

# **Inventory of United Nations system activities to prevent and eliminate violence against women**

**February 2013**

Prepared by UN Women on the basis of inputs provided by United Nations entities in July 2007, January 2008, September 2008, February 2009, September 2009, February 2010, September 2010, February 2011, February 2012, and February 2013.

The inventory is available electronically at:  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-inventory.htm>

## **INTRODUCTION**

In February 2008, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, launched his Campaign “UNiTE to End Violence against Women”, 2008-2015. Through the Campaign, the Secretary-General is spearheading the accelerated efforts of the United Nations system to address violence against women. The Framework for Action of the Secretary-General’s Campaign identifies five key outcomes to be achieved in all countries by 2015:

- The adoption and enforcement of national legislation in line with international human rights standards
- The adoption and implementation of multi-sectoral national action plans
- Establishment of data collection and analysis systems
- Establishment of national and/or local awareness-raising campaigns
- Systematic efforts to address sexual violence in conflict situations

This inventory gives an overview of past and ongoing activities on violence against women by the entities of the United Nations system, including those which will contribute to the achievement of the five key outcomes of the Secretary-General’s Campaign by 2015. It is compiled by the Division for the Advancement of Women, now part of UN Women, as a contribution to the work of the Task Force on violence against women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. It is intended to further the objective of the Task Force to pursue systematic and timely information exchange among entities of the United Nations system about existing and planned strategies, programmes and activities on violence against women, at global, regional and national level.

The inventory was first issued in July 2007, when departments and offices of the United Nations Secretariat, regional commissions, funds and programmes, specialized agencies, international financial institutions, as well as the International Organization for Migration, provided a baseline of their activities on violence against women. Subsequently, updates to the inventory were compiled in January 2008, September 2008, February 2009, September 2009, February 2010, September 2010, February 2011, and February 2012.

The inventory currently provides information on the activities of 38 UN entities, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and six inter-agency efforts. With regard to each entity, information is provided by the date of its submission, beginning with the baseline of July 2007. Where no information was provided by the entity at the baseline in relation to a particular heading, information is provided as of the first date on which relevant inputs were received.

## **CATEGORIES OF ACTIVITY USED IN THE INVENTORY**

The entities of the United Nations system address violence against women through research and analysis, as well as legal and policy development. They support Member States and other stakeholders in their efforts and provide services and other assistance to victims/survivors of violence, undertake advocacy and awareness-raising activities, implement innovative projects, as well as provide funding to various stakeholders for their activities.

In this inventory information regarding the work of United Nations entities is divided into the following ten categories:

- Inter-agency mechanisms and activities
- International legal and policy development
- Enhanced capacity of UN entity in relation to violence against women
- Support for legislative development
- Support for policy development
- Prevention, including awareness-raising and advocacy
- Protection, support and services for victims/survivors

- Data collection, analysis and research
- Training and capacity-building
- Measures to address sexual violence in conflict situations.

The Annex to the Inventory contains information on each entity/inter-agency mechanism, including:

*Background:* under this heading, the inventory provides a brief overview of the entity's general area of responsibility.

*Policy framework:* under this heading, the inventory provides specific mandates – a resolution or decision, and/or policy statement(s) of an intergovernmental/governing body, or similar mandate that guides the work on violence against women of the respective entity, where these exist. General mandates on violence against women that guide the work of the entities of the United Nations system and which are listed below, are not repeated.

*Area(s) of focus:* under this heading, the inventory highlights the particular area(s) of focus of the entity concerned in regard to violence against women. This may cover particular forms of violence against women (for example domestic violence, or trafficking in women), or the particular contexts/situations where violence against women occurs (for example violence against women in humanitarian settings).

*Bibliography:* under this heading, the inventory lists major publications, including videos and films, on violence against women of the respective entity.

*Address/Websites:* under this heading, the inventory provides the entity's address, as well as a general website address, or links to the entity's specific, dedicated sites or pages on violence against women.

## **PROCESS OF UPDATING THE INVENTORY**

Information regarding each entity will continue to be updated, as appropriate, on a yearly basis, based on information received from United Nations entities.

## **POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ACTIVITIES**

A number of conventions, policy instruments and resolutions guide the work of the United Nations system in eliminating violence against women, some of which are listed below:

- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women defines gender-based violence as violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately. It recognizes that gender-based violence is a form of discrimination that seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on a basis of equality with men (see general recommendation no. 19 (1992)).
- The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993) provides a definition of violence against women which was reaffirmed in the Beijing Platform for Action (1995), critical area of concern on violence against women.
- The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000), provides a definition of trafficking.
- The outcome document of the five-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, adopted at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly in 2000, further expands on measures to eliminate violence against women.

- In the Millennium Declaration, Heads of State and Government resolved to combat all forms of violence against women.
- The United Nations 2005 World Summit (A/RES/60/1) places emphasis on the need to eliminate violence against women.
- Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security emphasizes the need to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, in situations of armed conflict. Security Council resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) and 1889 (2009) specifically address sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations.
- In past years, the General Assembly regularly addressed aspects of violence against women such as: traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (A/RES/54/133); domestic violence against women (A/RES/58/147); crimes against women and girls committed in the name of honour (A/RES/59/165); trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/63/156); all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (A/RES/59/167); violence against women migrant workers (A/RES/62/132); eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations (A/RES/62/134); and the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/RES/61/143, A/RES/62/133, A/RES/63/155, A/RES/64/137, A/RES/65/187, A/RES/67/144).
- Intergovernmental bodies, including the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Statistical Commission and the Human Rights Council, likewise continue to deal with different aspects of violence against women.

Entities of the United Nations system are also guided by bulletins of the Secretary-General, and in particular:

- Bulletin of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13)
- Bulletin of the Secretary-General on promotion of equal treatment of men and women in the Secretariat and prevention of sexual harassment (ST/SGB/253).

## **NOTE ON TERMINOLOGY**

Violence against women, as defined in the 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (A/RES/48/104, 20 December 1993), refers to 'any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life'. This inventory covers work undertaken by the United Nations system on violence against women, whereby the term 'violence against women' is understood to mean any act of gender-based violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately. It does not address gender-based violence suffered by men. The inventory uses the term 'sexual and gender-based violence' where the entity concerned commonly uses this term – this is in particular the case with those working in humanitarian settings. Some entities use the term 'gender-based violence' interchangeably with the term 'violence against women'. The term 'women' is used to cover females of all ages, including girls under the age of 18.

## CONTENTS OF THE INVENTORY

<b>INTER-AGENCY MECHANISMS AND ACTIVITIES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>ENHANCED CAPACITY OF UN ENTITY IN RELATION TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ..</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>SUPPORT FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT.....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>PREVENTION, INCLUDING AWARENESS-RAISING AND ADVOCACY.....</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>PROTECTION, SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR VICTIMS/SURVIVORS.....</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>DATA COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH.....</b>	<b>104</b>
<b>TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING .....</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>MEASURES TO ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS .....</b>	<b>1451</b>
<b>ANNEX 1 .....</b>	<b>1686</b>

## **INTER-AGENCY MECHANISMS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **SECRETARY-GENERAL'S CAMPAIGN "UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, 2008-2015"**

*October 2009 to February 2010*

The Secretary-General's campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" has increased UN system-wide efforts to develop regional and country-level activities in support to Member States and civil society. The campaign's Latin American component was launched in Guatemala City on 25 November 2009, while the African component was launched in Addis Ababa on 30 January 2010. In November 2009, the Secretary-General announced his Network of Men Leaders which will contribute to social mobilization and transformational change to promote a society that is free of violence against women.

*March to September 2010*

UNIFEM, now part of UN Women, continued to support the Secretary-General's UNiTE Campaign, as a member of its High-Level Steering Committee and global working group; as coordinator with UN sister agencies for rolling-out regional campaigns; and through UNIFEM's Say NO—UNiTE Initiative, which recorded over 400,000 actions to end violence against women and supported awareness-raising initiatives in various countries, ranging from the Caribbean, to Tajikistan, and to northern Uganda.

*October 2010-February 2011*

The campaign was successfully rolled out in the Caribbean in October 2010 and in Asia in November 2010, with a launch in the Pacific expected in early 2011. In the Middle East a number of activities are being implemented under the leadership of ESCWA. Regional Secretariats for UNiTE Latin America and Caribbean, UNiTE Africa and UNiTE Asia are implementing regional and national interagency work plans.

At the national level, many Resident Coordinators are leading their country teams in the further development of the campaign's activities at the national level. From Bridgetown to Addis, from Uruguay to Lebanon various campaigning activities focused on building partnerships, raising the visibility of the campaign's concerns and solutions and social mobilization, including concerts, exhibitions, media outreach and expert discussions. In Mexico, UNiTE Latin America organized a concert with performances by Costa Rican singer Debi Nova, Palestinian Hip Hop group G-Town, and Mexican rock singer Pambo. In Uganda, the Department of Peace and Security, with other UN partners, mounted a photo exhibition on violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations.

At regional and national levels, the campaign has engaged in consultations with a large number of civil society organizations in order to develop strategies and campaigning activities.. As a result, UNiTE is being used as an umbrella for activities of civil society and community organizations. For example, in Tajikistan twenty four world champions of the National Federation of Taekwondo and Kickboxing serve as a network of local advocates to prevent violence and discrimination against women and girls. The Federation has already talked to a military unit about violence in the family and the role of men in harmonizing family relations.

The UNiTE Secretariat has developed strategic partnerships with:

- An award winning media campaign *Bell Bajao* (Ring the Bell), developed by Breakthrough, an international organization, involving men and boys to transform public attitudes

about violence against women and girls. The UNiTE Campaign aims to utilize this partnership to further engage members of the Secretary-General's Network of Men Leaders. The UN Secretary-General has recorded a public service announcement as the inaugural "champion" of the Bell Bajao Global campaign and this new partnership that was announced at the Clinton Global Initiative.

- *Together for Girls*, an initiative to end sexual violence against adolescent girls that is comprised of the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, the US Department of State's Office Global Women's Issues, the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNIFEM (part of UN Women), the Nduna Foundation, BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company), and Grupo ABC of Brazil. Partnership efforts focus on three pillars: conducting national surveys on the magnitude and impact of sexual violence, supporting a plan of action at the country level and launching communications and public awareness campaigns. The UNiTE Campaign will aim to link UNiTE's relevant national activities with this global partnership.
- *Religions for Peace*, the largest international coalition of representatives from the world's great religions dedicated to promoting peace, which will focus on the engagement of religious leaders in the Secretary-General's Network of Men Leaders.

The UNiTE campaign continues to work through the Secretary-General's Network of Men Leaders. The Network currently has 15 members and the UNiTE Campaign aims to enlist up to 100 new members by the end of 2011. In August 2010 members of the Network issued a petition to call on the African Union, its regional bodies and Member States to take urgent action to end the endemic violence faced by women and girls across the continent, especially in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Paulo Coelho, Brazilian author, also supports the campaign through several mediums. In an interview in December 2010 he said about the Network: "Men should be more aware of the problems women face...Unfortunately, in our world controlled by men, awareness is too low. Things have to change and what's better for that than the UN, a global, non-profit organization that promotes peace and a better life for human beings. That's why I'm part of this group and again, I'm proud to be part of it."

On 23 November, 2010, during the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the UNiTE Campaign organized two events - *a Breakfast with Secretary-General and the corporate sector* and the *UN Official Observance ceremony*, both attended by the Secretary-General. The preparations were led by the former Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues, now UN Women, which is the Secretariat for the UNiTE Campaign, in close collaboration with DPI, UNFPA, UNiTE Latin America and Caribbean component, UN Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence against Women and UN Women. The focus on the theme *Leadership of the Corporate Sector in Ending Violence against Women and Girls* has provided the UNiTE Campaign with an opportunity to establish a dialogue with corporate leaders about the engagement of the business sector with the campaign.

In December 2011, the UN Federal Credit Union (UNFCU) joined the UNiTE Campaign in its fundraising efforts to achieve the \$100M for the UN Trust Fund and raised a total of over 11,000 USD.

The *Say NO- UNiTE to End Violence against Women* social mobilization platform has recorded more than 1.8 million actions in one year, having a network of nearly 29,000 people on social media and 382 civil society partners.

Former UNIFEM (now part of UN Women) continued to play a key role in the coordination and roll out of the regional chapters of the Secretary-General's UNiTE Campaign in Africa, East and South East Asia, Asia-Pacific and the Caribbean. UNFPA is a key supporter of the SG's Campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and has provided technical and financial support to roll out the Campaign at the regional and country levels.

ECLAC continued participation to the regional inter-agency working group responsible for the regional implementation of the Secretary General's campaign to eliminate all forms of violence against women, through:

- a) Contribution to the preparations of the Caribbean campaign, launched in Barbados on 11-12 October 2010.
- b) Contribution to the Inter-agency work programme 2011-2015 in LAC.
- c) Participation in the annual Inter-agency meeting to be held in Panama on 7-8 February 2011.

#### *March 2011 to January 2012*

As a key member of the Secretary-General's Campaign UNiTE, UNFPA attended the first global Steering Committee Meeting of the Campaign held in Bangkok in March 2011.

UN Women regional office in Asia has been supporting the implementation of the Asia Pacific Regional Strategy for the UNiTE Campaign through the Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group in Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (RCM TWG-GEEW).

UN Women leveraged inter-agency consensus in India, Nepal, Pakistan and Bhutan for developing South Asia regional and national components of the UNiTE Campaign. Following this consensus, a South Asia Regional Consultation was organised from 19 to 20 December 2011 to identify priority themes and galvanise governments and civil society support around ending violence against women and girls.

The Department of Public Information (DPI) continued to promote the Secretary-General's UNiTE campaign to End Violence against Women, including through managing the campaign website. The Department produced UNiTE campaign communications and branding guidelines in order to increase coherence in UNiTE campaign messaging across the UN system. The Department produced a new UNiTE campaign poster and a re-designed UNiTE Framework for Action booklet, both in the six official languages. UNICEF contributed to the UNiTE campaign through the Together for Girls Initiative, public and private sector partnership to address sexual violence against girls.

In 2011 Say NO–UNiTE recorded over 2 million actions. The interactive, multi-lingual website has attracted 310,706 unique visitors from 228 countries and territories since launch. 227 Ministers and 31 Heads of States from 72 Governments and nearly 700 Parliamentarians have signed on to Say NO–UNiTE and some have taken follow up actions nationally and internationally. More than 700 civil society organizations have partnered with the initiative, ranging from grassroots NGOs to international organizations.

Say NO–UNiTE, in partnership with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, UN Women will develop a non-formal education curriculum on ending violence against young women and girls, to be rolled out in at least 20 countries in 2012-2013. The long standing partnership with Religions for Peace has successfully engaged religious communities on ending violence against women and is now supporting a pilot youth-led advocacy campaign in Argentina, India, Philippines and Uganda.

Using social media networks, Say NO–UNiTE drives visibility and awareness worldwide – currently it has more than 39,000 fans on Facebook and over 15,000 followers on Twitter, and the Say NO–UNiTE YouTube channel has generated 93,525 channel views since launch, with more than 1000 channel views on average per week. News, videos and campaign messages posted through these networks have the potential reach of millions of people.

## **INTER-AGENCY NETWORK ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY (IANGWE) TASK FORCE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN<sup>1</sup>**

*July 2007 to January 2008*

As the co-conveners of IANWGE's Task Force on violence against women, UNFPA and UNDAW drafted a proposal for joint programming on violence against women in 10 pilot countries.

*February to September 2008*

Baseline assessments were completed in Rwanda, and first drafts were completed in Fiji, Paraguay and Kyrgyzstan. National multi-stakeholder workshops to develop joint programming frameworks were held in Jordan, Philippines, Rwanda, Fiji, and Kyrgyzstan, and joint national committees consisting of a wide range of stakeholders, responsible for coordinating and providing technical support, were formed. These workshops are instrumental in developing a multi-sectoral joint programming framework that brings together United Nations system actions in support of national efforts to address violence against women, including the development or the implementation of national action plans on violence against women.

*March to September 2009*

Baseline assessments, as well as national workshops to develop multi-sectoral joint programming frameworks, had been initiated or completed in all 10 countries and joint national committees had been formed. Implementation of joint programming activities, led by UNFPA, had commenced in the Philippines and Rwanda. Activities of the joint programming initiative were increasingly linked to the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" at the national level.

*March to September 2010*

UNFPA is leading the implementation of the joint programming activities at the country level in the identified pilot countries under the Inter-agency Task Force on Violence against Women.

*October 2010 to February 2011*

In November 2010, UNFPA held in New York the global consultation on "Delivering as One on Addressing Violence Against Women: From Intent to Action" with the objective of presenting lessons and share experiences from multi-stakeholder joint programming in the 10 select pilot countries under the Inter-agency Task Force on Violence against Women (of which UNFPA is lead implementing agency at the pilot country levels). The draft of the manual on lessons learned on joint programming from implementation of activities under the Inter-agency Task Force on Violence Against Women has been developed and key lessons were presented at the global consultations.

*March 2011 to January 2012*

The compendium on lessons learned from initiating multi-stakeholder joint programming in the 10 select pilot countries under the Inter-Agency Task Force on Violence against Women was completed and released globally. To access the compendium, visit:

<http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/publications/2011/VAWJointProgrammingCompendium-1.pdf>

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<sup>1</sup> The IANGWE Task Force on Violence Against Women stopped being operational in 2011 at the Headquarters level since the work has been handed over to the pilot countries.

*March 2012 to February 2013*

OHCHR undertook a project on mapping of women's access to justice in non-conflict and conflict contexts by members of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) taskforce.

## **UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT (UN ACTION)**

*Baseline July 2007*

In February 2007, OHCHR formally joined the UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

*July 2007 to January 2008*

UN Action is providing strategic and technical support to selected UN Country Teams and Peace Keeping Operations to strengthen their efforts to prevent sexual violence, protect women, respond to the needs of survivors, and ensure judicial redress. It is also training a cadre of senior GBV Coordinators.

UN Action's advocacy efforts focus on raising public awareness and outrage about rape in war, as well as generating political will from bodies such as the Security Council and Human Rights Council to address rape in war as an issue of international peace and security, and a war crime as well as gross violation of human rights.

UN Action is building a knowledge hub, mapping good practices and effective responses to the needs of survivors and their communities.

*February to September 2008*

A Senior Advisor on Sexual Violence was posted to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC).

In June 2008, UN Action hired an Advocacy and Women's Rights Specialist to lead its advocacy efforts under the banner "Stop Rape Now" (see [www.stoprapenow.org](http://www.stoprapenow.org)).

In May 2008, UN Action co-sponsored a high-level conference at Wilton Park entitled, "Women targeted or affected by armed conflict: What role for military peacekeepers?". Government officials, military commanders, NGO representatives and other experts reviewed front-line military tactics to protect women from sexual violence in armed conflict. The outcomes were discussed, in July 2008, in a briefing for Heads of military components of peacekeeping operations.

