventions involving health and education sectors also progressed slowly. In light of the above, to mitigate these challenges the programme has been strengthening the capacity of Vanuatu Family Health Association, the FLE committees to enable them to facilitate CSE activities, while MoET and MOYS have taken on the leadership in the roll-out of both in and out of school CSE, and utilizing the Village Health Workers as a key structure for community roll-out supported by MOH and VFHA to bridge the gap in human resources availability in the country. In regard to DHS/MICS, the team has re-allocated the funding within pillar 5 to facilitate capacity building of stakeholders in administrative data and KnowVAW data course instead, given the lack of clarity on when the DHS/MICS will be undertaken.

The government decision to abolish the Ministry of Justice and Community services further impacted coordination of EVAW work and added uncertainties for technical coherence across RUNOS, CSOs and government ministries. Specifically, the Spotlight Initiative interventions were impacted by key portfolios being moved into other Ministries. The restructure replaced MJCS with the Ministry of Fisheries, Ocean, and Maritime Affairs. Number of portfolios were reallocated to the Ministry of the Prime Minister, under a new department known as the Department, of Justice and Legal Services (DJLS). These portfolios include Public Prosecutor, which is another key government partner in the initiative. Furthermore, portfolios such as the Human Rights Unit, Child Desk, Disability Desk, Department of Women's Affairs (DWA), National Council of Women, Committee of Children's Rights and the Vanuatu Society of People with Disability were restructured into the Ministry for Youth, Sport and Social Development.

Despite significant government ministries reshuffle, on August 24, 2021, the Vanuatu Council of Ministers launched their new National Gender Equality Policy (NGEP) under the leadership of the DWA, highlighting Vanuatu's commitment to address VAWG and indicating steps in implementing national domestic violence legislations in the country. The Vanuatu Council of Ministers aims to improve and further strengthen programming on EVAWG and plans to decentralize them by targeting other provinces with high prevalence of GBV. Further to that the NGEP report has also



recommended to finalize the Adoption Bill, Child Protection Bill ensuring compliance with articles of the Convention on the Rights of a Child as well as human rights principles contained in the CEDAW and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Significant plans are also underway to amend the Penal Code to criminalize marital rape, sexual harassment and trafficking of women and girls.

The NGEF has laid very strong foundations of monitoring and evaluation and provided an important roadmap for development partners to align themselves with its strategic objectives and priorities. The Spotlight Initiative through multi-stakeholder committee is supporting the mobilization of partners for longer term efforts to implement the policy. It brought senior government leaders, donors including MFAT and DFAT, as well as civil society representatives who keep stakeholders accountable to this issue across EVAWG programmes. The programme mobilized most of the UN's work in Vanuatu on EVAWG, including Pacific Partnerships (EU, DFAT, MFAT), Transformative Agenda (DFAT) to provide update through the Steering committee on how as UN it is supporting NGEF implementation, demonstrating key achieved results.

Implementation progress by outcome area:

Spotlight Initiative - Outcome areas	Implementation progress as of 31 December 2021.
Outcome 1: Legal and Policy Framework	0%
Outcome 2: Institutions	96%
Outcome 3: Prevention and Norm Change	73%
Outcome 4: Quality Services	45%
Outcome 5: Data	76%
Outcome 6: Women's Movement	100%
TOTAL	74%

Contextual constraints and the slow start during the first year of the programme impacted low budget execution to some extent in 2021. The 6 month no-cost extension of Phase 1 is a helpful measure, although it is a challenge for two UN agencies which expended most funds by end of the year.

The suspension of 19 Members of Parliament, and the decision of the Government to abolish the Ministry of Justice and Community Services has severely impacted work in Policy and Institutions pillars, impacting the implementation progress for both outcomes. However, the Initiative responded and adapted, and originally programmed work with the Ministry of Justice and Parliamentarians was put on hold with funds from Pillar 1 moved to civil society grants in Pillar 6 instead.



In 2021, accelerated implementation was evident in prevention and women's movement pillars. The grants to local and grassroots organizations are yielding political engagement and stronger and more visible advocacy. This has been further strengthened through actively engaged CSRG members towards the end of the year.

There have been significant challenges in implementing the Service Delivery Pillar which has a strong focus on rolling out health services with integrated VAWG response. This was due to COVID19 impacts on limited human resources in health sector and its diversion to respond to vaccination campaigns instead. Activities on the establishment of GBV administrative data system have been severely impacted by closed international borders and inability to bring required specialized expertise to Vanuatu. COVID19 restrictions have also prevented carrying out the prevalence studies which requires face to face interactions. The modality of CSO implementation is another source of expenditure delays. Few CSOs in Vanuatu meet the rigorous financial and organizational requirements of accessing UN funds, and programme faced difficulties identifying and contracting CSO IPs. To overcome this, the Spotlight entered into an agreement with IPPF to channel funds to IPPF's local affiliate, the Vanuatu Family Health Association (VFHA). Partnerships with international CSOs were meant to mitigate risks due to perceived low local CSO capacity, but these partners were particularly affected by COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Programme Governance and Coordination

a) National Steering Committee

The Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee is a governance arrangement for the Spotlight Initiative Country Programme in Vanuatu, providing overall strategic high-level management and coordination decisions related to the implementation of the programme. Although it is currently a programme focused committee, with significant other EU, DFAT and MFAT investments in EVAWG in the country, the Committee extended membership to other donors such as DFAT and MFAT as observers. This allowed for three large programmes on EVAWG implemented by the UN which are closely interlinked – the Spotlight Initiative, Pacific Partnerships and Transformative Agenda – to provide key updates on the elimination of VAWG in the country and created a platform for high level strategic decision making by all stakeholders as guided by the National policies and strategies.



*Vanuatu Steering Committee Meeting,
November 2021*



The Steering Committee is Co-Chaired by the Director General of the Office of the Prime Minister and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, to ensure alignment with Vanuatu's national priorities described in the National Sustainable Development Plan and newly passed National Gender Equality Policy 2020 – 2030 (launched August 2021). The Committee includes the Vanuatu Government partners such as the Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice and Community Services, Department of Women's Affairs, Ministry of Health, three civil society reference group representatives, European Union, Recipient UN Organizations - UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, IOM. UN Women, DFAT and MFAT are members of the Committee, and have an observer status when it comes to the endorsement of the Spotlight Initiative work plans, budgets, and reports.

Following the launch of the programme in October 2020, the Steering Committee met for the first time in December 2020. The next session of the Steering Committee was held in November 2021. Significant efforts have been made to embed the work of the Spotlight Initiative more deeply into the national context and with existing programmes with a long-term goal of sustaining multi-sectoral approach to EVAWG in the country. At the November Steering Committee meeting, the UN presented results of three large UN programmes, which were mapped out in detail against the National Gender Equality Policy. As such, it was able to demonstrate to the Government tailored, responsive UN presence that is anchored in national priorities, and how UN combined diverse complimentary mandates, expertise and technical contributions are providing comprehensive and coherent support to eliminate violence against women and girls. Moreover, it was able to highlight key areas where there is strong collaboration amongst various stakeholders, as well as specific areas for better coordination. In his remarks, the EU Ambassador acknowledged that “the success of the Spotlight Initiative, and the Pacific Partnership, will depend on the ability of the Government, civil society, UN agencies to create synergies and processes and grow an ecosystem that fosters sustainability and resilience. We welcome joint UN's efforts to bring work together and implement in a cohesive way our support to EVAWG through both programmes in line with the newly passed overall National Gender Equality Policy, and its Strategic areas of action”.

At the November meeting, elected representatives of the CSNRG requested for the group to have an extended scope across EVAWG programmes, beyond the Spotlight Initiative. They indicated willingness as a group to contribute their expertise and experience not only for UN Agencies but for other national programs on EVAWG. They reiterated that they are the voices of the community, and their contributions would be incorporating the community lens to interventions, as well as perspectives of those most vulnerable and marginalized such as those with different sexual orientation. They called committee members to include contributions and inputs from these perspectives.

The UN Resident Coordinator supported and brought forward the suggestion from the CSRG to the rest of the Committee to which DFAT expressed as a worthwhile model, acknowledging the work around the Famili-i-Redi program on labour mobility as a great example of how the CSRG was utilized. The CSRG was engaged in the development of the Famili I Redi, a pre-departure workshop



for labour mobility participants and their participants which includes significant content related to GBV prevention, through a full-day stakeholder validation workshop held in June 2021. CSRG members provided valuable input into the workshop content based on their community-level experience. It was agreed in the meeting that CSRG will be working on its 2022 workplan and present it to the Steering Committee while highlighting areas where they will be engaged as advisors for EVAWG programmes.

b) Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG)

The formal Civil Society National Reference Group, with a total composition of fourteen members, draws representation from individuals passionately working on feminist advocacy, women in small businesses, women in the humanitarian sector, people with disabilities, LGBTQI community, faith-based organizations and organisations who work with men and boys.

Vanuatu Women's Centre (VWC) and Vanuatu Christian Council (VCC) were strategically included into the CSNRG to support, advocate, and strengthen the programme service provision to survivors of domestic violence and engagement with the Church and religious institutions. VWC is an established CSO with good capacity and substantial resources from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs dedicated to providing services to survivors of Domestic Violence. VWC has a vast network across all six provinces of Vanuatu and brings to the CSNRG membership ample experience of working with donors and development partners. VCC, on the other hand is very instrumental in social norm change with the Church and religious institutions. Though proactive engagement of the CSNRG in programme delivery was not undertaken in 2021 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and delays in the recruitment at UN, a clear mechanism for it to support national and community CSOs and fast track delivery in the remaining two quarters of Phase 1 implementation is embedded in their current work plan and strong representation.



Vanuatu EVAWG Civil Society Reference Group Meeting, November 2021

In 2021 the CSRG members met three times. Initially for the first time as a formal group in April and with significant gap during the year in November and December. The first meeting of the CSRG brought representatives from diverse backgrounds, inclusive of those who come from marginalized groups but not necessarily with expertise in EVAWG. The UN RCO held a dialogue with some CSRG members who expressed concern that equal representation was prioritized over specific technical expertise in the GBV and EVAGW sector, resulting in a group that was diverse, but not necessarily equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to provide high-level input into GBV



programming. This was resolved by clarifying the purpose of broader movement and activism building, sharing learnings in the space, and providing different perspectives – technical and lived experiences.

One of the areas that was discussed early by the group was the need to broaden the scope and support programming across the EVAWG sector instead of being specifically linked to the Spotlight Initiative. This was particularly evident with one of the central CSOs working on EVAWG in Vanuatu, the Vanuatu Women's Centre (VWC) which is funded by two programmes – the Spotlight Initiative and Pacific Partnerships – for their work in different locations of the country. The VWC highlighted that it would be more meaningful for the CSRG members to provide recommendations and inputs on EVAWG work, rather than specific project or programme focus.

The Vanuatu Women's Centre as a member was added later, as they missed first meeting due to illness, and unfortunately due to minimal engagement with the CSRG during the year, the VWC informed the CSNRG that it will not be able to actively engage with the group but will be able to join and provide inputs on an ad-hoc basis.

Civil society representatives see potential and value in the group and have been actively engaged since the second meeting held in November, and subsequently soon after in December. During the second meeting, there was significant time spent to clarify the terms of reference and the roles CSRG play as members, the Code of Conduct was developed and signed by the members. Vanuatu members heard from the Chair of the PNG CSRG and were able to exchange similar challenges and lessons learnt by being part of the group. To achieve better programme coherence, coordination, reporting and accountability to CSOs the second part of the meeting included updates from UN agencies on the work that has been underway, as a first ever collective UN update to the civil society on the progress of EVAWG in the past year under the Spotlight Initiative, Pacific Partnerships and Transformative Agenda against the results framework of the National Gender Equality Policy.

Following the presentations, the CSRG members reached out to the UN RC and had a frank dialogue on how the civil society can be more effectively and meaningfully engaged in the work. With reinvigorated energy in the group, members decided to meet again in December and spend more time with UN agencies to understand the work that has been underway in the areas of prevention, response, women's movement building and data strengthening. UN agencies provided detailed update and presented on upcoming work for where CSRG members could engage providing further guidance and recommendations. These were collated together and drafted as a first EVAWG CSRG workplan. The plan focuses on engaging the CSNRG members in the design and implementation of Phase II, participation in the Steering Committee meetings and providing advocacy and technical guidance to accelerating acceptance and implementation of CSE in both in and out of school; the provision of advice and support to the development of multiservice delivery protocols; providing advice to the development of the community based prevention programme that will inform the changes that are being proposed for the Ministry of Youth, as well as providing input

to the development of the EVAWG Thematic Group under the National Gender Equality Policy. The workplan will be finalized early 2022 and presented to the Steering Committee.

Despite travel restrictions associated with COVID19, the hybrid meeting was held, with CSRG members joining in person at the UN office and UN colleagues online. This was enabled by a strong collaboration of the UN team based in Vanuatu as well as Fiji and working in sync to effectively communicate and coordinate with all CSRG members in person, by phone and email.

Although the Spotlight Initiative includes a budget line for supporting the CSNRG, members have communicated preference to remain unpaid for their engagement in the group, at least until they have a clearer purpose, improved communication, and specific plan of activities.

The Pacific EVAWG Regional Civil Society Reference Group members in their meeting in November agreed to extend membership to other Pacific countries, including Vanuatu, to ensure national level voices are represented. Vanuatu CSRG Chair was invited and agreed to join the group and attend the next regional meeting early 2022. The Vanuatu CSRG members have also connected to the Global CSRG members.

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

The inter-agency collaboration at certain periods across the Spotlight Initiative has been strong amidst some challenges. The difficult circumstances brought on by COVID-19 and TC Harold made inter-agency coordination difficult. Furthermore, there were staff vacancies that took quite some time to fill up (the Technical Coherence Lead for Vanuatu and the Programme Coordinator).

Once these new staff were recruited, however, the coordination was reinvigorated. Fortnightly UN ERAW technical coherence meetings are organized between the RCO, and Vanuatu based UN colleagues, led by two UN agencies leading technical coherence and bringing together three large UN programmes - the Spotlight Initiative, Pacific Partnership and Transformative Agenda. It is a platform for UN agencies to align with the National Gender Policy and its results, ensure coordinated approach to prevention, capacity development for essential services, support to women's movement building and strengthening of civil society. UN agencies share lessons learnt and knowledge and practices.