UN Action has developed a PowerPoint presentation on Security Council resolution 1820 (2008) on sexual violence in conflict, to heighten awareness of the implication of the resolution for the work of the UN system. The presentation is available at [www.stoprapenow.org](http://www.stoprapenow.org). In August 2008, UN Action organized a briefing in New York for NGOs around resolution 1820.

UN Action has published two documents to support the UN system's response to sexual violence in conflict settings. These are posted on UN Action's website:

- Do's and Don'ts: Reporting and interpreting data on sexual violence from conflict-affected countries
- Summary of Ethical and Safety Recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies.

*October 2008 to February 2009*

In December 2008, UN Action created a Multi-Donor Trust Fund to pool resources, tightening accountability for joint UN system action against sexual violence in conflict.

UN Action supported the recruitment of a Programme Manager to coordinate the Joint Government-UN Programme on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Liberia. UN Action also provided financial support to UNFPA for two UN system-wide gender-based violence coordinators in Darfur, Sudan. UN Action also provided financial support to UNFPA for the training of GENCAP (Gender Stand-by Capacity) Advisers in November 2008.

UN Action hired a recruitment specialist to conduct a global search for gender-based violence programme coordinators/advisers.

UN Action implemented DPKO-led research missions to UNMIL, Liberia (September 2008) and MONUC, Democratic Republic of Congo (January 2009), with the aim of finalizing and field-testing an *Analytical Inventory of Responses by Peacekeeping Personnel to War-Related Violence Against Women*. The Inventory catalogues examples of good practice in protecting women from sexual violence.

UN Action convened an OHCHR-led high-level panel on sexual violence in December 2008, as a follow-up to the conference “Women Seeking Justice – Getting Law”, co-financed by UN Action.

A range of advocacy resources on the Security Council resolution 1820 (2008) were added to the UN Action ‘Stop Rape Now’ website.

In response to the use of sexual violence as a tactic of war in the context of the renewed conflict in Eastern DRC, UN Action issued and distributed a joint advocacy statement. In November 2008, UN Action organized a panel discussion on “Sexual violence against women and children in conflict” as part of the Inter-Parliamentary Union – UN Hearing, and prepared a concept note.

UN Action’s Senior Adviser on Sexual Violence in MONUC, DRC, undertook a mapping exercise, in August 2008, of existing and planned activities by international actors on sexual violence; and collaborated with EUPOL to convene a “day of reflection” in November 2008 on strengthening the capacity of the Congolese National Police to prevent and respond to sexual violence.

UN Action gave briefings to NGOs and to Missions on sexual violence data-collection, including proposals for more timely and reliable data, as well as benchmarks for measuring progress.

UN Action convened a WHO-led experts meeting in Geneva, in December 2008, on “Sexual Violence in Conflict: Data and data-collection methodologies”. The meeting resulted in an agreed research agenda and guidance on information-collection, while providing a meaningful evidence-basis of prevalence data and trend analysis to inform effective interventions.

#### *March to September 2009*

UN Action continued to finance the Programme Manager for the Joint Government-UN Programme on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Liberia. The Programme Manager worked to develop management and coordination systems as well as to establish benchmarks to monitor the implementation and impact of the Joint Programme.

The recruitment specialist continued to develop a roster of senior and mid-level professionals specialized on gender-based violence and who are available for rapid deployment to conflict-affected countries.

The *Comprehensive Strategy to Combat Sexual Violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)* developed by UN Action’s Senior Adviser on Sexual Violence in MONUC, DRC,

was launched by the UN and the Government of DRC in March 2009 and formally presented to the UN Security Council on 9 April 2009. The Comprehensive Strategy provides a clear framework for addressing sexual violence in the DRC. The Strategy is based on four interlocking pillars: 1) combating impunity for cases of sexual violence; 2) prevention of sexual violence; 3) security sector reform; and 4) multi-sectoral response to improve access of survivors of sexual violence to a wide range of services.

In April 2009, UN Action undertook an assessment of the effectiveness of its strategic support to addressing sexual violence in the DRC. The assessment concluded that the UN Action network should continue to provide strategic support to MONUC and the UNCT to help operationalize the Comprehensive Strategy.

UN Action continued to develop the *Stop Rape Now* website ([www.stoprapenow.org](http://www.stoprapenow.org)). New web features were developed, including an *Updates from the Field* page, which showcases UN Action efforts to combat sexual violence in Liberia and the DRC. Significant support was garnered following the posting of a photo of UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman at the StopRapeNow site. UN Action is encouraging all UN member entities to contribute photos of their respective Goodwill Ambassadors. UN Action also created a "Fans of SCR1820" page on Facebook, and a UN Action Twitter page, with links from both sites to the *News* hub on the StopRapeNow website. As at September 2009, there were over 1,380 fans of SCR 1820 on Facebook.

As part of the StopRapeNow campaign, and in conjunction with the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, UN Action developed tools on Security Council Resolution 1820, including a poster, notebooks, pins and banner-pens. In order to improve collaboration with NGO partners, UN Action chaired a session on sexual violence during the Consultation with Civil Society on the Secretary-General's UNITE Campaign in March 2009.

UN Action undertook a number of advocacy events throughout September 2009 to coincide with the presentation of Security Council resolution 1888 on sexual violence in armed conflict, which was adopted unanimously by the Security Council on 30 September 2009.

Under the aegis of UN Action, WHO was spearheading efforts to develop a standardized instrument and methodology to collect data on conflict-related sexual violence. UNICEF and WHO were leading a process to develop programmatic benchmarks for measuring progress in preventing and responding to sexual violence.

#### *October 2009 to February 2010*

UN Action presented seminars on Security Council resolutions 1820/1888 and on sexual violence for UNHCR and WHO staff, in Geneva. A briefing for a range of donors and civil society partners on the UN response to the new Security Council frameworks was presented in December 2009 in Geneva, hosted by the Norwegian Mission. In October 2009, UN Action presented a "webinar" on Security Council resolutions 1820 and 1888, hosted by UNFPA, for UNFPA field staff. A briefing for Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) staff was held in January 2010.

At the request of the DSRSG of MINURCAT, UN Action undertook a technical assessment mission to Chad, in November 2009, to better understand the UN system's response to conflict-related sexual violence and to explore options for strategic support. The assessment team held consultations with representatives from a range of UN agencies. Strategic support is being provided to MINURCAT and the UNCT to develop a *Comprehensive Strategy on Gender-based Violence – Including Sexual Violence*, for Eastern Chad.

In January 2010, UN Action in collaboration with UNDP engaged a Senior Advisor in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to oversee implementation of the *Comprehensive Strategy on Combating Sexual Violence in DRC*.

At the request of the RC/HC, UN Action fielded an inter-agency mission to Cote d'Ivoire, in January 2010, to assess options for support to the UN's response to gender-based violence, including sexual violence, and to review the draft National Strategy on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

UNDP, OHCHR and DPKO worked under UN Action auspices to develop a joint concept note for a rapidly-deployable Team of Experts on rule of law, as mandated by Security Council resolution 1888, to help address impunity for sexual violence.

The UN Action Resource Management Committee approved two funding proposals to support UN system-wide action at country level:

- (1) Establishing a system to track allocations and expenditures on sexual violence programmes through UN managed financing mechanisms (e.g. CAPs, CERF, CHFs, PBSO, MDTFs) and other sexual violence related funding modalities as part of a broader effort to track gender related allocations; and
- (2) Training of humanitarian actors to facilitate the roll-out of the Standard Operating Procedures Guide on addressing gender-based violence in humanitarian settings.

UN Action convened inter-agency meetings to assist Member States in the framing of Security Council resolution 1888, adopted on 30 September 2009.

Under its knowledge-building pillar, the UN Action Resource Management Committee approved a funding proposal submitted to UN Action's Multi-Donor Trust Fund to map examples of positive interactions with non-State actors, with a view to developing preventative diplomacy strategies and guidance on addressing sexual violence with non-State armed groups.

UN Action continued to support the Secretary-General's campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women, through regular participation in the inter-agency working. UN Action promoted a global online photo drive during the 16 Days of Activism against GBV 2009 and in collaboration with DPI, it presented its images, as a photo montage, at the launch of the Secretary-General's Network of Men Leaders in November 2009.

UN Action mobilized new media/social networking tools to amplify the Stop Rape Now campaign ([www.facebook.com/unaction](http://www.facebook.com/unaction); [www.twitter.com/unaction](http://www.twitter.com/unaction)). A Public Service Announcement (PSA) has been developed for broadcast and online distribution, with support from OCHA, UNIFEM and DPI, to popularize the "Stop Rape Now" message.

In collaboration with the UN Division for the Advancement of Women, UN Action contributed the "Feature Item" on sexual violence in conflict settings for the October 2009 issue of *Words to Action: Newsletter on violence against women*, issued by the UN Division for the Advancement of Women.

Through UN Action, UNICEF is leading a consultative process to develop indicators to measure progress in implementing Security Council resolution 1820; and to generate proposals on monitoring and reporting gaps in the UN's response to conflict-related sexual violence, as requested by the Security Council.

*October 2010-February 2011*

The UN Action Secretariat organized the consultative process with the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security and Member States and drafted the Secretary-General's 2nd report on the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 1820 and 1888.

The UN Action Secretariat worked with UN Women to organize the consultative process and drafting of the Paper for the Secretary General's Policy Committee on Conflict-Related Sexual

Violence. The Secretary General's Policy Committee decisions included the preparation of guidance notes by the Office of the Special Representative to the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict on monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements for conflict-related sexual violence ; the development of early-warning indicators of spikes in sexual violence by UN Action; the engagement of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and senior UN officials in dialogue with parties to armed conflict to elicit protection commitments to prevent and address sexual violence, and implementation of these commitments will be monitored as part of the application of listing and delisting criteria; the development of new guidance by UN Women, OHCHR, and other UN entities, on reparations for victims of conflict-related sexual violence.

From 28 September to 6 October, Margot Wallström, the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and Chair of the UN Action network, visited Walikale in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo to investigate the use of sexual violence as a tactic of war in this conflict, particularly with regard to the mass rapes of late August 2010. The Special Representative of the Secretary General briefed the Security Council on her return. Ms. Wallström also visited Bosnia from 22-25 November to meet with survivors of sexual violence from the conflict of the early 1990s and hear about their experiences in accessing justice and reparations. Her visit shone a spotlight on issues of impunity in the aftermath of the conflict in the region.

The UN Action Secretariat has translated *Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence: An Analytical Inventory of Peacekeeping Practice* into French and Spanish for distribution to peacekeeping training centers.

UN Action continues to pursue its advocacy campaign using a variety of communications efforts, including the Stop Rape Now website.

Active involvement of former UNIFEM now part of UN Women continued in the work of the UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, most especially in the areas of mediation, trainings for peacekeeping, reparations for survivors, and advocacy. As a key member of UN Action as well as co-chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Sexual Violence in Conflict, UNFPA is actively involved in addressing issues of sexual violence in conflict via ongoing programmatic interventions in countries that are in conflict, post-conflict and humanitarian settings.

In the past six months UN Action's Multi-Donor Trust Fund has provided funding for the following projects:

- A series of meetings among several stakeholders in Bosnia to discuss obstacles to Bosnian women's participation in accountability mechanisms for incidences of sexual violence, spearheaded by UNFPA.
- A technical meeting on responding to the psychosocial and mental health needs of sexual violence survivors, led by WHO.
- The development of a guidance note and trainings for mediators on issues of sexual violence, spearheaded by DPA.
- A new two-year post within DPKO to work on the full implementation of Security Council Resolutions 1820, 1888 and 1960.

As part of its work with UN Action, WHO, with US Center for Disease Control (CDC), is developing two survey instruments for measuring conflict related sexual violence and to understand men's motivations, risk factors and perpetration of such violence.

*March 2011 to January 2012*

In May 2011, the 13 UN entities comprising UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action) endorsed a new Conceptual and Analytical Framing of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, which was requested by the Secretary General's Policy Committee in December 2010. The new

Framing broadly denotes sexual violence occurring in a conflict or post-conflict setting that has a direct or indirect link with the conflict itself. The aim is to provide a new frame of reference to strengthen monitoring and reporting of conflict-related sexual violence, and to facilitate appropriate action by a broad range of peace and security, human rights, humanitarian, political and development actors.

OHCHR actively participated in the UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict and, through this network and in cooperation with all relevant UN entities, has been closely involved in the development of: the Provisional Guidance Note on Monitoring Analyses and Reporting Arrangements (MARA); and the terms of reference of Women Protection Advisors (WPAs). OHCHR has worked with DPKO, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General of Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG SVC) and other UN Action partners to mobilize support for the implementation of MARA in the countries for accelerated implementation. OHCHR is supporting the work of the Team of Experts on the rule of law under Security Council Resolution 1888 through the seconding of staff.

UN Action's Multi-Donor Trust Fund has provided funding for the following projects:

- Development of a Guidance Note for Mediators on issues of gender and sexual violence, spearheaded by DPA and UN Women.
- A Programme Officer in DPKO to ensure full implementation of Security Council Resolutions 1820, 1888 and 1960.
- Catalytic finance to establish a Team of Experts on the rule of law.
- Funding to support accelerated implementation of the Monitoring Analyses and Reporting Arrangements (MARA) in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic and Cote D'Ivoire.
- A scientific research planning meeting by UNAIDS to align global, regional and national strategies for preventing sexual violence and HIV and AIDS.

Regarding conflict-related sexual violence, on behalf of UN Action, WHO has: a) Developed a research agenda for conflict related sexual violence. Broad themes were generated through a literature review and an initial group of experts and then through an on line survey reaching over 150 academics, practitioners, UN and non-government organizations; and b) Developed (with the Centre for Disease Control) a survey tool for assessing the experience as well as the perpetration of sexual violence. It is proposed to pilot these tools in 1 or 2 conflict affected countries.

In December 2011, the UN Action network adopted a Matrix of Early-Warning Indicators of Sexual Violence which will be used to predict spikes and patterns of conflict-related sexual violence. These indicators are based upon the premise that when sexual violence is planned and commanded it can be prevented. The Indicators will be tested and rolled out to Peacekeeping Missions during 2012.

#### *March 2012 to February 2013*

OHCHR continued to work closely with the Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security on implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 and within UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict and, through this network and in cooperation with all relevant UN entities, has been closely involved in the development of guidance for the operationalization of SC resolutions on conflict-related sexual violence.

## **UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND IN SUPPORT OF ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (UN TRUST FUND)**

*July 2007 to January 2008*

In November 2007, the UN Trust Fund awarded nearly \$5 million in support of effective implementation of national laws, policies and plans of action on ending violence against women, as well as to initiatives addressing the inter-linkages between violence against women and HIV/AIDS.

In 2007, Member States, private-sector and other donors raised their contributions to the UN Trust Fund, resulting in more than a tenfold increase over the past four years. However, the demand for support continued to far outstrip its resource base, with more than \$105 million in requests received in 2007.

Donors to the UN Trust Fund in 2007 include the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States of America, and UNIFEM national committees in Iceland, Switzerland and the United States. In addition, the UN Trust Fund has benefited from partnerships with the private sector. With the support of Johnson & Johnson, a special window on the interlinkage between violence against women and HIV/AIDS was opened in 2005. In addition, there have been other modest contributions from private-sector partners such as TAG Heuer, Omega, Leo Burnett and non-profit organizations, such as Zonta International, the Transition Network and many individual donors.

*February to September 2008*

Grant applications for the 2008 Call for Proposals were invited from governments, civil society organizations, and, for the first time, for UN Country Teams (UNCTs). Technical review teams and global and sub-regional inter-agency Programme Appraisal Committees (PACs), reviewed the received concept notes.

As part of its' ongoing effort to enhance grantees' capacity in programming and monitoring and evaluation, the UN Trust Fund convened a second workshop on Program Design and Evaluation for grantees working on violence against women and HIV/AIDS, in collaboration with Johnson and Johnson and with technical assistance from PATH.

UNIFEM in collaboration with Avon Products, Inc. convened a global summit in March 2008 wherein Avon Products, Inc. committed \$1 million to the UN Trust Fund – the Fund's largest single, annual, private sector contribution ever.

*October 2008 to February 2009*

The results of the 2008 grant cycle were announced on 25 November 2008, at an event with the Secretary-General and UNIFEM's Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Nicole Kidman. A total of US\$22 million in grants were approved, reflecting both multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder interventions.

*March to September 2009*

In March 2009, the UN Trust Fund issued its fourteenth Call for Proposals to support the implementation of laws, policies and action plans on ending violence against women and girls.

While the UN Trust Fund has been able to rely on the support of its leading donors in 2009, the global financial crisis has reduced the resources available for grant-making to less than half of the US\$22 million granted last year. In an effort to secure adequate funds for grant-making in 2009, the UN Trust Fund and UNIFEM, in partnership with the United Nations Foundation, have reached out to private foundations and philanthropic leaders. An Urgent Alert was launched in July, in the context of the *Framework for Action* of the Secretary-General's *UNiTE to End Violence against Women* campaign, which has set a target of an annual contribution to the UN Trust Fund of US\$100 million by 2015.

The UN Trust Fund partnered with the International Centre for Research on Women to develop a capacity development programme to enhance the skills and knowledge of grantees to conduct quality, evidence-based programming and M&E.

An external and independent evaluation to assess the overall implementation and effectiveness of the UN Trust Fund 2005-08 Strategy took place the first half of 2009. Four field missions to eight countries and a desk review of 21 projects gathered data for in-depth assessment. A broad range of stakeholders were consulted through interviews, focus groups and online surveys.

#### *October 2009 to February 2010*

The Final Evaluation Report of the UN Trust Fund 2005-2008 and the Management Response can be found at the UNIFEM website ([www.unifem.org/evaw](http://www.unifem.org/evaw)). A debriefing on the evaluation findings was organized in September for the global inter-agency Programme Appraisal Committee and UN Member States.

The UN Trust Fund continued to intensify its outreach and resource mobilization efforts, including through a new fund-raising strategy under the UN Secretary-General's *UNiTE to End Violence against Women* Campaign. The Campaign's target of an annual contribution of US \$100 million by 2015 to the UN Trust Fund became a Commitment to Action of the Clinton Global Initiative.

In 2009, the UN Trust Fund reached an unprecedented US \$23.5 million in total donor contributions and pledges, the largest amount of resources mobilized thus far in a single year.

UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador and UN Trust Fund grantee organization Breakthrough testified in October 2009 to the United States House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee. They presented strategies on ending violence against women and girls, and called attention to the need to scale up resources to the UN Trust Fund.

In November 2009, the UN Secretary-General announced US \$10.5 million in UN Trust Fund grants. A training curriculum on evidence-based programming, monitoring and evaluation was piloted, and two workshops were held in Ethiopia and in India for grantee organizations.

#### *March to September 2010*

The UN Trust Fund is finalizing its Strategy for 2010-2015, entitled "Vision 2015". Consultations have involved sister agencies and UNIFEM staff at global and field levels; the UN Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE); and representatives of Member States. Furthermore, over 20 UN agencies and funds have to date participated in the UN Trust Fund's governance through regional and global Programme Appraisal Committees.

Since 2008, the UN Trust Fund has funded UN Country Team programming to end violence against women and girls. Currently, the UN Trust Fund supports eight UN Country Teams – in Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Ecuador, Mexico, Nepal, Panama, Thailand, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – fostering a more coordinated and coherent UN system-wide action in this area. In some countries, synergies between UN agencies and NGO grantees of the UN Trust Fund are resulting in leveraged efforts for prevention and response. For example in

Albania, UNDP is coordinating programming against domestic violence under the ONE UN pilot in the country and is working closely with a current UN Trust Fund grantee, “Refleksione”, to upscale local-level platforms for community coordination including referral and data collection systems.

Under its portfolio of over 80 ongoing initiatives in 70 countries and territories, many UN Trust Fund grantees focus on prevention. For example, in a multi-country initiative implemented in Brazil, Chile, India and Rwanda, UN Trust Fund grantee, Instituto Promundo, seeks to systematically evaluate the most effective approaches to involving men and boys in the prevention of violence – the results and lessons learned from impact evaluation studies in the four countries will provide a significant contribution to the evidence-base for engaging young and adult men in ending violence against women and girls. UN Trust Fund grantee, Equal Access Nepal, won the One World Media Special Award 2010 for its radio programme Samajhdari (“Mutual understanding”) that links media and community mobilization to address the intersection between violence against women and HIV. The radio programme, produced by community radio reporters from vulnerable groups, reached potentially 90 percent of the Nepalese population. Seven UN Trust Fund grantees working on addressing the intersection of violence against women and HIV participated in a Poster Exhibition at the XVIII International AIDS Conference in Vienna, bringing in their experience on the critical role of addressing violence as part of the HIV response from Botswana, India, Nepal, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and the Russian Federation.

The UN Trust Fund translated its training curriculum on evidence-based programming, monitoring and evaluation into Spanish and French. The translated curriculums were piloted in two regional skills-building workshops, which were held in Nicaragua and Senegal, in June 2010. The training events were attended by 16 UN Trust Fund grantees throughout Central and South America and the Africa region. As a result of the training, grantees have revised their monitoring and evaluation systems for a stronger tracking of results, for building evidence base, and for demonstrating what works to end violence against women and girls.

#### *October 2010-February 2011*

The UN Trust Fund adopted a new strategic plan, guiding its grant - making for 2010-2015. Implementation of the strategic plan will be aided by a high-level steering committee bringing together heads of UN agencies and representatives of Member States.

In response to its 15th Call for Proposals, the UN Trust Fund received a record number of 2,574 applications (51 come from UN Country Teams) for total value of \$1.2 billion, signifying an increase of 56% in the number of applications and 40% in the amount of funds requested from the previous year, numbers which indicate an unmet demand for resources to address violence against women on the ground.

One third of the UN Trust Fund’s 80 active grantees are focusing on primary prevention. Nearly half of UN Trust Fund grantees engage men and boys as change agents to promote healthy, non-violent models of masculinity. In December 2010, the first White Ribbon Campaign was launched in the Middle East to mobilize men and boys to advocate for legislation on domestic violence. Male university students took the lead in crafting messages for a public sensitization campaign that garnered the support of 128 MPs for a bill on the Protection of Women from Family Violence prior to parliamentary debates on this legislation.

One third of the UN Trust Fund’s active grants employ strategies to provide services to women and girls survivors of violence, including marginalized and hard - to - reach populations. For example in the Kandal Province of Cambodia, the UN Trust Fund supports a model of community-based support for sexual assault survivors, through increasing survivors’ access to coordinated health, counselling, and legal services. In the region of Puno in Peru, where the indigenous population suffers from the highest rates of intra - family violence in the country, the

UN Trust Fund supports capacity-building for health, justice and law enforcement sectors to respond to the needs of women and girls. Local officials have convened an inter - agency task force to strengthen cross - sectoral coordination, supported by the Ministries of Health and Women, resulting in an increase of referral rates and reporting rates of domestic violence.

17 percent of UN Trust Fund grantees work to respond to the needs of women survivors of violence living in conflict, post - conflict and unstable situations: it supported the development of a mobile care model to assist survivors of sexual violence from Central African Republic living as refugees in northern Cameroon. In just one year, the mobile clinics brought a fourfold increase to the rate of sexual violence survivors receiving medical care and counselling; in Sierra Leone, it supports national reparations programmes that respond to the needs of 3,600 women survivors of sexual violence in conflict; Women's organizations conducted surveys with women survivors of violence across the country to assess their marketable skills and recommended skills training and income - generation programmes.

As part of the official observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and in partnership with UNiTE campaign, the UN Trust Fund launched a fundraising effort to achieve the campaign's goal of \$100M by 2015 for the annual grant giving. By texting the word UNITE to 27722, people in the U.S. could donate \$10 to the UN Trust Fund for programmes and services on the ground and online donations can be made through the UN Foundation.

#### *March 2011 to January 2012*

The number of UN country team programs supported by the UN Trust Fund increased to 12 by the end of 2011, with a total grant-award of US\$ 10.8 million. These grants have established direct links with UN programmes at the country and sub-regional levels, significantly enhancing the capacity of the UN system to pull its expertise together in order to address violence against women and girls in a more comprehensive and coordinated manner.

By the end of 2011, the UN Trust Fund had a portfolio of 96 active grants, covering 86 countries, with a total value of over US\$61 million. In response to its 16<sup>th</sup> Call for Proposals, which closed on 23 January 2012, the UN Trust Fund received 2,212 applications from 121 countries for a total value of nearly \$1.1 billion. Civil society organizations made up nearly 90% of these applications, attesting to the largely unmet demand for resources to address violence against women on the ground. A total of 49 UN Country Team applications were received.

Grantees of the UN Trust Fund are almost universally working to strengthen the implementation of laws, policies and action plans to end violence against women, like in Suriname, Bolivia, Cambodia, Nepal and Uganda.

The UN Trust Fund is investing a total of US\$11 million to engage men and boys in addressing violence against women, like in Turkey where the programme has reached over 1200 fathers, imparting vital knowledge and skills around anger management, conflict resolution, and the healthy expression of feelings. Similar programmes have been initiated in Cambodia and Zambia.

UN Trust Fund grantees are increasingly creating systems and tools for the protection of women and sharing them with survivors and women at risk of violence, like in Guatemala where the UN Trust Fund is supporting the first gender-based violence prevention project to "safescape" rural indigenous communities, using community safety mapping methodology to provide a baseline and situation analysis, and to track changes in adolescent girls' perceptions of safety. Another UN Trust Fund Grantee, Women in Cities International, is identifying and mapping the 'geography of public gender exclusion' across four cities in Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe, and South Asia.

The UN Trust Fund grantees support the inter-related needs of survivors of violence, including health, psycho-social support, legal representation, employment, and training opportunities. In Tajikistan, the UN Trust Fund is supporting the development of the first nationwide network of specific services for girls affected by, or are at risk of, sexual exploitation and trafficking. In its first months of operations, over 330 girls were provided with assistance in 10 districts throughout the country while lawyers trained through the project have provided free legal services to 162 girls.

The UN Trust Fund is also supporting a number of pioneering initiatives aimed at providing essential services to women living with HIV, like in Thailand. In 2011 alone, the UN Trust Fund invested US\$6.2 million to support efforts to address the intersection of violence against women and HIV/AIDS. UN Women, UNICEF, and UNFPA are joining forces in Nepal to build the capacity of district-level government to implement a comprehensive set of services for survivors of violence while training community members to act as psychosocial counselors. As the first joint UN programming in Nepal, the UN Trust Fund grantee developed a four-months training program for psycho-social counselors with a curriculum, which is now recognized by the Centre for Technical Education and Vocational Training.

UN Trust Fund's grantees are increasingly training justice officials in order to strengthen judicial systems and improve access to justice for survivors of violence, like in Zambia where the UN Trust Fund is supporting the training of rural magistrates and judges on the rights of women and girls and how to create victim-friendly courts.

The UN Trust Fund commissioned an Outcome Mapping Report in 2011 with the aim of determining which approaches to violence against women are especially promising and where the Trust Fund's investments are most effective. The report's findings demonstrate that the UN Trust Fund's influence on the lives of women and girls reaches far beyond the immediate scope of its grants since the grantees are strongly influencing other social actors to make changes to improve the situation of women and girls.

Closing the gaps in grantees' capacity to design and implement programmes and knowledge about 'what works' in ending violence against women is central to the UN Trust Fund's mandate. In addition to its annual skill-building workshops, the Trust Fund organized a 3-day workshop in 2011 tailored to meet the specific monitoring and evaluation needs of new grantees working to address the intersection of violence against women and HIV.

The UN Trust Fund awarded close to US\$4 million in 2011 to support efforts to address violence against women in conflict and post-conflict setting. Two of these programmes specifically address sexual violence in conflict 1) in South Sudan where a grantee will be assisting the government in developing guidelines for the clinical management of rape and a secure information management system to collect timely data on incidents of violence; and 2) in five East and Central African countries where the Trust Fund is supporting the development of a functioning medico-legal system through the training forensic experts where the International Criminal Court is currently investigating rape as a war crime.

In order to further advance programming in this area, the UN Trust Fund included a 'special focus area' on addressing violence against women in conflict, post-conflict, and transitional societies in its 16<sup>th</sup> call for proposals. 24% of the 2212 applications received in 2012 are proposing to address violence against women in conflict and post-conflict settings.

*March 2012 to February 2013*

Demand for UN Trust Fund support remained steady in 2012. The UN Trust Fund completed its 16th grant making cycle, which involved the review of 2,210 applications by 105 reviewers at the global and field level. The participation of 18 UN agencies in the extensive review process demonstrated the Fund's ability to bring together different agencies to address violence against

women, and 'Deliver as One' in action. The UN Trust Fund awarded US\$ 8.4 million in new grants to 12 initiatives in 19 countries. The new grants are expected to reach nearly 2 million beneficiaries by 2015. By the end of 2012, the UN Trust Fund's active portfolio included 95 programmes, covering 85 countries and territories, for a total value of over US\$ 63.5 million.

The UN Trust Fund continued its support of global learning initiatives through its Special Thematic Windows. The Special Window under the 16th grant-making focused on addressing violence against women in conflict, post-conflict and transitional settings. The UN Trust Fund awarded close to US\$ 3.5 million to four new programmes working on this issue, including its first ever grants to Libya. Grantees will scale-up proven approaches to service delivery for gender-based violence in humanitarian contexts, address the urgent matter of accountability for gender-based crimes in these settings and work to ensure transitional justice mechanisms are designed in ways to better address the specific needs of survivors of violence.

As part of the UN Trust Fund's US\$ 9.6 million Special Thematic Window addressing the intersection of HIV/AIDS and violence against women, grantees are working to access critical services for marginalized groups such as street-involved and homeless women, sex workers and women living with HIV/AIDS. In 2012, the UN Trust Fund produced a policy paper, *Effective Approaches to Addressing the Intersection of Violence against women and HIV/AIDS*, based on lessons learned from its programmes addressing the twin pandemics. The paper, presented at the International AIDS Conference in Washington D.C. in July, reinforced the message that investing in long-term interventions and challenging discrimination and harmful norms against women and girls is investing in a future with zero violence and zero HIV/AIDS.

Given that exposure to violence at a young age has devastating and potentially life-long physical and mental health consequences, the 17th cycle Call for Proposals, launched in Iceland on 17th November 2012, includes a special focus area on addressing violence against adolescent and young girls. The special focus capitalizes on the first ever International Day of the Girl Child celebrated on the 10th October 2012 in order to seize the momentum and reinforce the commitment to respect, protect and realize the human rights of girls.

The UN Trust Fund also continued its efforts to develop the capacities of grantees to conduct effective monitoring and evaluation and enhance its overall processes for capturing and disseminating knowledge. It held a five-day capacity building workshop in Mexico City that brought together 14 organizations from across the globe to ascertain how their evidence-informed approaches can be strengthened. Close monitoring and collaboration will continue with these partners throughout programme implementation.

In June 2012, the President of the 66th Session of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, hosted a cultural event in the General Assembly Hall with the aim of boosting support for the UN Trust Fund and celebrating UN Women. Through this event the General Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to the cause of ending violence against women and the mandate of the UN Trust Fund to take action on behalf of the UN system. The increasing commitment and partnership was illustrated by first time donor contributions from countries across Africa, Latin America, Asia and Arab States that followed this special event.

## **INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE (IASC) SUB-WORKING GROUP ON GENDER AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION**

*Baseline July 2007*

OHCHR participates in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Sub-Working Group on Gender Mainstreaming in Humanitarian Assistance. OCHA is a co-chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance. OCHA is facilitating

the production of an IASC document on members' policies in addressing gender-based violence in order to establish a coordinated programme built on the expertise and capacities of the IASC members.

The IASC Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance issued a statement of commitment on actions to address gender-based violence, re-emphasizing members' individual and collective responsibility to undertake concerted action aimed at preventing gender-based violence, ensuring appropriate care and follow-up for victims/survivors of sexual violence and working towards holding perpetrators of sexual violence accountable.

In 2005, the IASC Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance published *Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Emergencies: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence*. The Guidelines are a tool for actors in the field to establish a multi-sectoral coordinated approach to gender-based violence programming in emergency settings. OCHA's role has been to provide support for the development and use of the IASC Guidelines.

#### *February to September 2008*

Inter-agency regional workshops were held in Bangkok, Nairobi, and Johannesburg to facilitate roll-out of the Gender Handbook. The Gender-Based Violence Guidelines were translated into Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

In June 2008, the IASC Sub Working Group on Gender released a SOP template for prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence in IDP settings, based on the UNHCR template.

#### *March to September 2009*

The IASC Gender Sub-Working Group (SWG) on Gender and Humanitarian Action, in collaboration with InterAction, developed an e-learning course for humanitarian workers to teach them how to develop programming that ensures that the needs and capacities of women, girls, boys and men are met in humanitarian situations. This course draws on important IASC handbooks, including:

- Women, Girls, Boys and Men, Different Needs – Equal Opportunities
- Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings

#### *October 2009 to February 2010*

OCHA is the task manager of the inter-agency Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) review, agreed in July 2009 at the meeting of the IASC Working Group. The objective of the review is to assess whether the UN and NGOs have implemented policies to address sexual exploitation and abuse by their personnel. Thirteen of 14 agencies agreed to participate in the agency headquarters assessment. Field missions will be organized to DRC and Nepal, while seven other countries will be profiled through alternative methodologies.

#### *October 2010 - February 2011*

In January 2011, UNICEF started to co-lead the Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action. UNICEF is the co-lead agency of the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR) under the Global Protection Cluster. In January 2011, the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility Retreat brought together several stakeholders to develop a 2-year workplan including a new focus on Disaster Risk Reduction and Gender-based Violence.

#### *March 2011 to January 2012*

The IASC Sub-Working Group on Gender in Humanitarian Action, in collaboration with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), convened GenCap (Gender Stand-by Capacity) Advisers to Geneva on 7-8 February 2011. This was the third year that the GenCaps have come together to learn from each other and plan the way forward. One full day was dedicated to Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and the key outcome of this session was to reaffirm the main focus of gender mainstreaming into the GenCap's Terms of Reference.

An IASC Gender Marker Workshop held on 21-23 June 2011 in Kenya brought together GenCap Advisers and cluster partners to build skills on and ensure consistency of the use of the IASC Gender Marker as it is further rolled out in CAPs and pooled funds mechanisms in 2011 for the 2012 cycle. Time was also dedicated to clarification on coding of stand-alone projects on Gender Based Violence (prevention and response).

UNICEF continued to co-chair the IASC Sub-Working Group (SWG) on Gender and Humanitarian Action, and as such hosted the annual retreat of the SWG in November 2011 in New York. The 2012 Workplan takes into account the IASC Principals reform process and it is structured around the five key priority areas, namely, Leadership, Coordination, Accountability, Preparedness and Advocacy and Communication.

UNICEF and UNFPA continued to co-lead the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Area of Responsibility (AoR) as part of the Global Protection Cluster, and UNICEF hosts a dedicated GBV AoR Coordinator. In partnership with the GenCap Steering Committee, the GBV AoR has built a specific expertise on GBV on the GenCap roster and has developed a concept note to set a rapid response team mechanism. The GBVAoR conducted research/scoping mission in South Sudan (March 2011), Pakistan (July 2011) and Chad (Nov. 2011).

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action (IASWG) developed and disseminated ABC tip sheets to support mainstreaming of gender in humanitarian response in the Horn of Africa and Pakistan. In addition, the SWG supported research on impact of Sex and Age Disaggregated Data on the quality of the humanitarian response.

## **ECHA/ECPS UN AND NGO TASK FORCE ON PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE**

### **Main activities**

The Task Force supports the establishment of UN and NGO policies and develops tools so as to assist the humanitarian community in protecting from sexual exploitation and abuse. It has produced, a Statement of Commitment on Eliminating Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by UN and non-UN Personnel; an awareness-raising video To Serve with Pride: Zero Tolerance for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse; a UN strategy on assistance to victims, adopted by the General Assembly in December 2007. The Task Force also provides strategic and technical support to selected UN Country Teams and peacekeeping operations. In this context, it builds capacity through training, strengthens inter-agency collaboration on PSEA activities and provides guidance on developing victim assistance programmes.

### *March 2011 to January 2012*

At a global level, UNICEF continued to support inter-agency work on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) by UN staff and related personnel, through the IASC Task Force on this topic. In 2011, the findings of the IASC review were widely disseminated, including at two Humanitarian Accountability Partnership events.

*March 2012 – February 2013*

UNICEF continued to support the work of the IASC Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), producing the Minimum Operating Standards on PSEA (MOS-PSEA) by UN and non-UN personnel and their accompanying guidelines. The DVD “To Serve with Pride” was also updated.

## **INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

*Baseline July 2007*

DAW conducts research and analysis and regularly prepares reports of the Secretary-General, in response to inter-governmental mandates, seeking inputs from governments and other stakeholders on progress made and obstacles encountered, and on good practices and lessons learned. Reports cover all forms of violence against women, as well as particular aspects such as trafficking in women, traditional practices harmful to women and girls, and violence against women migrant workers. DAW was responsible for the preparation, and now supports the follow-up to the Secretary-General’s in-depth study on all forms of violence against women (A/61/122/Add. 1 and Corr.1). These reports, including policy recommendations, serve as basis for discussion and action by Governments, in particular the Commission on the Status of Women and the General Assembly.

DAW organizes expert group meetings on violence against women. Examples include:

- Expert Group Meeting on “Elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child”, Florence, Italy, September 2006 (in collaboration with UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre);
- Expert Group Meeting on “Violence against women: a statistical overview, challenges and gaps in data collection and methodology and approaches for overcoming them”, Geneva, Switzerland, April 2005 (in collaboration with ECE and WHO);
- Expert Group Meeting on “Good practices in combating and eliminating violence against women”, Vienna, Austria, May 2005 (in collaboration with UNODC);
- Expert Group Meeting on “Trafficking in women and girls”, Glen Cove, USA November 2002 (in collaboration with UNODC).