Joint UN wide preparations for the convening of the Steering Committee and CSNRG meetings also took place in 2021, where joint reporting against the Gender Equality Policy's ERAW results framework was mapped out. UN developed a joint reporting and information sharing tool, which facilitates collective results reporting and accountability towards the NGEP outcomes and support to government by clusters of interventions, locations and implementing RUNOS and stakeholders. Identification of areas cross working and partnerships by RUNOS and programmes has led to improved coordination between programmes, in particular around multi-sectoral service delivery protocols which provide the framework for a holistic VAW case management, establishment and

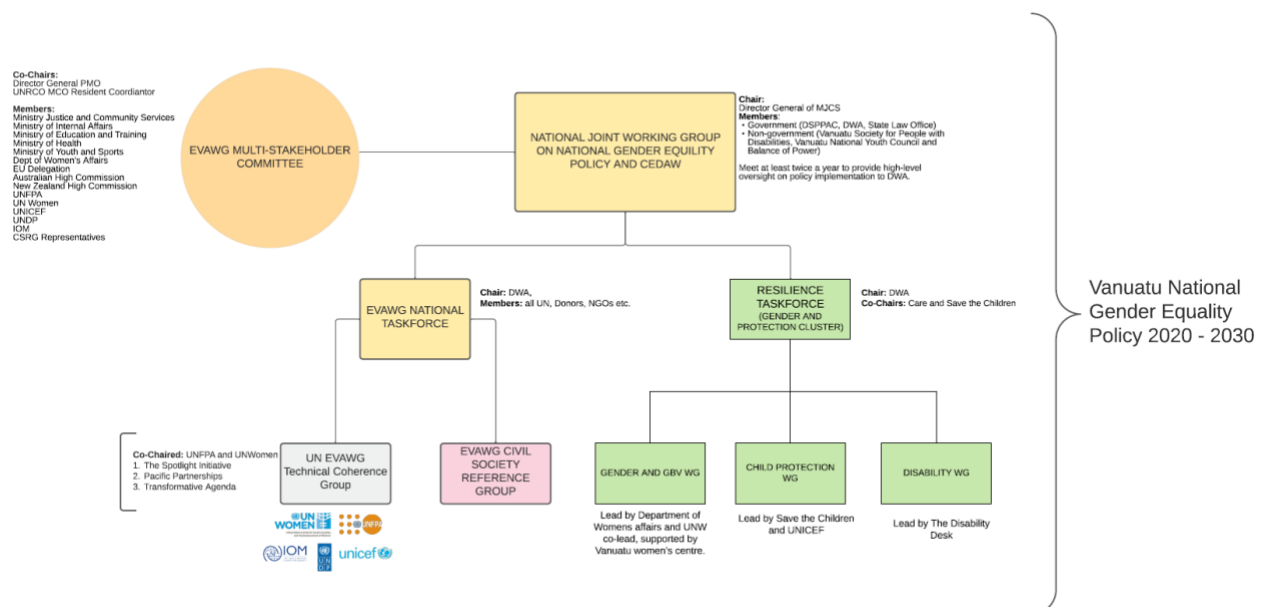


strengthening of referral systems/pathways and strengthening of administrative and prevalence data capacity building initiatives.

Information sharing was also improved through a joint online calendar of events “Pacific EVAWG Events”. <https://teamup.com/kskramnife6y4d7wqx> and WhatsApp Group. These also include colleagues from the Pacific Partnership programme to ensure cross programme coordination.

Coordinated communication and support to the Government, especially the ministries of Justice and the Department of Women Affairs and the Ministry of Health together with VWC facilitated better understanding of the Spotlight programme interventions. The programme was reflected as a contributory programme to the outcomes of the NGEP and the RMNCAH Policies.

The new Gender Equality Policy launched in August 2021 also introduced multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms for EVAWG. In consultation with partners and UN agencies, UN's mechanism has been embedded to support this structure. The National multi-stakeholder EVAWG Taskforce is currently being established at national and provincial levels by the Government under the NGEP's Strategic Area 1: *“Eliminate discrimination and violence against women and girls”* which through relevant stakeholders will operationalize its implementation. The first meeting of the National EVAWG Taskforce will be held in May 2022. In bid to strengthen the EVAWG coordination mechanisms, with the Department of Women's Affairs the Spotlight Initiative participated in the outreach sessions and consultations for developing the NGEP Provincial Gender Action Plans. The consultations further strengthened collaboration with the Pacific Partnerships on the administrative data collection systems harmonization and linkages with the leadership of the DWA.



Vanuatu EVAWG Governance Structures Organigram, 2021

Outside of internal UN EVAWG Technical Coherence mechanism, there are several coordination mechanisms that the Spotlight Initiative utilizes to ensure technical coherence, coordination and to support strengthen its implementation, delivery approaches and structures:

Regional Pacific GBV Sub Cluster under the Pacific Humanitarian Protection Cluster as part of the Pacific Humanitarian Team coordination structures supports coordination, capacity building and technical assistance at regional, national and sub-national levels, working with National Governments, UN agencies, local and international Non-Government Organizations and other relevant stakeholders in the prevention, mitigation and response to GBV in emergencies within the context of humanitarian action in the Pacific region. Its secretariat is building a strong regional GBViE community of practice through regular meetings and a comprehensive online repository of GBViE resources including international guidance, sub cluster documentation and national resources. Vanuatu is represented by the National Gender and Protection Cluster. The Spotlight discussions that are presented in the cluster agenda have enabled mapping of service providers, referral mechanisms, tailoring of the COVID-19 response plans for risk communication, and building capacity of staff and service providers on GBViE and SRHiE. Key members of the Sanma Province Gender & Protection Cluster have also been engaged in consultations on how to best include GBV prevention and response in evacuation centre management guidelines, based on their experience during TC Harold. As part of these consultations, four cluster representatives took part in a Spotlight-sponsored panel discussion on the topic during Disaster Risk Reduction Day celebrations.

d) Use of UN Reform inter-agency tools

During the latter part of 2021, RUNOs participated actively in the development of the Common Country Assessment, led by the RCO. A standalone regional CCA was also prepared. Gender based violence was highlighted in both Vanuatu as well as the Regional CCA, including its prevalence based on existing data and the analysis of root causes. This will ensure the prioritization of the elimination of VAW in the UN's Pacific Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 (UNSDCF), which will be developed during the year of 2022.

Programme Partnerships

a) Government

The Pacific Community (SPC) facilitates implementation of Pillar 5 as a technical assistance organization, supporting the MOH and VSNO to conduct Population Based Surveys including the Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey with Demographic Health Components (MICS-DHS) which includes the Domestic Violence module of the DHS. Preparatory activities for the MICS/DHS have been initiated including the revision of survey and tool design. However, its finalization and the implementation of the survey currently waits for government's decision on the date to commence data collection. SPC, working with the Nossal Institute supports further analysis of survey data, and support strengthening and harmonization of administrative data systems.



Vanuatu National Statistics Office (VNSO) is the national depository for all national data. The work under Pillar 5 on the integrated administrative GBV data collection, management and analysis is implemented with the Office through the partnership with SPC. Capacity and systems building for this work will continue to support ownership of this initiative. VNSO is also a critical partner for the DHS MICS domestic violence module. This has been a significant challenge to roll out the latter due to COVID19 associated restrictions, as in-person interviews have not been possible since the pandemic. All the preparations to conduct the survey will continue to be put in place and will be completed when interviews are possible.

The Spotlight Initiative has collaborated with **the Ministry of Youth Development and Sports (MYDS)** to significantly advance community-based child protection, in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and Community Services (MJCS). MYDS has established offices and staff at national level and in all provinces. The ministry also has a well-established and coordinated youth network through the Vanuatu National Youth Council (VNYC) which is present at national, provincial and community level. MJCS through the Child Desk Unit also have child protection officers located at national level and in all provinces. Spotlight initiative impacted social norms in favour of improved child protection by sensitizing communities through MYDS' and MJCS' networks, reaching the furthest communities that might not have been attained without the use of these networks.

The community activities have been included in the business plans 2022 for the two ministries and MYDS also provided some government funds to support the roll out of these activities in 2022. This is an indication of government ownership which will ensure that the programme will be sustained beyond the spotlight initiative timeframe.

Vanuatu National Youth Council (VNYC): Spotlight Initiative collaborates with the VNYC, the IPPF and the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MOYS) in rolling out the school CSE/FLE curriculum which has key knowledge-based products on GBV education. Spotlight Initiative carries out community-based outreach programmes against GBV through the National Youth Council's well established and very extensive networks of youth groups across all 6 provinces. The out of school FLE curriculum was formalized late 2021 but its dissemination is still pending, since the Council has recently been more focused on ensuring that formal structures are filled with elected youth representatives and completing preliminary preparations for the roll out of CS/FLE.

Ministry of Education and Training (MOET): Spotlight Initiative is supporting the MOET's Curriculum Development Unit in developing in-school CSE curriculum, along with Teacher's Guides, for Years 7 to 10; 11 and 12. These guides have core components on addressing violence against girls. The Ministry has a dedicated staff member who facilitates engagement and builds capacity for advancing girl child protection across the department. Since the Ministry is the Chair for the multi-stakeholder National FLE Committee responsible for the coordination of relevant emerging FLE issues, Spotlight Initiative supports them in ensuring that their curricula consider effective approaches of EVAWG.

Department of Labour and Employment Services (DoL) is the key Government partner for the implementation of Activity 3.2.3 (Gender-based violence prevention programme “Famili i Redi.”) in Vanuatu’s Spotlight Initiative Country Programme.

In Vanuatu, DoL is responsible for managing labour mobility programmes, including liaison with receiving countries (Australia and New Zealand), selecting labour mobility participants (either through authorized agents or directly by DoL staff), providing pre-departure briefings, resolving issues which arise while workers are overseas, and liaising with and coordinating stakeholders in Vanuatu involved in labour mobility. The highest level of Government consulted within DoL is the Labour Commissioner, who heads the department. The team has also consulted with the Director General of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry under which DoL sits.

Partnership between the Spotlight Initiative and DoL is integral to the institutionalization of gender-based violence prevention in the Vanuatu government and has provided additional support in the form of improved coordination between the Initiative and key stakeholders in the labour mobility sector, as well as government-led selection of Famili i Redi participants – ensuring that the workshops reach those most likely to participate in labour mobility schemes in the near future. DoL has been active at each stage of the development and implementation of Famili i Redi, enabling the workshop curriculum to be extensively informed by DoL’s priorities both through bilateral discussions and as informed by common priorities determined by the National Labour Mobility Worker Support Working Group, which is chaired by DoL and of which WVV is the secretariat.

The robust supportive partnership between the Spotlight Initiative and DoL is integral to the long-term sustainability of Famili i Redi. The Labour Commissioner has provided IOM and World Vision Vanuatu with an official letter of support for the continuation and expansion of Famili i Redi to facilitate fundraising efforts from key in-country donors.

DoL is responsible for selecting participants for Famili i Redi workshops, and though there is limited capacity to co-facilitate all Famili i Redi workshops due to other DoL commitments, DoL staff are actively involved whenever schedules permit. When in attendance, DoL’s role in Famili i Redi is to respond to any queries from workshop participants, as well as to develop DoL staff capacity in the themes of Famili i Redi. DoL has also advocated emphatically for Famili i Redi to other critical stakeholders, including the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). Despite DoL’s enthusiasm regarding Famili i Redi, challenges of this partnership primarily pertain to in the small size of DoL’s team and the diverse requirements which they have on their time, which inhibits the potential to take a more central role in the facilitation of the workshops or provide timely input. To mitigate this challenge, IOM and World Vision have taken a proactive role in engaging DoL on questions related to the Spotlight Initiative, which has been largely successful.

Given the lack of community transmission of COVID-19 in Vanuatu to date, the pandemic has not had a significant impact on partnership with DoL, nor the capacity of the Spotlight Initiative to deliver on this activity.

DoL is currently undergoing an expansion of its training unit, and agreement has been established in principle for the Spotlight Initiative to support the institutionalization of Famili i Redi within DoL.

Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) is the primary government stakeholder for Activity 2.3.1 (pertaining to Institutions) in Vanuatu's Spotlight Initiative Programme. It played an active role in the initial consultations on 21 April 2021, with the programme team, the Department of Women's Affairs (DWA), NDMO and Vanuatu Women's Centre that helped provide guidance around how Spotlight activities 2.3.1 and 3.2.3 should be linked with established priorities to strengthen national ownership and achievement of overall programme results.

Work on Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies (GBViE) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for evacuation centres has begun under the Spotlight Initiative. Two experts were recruited with GBViE and emergency response technical capacity who have worked together as a team support this work, with one arriving in country in late November (the second consultant works remotely and provides technical expertise on gender). One of these experts, who has extensive DRR experience, has been embedded in the NDMO to help facilitate communication and bolster national leadership on the Spotlight. The GBViE SOP template being developed under the Initiative will, once endorsed by the NDMO, become a part of the National Evacuation Centre Management Guidelines currently under revision through a complementary DFAT funded project "Self Ples Blong Yumi". This project is a key priority under the 2022 NDMO business plan and UN team is working closely with the NDMO's Senior Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) officer to integrate the GBViE SOP template into national, provincial and community level evacuation response plans. In early 2022 Spotlight team will support the NDMO in seeking review, comment, and endorsement of the GBViE SOP template from key partners including the Department of Women's Affairs.

As the Government branch responsible for managing the ongoing State of Emergency and the transition from response to recovery from Tropical Cyclone Harold, the NDMO has recently had reduced capacity to engage in the Spotlight Initiative. Hopefully, as the country builds back better from the devastation of this natural disaster, NDMO will once again become more engaged in Spotlight Initiative's implementation in the country.

Vanuatu Department of Women's Affairs (DWA) though not a funded partner under the Spotlight Initiative due to ongoing commitments to pre-existing programming, the essential role played by DWA in Ending Violence Against Women (EVAW) in Vanuatu is recognized and the Spotlight Initiative continues to meaningfully engage and consult the DWA throughout the programme cycle.

On 21 April 2021, a meeting was held between IOM, DWA, NDMO and Vanuatu Women's Centre (VWC) to orientate them on specific Spotlight activities, as well as to solicit their perspectives on existing priorities. The feedback from this meeting informed the implementation of activities 2.3.1 and 3.2.3. Following this meeting, DWA requested a presentation be delivered about these Spotlight Initiative activities at the next Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies (GBViE) Sub-Cluster meeting, which took place on 7 May 2021. As the Famili i Redi curricula and training materials were developed, these were provided to DWA for consultation and feedback. DWA and the coordinators of the Gender and Protection Cluster were invited to the Famili I Redi Validation Workshop, which took place on 4 June 2021.

In addition to direct collaboration with DWA, all materials and initiatives developed through the Spotlight Initiative were informed by Vanuatu's inaugural National Gender Equality Policy, which explicitly calls for more improved integration of GBViE into emergency preparedness, response, and recovery, as well as research and insights into the impacts of labour migration on ni-Vanuatu families.

DWA is a key partner on the parallel Pacific Partnership to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls programme. The Pacific Partnership is developing Multi-Service Delivery Protocols (MSDPs) for GBV in Vanuatu which have informed the work of the Spotlight Initiative to strengthen complementarity and integration whilst mitigating duplication. The Pacific Partnership has agreed to integrate the GBViE SOPs under development through Activity 2.3.1 of the Spotlight Initiative in 2022, which has galvanized DWA's essential role in the Spotlight Initiative's work without over-extending their capacity across the two programmes.

The Department of Women Affairs (DWA) is leading agency in coordination of the GBV Admin data. The Spotlight Initiative works in partnership with DWA to support its leadership in the roll out of training to key stakeholders. Once the National EVAWG Taskforce is activated nationally and, in the provinces, it will continue play this role as a chair of the committee on Administrative Data Systems.

The Ministry of Health (MOH) coordinates and facilitates implementation of GBV clinical and SRH interventions under the Spotlight programme under Pillar 4. In 2021, MOH coordinated and mobilized its Senior health staff to develop and validate Vanuatu SGBV Standard Operating Procedure, including referral systems to external agencies/organizations, including the training on the SOP using contextualized WHO clinical guidelines sessions. The MOH faced significant challenges during the pandemic, as many officers have been directed to support COVID19 response. This meant that although officers were entering GBV related data, there is currently a gap in accessible numbers on how many women and girls access health SRH services who were also assisted with the support for IPV/DV or other experienced violence. In regard to Clinical Guidelines on SGBV roll out, immense challenges are being faced in the provinces. Limited number of available nurses who are being targeted for training to roll out SOP are involved in carrying out outreach vaccination roll out.



The Office of the Public Prosecutor (OPP) is a key partner in Ending Violence Against Women and Girls. The Spotlight Initiative Programme is partnering with OPP through outcome 2 on Institution. OPP conducts criminal prosecutions and strives for just and timely outcomes for the accused, victims, and the public. The Office of the Public Prosecutor is strengthening the Victim Support Office in its work of supporting Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) survivors through their journey in pursuit of justice. The OPP is currently, through the Spotlight Initiative support, undertaking a nationwide consultation that will inform the development of policies and a Victim Charter that will eventually become a Victim Act. The Victim Charter will set out how victims of crime should be treated and what advice, support, and practical information they can receive.

Through the support from the Spotlight Initiative funding, the OPP is refurbishing the Victim Support Office and creating victims' safe spaces- both inside and within the precinct of the office. These safe spaces will include children playing area and a professional office space that will be used by the survivors of SGBV for consultation with forensic medical clinicians and counsellors. A forensic expert and a psychiatrist have been hired to provide services to the survivors of SGBV. The project has targeted the main office in Port Villa the capital city in Vanuatu as it is the epicentre of PP work and service delivery for SGBC survivors. The Office of the Public Prosecutor did not have a safe space for children playing area and professional office space for the survivors of SGBV for consultation with forensic medical clinicians and counsellors previously. The pre-renovated space previously accommodated prosecutors only. When the space was vacated, there was just one room, and it was in a rather dilapidated condition. The renovation has created a dedicated office space for the victim support officer, and another space for consultation by visiting medical practitioners, psychologists, police officers, and social welfare officers. The remaining space outside these two offices is a 'safe space' for mothers and children to rest, or for mothers to nurse their babies as they are attended to by the victim support officer. The kitchen has also been upgraded to enable mothers to prepare bottled feed and tea for themselves and their infant children.

One of the key elements of the partnership with the OPP is on supporting the survivors of GBV to access justice through the development of the Victims Charter. A working committee has been formed for the development of a Victims Charter. The membership of the committee is based on the existing partners of the Office of the Public Prosecutor. Currently, there is ongoing consultation and awareness-raising with stakeholders in different provinces. The work is being carried out in partnership with UNDP, UNICEF, Save the Children, the Vanuatu police, Vanuatu Women Centre, SISTA, and the Vanuatu Mental Health Hospital. The consultation process for the development of the Victims Charter under the Office of the Public Prosecutor (OPP) commenced on November 27th, 2021. The consultation processes for the 6 provinces have been completed and the analysis of the surveys and interviews are underway. The repurposed OPP office space will be dedicated to the VSO with facilities to support adult and child victims of SGBV as their matters are going through the justice system.

b) Civil Society

Family Planning NSW has a strong expertise and resources in comprehensive sexuality education. Spotlight Initiative has collaborated with this important partner in supporting the development of the in-school and out-of school curriculums facilitating the training of trainers through the Ministry of Education and Youth Development and National Youth Council. This CSO stakeholder works closely with key CSE/FLE partners – government and civil society – to contextualize both curriculums and training materials.

IPPF and its Member Organization - Vanuatu Family Health Association supports implementation of Pillars 3 and 4. IPPF works closely with MOET to train TOT for Out of School Family Life Education and MOH to roll-out the GBV SOP for the health sector. IPPF facilitates implementation of CSE in Vanuatu through mobilisation of youth networks and ensuring Vanuatu representation in regional CSE events e.g., knowledge sharing and customisation of CSE materials.

Women Enabled International provides technical support in the development of CSE/FLE resources (both in and out of school) by ensuring mainstreaming of gender and disability inclusiveness.

Action Aid Vanuatu empowers local women in Vanuatu to become active and powerful community leaders, particularly in times of crisis, including those who are disadvantaged during and after disasters because of their gender roles. These women are being equipped with the tools and resources to build solidarity, sisterhood, and strength. Action Aid Vanuatu is receiving support from the Spotlight Initiative and is supporting the economic empowerment of local women at the grassroots level. Through the integration of economic empowerment and SGBV training on the ground, Action Aid Vanuatu empowered women to lessen the burden of the economic impact of covid-19 while providing them with pathways for addressing instances of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). 20% of the total grant that was allocated to Action Aid Vanuatu from the Spotlight Initiative, was allocated to the WITTT Sister circles to boost their existing livelihoods businesses (SMEs). This contribution enabled women to access small loans that are meant to build women's economic resilience. The Spotlight Initiative grant has enabled women to raise awareness and build capacities of key women leaders to advance community actions on the prevention of violence against women and girls.

SISTA is using the Spotlight Initiative grant to develop a consolidated model of a Pacific-based, storian approach to domestic violence and is utilizing this to raise GBV awareness and promote positive change and in particular positive masculinities. Through the storytelling approach, sister produced documentaries that form the basis of outreach work in communities targeting youths. Through the Spotlight Initiative grant is working with prominent politicians and male champions to advocate for the elimination of all sorts of violence against women and girls in Vanuatu. During 16 days of Activism against gender-based violence, SISTA engaged the Prime Minister of Vanuatu and the leader of the Opposition Political party among other male champions to make statements against SGBV.

Vatu Mauri Consortium: Spotlight Initiative provides grants to this consortium which they use in providing sexually active young vulnerable women, girls and young boys with contraceptives and conduct HIV/AIDS counselling and offer HIV tests for those at risk. VMC project is aimed at building community peer educators who will have some basic knowledge to educate young women and girls about their reproductive health rights. VMC has so far trained 10 young people both boys and girls who already have some knowledge on reproductive health and human rights. The work of the peer educators is to talk to young people about their reproductive health and to build up a network of community watchdogs who report on any GBV activities in their communities. The organization has built a relationship with the Police, Ministry of Justice and Community Services and Ministry of Health to support the survivors of GBV/SGBV.

ACTIV through the Spotlight Initiative is undertaking a social enterprise project to create new jobs for women. The project addresses GBV issues by creating a social enterprise project that strengthens the professional development of women affected by Sexual & Gender-Based Violence through professional culinary skills development, nutrition education, and financial literacy. The project has also developed and launched a virtual restaurant for women. The Virtual restaurant will allow the women to sell food and generate income to support their families.

The General Council of The Assemblies of God, Vanuatu (AOG) is using the grant support from the Spotlight Initiative to substantively engage Faith-based and community leaders' capacities to prevent, challenge, and respond to Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence and to promote women's empowerment. This is being done through leadership awareness conferences and seminars across the provinces in Vanuatu. AOG is using theological perspectives for understanding GBV to create awareness of Gender-Based Violence and Ending Violence Against Women and Girls. Post-training and awareness-raising evaluations and statements by the church leadership anecdotally show some level of progress in the understanding of the critical issues of SGBV prevention and response among the male church leaders and key local community leaders.

Wan Smol Bag produces films and live theatre projects which Spotlight Initiative co-funded. The film on rape was shot in 2020 and the Spotlight Initiative grant covered all editing, sound, and grading work on the film plus its launch and distribution in Vanuatu. The film *Mat Mo Pig* is the first film by Wan Smol Bag that explores the process of bringing a rape case to court and the often-traumatic experience of the survivor throughout the process. The film is giving voice to the story of Sexual Gender-Based Violence survivors and their experiences in enduring the traumatizing legal processes and trials while facing the court and the aggressors.

IsraAID - is implementing the Spotlight Initiative by developing a GBV/IPV module to complement the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) program Manual, which was officially endorsed by the Ministry of Health in Vanuatu. IsraAID is using the grants from the Spotlight Initiative to strengthen the community awareness of GBV/IPV issues and services and to build the capacity



of the Ministry of Health mental health professionals and community volunteers. The grant is also used for mapping out and assessing current resources/services related to GBV/IPV and referral pathway mechanisms.

Silae Vanua through the Spotlight Initiative is strengthening and promoting women empowerment of women vendors through capacity building in financial literacy, food safety, Gender-Based Violence, and climate change. The goal is to enable women vendors to get additional income to sustain their families and to give them the opportunity to broaden their learning ability and gain joined environmental and economic resilience. For instance, women are supported in organizing cross-learning on methods of food preservations to increase their daily income and become resilient during disasters.

The Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum (Vanuatu IGF) is well known for fostering dialogue between all local stakeholders from government, private sector, civil society, technical community, and consumers on internet governance issues. Vanuatu IGF work revolves around raising awareness to promote a better understanding of internet governance in Vanuatu.

As a platform for discussions, Vanuatu IGF brings various people and stakeholder groups to the table as equals to exchange information, share good policies and practices relating to the Internet and technologies, facilitate common understandings and knowledge exchange of how to maximize Internet opportunities and address risks and challenges as they arise. Many of the risks and challenges in the online space disproportionately affected women and girls. A survey conducted in May 2021 among year 9 to year 13 students at 11 schools across four provinces of Vanuatu found that 73% of students are using online social networking, with sites like Facebook (68%), Viber (22%) and Instagram (21%) the most popular. Responding to questions about negative online experiences within the last 12 months, 33% reported receiving nasty or hurtful messages, 29% said others made fun of them online, 21% reported being ignored or left out by others in online spaces, 13% were harassed or embarrassed by others online, and 10% said they were threatened online. 35% also admitted to making fun of others online and 28% admitted to posting nasty or hurtful messages about someone else in public online spaces. Vanuatu IGF is developing content to address the gendered nature of these issues, in particular online sexual abuse, harassment and exploitation, and awareness activities will promote respectful and gender equal relationships among students. Vanuatu IGF is an active member of the national child protection working group and has been actively involved with child online activities since its establishment in 2019 and therefore is a strategic partner for the spotlight initiative.

World Vision Vanuatu (WVV) WVV is the primary civil society partner for Activity 3.2.3 (Prevention against GBV). The workshop materials and curriculum of Famili i Redi were co-developed by technical experts from both IOM and WVV. Most Famili i Redi workshops are co-facilitated by both organizations. These activities have benefited from extensive insight and input from DoL, the Government partner in this tripartite partnership. The result of this joint approach has resulted in a higher-quality program than either agency would otherwise deliver independently, as it combines



WVV's extensive community-based experience in GBV prevention in Vanuatu, the technical expertise through the UN and the Government institutionalization and ownership of Famili i Redi.

During 2021, WVV and IOM hosted two Facilitator Training sessions, attended by team members from both agencies, as well as some DoL staff. Both IOM and WVV now have the capacity to independently facilitate Famili i Redi workshops with their own teams, and DoL has agreed to support institutionalization of Famili i Redi in its training unit through attendance of further Facilitator Training sessions in 2022.

Vanuatu Women's Centre is the primary civil society organization engaged in the GBV space in Vanuatu is the Vanuatu Women's' Centre (VWC), which provides social services to survivors of violence. Under Activity 2.3.1, Spotlight has consulted with both VWC's Port Vila (Shefa Province) and Luganville (Sanma Province) offices and has undertaken a desk review of relevant reports from the Centre. VWC has been invited to support the integration of the GBViE SOP template into the NDMO's National Evacuation Centre Management Guidelines. Both Activity 2.3.1 and 3.2.3 were discussed with WVC during the consultation meeting with IOM, DWA, NDMO and VWC on 21 April 2021, and VWC was invited both to the Validation Workshop for the Famili i Redi curriculum and training materials, as well as to provide feedback or inputs after the fact.

c) European Union Delegation

The partnership with the EUD remains a strategic and technical partnership. While the EU does not have physical presence in country, and COVID restrictions made it difficult for in country visits, it actively participates in strategic decisions on the implementation of Spotlight at the level of the Steering Committee. The Spotlight Coordination team together with technical lead agency holds monthly meetings with the EUD.

Progress has been made in strengthening relationships and involving the EUD in communication and visibility opportunities. In 2021, the Delegation was involved in the preparation of inputs for press releases as well as recorded statements for the launch of different initiatives such as the launch of Vanuatu's Strategy and Implementation Plan and guidance for health workers for the clinical management of rape, sexual violence, and Gender-Based Violence.

d) Cooperation with other UN agencies (if applicable)

Although UN Women is not RUNO in the Spotlight Initiative it is a critical agency for coherent implementation of EVAWG work in country, as it leads Pacific Partnerships programme. Within the framework of the National Gender Equality Policy (NGEP), the Spotlight team is working closely with the Pacific Partnerships Programmes to support the government to harmonize coordination mechanisms, and to ensure technical coherence. Through the leadership of the Department of Women Affairs, Spotlight and UN Women are working closely on the development of Multisectoral Service Delivery Protocols for EVAW case management including GBV in development and in emergencies. The Multi-sectoral service delivery protocols also serve as the framework for strengthening Administrative Data systems under Pillar 5, and all the attendant capacity building



interventions e.g., the recently concluded training of stakeholders on administrative data systems facilitated by Spotlight and UN Women; the latter in collaboration with regional implementing partners Nossal/UoM and SPC and referral pathways including child protection, led by UNICEF. In addition, UN Women are co-chairing the EVAW technical coherence meetings together with Spotlight's coherence agency UNFPA, a platform that enables coordinated delivery of major programmes and interventions for EVAW/G.

Under Activity 2.3.1, Spotlight has also undertaken a strategic partnership with UN Women to ensure consistency. It participated in a UN Women/Department of Women's Affairs organized consultation workshop with key Shefa Province actors, including both local and provincial-level authorities. The consultation workshop was focused on Multi-Service Delivery Protocols (MSDPs) for GBV, and Spotlight was able to use the opportunity to gather local-level insights on the roles and responsibilities of different actors in preventing and responding to GBV in Evacuation Centres. Participation also provided with the opportunity to align our work with the larger Multi-Service Delivery Protocol initiative and include a sub-section on GBV in Evacuation Centres in the Protocol.

e) Other Partners and resource mobilization (if applicable)

Nossal Institute, University of Melbourne: Spotlight Initiative collaborates with them because of their unique and extensive expertise on GBV administrative data and existing relationships with civil society and government. It supports Vanuatu Government to strengthen and harmonize Administrative Data systems including capacity building of stakeholders. UoM/Nossal also facilitates formal training of key stakeholders through the KnowVAW data course offered by the UoM. Due to COVID19 it was not possible to bring experts to the country to support capacity building and training, this has made implementation very challenging. The in-person trainings were adapted for online learning in a manner that accommodates local needs and context.

Results

Capturing Broader Transformations Across Outcomes

In 2021, the increased collaboration between the Spotlight Initiative and the Pacific Partnerships programme resulted in better coordination and understanding of the Spotlight programme among government leaders and technical ministries. The initiative's outcomes are clearly indicated in the NGEF implementation plan, under Strategic Area 1 of eliminating discrimination and violence against women and girls; Strategic Area 4, on institutional capacity for policy implementation and reporting; and, Strategic Area 5, that seeks protection of women, children, and people with disabilities in emergencies through coordinated humanitarian action. These outcome linkages between the Spotlight Initiative and the NGEF strengthens the ownership and sustainability of Spotlight's impact beyond the programme implementation period. For the first time, the Department of Women Affairs also agreed to coordinate and chair a functional mechanism on ensuring harmonization and linkages of Administrative Data Systems aligned to the Multi-Service Delivery Protocols for GBV case management and attendant capacity building interventions for the relevant stakeholders.