UNODC prepares reports for intergovernmental bodies on criminal justice aspects of violence against women.

DPKO contributes to policy development in the area of gender-based violence against women through its support to intergovernmental processes, in particular the Security Council.

ECA supports inter-governmental processes, including those that result in policy instruments for the advancement of women, and the elimination of violence against women. It supports the work of the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices on fight against traditional practices that are harmful to women and girls, including genital mutilation.

ILO’s approach to violence against migrant women is also based on the promotion of labour standards for migrant workers within a Decent Work framework. Important standards to specifically promote the protection and welfare of migrant workers, including women, are the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised) 1949 (No.97), Migrant Workers Supplementary Provisions Convention 1975, (NO.143) and the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (NO.181).

ECLAC is presently collaborating with the regional Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights to establish ways of linking follow-up of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

Discrimination against Women and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará).

ESCWA supports the work of intergovernmental bodies, including the Arab Regional Conference Ten Years after Beijing: A Call for Peace in Beirut (2004), which resulted in the five-year work programme that includes women's rights and violence against women among its five priority areas. In 2004, ESCWA conducted the Arab regional ten-year review and appraisal of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, which included attention to violence against women. ESCWA contributes to the Secretary-General's reports on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women, analysing the close links between increased poverty and social burdens and increased domestic violence against women. ESCWA contributed to the Secretary-General's report on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women (E/CN.6/2008/3).

*July 2007 to January 2008*

DAW prepared reports of the Secretary-General to the sixty-second session of the General Assembly on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/62/201) and violence against women migrant workers (A/62/177); as well as reports of the Secretary-General to the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women on ending female genital mutilation (E/CN.6/2008/3) and forced marriage of the girl child (E/CN.6/2008/4).

In follow-up to General Assembly resolution 61/143, DAW, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN ECE) and the United Nations Statistics Division, organized an expert group meeting on "Indicators to measure violence against women", Geneva, Switzerland, October 2007. DAW and UNSD are supporting a joint dialogue of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Statistical Commission, on 28 February 2008, to discuss the outcomes and proposed indicators of the expert group meeting. DAW has initiated work for the development of a coordinated database on violence against women, as requested by the General Assembly (A/RES/61/143, para. 19).

In September 2007, OHCHR provided support to the sixth session of Human Rights Council, on gender integration, where an expert panel considered ways to ensure the integration of a gender perspective into the work of the Council. During its resumed sixth session in December 2007, the Council adopted a resolution on integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system in which it decided to incorporate into its programme of work as a minimum an annual full-day meeting, to discuss the human rights of women.

The responsibility to provide support to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was formally transferred to the OHCHR as of 1 January 2008. In addition to logistical and over-all support, discussions were held with the Committee on the provision of analytical assistance on specific thematic issues, such as sexual violence, honour killings, domestic violence and the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325.

At the global level, UNICEF contributed extensively to the work of the General Assembly on a comprehensive policy and strategy for victims of abuse and exploitation by United Nations staff and partners. The policy, which was adopted by the General Assembly in resolution A/RES/62/214 in December 2007, explicitly notes the vulnerabilities of women and girls and seeks remedy for harm done to them.

Within the framework of its thematic debate on 'Aspects of violence against women that pertain directly to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice', the Commission, at its seventeenth session from 14-18 April 2008, considered the report of the Secretary-General on crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women and girls. The Commission, in decision 17/1, requested UNODC to convene an intergovernmental group of experts, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Special

Rapporteur on violence against women, to review and update the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

ESCWA published in 2007 the Report on Women in the Arab region: Achievements, Obstacles and Prospects for Advancement, which reviewed the status of Arab women and their achievements in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, the Arab Plan of Action and the Beirut Declaration, a five year plan which includes women's rights and violence against women among its five priority areas.

In October 2007, the International Conference on the State of Safety in World Cities took place in Mexico. The Conference developed an international framework to support cities in their efforts to address issues of violence and crime, including violence against women; outlined strategies and approaches to address violence against women; and built partnerships between United Nations, and a wide spectrum of stakeholders to address urban crime and violence.

#### *February 2008 to September 2008*

DAW prepared reports of the Secretary-General to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/63/214), trafficking in women and girls (A/63/215), and eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations (A/63/216).

OHCHR entered into a partnership with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in order to contribute to shaping policy in the areas of addressing violence against women, the promotion of gender equality and ensure respect of individual gender identity.

ILO's International Migration Programme (MIGRANT) prepared a global policy-advice report on gender and migration for the International Conference on Gender, Migration and Development: Seizing Opportunities and Upholding Rights (ICGMD) that covered the issue of violence against women migrant workers. The conference took place in September 2008 and was organized with UNIFEM, UNICEF, Migrants Forum in Asia (MFA), and Migrant Rights International (MRI) and resulted in The Manila Call to Action and its Resolution:

[http://www.icgmd.info/docs/icgmd\\_manila\\_call\\_to\\_action.pdf](http://www.icgmd.info/docs/icgmd_manila_call_to_action.pdf)

#### *October 2008 to February 2009*

DAW identified experts and undertook research in preparation for an expert group meeting on legislation on harmful practices.

#### *March 2009 to September 2009*

DAW prepared reports of the Secretary-General to the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/64/151) and violence against women migrant workers (A/64/152).

In its General Recommendation No. 26 on Women Migrant Workers, adopted at the forty-second session, the Committee on the Elimination of Violence against Women (CEDAW) urged States parties to closely monitor recruiting agencies and prosecute them for acts of violence, coercion, prostitution or exploitation (article 2 (e)).

#### *October 2009 to February 2010*

In June 2010, the International Labour Conference will hold the first round of discussions on a draft instrument on decent work for domestic workers, and in 2011 will discuss the standard(s) with a view to its adoption. A new standard on decent work for domestic workers will contribute to

the effective abolition of child labour within domestic work and help to prevent and eliminate violence against domestic workers of any age.

#### *March to September 2010*

DAW, now part of UN Women, prepared reports of the Secretary General to the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/65/208), and trafficking in women and girls (A/65/209).

On 11 March 2010, the Commission on the Status of Women held an interactive panel discussion on the theme “Unite to End Violence against Women”. A Moderator’s summary of the panel is available on the DAW website at: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing15/ievents.html>.

In July 2010, UNODC hosted an Expert Group Meeting to review draft material for the forthcoming *International Framework for Action to Implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol*, a technical assistance tool to support States in the implementation of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol. The draft tool recommends that the special vulnerability of smuggled migrant women to violence be borne in mind in the design, implementation and review of any measures put in place to protect women against violence. The draft provides that addressing violence against women in the context of migrant smuggling begins with addressing the underlying discriminatory norms and behaviour which manifest as increased vulnerability of women to violence, both before being smuggled, during the smuggling process and afterwards, especially when they are living as irregular migrants in or are in the custody of the destination state and/or are returned to their state of origin.

At its 17th session (April 2008), the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice requested UNODC to convene an intergovernmental group of experts to review and update, as appropriate, the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (hereinafter MSPMs), adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/86. The need to revise the MSPMs stemmed from the recognition that new practices, new thinking and new research have been developed since the adoption of the Model Strategies in December 1997.

In July 2010, upon recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its 19th session (May 2010), the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2010/15 entitled “Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women” for further consideration and possible adoption by the General Assembly at its 65th session. By endorsing this resolution, the Council adopted the guidelines contained in the updated MSPMs (see annex of resolution 2010/15) which represent a comprehensive framework to assist States in developing policies and carrying out actions to eliminate violence against women and to promote equality between men and women within the criminal justice system. They are organized around eleven themes: i) guiding principles; ii) criminal law; iii) criminal procedure; iv) police, prosecutors and other criminal justice officials; v) sentencing and corrections; vi) victim support and assistance; vii) health and social services; viii) training; ix) research and evaluation; x) crime prevention measures; and xi) international cooperation. The Council urged Member States to evaluate and review their legislation and legal principles, procedures, policies, programmes and practices relating to crime prevention and criminal justice matters, in a manner consistent with their legal systems and drawing upon the updated MSPMs, to determine if they are adequate to prevent and eliminate violence against women. Member States were also called upon to advance effective crime prevention and criminal justice strategies that address violence against women, including strategies aimed at preventing revictimization.

The Economic and Social Council, upon recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted resolution 2010/16 entitled “UN Rules for Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)”. The Bangkok Rules, annexed to the resolution, which were developed to supplement the United

Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-Custodial Measures (Tokyo Rules) are made up of 70 rules. The Bangkok Rules will be submitted to the General Assembly, at its 65th session, for its consideration and possible approval.

Members of UNHCR's Executive Committee prepared a draft Conclusion on the rights and protection needs of refugees with disabilities, which included the need to prevent and respond to violence against women refugees with disabilities.

*October 2010-February 2011*

On 21 December 2010, the General Assembly adopted resolution 65/228 on strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women and resolution 65/229 on United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules). The General Assembly resolution 65/228 endorsed the revised and updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures to Eliminate Violence against Women in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The Bangkok Rules, which were endorsed by the General Assembly resolution 65/229 contain a set of 70 rules, including rules to address several forms of violence against female prisoners.

In October 2010, the Human Rights Council, through resolution 15/23, established, for a period of three years, a working group of five independent experts on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice. The Working Group is mandated, inter alia, to: develop a dialogue with States, the relevant United Nations entities, national human rights institutions, experts on different legal systems, and civil society organizations to identify, promote and exchange views on best practices related to the elimination of laws that discriminate against women or are discriminatory to women in terms of implementation or impact and, in that regard, to prepare a compendium of best practices; undertake a study, in cooperation with and reflecting the views of States and relevant United Nations entities, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations, on the ways and means in which the working group can cooperate with States to fulfil their commitments to eliminate discrimination against women in law and in practice; and to make recommendations on the improvement of legislation and the implementation of the law, to contribute to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular goal 3 on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

In October 2010 UNODC together with other members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), established by the UN General Assembly, launched the report: *"An analytical review: 10 years on from the adoption of the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol"*.

UNICEF contributed to the organization of the discussion and resolution of the Human Rights Council on sexual violence against children.

In collaboration with partners - the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and for Children and Armed Conflict, the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography – UNICEF continued to promote the two-year global campaign to promote universal ratification of the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (OPSC) and on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OPAC) by 2012. The total number of State Parties to OPSC is 142 and the number of signatories is 118. The total number of State Parties to OPAC is 139 and the number of signatories is 128.

UNICEF has provided support to the development of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women-Committee on the Rights of the Child joint general comment/recommendation on harmful practices.

*March 2011 to January 2012*

In June 2011, the International Labour Conference adopted the Convention No. 189 and Recommendation No. 201 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers. The new standards are a strong recognition of the economic and social value of domestic work and a call for action to address the existing exclusions of domestic workers from labour and social protection. Article 5 of Convention No. 189 calls for measures to ensure that domestic workers enjoy effective protection against all forms of abuse, harassment and violence.

The OHCHR office in Brussels, together with the UN Country Team, actively participated in the elaboration and adoption of the European Union (EU) Directive on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Protecting Its Victims. A commentary on implementing the Directive has been developed and submitted to the EU. This Commentary is aimed at assisting EU countries in interpreting the Directives in a more human rights-based approach. UNICEF also contributed to the Joint UN Commentary on EU Directive.

OHCHR continued to promote the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking through the organization of regional launchings of the Commentary of the Recommended Principles and Guidelines published at the beginning of 2011 with capacity building activities in Moldova (November 2011) and in the United Arab Emirates (December 2011). The Commentary is an in-depth analysis of the legal and policy frameworks on trafficking.

The Working Group on Discrimination against Women in Law and Practice of the Human Rights Council was appointed in March 2011 and assumed its functions on 1 May 2011. During the reporting period, the Working Group held two sessions in Geneva, decided its working methods and thematic priorities. These relate to women's right to equality in participating in public and political life including at times of political transitions (2012) and women's right to equality in participating in economic and social life including at times of economic crisis (2013).

More information can be found at:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WGWomen/Pages/WGWomenIndex.aspx>

In December 2011, UNHCR organized a ministerial meeting marking the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Refugee Convention, during which a number of states made pledges related to the implementation of the Refugee and Statelessness Conventions, including on eliminating sexual and gender-based violence and gender discrimination in nationality legislation.

UN Women prepared reports of the Secretary General to the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly on Violence against women migrant workers (A/66/212) and on the Girl-child (A/66/257); as well as a report of the Secretary General to the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) on Ending female genital mutilation (E/CN.6/2012/8). UNICEF provided technical inputs to both reports.

OHCHR submitted two reports to the Human Rights Council's 17<sup>th</sup> session (June 2011), respectively on the expert workshop on challenges, good practices and opportunities in the elimination of all forms of violence against women (A/HRC/17/22), and a Compilation of good practices in efforts aimed at preventing violence against women (A/HRC/17/23).

OHCHR supported the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its causes and consequences in developing and presenting a thematic report on multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (A/HRC/17/26) which proposes a holistic approach to addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that contribute to and exacerbate violence against women. The Special Rapporteur also submitted her reports to the Human Rights Council on missions undertaken to El Salvador, Algeria, Zambia and the United States. OHCHR further

supported the Special Rapporteur in convening a side event on regional standards and violence against women during the seventeenth session of the Human Rights Council in June 2011. The objective of this event, which brought together representatives of regional human rights mechanisms from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Inter-American region, was to analyse the different provisions on violence against women elaborated in the regional human rights instruments and relevant jurisprudence developed by the regional mechanisms.

The UNAIDS Secretariat provided comprehensive support for the 2011 UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AIDS. The resulting Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV/AIDS highlights the need to eliminate violence against women.

*March 2012- February 2013*

The General Assembly in its resolution 67/187 adopted the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems which provide, inter alia, that States should take applicable and appropriate measures to ensure the right of women to access legal aid, including (a) introducing an active policy of incorporating a gender perspective into all policies, laws, procedures, programmes and practices relating to legal aid to ensure gender equality and equal and fair access to justice; and (b) providing legal aid, advice and court support services in all legal proceedings to female victims of violence in order to ensure access to justice and avoid secondary victimization and other such services, which may include the translation of legal documents where requested or required (Guideline 9).

The UN General Assembly – with support from UNFPA and UNICEF - adopted by consensus resolution 67/146 on “Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilations”.

UN Women drafted and submitted two Secretary-General’s reports on “Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women” (A/67/220), and “Trafficking in women and girls” (A/67/170). Technical inputs and expertise was also provided to the co-chairs of the General Assembly’s 67<sup>th</sup> Session on the resolutions on “Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women” (A/RES/67/144) and “Trafficking in women and girls” (A/RES/67/145), respectively, as well as to Member States more generally. Negotiations on the two resolutions were monitored throughout the GA 67<sup>th</sup> Session. Negotiations on the General Assembly’s resolution on “Intensification of global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilations” (A/RES/67/146) were also monitored.

The priority theme of the 57<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women CSW (2013) is *Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls*. Several UN agencies have undertaken initiatives to mobilise on the topic, with UN Women leading the CSW process. UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF and WHO co-organized a first-ever Expert Group Meeting hosted in Bangkok with the support of ESCAP on prevention of violence against women in lead up to CSW. An on-line discussion on CSW 57<sup>th</sup> Session priority theme was organized from the 23<sup>rd</sup> July to the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2012, with multiple stakeholders; and an Inter-agency consultation process for ongoing preparations for CSW 57<sup>th</sup> Session was established with UNDP, UN ESCAP, UNICEF, UNFPA, OHCHR, UNODC, ILO, WHO to ensure a coordinated UN System approach.

OHCHR submitted two papers on the application of a human rights approach to prevention of violence against women and human rights based approach to multi-sectoral responses as part of the preparation of the SG’s reports for the 57<sup>th</sup> CSW session.

UNAIDS is supporting a number of actions to highlight the link between violence against women and HIV, as well as the role of the HIV response in overcoming violence against women. These include Country consultations led by the Women Won’t Wait campaign; and a high level panel during the CSW on the linkages between violence against women and HIV.

UNICEF chaired the Inter-agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons during 2012, during which a discussion paper was commissioned on “The International Legal Frameworks concerning Trafficking in Persons.” UNICEF also provided inputs and support to various other international instruments and processes, including: the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/67/146 on “Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate Female Genital Mutilations”; the CRC and CEDAW committee’s development of a joint general comment/general recommendation; a specific section on the impact of small arms and light weapons on women within the UN Coordinated Action on Small Arms paper on the Impact of Poorly Regulated Arms Transfers (as part of the Arms Trade Treaty negotiations); and the drafting and adoption of the Human Rights Council Resolution on birth registration.

OHCHR, as a member of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) and United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UNGIFT) ensured a human rights based approach was mainstreamed throughout all the policy papers developed by ICAT including the joint paper on the intersection between legal regimes to combat trafficking was produced. OHCHR also continues to promote the application of the Recommended Principles and Guideline on Human Rights and Human Trafficking through the organisation of regional and sub-regional launchings of the Commentary (an in depth analysis of the legal and policy frameworks on trafficking) in parallel with capacity building workshops.

OHCHR provided support to the CEDAW Committee in its regional consultations on the drafting of a general recommendation on the realization of women’s rights in conflict and post-conflict, also providing financial support for two regional women’s NGO groups to participate in the consultation in Africa.

The Convention No. 189 (2011) on Decent Work for Domestic Workers has been ratified by four countries, namely Uruguay, the Philippines, Mauritius and Italy.

## **ENHANCED CAPACITY OF UN ENTITY IN RELATION TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

*Baseline July 2007*

In September 2005, a United Nations inter-agency working group on violence against women in all its manifestations, was established, coordinated by ECLAC, in order to strengthen, coordinate and integrate current activities carried out by the organizations of the United Nations in Latin America and the Caribbean in the area of violence against women. The working group prepared a regional contribution to the Secretary-General’s in-depth study on violence against women and an integral regional report that will be distributed to the Tenth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Quito, Ecuador, August 2007).

DPKO gender units/advisers collaborate and partner with different units within a peacekeeping mission to combat violence against women, in particular those dealing with human rights, conduct and discipline, children, or HIV/AIDS, as is the case in Burundi.

DPKO gender units in peacekeeping missions increasingly participate in country-based United Nations inter-agency initiatives and mechanisms to address gender-based violence against women, for example in Haiti, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Sudan and Burundi.

In order to ensure gender mainstreaming, OHCHR works directly with a range of UN partners in the areas of development cooperation, humanitarian affairs, and peace and security to ensure that human rights principles, norms and standards relating to gender equality and women’s rights are integrated into their work, including as it relates to violence against women. OHCHR is contributing to various UN initiatives to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse by

UN personnel with a view to placing such acts within the framework of violations of human rights, trying to push specifically for UN accountability in this area.

UNV carried out a corporate review of gender mainstreaming (Norrish, 2006) which made recommendations for strengthening performance in this area. As a result, UNV set up a Gender Action Team.

Several DPKO missions have supported, or implemented training activities for mission personnel and other stakeholders on gender-based violence against women, as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste.