Under several different outcomes, Spotlight has contributed to improving systems to respond to GBV. The development of SOPs for health workers, and GBV Administrative Data Systems complemented and informed the development of the GBViE SOP template for Evacuation Centre Management. The development of any GBViE SOP for Evacuation Centre Management will eventually effectively work within the established data management and survivor-centred health care protocols. As the protocols for GBV Administrative Data are being finalised, these will strengthen the quality of service to victims of GBViE in the context of Evacuation Centres which are concurrently under development, ultimately ensuring that responses to GBV in Evacuation Centres are handled in a safe, confidential manner consistent with the national context and global best practice.

By broadening the target participants for Activity 3.2.3 from focusing exclusively on men and boys to including both labour migrants and their intimate partners or close family members, regardless of gender, Spotlight has contextualized this intervention to suit the national context and provides common tools, principles and educational opportunities to labour migrants and their spouses, irrespective of gender. This was a decision informed not only by the strongly family-oriented values of ni-Vanuatu society, but also aligned with the principles of “leaving no one behind” – particularly as DoL has committed towards facilitating more gender-equitable placement of labour migrants. The delivery of Famili i Redi’s gender-transformative messaging around roles and responsibilities of both labour migrants and chosen family member as a team supports participants to jointly anticipate and prepare for some of the shifts which will be induced in their family’s power dynamics as a result of labour mobility. By including the spouse who will remain in Vanuatu in Famili i Redi, the Spotlight Initiative also mitigates the risk of “brain drain” of these gender-transformative concepts when labour migrants depart for overseas placements. With the remaining spouse returning to their community following the workshop, they have the capacity to share the lessons learned during Famili i Redi with their community, allowing these concepts to continue to proliferate within Vanuatu. Surveys conducted with Famili I Redi participants 2-3 months after participation in the workshop indicate that 79% of participants had already independently shared what they learned with someone else in their family or community.

Emphasis on building strong, transparent, and meaningful partnerships with stakeholders in Government and civil society through the Spotlight Initiative has proven timely and effective in strengthening delivery and improving results, as evidenced by the strong support at country level to continue the work commenced under the Spotlight Initiative’s Activities 2.3.1 and 3.2.3. For example, Vanuatu’s Labour Commissioner has written a letter of support for Famili I Redi, encouraging stakeholders to support the expansion of the program. The strong collaboration from DoL and NDMO has been highly complementary to the work of other ministries and departments who are primary partners of other RUNOs under the Spotlight Initiative, creating a more holistic consensus across the Vanuatu Government on GBV elimination which moves beyond mainstreaming and towards robust integration.

Strategic engagement with the Ministry of Health led to improvements in the policy environment for delivering clinical GBV response and SRH services. With additional and complementary funding from DFAT, the Spotlight Initiative facilitated the development of two critical policy guidelines - the GBV Clinical Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and the Reproductive Maternal Neonatal Child Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) Policy which serve as frameworks for GBV case management and SRH service provision with a multisectoral service delivery protocol. Implementation of these policy guidelines enhance GBV/SRH service delivery integration as the two documents are aligned with each other. The Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health Committee was revitalized to provide oversight for implementation of the strategy which also focuses on development of services and enlisting support from the health sector for GBV prevention and response. In addition, the Health Facility Readiness Assessment conducted with DFAT support, will support the targeting of training and roll-out of the GBV SOPs to poor performing health facilities. This will increase the number of health workers with capacities to respond on VAW/G, and to ensure that all women, even in remote villages and islands, receive survivor-centred care, be respected, treated with confidentiality, and provided with quality medical treatment and appropriate referrals.

Spotlight Initiative's engagement with the Civil Society under Pillar 6 has effectively generated momentum in political will and public engagement on the issue of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence using a popular media and methods such as art, drama, film, and community storytelling traditions. Spotlight's support also contributed to community level provisions of services including counselling, strengthening women's livelihoods and economic empowerment, and working with communities and community leaders to address social norms, beliefs and practices that perpetuate and condone Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

Finally, in 2021, the increased collaboration between the Spotlight Initiative and the Pacific Partnerships programme resulted in better coordination and understanding of the Spotlight programme among government leaders and technical ministries. The initiative's outcomes are clearly indicated in the NGEF implementation plan, under Strategic Area 1 of eliminating discrimination and violence against women and girls; Strategic Area 4, on institutional capacity for policy implementation and reporting; and, Strategic Area 5, that seeks protection of women, children, and people with disabilities in emergencies through coordinated humanitarian action. These outcome linkages between the Spotlight Initiative and the NGEF strengthens the ownership and sustainability of Spotlight's impact beyond the programme implementation period. For the first time, the Department of Women Affairs also agreed to coordinate and chair a functional mechanism on ensuring harmonization and linkages of Administrative Data Systems aligned to the Multi-Service Delivery Protocols for GBV case management and attendant capacity building interventions for the relevant stakeholders.

Capturing Change at Outcome Level

Outcome 1: Legal and Policy Framework



The suspension of 19 Members of Parliament on June 8th, 2021, and the decision of the Government to abolish the Ministry of Justice and Community Services has severely impacted work in Policy and Institutions pillars. For this reason, work originally programmed with the Ministry of Justice and Parliamentarians was put on hold, and Pillar 1 funds were moved to civil society grants in Pillar 6 instead.

Outcome 2: Institutions

Extensive stakeholder consultation process has been conducted to inform the development of GBViE SOPs template for Evacuation Centres. Consultations were conducted in both Sanma Province (Luganville) and Shefa Province (Port Vila). As part of the consultation process, the team facilitated a panel discussion titled: *“Sef Ples Blong Yumi Evriwan/Safe Place for All of Us: How to ensure evacuation centres are safe for women, people with disabilities, and children”* at International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction events in Luganville, Espiritu Santo. Panellists included representatives from Save the Children, the Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association, Department of Women’s Affairs, and Sanma Province. Public input was sought at this event through an interactive booth where visitors could write suggestions on whiteboards or through Kobo surveys as to how evacuation centre safety could be improved for vulnerable groups. Other consultations were held with key stakeholders through individual key informant interviews and an interactive brainstorming process with key Shefa Province stakeholders. All inputs have been compiled in a desk review and consultation report that informed the development of the draft GBViE SOP template for evacuation centres. Validation with key government stakeholders is scheduled to take place in the 2022. The development of these SOPs will be incorporated into regularly-used documents and handbooks which will inform the management of GBV in Evacuation Centres – specifically, the Evacuation Centre Management Guidelines. In addition, a summary version will be incorporated into the Multi-Service Delivery Protocols (MSDPs) for GBV which are currently being developed under the Pacific Partnerships Programme. The SOPs compile current best practices and outline current referral pathways, providing a strong foundational understanding of what currently exists in Vanuatu for survivors of GBV which can then inform expansion, improvement, or innovation through subsequent interventions. While there was not a specific impact of COVID-19 on this activity, the TC Harold recovery significantly reduced NDMO availability to support activities, which caused some delays in implementation but will likely not result in any subsequent impediments considering the six-month no-cost extension of the Spotlight Initiative in the Pacific. No unexpected changes or results have been noted.

The Office of the Public Prosecutor is strengthening the Victim Support Office in its work of supporting Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) survivors through their journey in pursuit of justice. The OPP, through the Spotlight Initiative funding, undertook a nation-wide consultation that will inform the development of policies and a Victim Charter that will eventually become a Victim Act. The Victim Charter will set out how victims of crime should be treated and what advice, support, and practical information they can receive.

A working committee has been formed for the development of a Victims Charter. The membership of the committee is based on the existing partners of the OPP - UNDP, UNICEF, Save the Children, the Vanuatu police, Vanuatu Women Centre, SISTA, and the Vila Central Hospital. The PPO does not have experience in community consultations and has reached out to VWC for support. Both conducted consultations and awareness-raising with stakeholders. The consultation processes for 6 provinces have been completed and the analysis of the surveys and interviews are underway.

The Spotlight Initiative funding has also been supporting the refurbishment of the Victim Support Office and the creation of victim friendly safe spaces both inside and within the precinct of the office including children playing area. The OPP was also supported with secondment of two experts- forensic expert and psychiatrist to provide expert services to survivors of SGBV. The two experts attended to clients at Vanuatu General Hospital working closely with the public prosecutor to not only support the victims but also to gather evidence for criminal prosecution of cases. The objective of the support was to improve the experience of survivors as they navigate the justice system.

Outcome 3: Prevention and Norm Change

In 2021, despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic, implementation of CSE in Vanuatu continued to gain momentum since the virtual launch of the 2020 International Technical and Programmatic Guidance of Out-of-School CSE/FLE. In collaboration with partners – MOET, FPNSW, IPPF, and Vanuatu Family Health Association, the team continued to strengthen mechanisms for operationalization and delivery of CSE/FLE for in and out of school, through the establishment of a multi-stakeholder CSE/FLE committee that provides programmatic oversight, coordination, and advocacy for in and out of school CSE/FLE. Through this mechanism, in-school CSE/FLE curriculum for years 7-10; year 11 and year 12 and associated teacher guides were developed after a comprehensive technical review identifying areas for strengthening. 25 Master Teachers were trained for year 11 and year 12 CSE/FLE curriculum roll out for in-school CSE/FLE, covering all six provinces. Participants included provincial health leads, RMNCAH leads, national and provincial MOET focal points, MOH and Vanuatu Family Health Association teams. The planned roll-out of CSE/FLE in 2021 was not possible because of the government's priority on COVID-19 mass vaccination campaign which engaged most of the technical persons required for CSE/FLE roll-out. In 2022, the team has plans to support MOET to roll-out the revised CSE/FLE integrated curriculum for year 11 and year 12 and teacher training across all 6 provinces, with resources available in both English and French together with the health sector support for each school to facilitate content delivery and meet the resulting needs of students.

Working with the FPNSW the Spotlight Initiative team developed five of the seven out of school CSE/FLE modules (1: Values, Rights, and Sexuality; 2: Healthy Relationships; 3: Gender; 4: Safety: Yours, Mine and Ours; 5: My Body and Its Development). In preparation for the roll-out of the out of school curriculum in 2022, 18 trainers from CSOs - Youth Challenge, Wan SmolBag, Vanuatu Family Health and Vanuatu National Youth Council - were trained in the adapted CSE/FLE curriculum.

The Spotlight's strong advocacy and engagement with the CSNRG and like-minded CSOs facilitated the softening of government positions on CSE/FLE. MOET and CSOs on ground have provided strong leadership and commitment to delivery of CSE/FLE. The growing political and technical commitment to CSE/FLE as a transformational strategy to end violence against women and girls, keeping girls in school, preventing early and unwanted pregnancies including STIs in Vanuatu, led CSE/FLE integration in the RMNCAH Policy, which further supports creation of an enabling environment for CSE/FLE implementation and sustainability in the country. RUNOs are taking this opportunity to rally mass champions, to further CSE/FLE and mobilize communities on women's and girls' SRHR.

Through financial and technical support, the Spotlight Initiative ensured that more than 1800 people in the provinces of Tafea, Shefa, Malampa, Penama, Sanma and Torba acquired knowledge about child development stages and needs, child maltreatment and its consequences, what to do/where to report/how to access services when a child is being harmed and parenting skills. Community facilitation modules also opened dialogues on accepted social practices, "kastom" and traditional gender roles, how these factors impact decision making and power dynamics in the community and how they change over time. Participants focused on the gendered dimensions of relationships in the home and parenting and questioned traditional understandings of these concepts in their communities, often agreeing to work towards new and more equitable roles and social practices. These new knowledge and skills were acquired through participation in TOT workshops for community trainers, community leaders and facilitators workshops, orientation with provincial stakeholders, community dialogues and awareness sessions.

The Spotlight Initiative has contributed to changes at different levels of stakeholders. At the national and provincial levels, MYDS has realized the impact of the programme on youths as future parents, therefore they have allocated funding to support the roll out of activities in 2022 and are looking at mainstreaming the community facilitation package into other government-led youth initiatives. The provincial councils of Tafea, Shefa, Malampa, Sanma, Penama and Torba have included the community facilitation package in their 2022 work plans with allocation of government funding to support activities in their communities. At the community level, general feedback received from community leaders is that they wish they had gone through these kinds of training in the past to learn how to take better care of children and be better parents. It touches the lives of people who went through the training as they reflected on how they were parented as well as how they parent their own children. A commitment to practice the skills that they have learned to make a change in the life of a child, family, community, area, province, and national level has been reported. In communities where the community facilitation package has been rolled out, there have been increased reporting of child protection cases, as community members become more aware of child protection issues and have confidence in the system to come forward and report. In 2021, a total of 141 (55 boys/86 girls) child protection cases were reported to and handled by Child Protection Officers. The reporting and follow up of these cases are facilitated through a close partnership between the MYSD programme facilitators and the MJCS Child Protection Officers.

Parents, caregivers, and teachers who attended the community leaders' workshops have reported changes in their behaviour in how they discipline children. For instance, reflecting on the use of corporal punishment, and approaching perpetrators in the community to talk to them about their actions and support peer to peer learning.

There were also changes in several community by-laws as a result of the Spotlight Initiative. For example, the chiefs and community members of Lokotai and Lowanatom on Tanna agreed to put in their community by-laws that corporal punishment will not be used in homes, and parents and caregivers will use positive discipline instead. Furthermore, both parents should spend about two hours in the evenings with their children at home to help them with homework and discuss values such as respect etc. These decisions were reached after parents and leaders in the communities completed their community leaders training and community outreach.

Through the community-based child protection engagement, Errangorango community Council on Efate established a Community Child Protection Committee (CCPC) after completion of a community leaders training with support from the provincial officers from MYDS and MJCS. The role of the CCPC will be to become child protection focal persons for the community and will be responsible for handling child protection concerns that can be supported at the community level, referring cases to responsible authorities, and organizing engagement and participation activities for children and youths in the community.

Following an iterative process of consultations with a wide variety of stakeholders, including labour mobility participants and national-level gender experts, the Initiative with its civil society partner World Vision Vanuatu (WVV) and leadership of the Department of Labour and Employment Services (DoL), developed and implemented Famili i Redi, an innovative predeparture workshop for labour migrants and their intimate partners or close family members.

Famili i Redi is a 5-day workshop targeted at future labour mobility participants and their intimate partners (or close family members when an intimate partner does not exist or is not available.) The workshop is designed to help participants maximise the socio-economic benefits of labour mobility and reduce the risk of GBV through a curriculum which emphasises emotional intelligence, non-violent communication, stress management and constructive decision-making, as well as budgeting and family financial management skills. The delivery of the workshop to both men and women was an unintended, positive outcome of the collaborative approach taken to the design of programme's activities; while the original intent was to design and implement workshops exclusively for men, the targeting of couples has allowed for wider reach and deeper impact of the materials delivered.