OCHA staff is sensitized on the prevention of gender-based violence, and all partners and staff are informed about applicable codes of conduct. The Office implements confidential complaints mechanisms on gender-based violence, including sexual violence against women and is responsible for managing the sexual exploitation and abuse focal point network.

UNHCR organizes training on SGBV to enable the organization to meet standards in prevention and response.

UNHCR's system for measuring progress in operations includes standards and indicators on SGBV, and offices are required to report on their performance in relation to meeting the standards. In addition, the UNHCR's global strategic objectives and measurable targets include a requirement that all UNHCR operations will have in place standard operating procedures for SGBV prevention and response by the end of 2007.

In 2007, UNFPA developed a draft corporate strategy on gender-based violence to identify priority areas of focus for investing its resources strategically at country, regional and global levels, based on its comparative advantages and experience. The draft strategy also lays out the organization's capacity development initiatives, resources and partnerships for an effective approach to addressing gender-based violence.

In November 2004, the World Bank held a workshop on "The Development Implications of Gender-Based Violence" to inform staff about the causes and development impacts of gender-based violence; and identify actions that the World Bank can take to address gender-based violence in its work. The workshop recommended that the Bank include gender-based violence in its core work and that further evidence of the costs of gender-based violence be gathered in order to convince client governments to take action.

UNHCR has assigned country-level focal points in each of its offices to carry out the recommendations of the Secretary-General's Bulletin on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13). The Office continues to promote and report on the implementation of the Bulletin and provides annual refresher sessions for staff on its Code of Conduct. UNHCR's Code of Conduct includes a section on sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian workers. All agreements with implementing partners include a mandatory appendix (2) on "Standards of Conduct – Ensuring protection from sexual exploitation and abuse".

At the global level, UNICEF is actively involved in efforts to develop policies aimed at the protection of women and girls from sexual abuse and exploitation by United Nations staff and related personnel.

WFP contributed to the development of the guidelines for the Secretary-General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13).

*July 2007 to January 2008*

In West Africa, DPKO Gender Advisers from missions in Cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone and Liberia (ONUCI, UNIOSIL and UNMIL) have attended a regional meeting to share best practices and lessons learnt for addressing SGBV.

*February 2008 to September 2008*

UNHCR is leading the development of guidelines on establishing community-based complaints mechanisms for sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian personnel and peacekeepers, through the Executive Committees on Humanitarian Action and Peace and Security (ECHA/ECPS) and UN NGO Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA).

In 2008, UNHCR allocated an additional USD 1.5 million for prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence. Projects include: creating a manager post on sexual and gender-based violence and community outreach teams in the Central African Republic; hiring an expert in Chad; signing agreements with implementing partners in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In partnership with Women Programme Centers (WPCs), UNRWA launched the "Campaign to Combat Violence Against Women", throughout the region with events and training sessions on the sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) policy and workshops for field staff. UNRWA held workshops on domestic violence, including for Gaza staff and in the West Bank for regional staff. Protection clusters in North Lebanon were set up to train frontline staff on gender-based violence.

*October 2008 to February 2009*

Following the Fifteenth Meeting of Specialized Agencies and Other Bodies of the United Nations System on the Advancement of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Bogotá, 23 April 2008), a regional interagency working group has been established to define the strategy and ways to implement the Secretary-General's campaign. ECLAC is acting as the link between the regional and global levels for the Secretary-General's campaign to eliminate all forms of violence against women.

OHCHR examined the feasibility of deploying gender advisors, including on violence against women, to regional offices, and completed a needs assessment mission to the Regional Office in Beirut in October 2008. OHCHR continued to develop a gender strategy for Colombia, including sub-strategies related to violence and a consultant was recruited for its implementation phase. In the Middle East and North Africa region, OHCHR worked to develop a strategy to combat crimes committed in the name of "honour".

In October 2008, UNHCR finalized a three-year Strategic Plan to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence.

In September 2009, UNFPA held a regional meeting in Namibia to develop a UNFPA Africa-wide regional strategy on GBV.

UNHCR has developed a Strategic Plan for Reproductive Health (2008-2012), including key sexual and gender-based violence strategies on the establishment of policies, guidelines and programmes to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence; clinical management and protocols for rape survivors; access to early diagnosis; and care and treatment for rape survivors.

In December 2008, UNDP commenced to document the range of gender-based violence interventions its country offices support in order to specify its role in this area.

During 2008, all UNHCR offices were required to view and discuss the film "To Serve with Pride", produced by the ECHA/ECPS UN/NGO Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and

Abuse. UNHCR has also taken the lead in developing guidance for field offices in setting up community-based complaints mechanisms for sexual exploitation and abuse.

In January 2009, UNRWA implemented its sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) policy "Prohibition of discrimination, harassment - including sexual harassment and abuse of power", supported by agency-wide training. The Agency researched initiatives to address violence against women within the region to determine best practices.

At global level, UNICEF co-led the gender-based violence area of responsibility of the Protection Cluster Working Group and participated in the ECHA/ECPS UN and NGO Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and the working group on victims' assistance developing a guide to support the implementation of the General Assembly Resolution "United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and related Personnel".

WFP scaled up its integration of gender and protection into field operations and programming. By the end of 2008, 500 staff members and partners were trained on protection issues. The training also included prevention and response to gender-based violence during food distributions.

The UNAIDS Gender Guidance for National AIDS Responses was distributed to field offices. In November 2008, UNAIDS established a US\$3 million dollar window in the UNAIDS Programme Acceleration Fund (PAF) mechanism to assist Joint UN AIDS Teams to catalyze country level action on gender and AIDS, including programming on violence against women and its intersections with HIV.

The World Bank office for the region of Latin America and the Caribbean held an internal learning event on gender-based violence, focusing on challenges in the measurement of gender-based violence and in the costing of its effects; on policy implications; and possible interventions and links to the Bank's operations.

#### *March 2009 to September 2009*

UNFPA and WHO jointly hosted a meeting on "Prenatal Sex Selection for Non-Health Reasons" in June 2009 in order to build a common understanding that will lead to the issuance of a joint UN inter-agency statement on the subject.

An OHCHR consultant is implementing the pilot country gender strategy aimed at mainstreaming a gender approach in all of the Office's programming and activities, including ways to identify and analyze cases of gender-based violence and women's rights violations.

OIOS recently commenced a thematic evaluation of the start-up phase of the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women". The evaluation will also consider the broader framework in which the campaign is carried out, namely the UN's work on gender mainstreaming and gender equality. The regional (ECLAC) working group for the Secretary-General's UNiTE Campaign, in addition to UNIFEM, UNFPA and ECLAC, expanded to include the Interamerican Commission for Women (ICW), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), ILO, OHCHR, PAHO, UNAIDS, UNDP and WFP.

As part of a review of the implementation of the mandate of OHCHR, OIOS surveyed 1,200 Colombians from different regions and socio-economic groups. Two thirds of all respondents indicated respect for human rights, as the most important issue to them, on a list that also included economic development, environmental protection and international relations. Women reported significantly higher levels of interest in human rights and significantly lower levels of knowledge concerning human rights mechanisms in Colombia than did men (A/64/203, Box, Knowledge of human rights among the population of Colombia, pp. 9-10). Seventy two per cent of respondents felt violence and civil unrest were definitely human rights issues. Staff of the OHCHR

and its partners, from a wide range of stakeholders, were also interviewed, indicating that the OHCHR had contributed to increased protection of potential victims, reduction of human rights violations and more measures to improve access to human rights by marginalized and discriminated groups, including women.

OIOS is providing support to the building of capacity and specialized skills for investigating SEA, including advanced training techniques involving victims of sex crimes. OIOS issues reports that request confirmation of follow-up by Member States contributing troops for peacekeeping operations, in order to ensure that allegations of SEA are not treated with impunity.

UNDP held its Global Conference on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Caracas, Venezuela, in order to better identify entry points for UNDP's work on gender-based violence.

In July 2009, UNHCR held a seminar with the CEDAW Committee on promoting the use of the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* to protect women affected by forced displacement and statelessness, focusing on sexual violence and discrimination against displaced women and girls.

UNRWA revised the technical guidelines for the health department in April 2009, including the detection, counseling and referral of women victims of violence.

A workshop for UNRWA health gender focal points on lessons learned in detecting women victims of violence in health centers was held in Damascus, in July 2009. The need for an internal and external referral system in partnership with host country stakeholders was highlighted.

On 3 June 2009, UN-HABITAT and UNIFEM signed a new Memorandum of Understanding regarding a global programme to tackle violence against women and girls in the world's cities. This programme will focus on the development, testing and delivery of a new global model for safer cities, based on proven strategies and best practices that can be replicated in different cities around the world.

UN-HABITAT, in partnership with the UNIFEM South Asia Sub-Regional Office and the NGO "Jagori", has developed a framework for a Safer New Delhi, with women's safety being the entry point.

The UN-HABITAT Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP) was adopted by the Governing Council in April 2009, focusing on the rolling out of the women's safety audit tool to other cities and training of local governments in adopting this approach; developing guidelines and a capacity building program for local authorities on women's safety in public spaces.

#### *October 2009 to February 2010*

In its risk assessment of Secretariat departments, offices, regional commissions and peacekeeping and political missions, OIOS identified governance and organizational arrangements as a high risk area. OIOS had conducted, in 2008, an audit of the management of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues (OSAGI) and the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). OIOS recommended that DESA, in consultation with the Secretary-General, should consolidate OSAGI and DAW into one single programme within DESA.

As part of its Investigations Learning Programme (ILP), the Investigations Division of OIOS has successfully launched a Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Basic Investigations Training Course for the various investigative entities in the UN system, such as Military Police and Special Investigations Units. Particularly applicable in the peacekeeping context, the SEA training course covers techniques and best practices in several aspects of SEA: investigations, including first response issues; interviewing for SEA cases; field investigation issues; report writing; evidence

collection and forensic analysis; and applicable law, with a focus on "the SEA bulletin": ST/SGB/2003/13, Special measures for protection against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. The course applies a multi-disciplinary approach to learning by using role playing, group work, group discussion, video reviewing and videotaping for interview exercises.

In October 2009, the UNAIDS Executive Director established a Task Force, comprised of a wide range of stakeholders, to advise on the development of an Operational Plan for the UNAIDS Action Framework on Women, Girls, Gender Equality and HIV, which was endorsed at the Board meeting in December 2009. The Action Framework and Operational Plan outline core responsibilities for the UN in advancing work on women, girls and HIV at all levels.

#### *March to September 2010*

A UNDP global programme to support country level work is being developed to implement priority action areas including: work with local government and with traditional entities; multi-sectoral projects, especially comprehensive poverty reduction and governance projects; research on impacts, methods and baseline data; dissemination of research; support to the Secretary General's Campaign to End Violence Against women; and work with NGOs and local campaigns to develop capacity, end recidivism and provide counseling for survivors.

The OHCHR supported the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences in strengthening partnerships with other human rights mechanisms, both special procedures and treaty bodies, particularly the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences and CEDAW held discussions on ways to strengthen cooperation in a number of areas of their work. In Panama, the OHCHR Regional Office led the preparation of the United Nations Country Team's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) submission, which includes a section on the situation of women in the country, including an alarming increase in cases of femicide.

UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA are currently implementing a Capacity Development Project on gender-based violence, funded by ECHO, which focuses on Nepal, Afghanistan and Pakistan. UNICEF focuses on Ivory Coast, CAR and Chad, and UNFPA focuses on Sudan, Occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) and Iraq. The objective is to train 63 capacity promoters, who will bolster the capacity of 360 international and national staff in the coordination of gender-based violence programming in these nine countries.

In Gaza, West Bank, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, UNRWA staff attended training in detecting and counselling victims of gender-based violence. The staff included nurses, midwives, health counsellors, medical officers, education counsellors, lawyers and social workers. In West Bank, and with the support of the Birzeit University, 4 trainings took place to introduce the concepts of community protection.

In Panama, the OHCHR has participated in the Common Country Assessment (CCA)/UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) processes of Panama throughout 2010 and has an active role in the inter-agency group of gender and the SG UNITE Campaign. The OHCHR organized a human rights-based approach training in Costa Rica, highlighting, inter alia, issues related to women's rights and violence against women. The OHCHR participated, with a resource person, in a human rights-based approach training, at the UN Staff College, for the UNCT in El Salvador, in connection with the preparation of CCA/UNDAF.

Gender Advisors of OHCHR were deployed in four regional offices (Fiji, Lebanon, Panama and Senegal). In the Regional Office in Panama, for example, the role of the Gender Advisor, is to integrate gender analysis into the Office's areas of work and to raise awareness about violence, against women.

In September 2010, UNFPA developed the draft of the sub-regional strategy on Gender-based Violence for Latin America and the Caribbean region via a workshop held in Guatemala.

*October 2010-February 2011*

In the context of the emergence of UN Women, UNFPA worked to clarify for its staff comparative advantage and value-added areas, where UNFPA mandates will support UN efforts to transform gender relations, end gender-based violence and harmful practices and ensure that legislative frameworks are strengthened and implemented. The UNFPA Gender and Gender-based Violence Advisers participated in capacity building and strategic planning meetings. Capacity development strategies were aimed at policy and institutional levels and at improving technical assistance. Building on the outcomes of the 2008 Gender Capacity Assessment report, work was initiated to: i) harmonize and create more gender responsive indicators in the thematic funds; ii) to strengthen networks of regional Gender and Gender-based Violence advisers; and, iii) to support regions to develop in-country capacities with Country Office-level gender and gender-based violence focal points.

The OHCHR Regional Office for Central America organized a training of trainers on “Human Mobility and Human Rights”, for UN staff in the region, that included one Module on Gender Analysis of Migration and violence against women throughout the process.

A new space dedicated to gender-based violence was created in Teamworks, UNDP’s extranet web-based platform, which identifies staff working on or interested in gender-based violence, and provides them with resources, and relevant information on gender-based violence and programming.

In January 2011, the UNDP Gender Team hosted a learning and information-sharing event for staff of UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, and UNICEF, in HQs and several countries.

*March 2011 to January 2012*

OHCHR continued supporting the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its causes and consequences: in supporting three country visits to Jordan (11-24 November 2011), Somalia (9 – 16 December 2011) and Italy (15-26 January 2012); in strengthening partnerships with other human rights mechanisms, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); and in convening an Expert Group Meeting on gender motivated killings of women. The Special Rapporteur also held a bilateral meeting with the CEDAW Committee with a view to strengthening partnerships between the two mandates and mutually benefit from their respective work.

In June 2011, UNHCR published its “Action against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: An Updated Strategy”, which highlights six action areas: protecting children, persons with disabilities and LGBTI persons against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), addressing survival sex, engaging men and boys and providing safe access to domestic energy and natural resources. It also includes recommended actions in three institutional focus areas, in order to strengthen UNHCR’s capacity and expertise in addressing SGBV. This global strategy framework forms the basis for all UNHCR operations to develop five-year, country-specific SGBV strategies, embedded in their overall protection strategy.

The UNFPA sub-regional strategy on Gender-based Violence for Latin America and the Caribbean region was released in September 2011.

UNRWA has continued to regularly participate in the various UN taskforces, such as the UN Country Team Gender Taskforce, which aim to build national strategies to end violence against women in Lebanon, Syria and the Occupied Palestinian territory (oPt). In the latter, UNRWA has continued addressing gender-based violence through its participation in interventions and

activities within the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund (MDG-F) Gender equality and Women's Empowerment Project (Joint agency project).

UNFPA developed and pilot-tested the Gender Marker system over 2011 in the country offices of Azerbaijan, Burundi, Indonesia and Turkey. The Gender Marker system will allow the Fund to track its investments on gender and will be mandatorily used by all UNFPA country offices from 2013.

UNFPA continued to lead the Gender-based Violence cluster coordination efforts to address gender-based violence/violence against women in Haiti, and now in the Philippines and Pakistan in the aftermath of natural disasters.

The Nordic Trust Fund (NTF) is supporting the Democratic Republic of Congo country team of the World Bank to explore how women's and children's human rights addressing gender-based violence (GBV) along with other issues can be taken into account in the Bank's country program.

OIOS' evaluation of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) showed that progress had been made in mainstreaming gender into the Mission's agenda and tasks. For example, the Mission prepared gender equality guidelines and a gender strategy, which was instrumental in establishing Vulnerable Persons Protection Units in all Sudanese police stations and had demobilized more than 6,000 women combatants by September 2010. In OIOS' survey of UNMIS staff, 57 per cent of respondents rated the Mission's activities in giving attention to the special needs of women combatants in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration positively. However, information received by UNMIS that 24 women and 30 girls had been raped in 2 villages was not included in the Human Rights Bulletin that the Mission compiled. OIOS recommended that UNMIS should report more comprehensively on human rights violations. (A/65/752)

OIOS' evaluation of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) gave particular emphasis to violence against women in view of the history of conflict-related violence against women in that country. OIOS collaborated with UN Women to develop terms of reference incorporating this focus and to ensure that the Mission's efforts to reduce violence against women and offer assistance to victims were evaluated. The Mission's responses to incidents of violence against women were also considered in the evaluation. The draft report of the evaluation is currently being reviewed by the Mission and DPKO/DFS.

OIOS' evaluation of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) addressed policing and building the capacity of the local police to cope with criminal activity, which includes violence against women. OIOS has submitted the draft report with findings and recommendations to the Mission and DPKO/DFS for review.

OIOS reviewed activities aimed at eliminating violence against women in the context of an audit of the management of the human rights programme in the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI). OIOS' proposed recommendations include strengthening implementation strategies and programme evaluation of UNAMI's human rights interventions in Iraq that also relate to women right violations.

UNFPA's partnership with UNICEF globally and in 12 country offices in co-chairing and implementing activities under the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme and Trust Fund on Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting (FGM/C) and activities under the Trust Fund are ongoing.

UNICEF has led the development of a Prevention Framework to inform field level programming on how to increase the safety and security of women and children. UNICEF is also working to strengthen programme monitoring and evaluation of interventions to prevent and respond to violence against children. This includes global evaluations of UNICEF's work in emergency and

development contexts to address violence, as well as providing technical and financial support to an interagency action research project on the functioning and effectiveness of community-based child protection mechanisms. As part of a greater focus on programme monitoring across the Organisation, concerted efforts are being made to improve programme monitoring on violence against children globally, and focused support is being provided to countries in East and Southern Africa to improve monitoring and evaluation systems related to violence prevention and response in collaboration with governments.

OHCHR raised awareness among its country offices on Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security and on their relevance for their work. This included the production and dissemination of an information sheet; the organization of two-specific sessions during the annual meeting of heads of field presence and the OHCHR planning week respectively.