The social impacts of labour mobility, and especially the strain it places on couples and families which often leads to violence, is widely recognised as a problem in Vanuatu. By providing a forum in which both prospective labour migrants and their intimate partners can become aware of the challenges they may face, plan communication and stress management strategies jointly, and agree on financial spending and savings plans, Famili i Redi provides concrete strategies, tools and skills



for couples to anticipate the variety of changes created by labour migration and maintain healthy relationships before, during, and after the overseas work period, ultimately aimed at reducing violence.

Workshop materials were developed through a combination of funding provided by the Spotlight Initiative and DFAT (in the form of a grant awarded to WVV), with additional funding being provided directly through IOM's Internal Development Fund. The combination of this funding enabled the delivery of 10 workshops throughout 2021 – 3 of which were directly funded by the Spotlight. Consequently, Famili i Redi reached a total of 375 participants who attended at least one day of the workshop (170 female and 205 male), with 335 attending at least 4 out of the 5 days. This significantly exceeded the target for this activity to reach 200 men and boys.

Pre- and post- tests administered during the workshops indicate promising results, with 100% of participants reporting that they know the 5 forms of violence (an increase of 60% from before the workshop), and 94% of workshop participants knowing at least three service providers they can call for support while they or their partner is away (an increase of 33% from before the workshop).

In the last two months of 2021, follow-up surveys and interviews were conducted with a group of former Famili i Redi participants, scheduled 2-3 months after they attended the workshop. Preliminary analysis of the data indicates that workshop impacts are lasting, with 70% of respondents indicating that their relationship with their partner had significantly improved after the workshop, 75% indicating that they understood significantly more about the different forms of violence than before, and 70% indicating that they had already used the stress management strategies taught during the workshop – strategies which support constructive decision-making and help reduce the risk of violence.

Outcome 4: Quality Services

The Spotlight has significantly contributed to strengthening health system and capacities of health workers to respond to SGBV in Vanuatu. The health sector has struggled with their role in GBV response, as it has been viewed as 'NGO business' in the past. Strategic partnership with the Ministry of Health (MOH) resulted in the establishment of a core group of MOH clinicians which include - Obstetricians/Gynaecologists, Psychiatrist, Accident and Emergency doctors, Paediatricians, Public Health and Nurses, Midwifery Managers, who supported the development of the GBV Health Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). The SOP provides the foundation for the health systems strengthening approach to capacity building of health workers on survivor-centered clinical response and strengthening of the referral system pathways. It will align with national multi-sectoral service delivery protocols for SGBV being developed in 2022. The SOP is based on WHO global guidance and emphasizes the need to mobilize resources to equip health facilities to become "service ready" to respond to GBV. The development of the GBV Clinical SOP will strengthen case management for the health sector, and in 2021 critical steps were taken to operationalize its implementation:

- The official launch of the GBV SOP jointly with the HFRSA and RMNCAH Policy during the 16 Days of Activism. It demonstrated the importance and commitment of the government to addressing GBV and SRHR, in addition to creating the right policy, environment and evidence base needed for further advocacy, scaling up and expanding integrated GBV and SRH services to vulnerable populations living in remote villages and outer islands.
- Training of 22 Trainers- clinicians, police officers, CSOs and technical staff from the Ministry of Women and Vanuatu Women's Centre was conducted to ensure sustainable roll-out of training in the provinces. Three RUNOs collaborated with the Vanuatu Women's Centre and the core health clinicians to prepare training sessions, inclusive of the protection of child and adolescent abuse; legal obligations and appropriate health response, as contained in the SOP. The ToT included field visits to health facilities to run simulation GBV scenarios and exercises, testing existing health facility readiness and appropriateness of response.
- The Spotlight team technically supported and ensured that the SGBV SOP alignment with the RMNCAH Policy and implementation strategy which provides the overall framework for integrated GBV/SRH service provision, and with the multi-sectoral Service Delivery Protocol. In addition, the RMNCAH Committee was revitalized to provide oversight to the implementation of the RMNCAH Strategy including a key section on targets for development of services and support from the health sector for prevention and response to SGBV.

To ensure sustainable implementation of health sector response and management of GBV, the country-wide health facility training on the GBV SOPs will be held during 2022, to ensure that an increased number of health workers have capacities to respond on VAW/G including SGBV, and that all women, even in remote villages and islands, receive survivor-centred care, be respected, treated with confidentiality and provided with quality medical treatment, first-line support and appropriate referrals. The training will be conducted by skilled and committed local clinicians and supported by CSOs (IPPF Member Association VFHA), while ensuring the health system is strengthened for a GBV response that will be sustained into future years.

Outcome 5: Data

The Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey including DHS Components (MICS-DHS) and the DV module data collection was planned to take place in 2021. However, the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign, including the information and education component aimed at increasing vaccination uptake, required that the population and field-based activities be minimized to avoid causing confusion among the public. In 2021, the MOH and the National Statistical Office, focused on the MICS preparations only - which included the overall budget preparation and survey design as well as the sampling frame development based on the new census data, further development of data collection tools, training materials and fieldwork implementation plans to ensure readiness for data collection when it becomes possible. To date, there is no concrete date set by MOH and the National Statistical Office on when data collection on the MICS/DHS integrating the DV module will be done.

In relation to strengthening of GBV administrative data systems, mobilization of partners is on-going with the focus to strengthen governance and coordination structures for ownership and long-term

sustainability. The programme has been successful in attaining the political commitment and interest of the Directors of the Department of Women Affairs and Vanuatu National Statistical Office to lead and coordinate the national mechanism for managing administrative data collection, analysis, sharing and use. The 4th GBV Administrative Data workshop series was conducted in Vanuatu with the leadership of the Department of Women's Affairs. The workshop was co-facilitated by SPC, Nossal/UoM, RUNOs training 23 people from VNSO, VWC, Vanuatu Christian Council, DWA, Family Protection Unit of the Police Force, NDMO, MOH, OPP. All work on GBV Administrative Data Systems is aligned with the Multi-sectoral Service Delivery Protocols under development by the Department of Women Affairs, to ensure that data collected will be relevant and responsive to the data requirements to monitor VAWG response and measure the effectiveness of the GBV referral system. A capacity building approach is being used to ensure the active participation of national stakeholders in the design of data collection tools, the establishment of decision-making processes regarding indicator selection to monitor service delivery, and for strengthened data analysis and dissemination.

The training component of the KnowVAWdata Initiative continues to build cadres of data-savvy stakeholders. currently there are two (2) individuals from Vanuatu who will be graduating in the first cohort of the KnowVAWdata course and six (6) are enrolled in the second roll-out of the course and expected to complete it before mid-2022.

Outcome 6: Women's Movement

Through the Spotlight Initiative the team has intensified SGBV technical support to the eight CSO grantees. The work of the CSOS has focused on community awareness raising using popular media and methods such as art, drama, film, and community storytelling traditions. They delivered community-level services such as counselling, support with women's livelihoods and economic empowerment, and working with communities and its leaders to transform social norms, beliefs, and practices that perpetuate SGBV.

Women's rights local CSO conducted research, interviewing 250 people in Erromango, Tanna, Malekula, Eton and the East Efate, and Malo. The research found that 100% of the respondents have faced some forms of violence in their lifetime and 100% of women living with disability have encountered more than 1 form of violence, including financial and emotional violence. The research has helped the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative to target those who are more vulnerable to violence in their communities.

More than 5,000 women have received small loans through the Spotlight Initiative grants that was allocated to women's circles to boost their livelihoods businesses (SMEs). This initiative has helped in supporting women to have access to small loans that are meant to build women's economic resilience. Women have benefited from the loans and were able to send their children to school, build decent houses, have better nutritious, better access to clean water, and were given more respect within their communities. This economic support to the women is also giving them the power to say no to financial violence in their communities and have become financially independent.



Through small grants, women in Erromango, Tanna, Malekula, Eton and Malo have formed a Community GBV Watchdog Committee. The Committee is tasked with designing a structure for better and safe victim referrals for survivors' support in communities. This GBV Watchdog group is tasked with reporting GBV instantly in the community. Since the formation of the group, there has been a significant increase in women reporting GBV and getting the necessary support, including access to justice. In the same provinces women have also formed a National Women-led Community-Based Protection. This group has developed a protection framework, which defines the vision of a safer community where women are now able to live in dignity, respect and are protected by key community leaders. Further, 55 women have been able to finalize the development of their community victim support and referral structure and survivor support guidelines. They have developed brochures to increase GBV Survivors access to support services.

During the 16 Days of Activism, number of campaigns were carried out in both urban areas and rural settings to raise awareness on the importance of eliminating GBV and the importance of promoting safe societies for women and girls, especially women with disabilities. As a result, 80% of the various communities accessed information through the advocacy and awareness raising program on GBV.

Video advocacy campaign was organized during the 16 Days of Activism featuring prominent male leaders in Vanuatu. The male champions emphasized what Vanuatu men should do to stop violence, individually and collectively. The campaign showcased 18 prominent male champions of change, highlighted the role of men in preventing GBV and promoted positive and healthy behaviours in men. The short videos were shown on VBTC, social media, local cinema at Tana Russet and, at the largest music festival in South Pacific. The key prominent leaders were the Prime Minister Bob Loughman, Leader of the Opposition, Ralph Regenvanu, Malvatumauri President Willie Plasau, Acting Director-General of the Ministry of Justice Johnny Marango, Deputy Director of Police Training College, Snr. Sergeant Laken Ampen, and Dr. Jimmy Obed, a psychiatrist at the Mind Care Clinic. The male champions called on men to break generational violence, assured the public of the Government's commitment to ending VAWG, and educated the public about the serious impact of GBV on mental health. Featuring male champions in the campaigns on EVAWG was important in educating the public that men can also be agents of change in the country through breaking intergenerational gender inequalities.

On November 30th, 2021, a film was launched called Mat Mo Pig (literally mat and pig). The launch was attended by 77 people (25 Male and 52 Females). Notable attendees included Keil Loughman, Vanuatu's Attorney General; Miriam Abel, Department of Health Communications; Celine Bareus, Department of Women's Affairs; Clemency Oliphant, Australian Deputy High Commissioner to Vanuatu; Cathy McWilliam, Australian Second Secretary; and Karen Bell- British High Commissioner to Vanuatu. Mat Mo Pig is the first film that explored the process of bringing a rape case to court and the often traumatizing (and retraumatizing) experience of the survivor who must face her perpetrators and must listen to their stories and denial of guilt in court. The film has been used by



the Ministry of Justice in various workshops with detainees, who were moved by the story and many flash drives have been given out to people with the film on it. The film has also been on YouTube since March 20th, 2022 and has so far had 12,393 views.

The film is giving voice to the story of GBV survivors and their experiences in enduring the traumatizing legal processes and trials while facing the court and the aggressors. The launch of the film educated those who attended the event that VAWG should not be tolerated. The film also encouraged women to leave violent partners who refuse to change, report violence, and use the legal system against the perpetrators. There is already a request from those working in the domestic violence space to use the film in their workspace. Women who have been sexually abused or are at risk of abuse have benefited from seeing the film and knowing they are not alone. Young men now have a better understanding of the consequences of being involved in sexual crimes. The film has helped relevant government institutions to use the film for educating people and for future government policies on EVAWG.

A National Dialogue was organized with 13 traditional male leaders and traditional counsellors to redesign the victim referral systems for survivors of GBV in the community. Involving the chiefs has played very critical role in advancing the initiative's results. Their experiences in solving GBV and Domestic Violence in their communities has set the scene for the peer educators to cultivate what they are already doing into a more collaborative and proactive advocacy to prevent such violence happening.

An awareness raising on GBV was conducted in traditional ceremonies in 12 villages in Efate, Santo, and Sanma Province. This resulted in key community leaders being selected to formulate their GBV Watchdog Groups in these 12 villages. Involving and empowering community leaders in trainings has led to the chiefs giving support for the Spotlight Initiative and encouraging more involvement from the community members.

A Peer Support System for young men and women has been formed. The young men and women who are engaged in the programme were initially unemployed and mostly disadvantaged. Each of them had experienced GBV. The project has provided them with safe space to share their stories and get support on their path to recovering from the trauma of GBV.

A breakfast meeting was organized to celebrate the efforts of the traditional counsellors who have been offering free counselling to the survivors of GBV. For many years, most ni-Vanuatu women and girls have been accessing spiritual / traditional counselling from either religious leaders or other spiritual counsellors. It has worked for many people in saving marriages and relationships and even enabling peaceful environment and resolving domestic conflicts. More than 50% of the referrals have confirmed that the counselling sessions are impacting their lives more positively and that they themselves are more at peace. There are many other positive stories that have been collected which gives the assurance that religious counselling is an effective mechanism for survivor support. Other



survivor support systems are currently being designed by the GBV Community Watchdog Committees with the support of their Peer Educators.

Through the Spotlight Initiative, 11 women graduated as chefs. The training helped the women to learn about the relationship between economic hardship and GBV issues. These issues have been addressed by creating a social enterprise project that addresses the professional development of women affected by GBV through professional culinary skills development, nutrition education, and financial literacy. A Virtual Restaurant was launched at an event. Notable people at the event were guests from the French, Japanese Embassy and two Counsellors from the municipality. The Virtual restaurant will allow the women to sell food and generate income to support their families.

Capacity building trainings were carried out to 224 people (124 female and 100 male) with chiefs, community leaders and members, representing 100 rural communities. These trainings were on GBV prevention and response, Domestic Violence and how to increase women empowerment and leadership in Torba, Sanma, Tafea and Shefa Provinces. Over 2,600 people attended the 3 days public awareness campaigns in Torba, Sanma, Tafea and Shefa. The trainings and the awareness campaigns led to key leaders being able to advance actions on the prevention of VAWG.

Over 60 volunteers have been trained across the Pacific archipelago to “open the dialogue” and help deliver Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) outreach and awareness to communities on GBV. To support this work, an MHPSS Training Manual has been developed, which is the first of its kind to be endorsed officially by the MoH and is currently working on the development of a specific GBV module. The MHPSS volunteers work closely with leaders such as pastors, women leaders, youth leaders, police officers, teachers, and Chiefs, creating an interwoven network of community members in different leadership roles. Together, they provide basic MHPSS services and work closely with the Mind Care team for referral cases.

Focus Group discussions on GBV were conducted and presented the draft module’s content in local churches and in target communities with men and women, as well as youth. The module acts as a training resource for mental health workers and MHPSS volunteers to equip them with knowledge on GBV and the consequences on mental health. It further provides practical tools to support the delivery of appropriate community based MHPSS awareness, outreach, and referrals to GBV service providers.

The mapping of existing SGBV services and referral pathways has been completed through liaising and meetings with the Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Health; Save the Children; Care International; World Vision; Vanuatu Women’s Centre; and Family Protection Unit – Vanuatu Police Force. The process included conducting interviews with the key organizations, identifying focal people for SGBV, referral pathways, locations where they work, and resources. This mapping of existing SGBV services is helping the survivors of SGBV to access quick service and have access to important information.



Over 396 market women vendors were trained in Nguna, Emau, Paunagisu, Epau, Teouma and Mele on GBV, financial literacy, and climate change. The main aim of the training was to enhance the ability of Shefa Women market vendors to sustain their livelihood through making additional income while raising voices, visibility and sharing the best practices. The lives of men and women in Vanuatu are constantly threatened by climate change and disasters. Following the Tropical Cyclone Harold, category 5, which hit Vanuatu in April 2020, and followed by Covid-19 Global Pandemic, the women market vendors are affected by the reduction on the number of tourists visiting the country where all the restaurants have reduced their budget for local food purchase. Enabling women vendors to have capacity building in financial literacy, food safety, GBV and climate change, will also help them to have additional income for sustaining their families.

Rights Holders (“Beneficiaries”)

Indicative numbers	Direct for 2021	Indirect for 2021
Women (18 yrs. and above)	2,192	6,100
Girls (5-17)	680	500
Men (18 yrs. and above)	1,274	2,500
Boys (5-17 yrs.)	522	350
TOTAL	3,511	5,600

Challenges and Mitigating Measures

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, restrictions on movement, country-wide vaccination campaign, suspension of 19 Members of Parliament, and the decision of Government to abolish the Ministry of Justice and Community Services, caused delays in implementation e.g., finalization and roll-out of CSE, GBV SOPs and population and field-based activities for data collection of the DHS/MICS. Further, the continuing travel restrictions and remote delivery of technical support impacted the ability of the regional IPs to accelerate the work at country level; staff movements and the Spotlight strict 18% requirements on PMC compounded delays, pressing on the need for flexibility on staffing costs to each country’s RUNO needs.

Instead work cantered around systems strengthening and capacity building of stakeholders to enhance ownership and long-time sustainability has been particularly impacted. These take time to realize impact, and it largely depends on regional partners to deliver the programme. The coordination and technical capacity of national partners –in terms of availability of human resources



within small governments and CSOs is stretched. In Vanuatu, IPs were also heavily disrupted by Tropical Cyclone Harold, with directives to focus solely on national emergency response for a considerable period of 6 months. Similarly, the slow work planning – due to the complexity of the Spotlight Initiative program and the engagement of regional and national IPs with their own internal bureaucracies – led to delays in disbursement and start of implementation.

The ongoing staff turnover at the Vanuatu Public Service on key government positions challenged delivery in 2021. There are anticipated changes in key ministries including at the Department of Women Affairs, the Department of Health and Department of Education Services as many Government Directors contracts came to an end in December 2021. The orientation and relationship building process of new leaders may slow down implementation of the 6 months carry-over work plan.

Although Vanuatu does not have any COVID-19 community transmission to date, 7 cases were identified and managed in quarantine. As a result of these positive cases, there were times when the government-imposed travel restrictions from/to the island of Efate. These travel restrictions contributed to delays and postponement of some planned activities. It meant that no one was able to fly into the capital from the Islands or from capital to the provinces. It made difficult to work with stakeholders and beneficiaries alike because they could not be physically reached and internet in the provinces to reach them was often not possible. Phone calls made implementation difficult.

Vanuatu is one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world with dances, ceremonies, status and systems of authority, artistic styles, animal, and crop husbandry can vary from island to island, known as that island's 'kastom'. Marriage, death and circumcision ceremonies are very respected in most of Vanuatu's communities and whenever these ceremonies took place, planned activities were either cancelled or postponed as the whole community will be engaged in these important ceremonies. For example, on the island of Pentecost, if there is a death in the community, that community will be in mourning for 100 days before an activity can take place in the community. On the island of Tanna, circumcision of young boys usually takes place during the months of May to August when yams are harvested and during the planting session. Therefore, members of the communities on Tanna will be busy preparing for these important ceremonies and therefore this impact on the implementation of planned activities. On Efate Island, a marriage ceremony will last for two weeks, and this has also contributed to delays or postponement of planned activities.

From lessons learned in 2021, provincial child protection and youth and sports officers decided that they will be meeting with their community trainers and agree on the implementation schedule prior to mid of February after the schools starts and to work with the area secretary, the community council, and churches on the year program to insert the child protection program in their yearly work plan for 2022.

Organizing logistical arrangements for implementation of activities has also been a challenge encountered by provincial Child Protection Officers, Youth and Sport Officers due to a lot of

workloads. There were times when an activity was planned and then postponed or cancelled at the last minute as the designated provincial officers were directed to take on other responsibilities as may be directed by their immediate supervisors based on directives from the responsible Minister. However, during a recent TOT training on Malekula, a national Youth Officer was tasked with the responsibility to coordinate all logistical arrangements which resulted in a very successful outcome. Therefore, based on this experience, MYDS has planned to designate the responsibility of organizing logistical arrangements to certain officers especially for large events which will involve a high number of people and require a lot of travel arrangements.

Keeping good records of completed activities, completing accurate narrative and financial reports after completion of planned activities is also a challenge for MYDS, especially if the responsibility is shared among national and provincial officers and community trainers which contributed to delayed submission of financial reports which led to postponement of planned activities.

Delays as reported above also impacted the finalization of the updated national child online protection strategy, which was required to inform the national objectives for the youth engagement activities. The partnership with Vanuatu IGF was therefore not finalized until quarter 3 2021, however the partnership is now based on the Vanuatu national policy and action plan, which ensures that all activities to be implemented are part of the national strategy and in line with what all other partners in the working group are implementing. This will ensure greater accountability and sustainability of the programme beyond Spotlight, so it was necessary to not proceed with implementation of activities before these national documents were available.

Some of the grassroots grantees have very minimal technical and operational capacity. It requires constant monitoring and technical support. This sometimes face challenges in terms of compliance with UN requirements and procedures and robust programming practices. Some of the grantees are implementing projects in remote areas without access to networks. These challenges entailed intense constant and close support to the grassroots CSOs to ensure that the activities are implemented on time and as planned.

The Vanuatu Women's' Centre is the primary provider of GBV services in Vanuatu, and as such is a key stakeholder in many GBV initiatives. As the primary service provider, and a relatively small NGO, VWC management is constantly stretched thin and securing its participation in group workshopping/brainstorming activities proved difficult. Likewise, key government stakeholders NDMO and DWA proved difficult to engage with due to conflicting priorities including the TC Harold response and recovery, International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, COVID-19 pandemic management, and the validation/launching process for Provincial-level Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) Taskforces. To resolve this challenge, the duration for stakeholder consultation was extended and an individual consultation approach was adopted, which was successful in mitigating these challenges to enable sufficient participation. The team also drew from existing reports and findings from VWC published during this period which were highly pertinent to the GBViE focus.



The Spotlight team has closely partnered with DoL and WVV in the development and roll-out of Famili I Redi workshops. While this led to a significantly stronger workshop and programme than UN team could develop alone, it required longer preparatory timeframes to allow for sufficient stakeholder engagement and collaborative design with WVV, as well as expansion of initial concept from workshops to be exclusively GBV-focused to include a more holistic, gender-transformative scope which includes other considerations in the context of labour migration. Though this required more consultation and co-development time, the resulting product of Famili i Redi is vastly strengthened as a result and has been well-received by a broad consortium of stakeholders at country level as fit-for-purpose and contextually appropriate.

Lessons Learned and New Opportunities

a) Lessons Learned

Several technical lessons were learnt during last year across different outcome areas of the programme. In the prevention space to accelerate implementation and results in Comprehensive Sexuality Education, the support to Vanuatu's leadership in defining its institutional structures has been critical. Significant ownership has been achieved and progress made to accelerate the work following the establishment of the National and Provincial CSE committees, placing dedicated staff to lead CSE work in the Ministry of Education and Training, and CSOs. This has enabled political commitment and keen interest to shift institutional and public attitudes towards young people's access to CSE. The recent fast customization of global CSE guidance in Vanuatu demonstrates a level of openness to what works and how. The Spotlight Initiative will continue to galvanize this opportunity and eagerness of to intensify advocacy among the political leadership and undertake capacity building of institutions and networks such as youth institutions, councils, and CSOs as champions of CSE work.

After completion of community leaders' workshops in 2021, the programme recognized that further engagement was required directly with provincial officers, trainers, and community facilitators to ensure the implementation strategy was locally informed and designed. Therefore, from October to December 2021, further trainings were organized in Tafea, Shefa, Torba and Malampa which ensured that the implementation strategy is responsive to the reality. Provincial officers and trainers were also encouraged to work with families during the outreach and set realistic goals that will have impact in their life for example using positive discipline, have family consultation and devotional meetings after dinner and to follow up during home visits. Furthermore, trainers were also encouraged to organize additional activities such sports, cooking lesson, and other activities that were requested by the communities to engage strongly in the community session each week.

A key lesson learned by in the development and roll-out of the Famili I Redi workshops was the benefit of integrating GBV messaging with other priority topics, rather than delivering highly specialised, GBV-exclusive sessions. By incorporating GBV into an array of other priority topics for couples, such as a general introduction to overseas work, practical tools for managing stress and making good decisions, nutrition, family financial management, and how to save for specific goals,



Famili i Redi participants were more receptive to conversations about GBV as interconnected to these themes, and were more conducive to integration of diverse drivers, stressors and tools for non-violent communication and action across distinct themes. This more holistic approach has provided participants with an array of practical tools conducive to relationships without violence, and particularly increased understanding and prevention of emotional and financial violence.

Additionally, the decision to adapt the audience of Famili i Redi from exclusively men and boys to an intimate-partner setting was strategic and effective for the local context. Vanuatu is a society strongly delineated across gender lines, particularly in the distribution of domestic roles. By providing an educational environment for intimate partners to work jointly on tasks focused on planning for the future, identifying common priorities and articulating the changes in one another's roles in the family unit during labour migration, Famili i Redi provides an opportunity for partners to undertake collaborative decision-making and consider their individual and shared journeys for the coming months and years. In addition to reaching almost double the number of participants originally targeted for this activity, feedback collected from Famili i Redi participants 2-3 months following their participation in the workshop, has confirmed the value this approach: When 70% of participants can directly attribute participation in this workshop to improvement in their relationship with their partner, the potential for GBV prevention education to transform gender dynamics and inequitable power relations in the family unit is significant.

An additional lesson learned is the benefit of working with a civil society partner with strong a community-based approach, as the team experienced in co-developing Famili i Redi with WVV. This approach allowed to learn from WVV's practical experience in conducting violence-related sessions at the community level and then build on these localised approaches with high levels of technical expertise from Spotlight's own understanding of global best practice regarding GBV prevention.

In the service delivery area, the Spotlight programme team learnt the importance of understanding the role of the health system and how each health care worker can respond appropriately to SGBV survivors has been a fundamental and positive shift resulting from the development of the clinical SGBV SOPs. The engagement over time with the core GBV team in the health sector has resulted in shifts within MOH departments, e.g., psychiatry, obstetrics/gynaecology, and emergency room staff, as there is understanding of internal referral processes that need to change, as well as what support services are available in communities to refer survivors to. Key senior clinicians have been mentored in the latest global clinical guidelines and curriculum. This local knowledge will ensure sustainability, rollout of the GBV SOPs to all health facilities and training of the relevant health staff workforce on GBV case management and response in 2022.

Government's understanding, and ownership of the GBV data collection, management and analysis work is crucial for its implementation and ensuring GBV and statistical methodological requirements are met when data. In Vanuatu, the leaders in this space were recognized as the DWA, VWC and the NSO. Given the complexity and timeframe of Spotlight design process did not allow for advocacy and a consultative process, in 2021, RUNOs and its Implementing Partners, SPC and the

UoM/Nossal, focused on creating awareness and building the understanding of the Department of Women Affairs on gaining higher political and technical leadership for the programme. This resulted in the acceptance and leadership of the Department of Women Affairs to coordinate and chair the Administrative Data Mechanism responsible for overseeing development, harmonization, and linkages of Administrative Data Systems with attendant training. In addition, the DWA, also championed and coordinated the training of stakeholders in Administrative Data systems and collection of prevalence data, as well as ensuring its linkages with the multi-sectoral service delivery.

An important lesson from implementing work under pillar 6 is that CSO, women's rights and feminist movement are valuable resource and partners in implementing transformative initiatives on sensitive gender equality issues and on SGBV and IPV. The feminist and women's rights organizations in Vanuatu crossed many barriers to get high level political buy-in and commitment on SGBV/PV through adoption of radical and persuasive mechanisms.

Capacity-building is critical for enhancing knowledge of the risk factors and impact of violence on women as well as for addressing myths and stereotypes. One of the components of the projects was on the training of project staff, volunteers, and peer-educators to fast-track the implementation of the projects. The training ensured that staff were gender-sensitive in their approach to addressing the rights and needs of survivors. The trainings of community members also helped at changing the attitudes and behaviours towards survivors of violence by addressing bias, stigma and the perception and treatment of violence as a private matter.

Providing justice in cases of violence against women is very crucial and must be guaranteed under the development of policies such as the Victims Charter that will ensure the victims of violence seek civil damages from the perpetrator for infliction of violence, and in some circumstances, from the police or other actors who should have prevented the violence but failed to do.

The involvement of multiple stakeholders in the development of the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) modules was an important lesson. This involved regular communications with stakeholders to include the various inputs into the GBV module and weekly refresher training sessions for MHPSS volunteers on GBV and basic MHPSS skills.

Service mapping is crucial and the first step to establishing an effective referral pathway. Detailed information about the services available and establishing referral protocols is required to adequately inform survivors about all their options during the case management process. The mapping of current GBV mental health services and referral pathways with government and civil society stakeholders was important in providing the availability, the locations of services for the survivors of GBV.

b) New Opportunities

The commitment of the Director of Women Affairs, who is enthusiastic and passionate to coordinate ERAW work including the Spotlight Initiative agreed to offer her leadership to coordinate and Chair



the Multisectoral Committee on GBV Administrative Data Systems. The Spotlight team will continue to galvanize the opportunity of the new Director to mobilize actors not only for Administrative Data systems but also to accelerate the roll-out of in and out of school CSE work, and roll-out of GBV SOPs. Through her leadership, the team will pursue stronger collaborations with the Pacific Partnerships to expand case management and referral systems through the Multi-sectoral Service Delivery protocols and strengthen coordination and technical coherence of the two major programmes on EVAW/G.

The official launch of the GBV Clinical SOPs, RMNCAH policy, and HFRSA provides the policy frameworks and evidence base for scaling up and expanding integrated GBV and SRH service provision to vulnerable populations in remote villages and outer islands of Vanuatu. The Minister of Health, Hon. Silas Bule firmly believes in the role of the health sector, in addressing VAW/G. During the official launch of the GBV SOP, HFRA and the RMNCAH policy, he said “When we have 60% of ni-Vanuatu women and girls admitting to experiencing physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime by the hands of their partners, it is unacceptable. Healthcare providers and health systems have a critical role in supporting women, and in minimizing the impact of violence and preventing violence because they are often women’s first point of professional contact.”

The launch of the updated National Gender Equality Policy which reflects the Spotlight outcomes in its implementation plan provides the programme with a better opportunity to advocate for resources and integration of its interventions into government plans to ensure sustainability beyond the programme period.

The Parenting Support Program which will be rolled out in 2022 by MOET and Save the Children Australia will complement and further expand the community reach of the Spotlight activities as the objectives and planned outcomes include ending violence and are targeting a similar audience. Therefore, discussions have taken place in 2021 and will continue in 2022 on how best to coordinate implementation of planned activities especially when the two programmes are rolled out in the same provinces and islands to achieve maximum benefits for parents, caregivers, community leaders, teachers etc.