In Lebanon, UNRWA conducted a training on detection, counselling, referral and follow up of gender-based violence and child survivors was conducted in December 2011 for 20 frontline staff members from Relief, Education, and Health sectors (Medical officers, midwives, Gynecologists/Obstetricians, head teachers, school counsellors, teacher counsellors, SWs, CDSSW/WP, CDSW/DP). An in-depth training will be conducted in March 2012 with the same participants. In December 2011, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNHCR concluded an 18-month project funded by ECHO in 9 countries (Nepal, Afghanistan and Pakistan, Ivory Coast, CAR, Chad, Sudan, occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) and Iraq) on Capacity Development around coordination of gender-based violence prevention and response. This project has enabled 170 Gender-based Violence “Capacity Promoters” from those 9 countries to complete two-week train the trainers workshops on context-specific roll-out of standard good practices for gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response in emergencies, which resulted in over 360 multi-sectoral actors having been trained to effectively address GBV in their contexts. 9 Standard Operating Procedures for GBV prevention and response were updated or developed and principles of good coordination were reinforced in the 9 settings through roll-out of the GBV Coordination Handbook. An online, multi-language Community of Practice was established to foster ongoing learning and information exchange.

UNRWA developed data collection and tracking systems to monitor gender based violence in the communities in Gaza, West Bank, Jordan and Syria, and will also establish this system in Lebanon in 2012. The information gathered is allowing UNRWA staff to better understand the prevalence of gender based violence, its impact, consequences, trends and patterns. UNRWA developed a training manual on addressing survivors of gender based violence, which includes identifying, detecting, counselling and referring cases. 1316 UNRWA frontline staff representing the health, education, relief and social services departments in addition to other staff from Gaza, West Bank, Syria and Jordan were trained on this manual.

A report “Making a Difference: An assessment of Volunteer Interventions Addressing gender-based violence in Cambodia” has been developed by a national UN Volunteer, analysing interventions where volunteerism plays a significant role in the prevention and response to violence against women.

#### *March 2012- January 2013*

UNHCR held four regional workshops on sexual and gender-based violence, aimed at strengthening the capacity of UNHCR and partner staff in the field of prevention and response, as well as monitoring and evaluation. The workshops also included the 2011 “Action against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: *An Updated Strategy*” and will assist individual country operations to develop country-level strategies. UNHCR has also recently recruited four senior protection

officers, being also responsible for developing multi-sectoral strategies on sexual gender-based violence at country level.

UNRWA has provided over 600 training courses to staff, including on sexual abuse, psychosocial counselling, sex education, sexually transmitted diseases, reproductive health and early marriage.

The UN Gender Theme Group for the Pacific, co-chaired by UN Women and UNFPA, revised its Terms of Reference to include responses to gender-based violence in emergencies, including the development of Surge Capacity for immediate response in humanitarian emergencies, as well as the development of government-NGO Communities of Practice on gender-based to facilitate capacity-building and preparedness.

UNAIDS presented an external mid-term review of UNAIDS Agenda for Accelerated Country Action for Women Girls and Gender Equality to its Programme Coordinating Board in December 2012. The review found UNAIDS has contributed to scaled up country-level action on violence and HIV but further work is required to strengthen the evidence base.

OHCHR supports the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, whose work during 2012 included: submission of a report on gender-related killings of women to the Human Rights Council in June 2012; submission of her report to the General Assembly on violence against women with disabilities; and official country missions to Italy, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia. Support was also provided to the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, whose work during 2012 included: submission of a report to the UN Human Rights Council on integrating a human rights-based approach into the prosecution of cases of human trafficking; her report to the General Assembly on the issue of trafficking in supply chains; country visits to the United Arab Emirates, Gabon and the Philippines; and an address to the UN Conference of the State Parties to the Convention on Transnational Organized Crime.

OHCHR hosts the Working Group on Discrimination against women in law and in practice, which held four sessions and presented its first annual report at the 20th session of the Human Rights Council in June 2012. The Working Group conducted three country visits to Morocco, Moldova and Tunisia. OHCHR also submitted a study on violence against women and girls and disability to the same Human Rights Council session.

## **SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

*Baseline July 2007*

In Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burundi and Haiti, DPKO gender units/advisors contribute to national consultative processes on reform and adoption of legislation on violence against women generally, or on issues such as rape or domestic violence. Such units/advisers provide support to national authorities, including ministries of gender equality or justice, and law reform commissions.

OHCHR field presences address violence against women at the national or regional levels, through technical assistance in law reform and monitoring of Government's and other stakeholders' compliance with their international commitments.

UNDP supports the development of legislation addressing domestic violence. ILO undertakes research and analysis of national legislation, case law and practice on sexual harassment in ILO Member States.

In every sub-region, UNIFEM supports efforts to introduce and strengthen legislation against gender-based violence, including domestic and sexual violence, trafficking in women and forced marriage, and to ensure that all forms of violence against women are criminalized. UNIFEM also assists efforts to implement these instruments, including through the allocation of sufficient budgetary resources to end violence against women.

UNIFEM facilitates the efforts of gender advocates, including women parliamentarians, for the creation and implementation of laws and policies to end violence against women.

UNFPA supports and advocates for the implementation of international agreements and conventions, laws and policies related to gender-based violence, as well as for government accountability.

Many UNICEF country offices support the development of legislation on violence against women, including trafficking, domestic violence and sexual offences. UNICEF also works with the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen legislative responses to violence against women and children. UNICEF recently published a guide for Members of Parliament on addressing violence against children.

The World Bank is providing Uruguay with a US\$300,000 Institutional Development Fund grant in order to implement international, regional and domestic laws on violence against women and improve access to justice for victims of domestic violence.

*July 2007 to January 2008*

DPKO Gender Advisers support the adoption and implementation of laws to address SGBV at national level.

DAW participated in a regional conference on legal reform on domestic violence in Sofia, Bulgaria, in February 2008.

ESCWA undertook advisory missions in 2007 to strengthen capacity for the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including legal reform and application of existing law in line with the Convention, as a pre-requisite for eradicating violence against women in the region.

In Equatorial Guinea, the findings and the recommendations of a UNDP-supported study on violence against women and children have been integrated in the draft bill on family law.

UNIFEM, in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders, supported the introduction and strengthening of legislation against gender-based violence, including laws against domestic and sexual violence, rape and family law provisions in, for instance, Cameroon, Colombia, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sierra Leone, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.

UNICEF country offices continued to support the development of legislation pertinent to violence against women and girls and to work with the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

UNESCO carries out a series of studies which examine the family laws in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

UNFPA is working in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders to address gender-based violence, including legal reforms.

*February 2008 to September 2008*

In collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), DAW organized an expert group meeting on good practices in legislation on violence against women at the United Nations Office at Vienna, in May 2008. The report of the expert group meeting includes a model framework for legislation on violence against women with detailed recommendations and explanatory commentaries containing examples of good practice.

UNICEF country offices continued to support the development of legislation pertinent to violence against women and girls.

UNIFEM provided legislative reform support to the Alliance on the elimination of violence against women in Pakistan; and support to the Regional Rights Training Team and UNDP in advocating for the passage of sexual and gender-based violence bills in Fiji and Vanuatu.

At the request of the Government of Pakistan, IOM participated in a national consultation in July 2008, on the draft Domestic Violence Bill. IOM is working with UNIFEM and civil society organizations to review and propose amendments to the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance of 2002 which, at present, does not cover internal trafficking.

#### *October 2008 to February 2009*

DAW continued to promote and disseminate the 'Model Framework for Legislation on Violence against Women', including through presentations at: UNICEF's Expert Consultation on 'Legislative Reform to Achieve Human Rights', held in New York, in November 2008; the Third Conference for Members of Parliamentary Committees on the Status of Women and other Committees Dealing with Gender Equality, convened by the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Geneva, in December 2008, on 'A parliamentary response to violence against women'; the OSCE Experts' Seminar on 'Innovative Approaches to Combating Violence against Women', held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in October 2008; and a round table discussion on domestic violence legislation in Tajikistan, held at the United Nations Office in Tajikistan in October 2008.

Throughout 2008, UNDP supported the following initiatives: policy dialogues with Parliamentarians and Councilors in Zimbabwe on the country's 2007 Domestic Violence Act; work to improve the legal framework for protection of victims of violence in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; the harmonization and implementation of the Equality between Men and Women Act and the Act on Women's Access to a Life Free of Violence in three States of Mexico.

UNIFEM's support in the formulation, reform and implementation of legislation to address violence against women and girls, in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders, included: domestic violence laws and bills in Indonesia and Thailand; a workshop for ASEAN Member States to review domestic violence legislation and best practices (October 2008); a regional workshop on coordinated community responses to domestic violence with local government representatives and civil society organizations (CSOs) (including UN Trust Fund grantees) from Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (October 2008); and a workshop on female genital mutilation/ cutting with Christian and Muslim leaders from West Africa (November 2008).

UNICEF continued to work with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and provide support at regional and national level to legal reform on violence against women and girls.

#### *March 2009 to September 2009*

In collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), DAW organized an expert group meeting on legislation on harmful practices, which took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 26 to 28 May 2009. The report of the meeting will supplement the model framework for legislation with specific recommendations and commentaries in relation to legislation on the forms of violence

against women referred to as “harmful practices”, including child and forced marriage, female genital mutilation, and so-called “honour” crimes.

DAW released the Handbook for legislation on violence against women (2009). The Handbook, intends to provide all stakeholders with detailed guidance to support the adoption and effective implementation of legislation which prevents violence against women, punishes perpetrators, and ensures the rights of survivors everywhere. It is hoped that the Handbook will be of use to government officials, parliamentarians, civil society, staff of United Nations entities and other actors in their efforts at ensuring that a solid legal basis is in place for tackling the scourge of violence against women. DAW also uploaded three videos on its website containing discussions on legislation on violence against women.

On 4 March 2009, during the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women, DAW organized a joint dialogue of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on “*Addressing violence against women through legal reform*”.

UNODC convened an Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting (IEGM) to review and update the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted by the General Assembly with its resolution 52/86 in 1997. The IEGM was held in Bangkok, Thailand in March 2009.

OHCHR’s country offices in Bolivia, Colombia, Russia and Uganda were part of UN Inter-Agency Groups working on gender issues in support of national and local authorities, the judiciary and civil society to develop legal frameworks, on combating sexual and gender-based violence.

OHCHR’s country office in Guatemala assisted State institutions and, in coordination with the Interagency Group on Women’s Rights, provided technical advice to State officials to reform the law to prevent domestic violence. In Sudan, OHCHR worked with the human rights component of UNMIS to propose amendments to existing rape laws. In the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), OHCHR participated in a special session of the legal Working Group of the Palestinian Legislative Council during which a draft decree-law against honour killings was discussed and was subsequently approved.

In Serbia, a report on “Domestic Violence - Protection and Prevention” was presented by UNHCR in March 2009, providing an analysis of the legislative framework and a recommendation for the adoption of a *Law on Domestic Violence*, ensuring a coordinated and effective response to instances of domestic violence.

*October 2009 to February 2010*

DAW finalized the report of the expert group meeting on legislation to address harmful practices. The report sets out recommendations for legislation to address harmful practices against women, with particular attention to female genital mutilation, so called “honour” crimes, acid throwing, stove burning, and harmful practices related to marriage.

DAW, in cooperation with ECA, convened two multi-stakeholder workshops at sub-regional level, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in December 2009, bringing together representatives from 12 countries to support and accelerate legislative reform on violence against women.

In Timor-Leste, the UNDP National Parliament Project is providing technical support to the National Parliament as it deliberates the draft Law on Domestic Violence. Through the UNDP-supported project “Equal Access to Justice” in Sri Lanka, a cabinet committee in the Ministry of Justice is supported to look into reforms of existing laws applicable to Muslims, especially those laws that do not provide equal status to women.

UNIFEM's continued support for advancing legislation on violence against women, in collaboration with national institutions, included: domestic violence legislation in Kazakhstan, Mozambique and Nepal; law reform and harmonization in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Georgia, Mexico, Senegal and the Solomon Islands; legal measures against sexual harassment in Bolivia and Pakistan.

UNESCO continues to carry out a series of studies which examine the family laws in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The UNESCO Office in Beijing initiated public awareness campaigns in Mongolia to strengthen the implementation of the law to combat domestic violence in local areas, engaging a broad range of stakeholders.

#### *March to September 2010*

The *Handbook for legislation on violence against women (UNDAW/DESA, 2010)* was published and its final version is available on the website of DAW, now part of UN Women, <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-handbook.htm>. Copies of the *Handbook* are available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish. DAW and the Centre for Women at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), held a sub-regional capacity-building workshop in Beirut, Lebanon on legislative frameworks to address violence against women for Government officials, Parliamentarians and representatives of non-governmental organizations from 7 countries in the Middle East. The objective of the workshop was to contribute to the adoption of comprehensive legislation on violence against women and its effective implementation.

Through its ongoing work with parliamentarians, women's machineries and the women's movement, UNIFEM continued to support efforts for legislative reforms including a law on domestic violence in Timor-Leste.

The OHCHR/Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section in the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste provided a human rights commentary on the draft law against domestic violence.

In Egypt, UNDP's support has resulted in the enactment of a law under the Egyptian Penal Code which criminalizes female genital mutilation. In Lebanon, UNDP promoted a law on violence against women. In the ECIS region, UNDP Kosovo supported the drafting of a law on domestic violence, which is currently under discussion. Studies are currently underway on "*The Prosecution of Violence Against Women in the Arab Region*" which will describe the status of relevant laws in pilot countries from a reform perspective, identify the challenges associated with combating this type of crimes, in particular with regards to the issue of honor crimes, and propose solutions on how to deal with them concretely. The study will provide guidelines and recommendations for policy changes and legislative reform to enhance/modernize the Arab women's rights protection systems

The Regional Office of the OHCHR in Panama has provided, occasionally together with UNDP, technical support for the elaboration of a law on violence against women, which is expected to be adopted on 25 November 2010.

#### *October 2010-February 2011*

Former UNIFEM now part of UN Women provided technical support to stakeholders who contributed to the enactment of the Domestic Violence Bill in Grenada, the Ley Especial Integral para una Vida libre de Violencia para las Mujeres in El Salvador, the development of the Domestic Violence (Crime and Punishment) Regulation in Nepal and the adoption of new provisions in the Law on Protection against Domestic Violence in Albania.

UNODC is currently working at developing a gender approach in the criminal justice system of Panama, including the effective application of the law on the prevention of violence against women.

UNICEF - including through the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Accelerate the Abandonment of FGM/C - has provided support to development of legislation addressing violence against girls at country level.

The OHCHR Regional Office for Central America provided in El Salvador technical advice to the Salvadorian Institute for the Advancement of Women (Instituto Salvadoreño para el desarrollo de la Mujer, ISDEMU), the Prosecutors' Office and the Parliamentary Group on a new legislative act on the elimination of violence against women, which was adopted on November 25<sup>th</sup> 2010.

In the ECIS region, legislative development support was provided by UNDP in Kosovo, where the Law on Domestic Violence was adopted. In Serbia, UNDP assisted with drafting recommendations for legislative changes related to sexual gender-based violence. In Nepal, UNDP, in cooperation with UN Women, facilitated the establishment of a witness protection task force which will work on the elaboration of witness protection legislation.

In Argentina, UNDP worked with national women's organizations to plan workshops and create a toolkit to guide stakeholders, on the adoption of laws that ensure a woman's right to a life free of violence. In El Salvador, UNDP, UNIFEM, and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID) supported the Women's Parliamentary Group (GPM), consisted of parliamentarians from all political parties, to incorporate a gender perspective in the parliamentary agenda. UNDP, UNIFEM, AECID, and the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU) provided technical assistance to the Family, Women, and Childhood Committee of the Legislative Assembly in relation to a law entitled "Special and Integrated Law for a Life for Women Free of Violence", which was approved in November 2010.

In the Pacific, UNDP continued its support to the Government of the Cook Islands to draft its first comprehensive civil family law, also with provisions on domestic violence, including consultations with national stakeholders..

In December 2010, UNODC launched the *"Model Law against the Smuggling of Migrants"*, a tool to assist States to implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol by introducing relevant provisions of the Protocol in their domestic legislation. The Model Law addresses, inter alia, the protection of migrants against violence and assistance to migrants whose lives or safety are in danger.

#### *March 2011 to January 2012*

The Supplement to the Handbook for Legislation on Violence Against Women: "Harmful Practices" Against Women was published, and its final version is available on the website of UN Women in all UN official languages, at: [http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-handbook.htm#handbook\\_supp](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-handbook.htm#handbook_supp). This Supplement should be read and used together with the Handbook for legislation on violence against women. Hard copies were also produced.

UNICEF continued its global advocacy for free and universal birth registration which supports the implementation of national legislation on minimum ages, including for child labour, child recruitment, child marriage and trafficking for the purpose of exploitation.

The ECA, through its African Center for Gender and Social Development (ACGSD), has developed the Follow-up Strategy of the Beijing +15 Regional Review, which defines an approach to operationalise the Banjul Declaration as well as those outcomes of the 54<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women that relate specifically to Africa. The strategy identifies seven strategic focus areas, one of which is violence against women. Key recommendations

include the need to adopt and implement a multi-sectoral plan to address gender-based violence, within the framework of the United Nations Secretary-General's "UNiTE to End Violence against Women and Girls" campaign; as well as ensuring the enactment and strengthening of laws to address it.

In Mauritania, UN Women supported gender equality advocates for the implementation of the Africa UNiTE campaign, and a draft law for the prevention and punishment of violence against women was presented in November 2011, to members of the government, more than 50 national non-government organizations, and to the main donors and technical partners. This draft law constitutes a key advocacy tool for bringing about legislation on eliminating gender-based violence and mainstreaming this issue into national policies.

In Algeria, UN Women continued to support the advocacy efforts of some members of the non-government coalition for the criminalization of violence against women, which contributed to the submission of a draft law making gender-based violence a criminal offence. In January 2012, it was reported that the Algerian Parliament Bureau reviewed the draft law and decided to submit it to the next session of Parliament for discussion.

In Morocco, UN Women supported the Spring Time for Dignity Coalition, which led it to develop its communication and advocacy strategy and finalize the preparation and update of its Memorandum on the gender-sensitive reform of the penal code in light of the provisions of the new constitution adopted in July 2011.

In Afghanistan, UN Women provided technical assistance and substantive support to the Afghanistan Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Elimination of Violence against Women (EVAW) Commission to support the implementation of the Law on EVAW. OHCHR/UNAMA also supported the implementation of the new law by undertaking monitoring, advocacy and capacity-building activities.

UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) supported passage of laws criminalizing FGM/C in Kenya and Guinea-Bissau.

In Bolivia, under the umbrella of the UNiTE Campaign, the Interagency Gender Group, coordinated by UN Women, and the Ministry of Justice and multiple stakeholders worked together for the adoption of the Supreme Decree declaring 2012 year of No violence against Women. This decree will enable to reform legislation in order to include concepts such as femicide and sexual harassment as well as improving services for women victims of violence.

UN Women provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) shelters' technical committee to provide comments to the first national by-laws for the establishment of shelters.