New opportunities which have emerged during the reporting period include strengthening the sustainability of GBV Prevention workshops for labour migrants through tripartite partnership with DoL and WVV during the development and implementation of Famili i Redi. This has allowed effective GBV messaging to reach a key demographic who risk being missed by other interventions due to their mobility. This partnership has garnered significant endorsement from DoL as well as positive attention from key in-country stakeholders, including DFAT, which has contributed to a commitment by all partners to work towards expanded reach and scaling-up of Famili i Redi – including actively seeking diversified funding. DoL has articulated a strong desire for Famili i Redi workshops to be expanded to reach all of Vanuatu’s provinces, as well as reaching a higher percentage of workers going overseas. There is also scope to build on the Famili i Redi content to



better target female labour mobility participants, and to develop a reintegration workshop, in order to support labour mobility participants and their partners at all stages in the labour mobility cycle.

Another new opportunity which was not initially anticipated was Spotlight's team's participation in NDMO's event for the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction in Luganville, Espiritu Santo. The Team was invited to host an event on the main stage and used the opportunity to increase the focus on vulnerable groups in times of disaster, with emphasis on GBViE. The Spotlight Team organized a panel discussion entitled "Sef Ples Blong Yumi Evriwan/Safe Place for All of Us: How to ensure evacuation centres are safe for women, people with disabilities, and children." Panellists included representatives from the Vanuatu Disability Promotion & Advocacy Association (VDPA), Department of Women's Affairs (DWA), Save the Children Vanuatu, and Vanuatu Ministry of Justice and Community Services (MOJCS). In addition, a booth was staffed during the three-day event, collecting input from attendees regarding how to ensure that evacuation centres are safe for women, children, and people with disabilities. The ideas collected during this time informed the development of the SOPs on GBV in Evacuation Centres being developed by NDMO through the Spotlight Initiative. An opportunity has also developed to link these SOPs with a new DFAT-funded project which seeks to continue and expand this work at country level. This project, entitled "Sef Ples Blong Yumi" (Our Safe Place), will enable NDMO with support from the UN to work together to update all of Vanuatu's Evacuation Centre Management Guidelines, and the GBViE SOP template developed through the Initiative to be incorporated into the guidelines to ensure that gender and GBV are mainstreamed throughout all stages of evacuation centre management. Opportunities have also arisen to align the GBViE SOP template for Evacuation Centres developed through the Spotlight Initiative with multi-service delivery protocols (MSDPs) being developed by DWA through the Pacific Partnership. This will ensure a standard, harmonised multisectoral approach preventing duplication and strengthening transformative approaches integral to UN reform and aligned with national priorities.

The Spotlight team will continue to galvanize the opportunity of scaling up the work of the CSOs grantees under Pillar 6 to create community awareness raising on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence using a popular media and methods such as art, drama, film, and community story telling traditions, community level provisions of services including counselling, strengthening women's livelihoods and economic empowerment, and working with communities and community leaders to address social norms, beliefs and practices that perpetuate and condone Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

New opportunities that have emerged is the need to extend some of the existing programmes and activities to other provinces to train local Village Health Workers and community leaders in the GBV/MHPSS module to become MHPSS volunteers on the ground using the training manual and resources, with trainers from the Mind Care Team. This would support local capacity in communities and make a clear pathway for the sustainability of the activities beyond the Spotlight Initiative programme.

Another new opportunity is to work with the Office of the Public Prosecutor to continue with the development of the Victims Charter, support the plan to appoint members of the National Victims Support Coordination Committee and the development of a Victim Support Strategy which is being championed by the Public Prosecutor and to be adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Innovative, Promising or Good Practices

The development of the GBV Clinical response SOPs customized to the local context of Vanuatu provided the basis for the health systems approach to building the capacity of health workers and related service providers on GBV clinical response and to mobilize resources to equip health facilities to become “service ready” to respond to VAW/G including sexual gender-based violence. Currently, 82% of health facilities across Vanuatu lack staff trained to provide SGBV clinical response services, and none of the facilities is fully SGBV ‘service ready’. The SOP also provides the basis for strengthening administrative data collection and quality service delivery by improving monitoring of quality of services provided to victims of GBV including sexual violence. A country-wide network of key clinicians who are responding to GBV will showcase and share lessons learned, planned for 2022.

Vanuatu’s Famili i Redi program was submitted as an “Innovative Practice” in the previous reporting period, under the program’s working title of “Butterfly Effect”. As the program has significantly evolved since then, updated information is provided based on developments during the current reporting period.

Co-developed and co-implemented by the Republic of Vanuatu Department of Labour and Employment Services (DoL), the UN and World Vision Vanuatu (WVV), Famili i Redi is a labour mobility pre-departure workshop focused on establishing and sustaining healthy family relationships throughout the labour migration cycle. The social impacts of labour mobility, and especially the strain it faces on couples and families which can lead to violence, is widely recognised as a problem in Vanuatu. By providing a forum in which both prospective labour migrants and their intimate partners can become aware of the challenges they may face, plan communication and stress management strategies jointly, and agree on financial spending and savings plans, Famili i Redi provides concrete strategies, tools and skills for couples to anticipate the changes incited by labour migration and maintain healthy, gender-transformative relationships before, during, and after the overseas work period, ultimately resulting in a reduction of violence. Famili i Redi’s core curriculum focuses on emotional intelligence, understanding stress, anticipating consequences and positive decision-making as levers to prevent violence. The approach is informed by the experiences of ni-Vanuatu former seasonal workers, the cultural context of Vanuatu, and global best practice.

In emphasising labour migration as a family journey, rather than an individual journey, Famili i Redi supports the proliferation of gender-transformative skills and strategies across international frontiers: Departing labour migrants take these new insights abroad to host countries, whilst partners

remaining in Vanuatu return to their communities empowered with increased knowledge, skills and resilience which can then be shared or modelled at the community level.

This innovative workshop is informed by global guidance such as “What Works to Prevent GBV” and other research on family-based interventions through the lens of a “do no harm” approach, as well as reports from Vanuatu and the Pacific about the experiences of survivors of violence. The critical foundational concepts of what constitutes violence are reinforced by practical and concrete skills that can disrupt escalations towards violence before they take place. The strength of Famili i Redi is the range of contextually appropriate skills and tools provided to participants which focus on improving communication and empathy, planning for the future, and preventing violence -with time provided for couples to plan which strategies they will use together during the overseas work period.

The workshop also details clearly defined referral pathways that can be accessed by labour migrants and their partners, regardless of gender, both in Vanuatu and abroad. This is critical to ensuring that nobody is left behind in understanding what services are available to survivors of violence: Due to their mobility, labour migrants are sometimes at increased risk of not knowing what, if any, services are available in the context of GBV response, and in Vanuatu, services do exist but awareness of how they operate is not always clear for people who might live in remote or rural communities, have limited access to information, or might have false assumptions about such services based on gossip or misinformation. All facilitators undertake mandatory training on safe response to disclosures of violence, including survivor-cantered referral to services in Vanuatu and abroad.

The draft curriculum for Famili i Redi was tested in March 2021 with former labour migrants, who provided feedback based on lived experience. The curriculum was refined, reviewed by GBV specialists in WVV and IOM country offices, and then at the regional and global levels of IOM, to confirm consistency with global best practice. This was then circulated to the Spotlight Initiative Civil Society National Reference Group, the Pacific Labour Mobility Workers’ Support Working Group, the DoL, DWA, VWC and other relevant stakeholders for critical feedback in advance of the Stakeholder Validation Workshop on 4 June 2021. A pilot took place with a local community comprised of many former labour migrants from 7-11 June 2021, where feedback was again actively solicited. The curriculum was then refined and finalised in August 2021. The final curriculum has a high level of applicability to other labour mobility contexts, with strong potential for expansion, provided sufficient localisation is undertaken to benefit other contexts.

Throughout 2021, 10 Famili i Redi workshops were conducted, 3 of which were fully funded by the Spotlight Initiative and the remainder partially funded. By the end of the reporting period, Famili i Redi has successfully reached a total of 375 participants who attended at least one day of the workshop (170 female and 205 male), with 335 attending at least 4 out of the 5 days. This has significantly exceeded the target for this activity, which was to reach 200 men and boys.

Pre- and post- tests administered during the workshops indicate promising results, with 100% of participants reporting that they know the 5 forms of violence (an increase of 60% from before the workshop), and 94% of workshop participants knowing at least three service providers they can call for support while they or their partner is away (an increase of 33% from before the workshop).

In the last two months of 2021, follow-up surveys and interviews were conducted with a group of former Famili i Redi participants, scheduled 2-3 months after they attended the workshop. Preliminary analysis of the data indicates that workshop impacts are lasting, with 70% indicating that their relationship with their partner had significantly improved after the workshop, 75% indicating that they understood significantly more about the different forms of violence than before, and 70% indicating that they had already used the stress management strategies taught during the workshop – strategies which support constructive decision-making and help reduce the risk of violence.

Famili i Redi has benefited from unprecedented support at the country level, and its strong tripartite partnership model that has allowed both UN and WVV to contribute funding towards common objectives, expanding the reach and impact of the initiative, whilst DoL has been an emphatic advocate to in-country donors about the need for diversified funding to support the continuation and expansion of Famili i Redi into the future. DoL is currently undergoing an expansion of its training unit, and agreement has been established in principle for the Spotlight Initiative to support the institutionalisation of Famili i Redi within DoL.

Pre- and post-tests are undertaken with workshop participants to measure impact of the workshop in increasing understanding of the workshop themes. Individual interviews and surveys were also administered with a sub-set workshop participants 2-3 months after participation to seek insights into whether the tools, skills and strategies taught during Famili i Redi have been used since the workshop, the utility/applicability of these following the workshop, and the perceived impact of these on the partners' relationship. All tools have been developed and implemented in compliance with best practice for ethical and survivor-centred data collection practices and do not seek to screen for GBV prevalence in any form.

Women's rights organizations crossed barriers and achieved high level political buy in from the top leadership. Featuring prominent leaders and members of the community in campaigns on ending violence against women and girls is critical. When prominent leaders are used as male champions in the Spotlight Initiative, they can speak to the citizens on the roles and collective responsibilities of everyone in ending violence against women and girls. Such campaigns are important in highlighting the role of men in preventing Gender-Based Violence and in creating a positive and healthy behaviours in men.

Mobilizing local female community members to form secret watchdog groups that monitors and reports GBV to the authority increases the reporting and recording of violence against women in communities. With the limited services and limited awareness, community meetings and awareness

creating is used in passing information on violence against women and girls. As a result, they break the taboo about speaking on the issues related to violence against women and girls.

Including youth in educating young people in communities about GBV and its impact using drama and film is key. This gives voice to the story of Sexual Gender-Based Violence to survivors and their experiences in enduring the traumatizing legal processes and trials. The youth can understand the consequences of engaging in SGBV and its impact as demonstrated through the drama play and the film. The use of films and drama tend to educate those who attend such events that violence against women and girls should not be tolerated, help relevant government institutions to use the film for educating people, and for supporting future government policies on ending violence against women and girls.

Involving the existing model of community, religious and traditional counsellors ensure the continuation of support to the survivors of GBV beyond the project. Through the Spotlight Initiative, women can access counsellors within their communities, and this has worked well for the communities.

It is vital to integrate awareness-raising, minimum standards, and resources for combating violence against women. Civil society, including non-governmental organizations, has amassed considerable experience and expertise and should have the opportunity to provide training to local communities.

Communications and Visibility

a) Overview

Launched on 26 October 2020 and as soon as available, the first deliverables and results for 2021 were reflected in media and communications, mostly from the second half of the year. In 2021, the programme consolidated its brand and profile in the country, while visibility and media uptake steadily increased throughout the year both among the national and media press, and through the UN online and social media channels.

Throughout the course of the year, the team launched 6 press releases and 1 op-ed covering work on EVAWG and Spotlight Initiative's contribution, all timely picked up by Vanuatu's national press, and beyond, with a reach of over 100,000 readers. The press releases were also sent to regional media such as Scoop New Zealand and Pacific Islands News Association. UN social media accounts were used extensively to promote the programme with over 20 social media posts and a social media engagement rising steadily with a reach of over 30,000.

Progress has been made in strengthening relationships and involving the EU Delegation to the Pacific in communication and visibility opportunities. In 2021, the Delegation was involved in the preparation of inputs for press releases as well as recorded statements for the launch of different initiatives such as the launch of Vanuatu's Strategy and Implementation Plan and guidance for health workers for the clinical management of rape, sexual violence, and Gender-Based Violence.



Besides covering impact stories on EVAWG, Spotlight leveraged channels through press and social media to profile and promote the work of Vanuatu's EVAWG Civil Society Reference Group, as a key pillar in strengthening national capacity to address gender-based violence and promote equality.

In 2021, the Programme communications and visibility plan focused on the Programme branding and recognition, and the dissemination of initial success stories from implementing partners. Partners have been supported in branding events, trainings and workshops, launches, movies, videos, and social media. National media and press have also shown interest towards the Programme, and now consider it a reliable and authoritative source of data and information on EVAWG. Brand recognition in the country and that of its donors has increased and the programme is now a highly esteemed partner in EVAWG.

As part of the Programme, we have been monitoring the media coverage of VAWG in the country and have identified areas for improvement on how violence is addressed, how victims/survivors are depicted, and cultural bias that prevent the coverage of the news in an ethical and sensitive manner, that has the protection of the victim at its core. This area will be addressed in 2022 with a training for journalists, editors and media experts focused on gender, discrimination, ethics, and human rights.

b) Messages

Amidst a global pandemic exacerbated by natural disasters, and the COP26 global appointment, most of the key messages have looked at GVB as the shadow-pandemic and how compounding factors increase existing GBV, inequalities, and how equality and inclusion are the way forward. Key messages included:

- Any meaningful national and international effort aiming to address climate change, emergency response and resilience in the Pacific region, must recognise the critical role of integrating gender considerations and analysis, and advocate for equitable participation of men and women in planning and implementation of resilience-building activities.
- What Covid-19 has taught us is that no one can end a global pandemic alone. Violence against women and girls is a global pandemic in its own right, for our communities to develop the antibodies needed to eliminate GBV and create the environment where women and girls can thrive, we need to continue working together every single day, supporting our communities and injecting change with our words and actions, leaving no room for the virus of inequality to survive.
- No climate justice without gender justice, ending violence against women and girls is a must for the survival of Small Island Developing States and their communities.
- The new Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health policy, strategy and implementation plan of the Ministry of Health, and informed system and capacity development and investment at national, provincial and facility levels.
- Vanuatu's new Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health policy, (RMNCAH) is inclusive and will positively change the trajectory of the lives of women and adolescent girls so they may live lives of dignity, with the autonomy to make informed decisions



about sexual and reproductive health, birth-spacing, and health-protecting behaviours for families and individuals.

c) Media and visibility events

Despite the restrictions imposed by Covid-19, with Vanuatu borders closed for the past two years, and natural calamities, Spotlight Initiative managed to contribute to key events, including:

Vanuatu's Health Ministry official launch of three documents to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights, as key components of the National Sustainable Development Plan and Health Sector Strategy (3rd December 20221). One of the documents, the "Strategy and Implementation Plan and guidance for health workers for the clinical management of rape, sexual violence and Gender-Based Violence" was supported by the Spotlight Initiative. The event was opened by Honourable Silas Bule, Minister of Health and attended by Vanuatu's Government highest institutions, as well as Australia's Deputy High Commissioner H.E Clemency Oliphant, with a virtual intervention of Sujiro Seam, Ambassador of the European Union for the Pacific. The event was covered extensively by the national press and social media, including:

<https://pacific.unfpa.org/en/news/vanuatous-health-ministry-launched-three-documents-promote-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and>
https://twitter.com/UN_Pasifika/status/1445936431919034373/photo/1
<https://twitter.com/UNFPAPacific/status/1445209036853415939/photo/1>
<https://www.facebook.com/427599067359937/photos/a.427601310693046/4258122410974231/>
<https://www.facebook.com/427599067359937/photos/a.538225162963993/4244323332354139/>
https://www.dailypost.vu/news/collecting-analysing-and-understanding-gender-based-violencedata/article_0c1964a7-90b5-5d0b-b494-9d2a1e3a541b.html

During the **International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction**, Spotlight Initiative joined in the promotion of a panel discussion on ways to make evacuation centres safer for women, people with disabilities, and children.

2021 Annual Regional Family Life Education / Comprehensive Sexuality Education Workshop. The event brought together government and CSO representatives from six Pacific Island countries to share and learn on the sensitive topic of Family Life Education/Comprehensive Sexuality Education. The event was live streamed on Facebook through the Fiji TV Facebook page, which was viewed by 1,800 users across the region. Recording of the workshop can be viewed here <https://www.facebook.com/fijionetelevision/videos/391409289253405/>

On December 3rd, 2021, ACTIV (Alternative Community Trade in Vanuatu) - a Spotlight Initiative grantee, launched the **Aelan Mama's Cuisine Virtual Restaurant**, <https://aelan.vu/product-category/aelan-mamas-cuisine/>. The launch of the restaurant crowned the year-long training of eleven women in food preparation, menu planning, and the sustainable management of a small business. Learning a profession and financial independence can help make women more resilient and move away from domestic and intimate partner violence. The online restaurant is a platform for



Port-Vila residents to enjoy locally sourced home-made food, but most of all for women to grow in their leadership role while securing income for their families.

Famili i Redi Workshop series - Labour mobility schemes such as seasonal work in Australia and New Zealand provide several benefits to both migrants and their families, however, they are also exposed to a host of vulnerabilities such as changing of roles, family dynamics, stress caused by long distance relationships, all of which may increase women's vulnerability. To address these vulnerabilities, Spotlight Initiative supported IOM *Famili i Redi* workshops to prepare labour migrants and their families as they get ready to go overseas for work. To learn more <https://www.facebook.com/iomvanuatuoffice/videos/959297171348537> and https://www.dailypost.vu/news/helping-vanuatu-s-families-get-ready-for-overseas-work/article_9be54eac-c977-11eb-b390-6b273534e332.html. The workshop series led also to series of videos and interviews with key stakeholders, delivered by the civil society partner World Vision (DFAT/AHP Funding) such as:

- Australian Humanitarian Partnership: Famili i Redi - supporting Vanuatu's COVID-19 recovery through the benefits of labour mobility https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZgl_AwsJYo
- Australian Humanitarian Partnership: Famili i Redi, Interview with Dr Jessie Connell about Famili i Redi: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMDBEgOCVV0>
- Australian Humanitarian Partnership: Famili i Redi, Interview with Kendra Gates Derousseau, World Vision Vanuatu <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ec3kQDC6jIE>
- Australian Humanitarian Partnership: Famili i Redi, Interview with Nerita, Former labour migrant and Famili i Redi facilitator <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLeIhyyYdw>
- Australian Humanitarian Partnership: Famili i Redi, Kalswaki and Fiona share their story <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4uHZIm6xgHU>
- Australian Humanitarian Partnership: Famili i Redi, Interview with Clemency Oliphant, Australian High Commission Vanuatu <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=373r-CT3Xk4>

Safe Evacuation Centres Consultation - In the lead-up to the 2021 edition of 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence and with the support of the Spotlight Initiative, and Department of Women's Affairs to carry out consultations with stakeholders and community leaders in both Shefa and Sanma Provinces, gathering ideas on how to make evacuation centres safer for women, children, and people with disabilities, and mapping out the role everyone can play in preventing and responding to violence among evacuated populations.

Training of Trainers Workshop on the Community Facilitation Package - Spotlight coordinated a training of trainers on the Community Facilitation Package (CFP) to train provincial and community trainers of the provinces of Tafea, Shefa, Malampa, Sanma and Penama. The training aimed to strengthen participants' understanding, capacity in their roles and responsibilities to protect children in their community, including how to deal with and report violence against children and child abuse.

A breakfast meeting was organized to celebrate the efforts of the traditional Counsellors who have been offering free counselling to the survivors of GBV as part of the Spotlight Initiative. For many

years, most ni-Vanuatu women and girls have been accessing spiritual / traditional counselling from either religious leaders or other spiritual counsellors and more than 50% of the referrals have confirmed that the counselling sessions are positively impacting their lives more. and that they themselves are more at peace. There are many other positive stories that have been collected which gives the assurance that religious counselling is an effective mechanism for survivor support. Other survivor support systems are currently being designed by the GBV Community Watchdog Committees with the support of their Peer Educators.

d) Campaigns

Vanuatu's implementing partners adopted different campaign strategies, creating culturally sensitive and inclusive initiatives, including:

'Journey to change – Vanuatu Storian on GBV', a series of interviews with the head of the *Crime Prevention Unit* and five *Authorized Persons* about intimate partner violence. The project focused on storytelling or Storian or Talanoa, which is an embedded part of the Pacific and Indigenous cultures and is generally used as an alternative & effective tool for raising GBV awareness and promoting change. This project focused on the "Journey to change", to show the path to change and its challenges, based on the stories of those on the path: survivors, health and justice officers, community helpers, organizations, and reformed offenders.

As part of 16 Days of Activism, Spotlight Initiative implementing partner Sista and [HCDI](#) (Human Capacity Development International) launched **'Rod Blong Jenis'** (Male Champions of Change) a video and social media advocacy campaign featuring male champions of change run by an all-female production crew under the age of 30 developed the videos for the campaign. The campaign ran along a second social media campaign, Yu Save Mekem wan Jenis (You can make a change), where women across generations shared what they need from men to be part of the [#JourneyToChange](#) and to also encourage other women to not be afraid to speak up.

The campaign was presented also to the Public Works Department and Ministry of Infrastructure, and led to a youth debate with the Ministry of Health and Vanuatu Family Health Association, and also reached national Radio Vanuatu to discuss the campaign in French with the French Consular on Dec 2nd: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10160010103669236&set=a.10150927975904236> .

To promote the renewed EVAWG Civil Society Reference Group (CSRG) and its commitment to ending GBV and promoting equality, Spotlight launched a social media campaign to brand the group and profile its members in their role in EVAWG, which received unprecedented engagement among Vanuatu's social media community.

a) Human interest stories:

During the reporting period several stories were published on the Spotlight Initiative and other partners' websites, including:





Innocent Until Proven Guilty What it means for survivors of rape. 'Mat Mo Pig' (literally mat and pig), the new film production from Spotlight Initiative grantee Wan Smolbag Theatre, is giving voice to rape survivors by exploring their traumatic experience of the legal process and having to face their aggressors in court. <https://www.spotlightinitiative.org/news/innocent-until-proven-guilty-what-does-it-mean-survivors-rape>

Out-of-School Comprehensive Sexuality Education (Guidelines) launched in the Pacific: And now to roll out the curriculum in Samoa and Vanuatu.

Research shows that most adolescents lack the knowledge required to make those decisions responsibly, leaving them vulnerable. As part of ongoing support to Pacific Island Countries, UNFPA and its partners, with the support of the Spotlight Initiative, are working with relevant Government Ministries and stakeholders to develop or revise several curricula on Comprehensive Sexuality Education to meet the standards of the 2020 International Technical and Programmatic Guidance on Out-of-School Comprehensive Sexuality Education (Guidelines). Of paramount importance is the contextualisation to address local issues and needs of the target populations. <https://pacific.un.org/en/115365-out-school-comprehensive-sexuality-education-guidelines-launched-pacific-and-now-roll-out>



- **“Rod Blong Jenis” Male Champions of Change**

In Vanuatu, violence against women and girls, and more specifically domestic violence and intimate partner violence are a well-known problem, often seen as a “private issue”. Sista and HCDI organised a video advocacy campaign, entitled “Jenis Hemi Stap Long Han Blong Yu” featuring male leaders talking about what Vanuatu men can and should do to stop the violence, individually and collectively. The campaign was launched in partnership with Malvatumauri Council of Chiefs, the Department of Women’s Affairs, and the Ministry of Justice and Community Services.

<https://www.sista.com.vu/rod-blong-jenis-male-champions-of-change/>



b) Testimonials:

“When we have 60% of ni-Vanuatu women and girls admitting to experiencing physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime by the hands of their partners, it is unacceptable. Healthcare providers and health systems have a critical role in supporting women, and in minimizing the impact



of violence and preventing violence because they are often women's first point of professional contact." ~ Hon. Silas Bule, Minister of Health of Vanuatu

"We must take a stand as a country to break the generational cycle of domestic violence and abuse. Women are equal to men and have the right to live a life without fear and grow up in a family and live in a society that respects and upholds their dignity. And this starts with us men and boys." ~ Hon Bob Loughman Weibur, Prime Minister of Vanuatu

"Vanuatu's National Standard Operating Procedures for the Clinical Management of Rape, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence are a great achievement and illustrate the engagement of Vanuatu's Ministry of Health." ~ Sujiro Seam, Ambassador EU in the Pacific at the launch of the Reproductive, Maternal, Child, New-born, Child, and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) Policy

"This is a great initiative by our Spotlight grantee, Wan Smolbag Theatre. The film covers some key social issues and is a wake-up call to both institutions in charge of ensuring the rights and protection of survivors, and society as a whole, moving away from victim-blaming and stigma, and towards survivor-centred support that help women and girls exercise their rights without having to endure additional suffering during the prosecution." ~ Sanaka Samarasinha, Resident Coordinator, UN in the Pacific at the launch of the film Mat Mo Pig.

"The National Gender Equality Policy (NGEP) needs all our collaborative efforts, coordinating together to support the five strategic areas of the Policy," ~ Rothina Noka, Director, DWA

"To the Australian Government, the European Union, and UNFPA, my Government and I are very grateful for your continued support". ~ Silas Bule, Minister of Health, Vanuatu

c) Photos:



Consultations underway in Sanma province for the GBV in Evacuation Centre SOPs. Picture by: Bethany Boyer-Rechlin



The Famili-I-Redi workshop underway in Vanuatu. The training was designed to address vulnerabilities that arise from labour migrations Picture by: World Vision Vanuatu



*16 Days of activism vigil in Vanuatu Picture by:
Nimarta Khumara*

d) Videos:

Famili I Redi Workshop - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZgl_AwsJYo

Mat Mo Pig - <https://www.facebook.com/WSBTheatre/videos/438827070922712>

Rod Blog Jenis - <https://www.facebook.com/stanapstrong/videos/2116324858536234/>

2021 Annual Regional Family Life Education / Comprehensive Sexuality Education Workshop - <https://www.facebook.com/fijionetelevision/videos/391409289253405/>

Next Steps

Over the next six months, the Spotlight team will focus on key areas of implementation:

- the country-wide roll-out of the CSE revised curriculum for in school years 7, 10,11 and 12 through cascade training undertaken by the trained TOTs.
- finalizing development of the remaining three modules for out of school CSE and start the country-wide roll- out.
- country-wide roll-out of the clinical SGBV SOPs using trained TOTs, who will facilitate cascade trainings to villages and outer-lands to ensure all facilities have capacity to provide GBV services. The Health Facility Readiness Assessment will be used to target and prioritize health facilities and locations for the roll-out.

Ensure that national partners have a strong technical coordination mechanism in place, that inter-sectoral data sharing agreements are in place, and clear recommendations are made on the data gaps and how to address this and that national partners have the capacity to move the work forward.

- Community leaders' training in the provinces of Tafea (1), Shefa (2), Malampa (5), Sanma (2) and Torba (7), conduct KAP survey in selected communities in Tafea and Shefa provinces to evaluate progress so far, and conduct further outreach and community dialogue in the communities of Tafea, Shefa, Malampa, Penama, Sanma and Torba.
- Integrate CFP discussion with young mothers (teenagers) in health centres and children in schools on arts and craft with support of the church scout and the sports development officers from different sport disciplines.



- MYDS is in the process of recruiting provincial youth officers in 2022 and therefore will be including the responsibility to undertake community-based child protection activities in their job descriptions. Once recruited, the provincial youth officers will work closely with the CPOs to conduct training and empowering children and youths while the CPOs will deal with referrals and case management and work with other stakeholders who are working with children and youths such as churches, CSOs, NGOs and other government departments/ministries.
- MYDS also planned to increase its own visibility of the community-based child protection programme by working more closely with the media to report on planned CFP events, provide regular update on the MYDS Facebook page on progress of implementation of activities and work closely with the Vanuatu Daily Post on the news of CFP and the talk back show on Television of Vanuatu and the Radio station FM 98 and 107 on the CFP program. This work can be supported and further expanded by Spotlight communications colleagues. The increasing leadership and ownership shown by the provincial governments will be instrumental in designing the second phase to capitalize on this and expand provincial ownership even further to ensure sustainability of the programme.
- Conduct Famili i Redi workshop and analyse data collected at the end of 2021 during follow-up interviews and surveys with Famili i Redi participants and use learnings from these data to examine any further adjustments required to the content and delivery of Famili i Redi, as necessary.
- Exploring options to expand Famili i Redi. In the event that funding is secured partners intend to expand the geographic scope of the workshops in order to reach departing labour migrants and their intimate partners across all of Vanuatu's provinces.
- Adaptation of this curriculum to develop a Famili i Redi reintegration workshop is also a priority which partners are eager to explore in the near future, in order to support labour migrants and their families across all phases of the labour mobility continuum.
- Work on GBViE Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Evacuation Centre Management will continue in 2022, engaging closely with the NDMO to help facilitate communication and bolster national leadership. The GBViE SOP template being developed will, once endorsed by the NDMO, become a part of the National Evacuation Centre Management Guidelines currently under revision by the NDMO. This review is a key priority under the 2022 NDMO business plan and UN will be working closely with the NDMO's Senior DRM and CCCM officer to integrate the GBViE SOP template into national, provincial and community level evacuation response plans. In early 2022 the NDMO will be supported in seeking review, comment, and endorsement of the GBViE SOP template from key partners including the Department of Women's Affairs.
- Proactive engagement of the CS-NRG and CSOs will continue in order to build a movement and advocacy mechanisms for the UN's work to end VAWG, through regular meetings as outlined in the CS-NRG work plan. UN agencies will be embedding these activities into its regular programming and allocated time and budget.

ANNEXES

Annex A: *Results Framework*

Annex B: *Risk Matrix*

Annex C: *CSO Engagement Report*

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

Annex E: *Annual Work Plan*