UN Women has supported the adoption of stronger legal frameworks and policies addressing violence against women (VAW) through ASEAN mechanisms, as well as by supporting national level efforts. In China, Indonesia and Thailand, UN Women and other UN agencies jointly assist the governments to establish multi-sectoral coordination systems to respond to and prevent VAW with the UN EVAW Trust Fund grant. For example, in a project of the UN Country Team in Thailand funded by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, UN Women, along with UNFPA, OHCHR, and UNDP, is working with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security to achieve effective implementation of Thailand's Domestic Violence Victims Act (DVVA) through pilot programmes, monitoring and evaluation, and public awareness activities.

In El Salvador, UN Women offered technical support prior to the approval of the Law on Equality, Equity and Eradication of Discrimination against Women.

*March 2012-February 2013*

UNHCR advocated for legal reforms related to gender equality and sexual and gender-based violence in 2012. For example, in Georgia a new law on domestic violence requires police to respond immediately to cases of domestic violence, and even if there is no apparent injury but violence has occurred, the police is required to issue a restrictive order.

The UN in Liberia is supporting the government and the Women's Legislative Caucus in drafting and holding consultations for a Domestic Violence Bill.

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation supported 12 out of the 15 countries, where it works, to develop a legislative framework to address this harmful practice. Such legislation has been recently adopted in Kenya, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Somalia.

UNDP continues to support legal advancements, including through technical and financial support to the Government of Sierra Leone for passage of the Sexual Offences Act (August 2012) and support to the Government of Tajikistan in drafting the "Law on prevention of Domestic Violence" adopted in December 2012.

OHCHR supported the formulation and implementation of laws on violence against women in accordance with international standards in Afghanistan, Timor-Leste, the Kurdistan region of Iraq and Maldives. In Papua New Guinea, following sustained advocacy by OHCHR and its UN partners, the country's Law Reform Commission proposed a repeal of the country's sorcery act. In January 2013, at the invitation of the Verma Committee in India, OHCHR made a submission on the review of the law relating to sexual assault, elaborating significant legal and policy elements that should be taken into account to prevent, punish and redress violence against women.

UN Women supported new or amended anti-violence legislation in India, Maldives, Mexico, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Viet Nam - on a range of forms, including sexual harassment in the workplace, domestic violence, femicide, acid violence, and sexual offences. In both Viet Nam and Uganda, elements of anti-violence legislation have been incorporated into larger Family Development and Justice, Law and Order strategies, respectively.

## **SUPPORT FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

*Baseline July 2007*

ESCAP published a toolkit for implementing and monitoring the East Asia and Pacific Regional Commitment and Action Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) (2006) and a resource guide on international and regional instruments, political commitments and recommended practices for combating human trafficking (2003).

UNDP supports the development of national strategies on protection for victims of domestic violence. UNFPA supports and advocates for the integration of action to address gender-based violence into policy frameworks.

UNICEF is working for the adoption of a comprehensive policy and strategy for victims of abuse and exploitation and supports the follow-up to Stockholm/Yokohama commitments on commercial sexual exploitation of children. In every sub-region, UNIFEM provides support to efforts to introduce and strengthen policies against gender-based violence, including domestic and sexual violence, trafficking in women and forced marriage.

UNFPA supported in Morocco the development of a comprehensive strategy to address several aspects of gender-based violence, from prevention to shelters for victims.

Recent fundraising efforts by UNAIDS and the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS helped establish a window in the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, managed by UNIFEM, to support and document promising interventions on violence against women and AIDS. Private sector donations have contributed towards year two of the HIV window in the Trust Fund.

UNAIDS, together with WHO, the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS and other partners, has also formed a technical working group to propose recommendations on how to improve attention to violence within the national AIDS response and how to strengthen the linkages between AIDS programmes and programmes and services focusing on women's rights and violence against women.

A technical cooperation project was established by ILO to address trafficking in human beings covering Albania, Moldova and the Ukraine providing assistance and guidance to ministries and relevant public services in the formulation of gender-sensitive and regulated migration policies as a key preventive strategy, while also strengthening migration and employment management capacity aimed at reducing trafficking in women.

UNESCO collects and disseminates best practices in combating human trafficking in Africa in order to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy.

In 2005, a tripartite ILO Meeting of Experts formally adopted a key framework document for promoting a rights-based strategy for migration policy, i.e. the non-binding Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration. This document provides guidance to constituents on strengthening migration policies within a normative framework, while also giving examples of good practices from around the world, including a number that address the vulnerability of migrant women workers.

ILO's SafeWork programme addresses the issue of sexual harassment and other violence at work by means of an interactive programme known as SOLVE, which is designed to assist in the development of policy and action to address psychosocial issues at the workplace.

Follow-up activities to the *WHO World report on violence and health, 2002*, and the multi-country study, include launches in over 50 countries; national reports on violence and health; the appointment of focal points on violence in ministries of health in almost 100 countries; and the development of policies on violence against women in collaboration with regional and national partners. The Pan-American Health Organization has developed a model of laws and policies on domestic violence against women that has been validated by four countries in the region and will be implemented in 8 countries. WHO is working closely with UNICEF and other partners to follow up on the Secretary-General's study on violence against children.

The World Bank is providing Uruguay with a US\$300,000 Institutional Development Fund grant to tackle domestic violence, including support to the implementation of the country's first national plan on domestic violence approved in 2004. Specific actions include: designing a comprehensive strategy aimed at identifying a broad range of policies and administrative measures to fulfill Uruguay's international commitments on gender equality; developing a national database of gender-disaggregated statistics to inform decision-makers of areas where services are required based on concrete data; and building institutional capacity to address and report on women's human rights and gender-based violence.

DPKO gender units/advisers work to ensure that women's non-governmental organizations are included in common efforts to combat violence against women, including trafficking, as is the

case in Kosovo. Gender advisers encourage increased collaboration between the police, national victim-support organizations and the judicial system, as is the case in Sierra Leone.

*July 2007 to January 2008*

In July 2007, ESCAP held an expert group meeting for senior law-making officials and national machineries for women to review the concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and integration of the Convention in domestic law. The meeting focused, as one major issue, on strategies for policy reform in the area of violence against women, including on such issues as recognition of marital rape, mechanisms to enforce existing laws - particularly on domestic violence, and personal or religious law that condones violence against women.

As part of ESCAP project to build the capacity of the Pacific Islands to adopt and implement the Stockholm Agenda for Action and the Yokohama Commitments to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth, a Regional Stakeholders' Consultation and Planning Workshop for government officials and NGOs was held. The workshop was based on situational analysis studies on the commercial sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children in the Pacific and it also addressed violence and abuse of girls and adolescents. The meeting, on 19-21 November 2007 in Suva, Fiji, was co-organized with ECPAT International and Save the Children Fiji.

Research carried out on domestic violence, with UNDP support, has contributed to policy development and promotion of women's human rights in Mexico, Algeria, Equatorial Guinea, Jamaica, Croatia, and Belarus. In Jamaica, the findings of a research on gender-based violence were fed into the development of a national action plan, including the identification of school based initiatives and the role of the family to address gender-based violence.

UNIFEM, in partnership with national counterparts, ministries, civil society and UN sister agencies, provided support for the development of national strategies and plans in Albania, Algeria, Ecuador, Guyana, Kazakhstan and Slovakia.

Under the UNIFEM-supported Safe Cities Programme in the Southern Cone of Latin America, a protocol is under development to guide the Urban Municipal Guard in Rosario, Argentina, in responding to gender-based violence, which is stimulating policy reforms in Santa Clara, Chile, and lessons are being shared with local authorities in Bolivia, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay.

UNICEF facilitates the establishment of partnerships with governments and non-governmental organizations, and places emphasis on the development of national action plans on gender-based violence.

UNFPA is working in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders to address gender-based violence, including policy reforms.

In collaboration with leading experts at the London School of Tropical Medicine, UNAIDS together with WHO and the Global coalition on women and AIDS developed costing estimates for integrating programmes that address violence against women into national AIDS programmes. Interventions on violence against women were included in the 2007 UNAIDS "Financial Resources Required to Achieve Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment, Care and Support".

The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS has actively provided technical and financial support to regional coalitions of women leaders. The Regional Coalition of First Ladies and Women Leaders of Latin America and the Caribbean Coalition of Women Leaders are working with networks of women living with HIV in putting forward action plans and advocacy campaigns to address gender-based violence.

IOM signed an agreement with the Colombian Ministry of Justice in order to provide technical assistance and support in the de-centralization of the national strategic plan.

*February 2008 to September 2008*

UNIFEM contributed to the development of national strategies and plans on gender-based violence in Afghanistan, Liberia and Ecuador.

Following the launch of the UN Interagency Statement 'Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation', by the UN Deputy Secretary General in February 2008, UNICEF-supported efforts were made to implement the approach described therein in national policies.

WHO coordinated the preparation and publication of the interagency statement on the elimination of FGM, signed by 10 UN agencies in 2008. WHO continued to strongly condemn the practice of FGM by medical professionals. UNFPA hosted an internal high-level meeting on sex selection in October 2008 in New York, to initiate the development of the Fund's strategy on this issue.

The UNFPA and UNICEF Trust Fund and Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) aims at reducing FGM/C by 40 per cent in 17 countries by 2012. Over the last six months, work plans were finalized in eight countries and funds disbursed for programme implementation.

As part of UNFPA's collaboration with the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW) on costing violence against women, workshops were conducted during this reporting period in Bangladesh, Uganda, and Morocco, to test the domestic violence costing model developed under the partnership.

In April 2008, UNAIDS presented "Gender Guidance for National AIDS Responses" to its Programme Coordinating Board (PCB), on strategies to strengthen attention to gender issues within national AIDS programmes, including combating violence against women in the context of AIDS.

UNAIDS, together with WHO, completed technical and policy guidance to support the integration of gender issues into national proposals to the Global Fund on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) for Round 8, with emphasis on better integrating programmes aimed at combating violence against women with AIDS services.

*October 2008 to February 2009*

UNDP held policy dialogues with senior bureaucrats on gender-based violence in Kuwait.

UNFPA country offices in Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Dominican Republic and Peru developed national policies in 2008 to support efforts to end gender-based violence.

In 2008, on the basis of the Coordinated Strategy to Abandon FGM/C in One Generation, UNICEF in collaboration with local partners supported programmes in 21 countries, including through data collection, public awareness-raising, training of community members, health workers, traditional leaders and decision makers.

*March 2009 to September 2009*

OHCHR's country offices in Bolivia, Colombia, Russia and Uganda were part of UN Inter-Agency Groups, working on gender issues in support of national and local authorities, the judiciary and

civil society to develop projects proposals, policies and strategies, on combating sexual and gender-based violence.

OHCHR's country office in Guatemala assisted State institutions and, in coordination with the Interagency Group on Women's Rights, provided technical advice to State officials for the elaboration of policies based on international and national human rights standards in order to accelerate and strengthen the implementation of the Law against femicide and other forms of violence.

UNIFEM continued to support the incorporation of violence against women in the National Development Plan of Cape Verde (within the UN programme); the development of specific national action plans on violence against women in Pakistan, in collaboration with Pakistan's Ministry of Women's Development, and in Mozambique, through an inter-agency programme with national partners; the development of a strategy on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in Burundi, in collaboration with the Government of Burundi; the drafting of a Declaration on Sexual Violence against Women in Huehuetenango, Guatemala; the inclusion of a regional Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target on addressing gender-based violence by the Caribbean Community Secretariat.

A UNV-supported initiative was underway in Guatemala to enhance national capacity to address gender-based violence in all its forms. The Presidential Secretariat for Women (SEPREM) has been at the forefront of the initiative, which seeks to a) design a comprehensive action strategy, b) ensure implementation of the strategy, focusing on government and civil society efforts, and c) increase the political and operational strength of the SEPREM. UNV supports the three pillars of this strategy jointly with UN agencies such as FAO, UNDP, FAO, WFP, UNFPA and UNIFEM.

In Viet Nam and the Lao Peoples' Democratic Republic, UNFPA has worked at the policy level with the Ministries of Health and relevant partners to advocate for appropriate health care policies and resources for ethnic minority regions.

In Bolivia, UNFPA's advocacy efforts led to the inclusion of sexual and reproductive health and rights and the elimination of violence against women in the five-year Plan for Women's Equality. In Jordan, UNFPA undertook advocacy and policy dialogues on the importance of integrating gender-based violence issues in health plans and programmes.

In Rwanda, WFP supports the national response in fighting GBV through the One UN framework. WFP is active in the UN Gender Task Force and the National Gender Cluster, co-chaired by the Minister, in the Prime Minister's Office, in Charge of Gender and Family promotion (MIGEPROF) and the UK Department for International Development (DFID), which work to harmonize and coordinate responses to sexual and gender-based violence.

A Cooperation Platform was launched at the Interregional Meeting held by UNICRI in March 2009 for the Italian regions most affected by trafficking of Nigerian girls and women for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Another joint forum for discussion of strategies, exchange of information and experiences took place in June 2009 at UNICRI HQ with the participation of an official from the Nigerian Embassy. This interactive seminar focused on setting up coordination and cooperation contacts between the Italian network and Nigerian Embassy for consular procedures for Nigerian women victims of trafficking.

In June 2009, UNESCO held a policy dialogue in Mombasa on strategies for combating violence against women, as part of the second Forum of Ministers of Women's Affairs from the Great Lakes Region. This policy dialogue aimed at discussing research recommendations in order to establish/strengthen specific national plans of action, and to create appropriate national mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of national measures taken for combating violence against women, inter alia, in the field of legislation, prevention, victim assistance and rehabilitation.

Since the establishment of a window in the UNAIDS Programme Acceleration Fund (PAF), 8 countries have received funding to undertake programming on violence and HIV.

*October 2009 to February 2010*

In every sub-region, UNDP, in partnership with national partners and United Nations Country Teams, provided support to the development of a strategy and national action plan on domestic violence. UNDP also assisted efforts to develop and implement strategies and action plans to combat trafficking in persons in Serbia and Kosovo.

UNIFEM contributed to policy development on gender-based violence in Cambodia, Egypt, Moldova, Morocco, Tanzania and Tunisia. Efforts by UNIFEM on gender-responsive budgeting led to national and municipal budget allocations for violence against women programmes in Bulgaria and Brazil. In October 2009, UNAIDS held a technical consultation of leading experts, practitioners, and researchers to review evidence on programme interventions to address violence against women through HIV-related entry points.

Under the project "Violence against women and HIV/AIDS: what works?" WHO, with UNAIDS, is reviewing the evidence base for interventions to address violence against women and HIV/AIDS. WHO organized a meeting of programmatic interventions to address these intersections, with a focus on intimate partner and sexual violence and violence against sex workers.

*March to September 2010*

In collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)/Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean, DAW, now part of UN Women, organized an expert group meeting on good practices in national action plans on violence against women, which took place in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from 13 to 15 September 2010. During the meeting, experts identified key elements and good practice examples for the development, content, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national action plans on violence against women. Further information regarding the expert group meeting, including expert discussion notes, is available on line at: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-egms- nap2010.htm>.

As Protection Cluster chair, the OHCHR promoted coordination on strategy and advocacy among actors working to address violence against women in Timor-Leste.

In May 2010, seven UN agencies (UNIFEM, UNDP, UNHCR, OHCHR, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO) have launched a three-year UN Joint Program "Ending violence against women - a national priority for Kyrgyzstan". Four strategic components of the program include: 1) strengthening policy framework, including through the implementation of the recommendations of the UN human bodies and procedures; 2) improving official data collection system and analysis of collected data; 3) awareness-raising, sensitisation and capacity-building with the view to change gender stereotypes; 4) protecting and helping survivors of gender-based violence.

UNRWA is participating in the different UN taskforces aiming to build national strategies to end violence against women in Lebanon, Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt). In the latter specifically, UNRWA is addressing gender-based violence through its participation in the Gender Equality - Social, Political and Economic programme.

UNIFEM continues to provide technical assistance to advocates, including national women's machineries, for the development of National Action Plans to end violence against women in: eight Caribbean countries; the Seychelles, through work with the Ministry of Health and Social Development; and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, through a workshop with the Palestinian

Ministry of Women's Affairs on the National Strategy to Combat Violence against Women. UNIFEM issued a 'Ten Point National Accountability Checklist' on ending violence against women for policy-makers, parliamentarians, and advocates to strengthen due diligence in the development and tracking of national and local policies/programmes. UNIFEM partnered with excluded groups of women, including indigenous women, HIV-positive women's networks, young women and migrant women workers from Africa, Asia, the Commonwealth of Independent States and Latin America and the Caribbean to hold policy-makers accountable to eliminate violence..

UNIFEM launched its online Global Virtual Knowledge Centre (<http://www.endvawnow.org>) which provides state-of-the-art, evidence-based guidance to develop capacities of country-level practitioners in effective design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes.

UNFPA is leading the coordination efforts of the gender-based violence cluster to address GBV/VAW in Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake. UNFPA Country Offices – in more than 32 countries – are operationalizing various components of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, under the four pillars of the Resolution. UNFPA's partnership with UNICEF globally and in 17 country offices in co-chairing and implementing activities under the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme and Trust Fund on Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting (FGM/C) and activities under the Trust Fund are ongoing.

In every region, UNDP – with its national partners and in collaboration with UN Country Teams-continues to support the development and implementation of strategies and actions plans on domestic violence. As convener of the gender thematic window of the MDG Achievement Fund (MDG-F), UNDP supports and partners in the implementation of a number of joint programs which address gender-based violence in an integrated manner, including in many cases through the development of national strategies. Joint programmes with an explicit focus on gender based-violence are supported by the MDG-F Trust Fund in Bangladesh, Colombia, Guatemala, Morocco, OPT, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

UNDP Kosovo supported the development and implementation of the National Strategy and Action Plan against Trafficking in Human Beings (2008-2011). UNDP works with partners to ensure that background and contextual information on gender discrimination and gender-based violence is included in national plans and through them reflected in Common Country Assessments/United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (CCA/UNDAFs).

Two WHO publications on violence against women have been released. *Preventing intimate partner and sexual violence: taking action and generating evidence* provides a framework for developing policies and programmes for the prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence. It emphasizes the importance of evaluating prevention initiatives in order to improve their effectiveness, and expand the global evidence base in this area. *Addressing violence against women and HIV/AIDS: what works?* summarizes existing evidence on the intersections between violence against women and HIV/AIDS and interventions to address them. It builds on a review of these interventions and summarizes the presentations, discussions and recommendations from an expert consultation hosted by WHO and UNAIDS. The report provides policy and programmatic recommendations for national and international HIV/AIDS programmes and for future programme development, evaluation and research efforts.

WHO, with UNFPA and UNICEF, held a meeting in Kenya to develop a global strategy to eliminate the medicalization of female genital mutilation.

In June 2010, a joint policy statement on stopping medical service providers from performing female genital mutilation was issued by the WHO, on behalf of a group of UN agencies.

UNIFEM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with UNODC, to implement trafficking programmes in South Asia.

Through a gender-based violence Coordination mechanism established by UNIFEM and GIZ in 2010, Cambodia has been at the forefront of joint advocacy and behavioral change initiatives.

*October 2010-February 2011*

Former UNIFEM now part of UN Women provided advisory services for the development of the National Action Plan to Implement Measures for the Elimination of Domestic Violence and Protection of Victims of Domestic Violence (2011-2012) in Georgia; the Multi-Sectoral National Action Plan on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in St. Kitts and Nevis; the National Gender-Based Violence Plan of Action (2010-2013) in Belize and Gender Based Violence, Responses and Complaints Protocols in Grenada and Belize; for the formulation of Kosovo's Draft Strategy and Action Plan against Domestic Violence; and for Nigeria's development of the Action Plan to Promote enactment of anti-GBV legislation. In Burundi, advocacy for the implementation of the National Strategy to Fight against sexual gender-based violence resulted in national budget allocations to the Ministry of Gender and the Ministry of Justice, including to establish sexual gender-based violence focal points in 6 ministries.

Based on the recommendations of *The UNAIDS Action for Results: Outcomes Framework 2009-2011*, a multi-stakeholder meeting was held in Nairobi aimed at aligning and linking the efforts of different stakeholders to address the linkages between gender-based violence and HIV and AIDS in National Strategic Plans; building partnerships at the national level in order to integrate a comprehensive response to violence against women and girls into national AIDS strategies and plans; and strengthening capacity to engage men and boys for promoting and addressing gender equality.

Almost all of the 142 country offices of UNFPA have a country programme on addressing gender-based violence or on violence against girls. UNFPA is leading the efforts of the Gender-based Violence cluster to address gender-based violence in Haiti.

The WHO publication *Violence Against Women and HIV/AIDS: Critical Intersections. A Guide to Programming* is a practical tool for stakeholders to expand programming for HIV/AIDS and VAW; to implement evidence-based approaches; and to support program innovation combined with systematic evaluation to grow the evidence base for joint HIV/AIDS and VAW programs.

A workshop, organised in partnership with WHO, UNAIDS and UNIFEM, was held in Kenya in December 2010 to address the integration of gender-based violence into national AIDS strategies.

Since September 2010, FAO is implementing through United Nations Joint Program or with UN partners a regional project "Eastern Africa regional response to food insecurity, HIV and GBV" in Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, reaching more than 80,000 beneficiaries. Within the regional project, gender-based violence and the needs of populations affected by gender-based violence and HIV are addressed through the Adult and Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools, at community, national and regional levels.

UNICEF has provided support to policy development addressing violence against girls including through the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Accelerate the Abandonment of FGM/C.

The OHCHR Regional Office for Central Africa, in partnership with the UN Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (CNUDHD) contributed to the elaboration of the Cameroon National Gender Policy, which includes activities to combat gender-based violence, by providing technical advice, sharing documentation, and supporting, with other UN system partners, the national validation workshop for the draft national gender policy.

The OHCHR Regional Office for Europe provided advocacy and advice on the preparation of an EU strategy on Violence against Women in October 2010. On 24-25 November 2010, OHCHR organized a two-day Expert workshop: *The elimination of all forms of violence against women – challenges, good practices and opportunities*.

In West Bank and Gaza, UNRWA is involved in the UN Country Team gender taskforce, by implementing the component addressing gender-based violence in the joint UN MDG gender programme “gender equality and women’s empowerment in oPT”.

In Argentina, UNDP collaborates with national women’s organizations to help the effective implementation of the new law on the prevention and elimination of violence against women, the launching of a VAW Observatory, the development of local centres, and the training of local women on issues related to violence against women.

In Papua New Guinea, UNDP was engaged with three national women’s organizations to conduct capacity assessments of the organizations themselves, using the Capacity Assessment Framework for Gender Mainstreaming. For the “Office for the Development of Women”, the engagement looked at its capacity in developing and monitoring the implementation of national policies to protect women from domestic violence. The engagement also included capacity development to support the development and implementation of strategies and action plans on violence against women of the three women’s organizations.

Via the UN Gender Theme Group, UNDP Myanmar provided inputs into the National Action Plan on the Advancement of Women being prepared by the Ministry of Social Welfare, which may be submitted for cabinet approval in the beginning of 2011.

#### *March 2011 to January 2012*

Based on the outcome of a 2010 expert group meeting, organized by UN Women, in cooperation with ECLAC/Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean. UN Women developed and issued in June 2011 a Handbook for national action plans on violence against women. The Handbook presents a model framework for national action plans on violence against women, which sets out detailed recommendations, accompanied by explanatory commentaries and good practice examples. The Handbook is available at: [http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/handbook-for-nap-on-vaw.htm](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/handbook-for-<u>nap-on-vaw.htm</u>). The Handbook will be available in hard copy in 2012 in all official United Nations languages.

In November 2011, based on the recommendations of “The UNAIDS Action for Results: Outcomes Framework 2009-2011”, a multi-stakeholder meeting was held in Istanbul. UNFPA, in collaboration with UNDP, UNWOMEN, WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR and the MenEngage Alliance (Sonke Gender Justice and the Athena Network) and in close collaboration with the Interagency Working Group on Women, Girls, Gender Equality and HIV, will support select pilot countries for roll-out of policy development work in 2012 as identified in the Istanbul meeting.

In October 2011, UNFPA held the global meeting in Viet Nam on “Skewed sex ratios and why we care the way forward” in collaboration with the Viet Nam UNCT and the Government of Viet Nam with the objectives of: 1) taking stock of emerging trends/state of the art relating to new geographical pockets of skewed sex ratios and subsequently determining strategies for south-south cooperation, especially since some countries, like in the Caucasus, are demonstrating an emerging trend in terms of an imbalanced sex ratio at birth and since other countries like Viet Nam and India have demonstrated some good practices in working with national counterparts to address the issue; and 2) sharing UNFPA and other stakeholders’ experiences on policy development and programming on this issue.

The first Violence Against Women Strategy in the Arab Region was developed in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) with technical support of UN Women to the Ministry of Women’s Affairs.

The VAW Strategy was endorsed by the Palestinian Cabinet at the beginning of 2011. Technical Committees (five in the West Bank and four in the Gaza Strip), composed of government organizations and non-government organizations working on VAW and human rights, private sector and UNRWA, were formed for the elaboration of the action plan.

In Honduras, the World Bank approved a Development Policy Credit in 2011 with a component on Citizen Security, including prevention of gender-based domestic and sexual violence. Proposed policies will strengthen the capacity of municipal Offices of Women's Affairs to respond to victims and offer conflict mediation services.

In Cameroon, OHCHR contributed to the elaboration of the Cameroon National Gender policy, which frames the national effort to combat gender-based violence.

In Nepal, UN Women advocated with concerned ministries for allocating budget for responding to gender-based violence (GBV). As a result, specific programmes and budgets were allocated by the government for ending GBV in fiscal year 2011-2012. In addition, GBV has been enlisted as one of the sub-indicators for ascertaining gender responsive budgeting (GRB).

In November 2011, UNODC in cooperation with UN Women, UNFPA and UNDP and relevant national authorities, organized a joint conference on the role and responsibilities of the State to respond to domestic violence against women in Viet Nam. About 90 officials attended the conference, both from national and local level representing five different Ministries as well as civil society.

In Algeria, UN Women contributed to the institutional operational Plan of the National Strategy for the elimination of Violence against Women, in partnership with UNFPA and UNDP. UN Women also provided assistance to the process of transitional Justice, specifically to the Tunisian Commission investigating human rights violations during the revolution to strengthen its capacities in terms of gender consideration in its mandate.

As the lead agency for the joint Millenium Development Goals Achievement Fund (MDG-F) Gender Programme in Morocco, UN Women has greatly contributed to the implementation of the National Strategy to combat VAW (SNLCVF) at two levels: the establishment of legal reforms (Penal code, domestic labor), as well as the strategy's implementation at the local level, particularly through the empowerment of women's survivors of violence through income generating activities in 6 Moroccan regions. UN Women also supported the national women's machinery (MDSFS) in the country to coordinate and finalize the adoption of the Gender Equality Agenda for 2011-2015 (March 2011).

In Cambodia, UN Women offered technical assistance and support to policy formulation and implementation by national partners. In preparation for Cambodia's new National Action Plan against Violence Against Women (NAPVAW), UN Women has been generating action-oriented research on gender norms and costing of violence.

In November 2011, UNAIDS contributed to a consultation with representatives from 15 countries on how to better address gender-based violence and engagement of men and boys in national HIV responses. Country representatives are developing national action plans to integrate strategic action to eliminate violence against women into their national HIV response.

A round table on "Public Policies on Gender based Violence" organized by the Dominican Republic Escuela Nacional de Formación Electoral y del Estado Civil, EFEC, in coordination with UN Women and UNDP.

*March 2012-February 2013*

Under the “UNAIDS Action for Results: Outcomes Framework “ (2009-2011), UNFPA, UNDP, UN WOMEN, WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR and the MenEngage Alliance (Sonke Gender Justice and the Athena Network), also in close collaboration with the Interagency Working Group on Women, Girls, Gender Equality and HIV – supported countries to address the linkages between GBV and HIV/AIDS in National Strategic Plans; building effective partnerships to achieve this; and strengthening capacity to engage men and boys for promoting and addressing gender equality.

In Guatemala, UNAIDS, with the government and civil society, jointly developed the National Action Framework with a focus on gender-based violence, which has been further incorporated into the operational plan of Guatemala’s National HIV Strategy.

UNDP is supporting the development of national plans, including: Sectorial Regional Gender Actions Plans in line with the National Gender Strategy (2012-2020) in Kyrgyzstan; a new National Action Plan on Violence against Women, accounting for the recommendations from the Feasibility Study for One Stop Service Center (OSSC) for Survivors of Violence against Women together with the GBV sub-committee of the gender technical working group in Cambodia; and a Five Year Plan (FY 2012-2016) against Gender Based Violence in Nepal being implemented with the support of gender desks that have been established in all districts to handle the issues of gender based violence.

In 2012, UNICEF commissioned the production of a handbook on Birth Registration for use by UNICEF staff; produced a technical guidance note on age assessment procedures in English, French and Spanish; assisted 38 countries (21 from sub-Saharan Africa) to complete a mapping of their child protection systems; developed together with an NGO working group on children without parental care, ‘Moving Forward: Implementing the ‘Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children’, an implementation handbook; and made available the child-friendly and staff-friendly versions of the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children in French and Russian to complement the existing English, Spanish and Portuguese versions.

In Latin America, OHCHR and UN Women, together with the Spanish Federation of Human Rights Organizations and the Carlos III University of Madrid supported the formulation of a regional Protocol for the investigation of Femicide. The protocol will assist in strengthening national capacities to investigate, prosecute, punish and redress femicide. The Protocol will be promoted through, inter alia, regional and international human rights mechanisms. In Kosovo, OHCHR supported the development of a national action plan on Security Council resolution 1325.

UN Women supported new local or national action plans to end violence against women in Cambodia, the Dominican Republic, FYR Macedonia (second generation strategy 2012-2015), Indonesia, Timor Leste (together with UNDP, UNFPA, IOM and UNICEF), and the Maldives (through a multi-sectoral group convened by the SG Campaign). In addition, the Family Protection Authority was established in the Maldives to oversee the implementation of the new action plan. In Nepal, UN Women provided technical expertise and support to engender the Foreign Employment Policy including protection and promotion of human rights for women migrant workers at country of origin, transit country or destination country to avoid harassment and discrimination.

UN Women is also working to support the inclusion of voices of the most excluded groups such as youth, indigenous, ethnic minorities, rural women and others in public policy formulation in relation to ending violence against women. For example, in Ecuador, the entity responsible for the restructuring of the System of Justice Administration has included the priorities of the indigenous women’s organization’s agenda in its formal restructuring process. In Bolivia, indigenous women have now secured agreements for their involvement in Rights and Justice oversight committees at municipal levels. Work with women from indigenous Guaraní and Ayoreao communities in the Brazil-Paraguay border focused on empowering young women and girls to register and report cases of rights violations, including trafficking. In Mexico, UN Women has supported the development of a care model for violence against women that also provide sexual and

reproductive health service, implemented through Indigenous Women's Houses (CAMIs). In 2012, the number of CAMIs increased to 19, operating in 12 states – with government funding and indigenous women responsible for administering the centres. The CAMIs have been acknowledged as a best practice in the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples.

## **PREVENTION, INCLUDING AWARENESS-RAISING AND ADVOCACY**

*Baseline July 2007*

Department of Political Affairs (DPA) collaborates with other UN entities and local NGOs and women's groups to raise awareness of and advocate for the elimination of violence against women, also at the national level. DPA does not have projects or programmes on violence against women but supports NGOs in their sensitization programmes. The human rights sections of field missions monitor and report on cases of human rights abuses, which may include violence against women.

The United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau's (UNOGBIS) human rights section has regular meetings with local NGOs and women's groups, such as the informal forum with the national network fighting against gender and child violence, to discuss violence and other forms of abuse against women, UNOGBIS also participated in the first national conference on violence against women organized by this Network. The aim of the conference was to sensitize national authorities and the population on social values and violence against women, its causes and how to eliminate it in the local communities.

DPKO Gender units/advisers implement, or support measures to raise awareness about gender-based violence, including campaigns, workshops, meetings and conferences on violence against women, both within mission personnel and the societies where the mission is stationed, such as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kosovo, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Sudan; they are actively working in a number of missions with civilian police advisers to enhance attention by local police to gender-based violence against women; and they have put in place information sharing strategies to enhance knowledge about the status of women and better coordinate support to women, as is the case in Burundi and Cote d'Ivoire, also in collaboration with non-governmental organizations. DPKO Police advisers in missions study crime trends and assist in creating awareness of the local police and societies through seminars, workshops and targeted training.

As the secretariat for the Humanitarian Coordinator at field level, OCHA ensures attention to gender-based violence and facilitates the implementation of appropriate solutions. When appropriate, OCHA acts as co-chair of the coordinating agencies in regard to prevention of and response to gender-based violence.

The Special Adviser on Gender Issues raises the question of violence against women in various forums, meetings and during missions, and brings serious and massive violations of women's human rights to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. OSAGI developed a Leaders' Advocacy Kit to combat gender-based violence, in collaboration with several entities of the United Nations system.

DAW made available information on violence against women through its website, especially in relation to the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women and its follow-up, provided briefings on the work of the United Nations in the field of violence against women, and organized panel discussions and other outreach activities. DAW widely disseminated the Secretary-General's study, including at the national level to national machineries for the advancement of women and to United Nations resident coordinators/ representatives. DAW had organized several panels on violence against women, including a panel to launch the study in

October 2006; a panel discussion on “Galvanizing action towards ending violence against women” to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, November 2006; and an interactive panel on "Elimination of all forms of violence against women: follow up to the Secretary-General's in-depth study at national and international levels", during the 51<sup>st</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women, March 2007.

The One-Stop Centres for victims of domestic violence, supported through UNODC's technical assistance projects, also carry out outreach programmes and awareness-raising. Similarly, national projects contain elements of raising awareness and advocacy.

ECLAC's awareness-raising activities on violence against women include presentation of papers and provision of training as requested by Member States. UNFPA advocates for the elimination of violence against women with parliamentarians and women's networks.

At the third session of UNESCAP's Committee on Emerging Social Issues, 12 to 14 December 2006, the Executive Secretary called attention to the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women. Copies of the study were circulated to all Member States and Observers. The Committee considered the document entitled “Emerging issues and challenges related to gender and development” (E/ESCAP/CESI (3)/3) which covered the key findings of and recommendations of the Secretary-General's study.

On the occasion of International Women's Day 2007, the United Nations system celebrated with a panel presentation and discussion, exhibition, and film screening on the global theme of ‘Ending impunity for violence against women’. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP and Executive Director of UNAIDS called for universal respect for women's human rights and an end to all forms of violence against women and impunity. Copies of the Secretary-General's study were widely distributed.

ESCAP disseminates information about prevention of violence against women and trafficking, and encourages stakeholder participation in such efforts. It organizes panel discussions, film festivals and screenings to increase awareness among different stakeholders. For example, ESCAP has facilitated the production and screening of a short film, called Young Men Speak Out.

ESCWA undertakes awareness-raising efforts through meetings, regional conferences and seminars. The ESCWA Centre for Women devoted the March 2007 issue of its newsletter to the subject of violence against women in the ESCWA region; the newsletter was distributed on International Women's Day 2007.

Awareness-raising activities, including on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the International Day for the Elimination of Racism and Racial Discrimination, addressing violence against women are a key feature of OHCHR strategic management plan.

UNDP advocates for the elimination of violence against women and raises awareness by promoting national and local campaigns, including the “16 days of activism against gender violence” and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. At country level, UNDP supports radio and TV shows that address violence against women, as well as production of posters and other public announcements. The topics discussed in GenderNet forum on UNDP's website include: comparative experiences in the development of a national strategy for the protection of victims of domestic violence, and comparative experiences on violence against women.

UNIFEM facilitates the creation and/or strengthening of strategic partnerships among governmental and civil society stakeholders and provides support to build the capacity of women's organizations to spearhead innovative responses to violence against women at the country level.

UNIFEM supports advocacy and communication strategies to stimulate awareness and commitment to end violence against women, including support to coordinated efforts by a wide range of stakeholders during the annual campaign of 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence. In a number of countries, UNIFEM has also cooperated with partners in the White Ribbon Campaign.

In preparation for the 2004 workshop, the World Bank's Gender and Development Group organized a film series on gender-based violence. The World Bank has also funded activities of the "16 day of activism against gender violence" campaign in Indonesia.

Through the joint project, *Partners for Prevention: Working with Boys and Men to Prevent Gender-Based Violence in Asia-Pacific*, UNV and UNFPA, together with their partners, are mobilizing boys and men as allies for ending violence and discrimination against women and girls as well as advancing gender equality. Women's advocates and women empowerment groups are further strengthened in their participatory capacities and leadership skills to enhance the effectiveness of their efforts.

The *Liberia National Youth Volunteer Service* has 67 national volunteers working in health centres, hospitals and schools to promote reconciliation, peace education, gender equity in schools and awareness-raising of it in the health sectors. In one district, the local women's organization has found major supporters in male national UNV Volunteers (NUNVs); in another, the NUNVs have supported a local programme ("men and women as partners to end violence against women"), and community members report that the occurrence of gender-based violence and rape has significantly decreased. Working alongside existing structures, or strengthening local organizations and movements, has been an effective strategy to discuss sensitive or "unpopular" subjects, such as traditional gender inequality.

Specific attention is paid in UNHCR's work to involving more male staff and refugees, including youth, in understanding, preventing and addressing sexual and gender-based violence.

UNICEF has developed a new manual for football coaches to encourage them to talk to boys about violence against women and girls, in order to promote a culture of non-violence and non-discrimination.

UNHCR focuses its awareness and outreach programmes on people of concern, UNHCR staff and partners. UNHCR operations participate in the annual campaign "16 days of activism against gender violence" and use several community-based mechanisms to increase awareness about sexual and gender-based violence. Specific programmes have also mobilized men and boys on preventing and responding to SGBV.

A network of gender focal points in regional and country offices work with UNICEF's Gender Equality and Human Rights Unit in promoting gender issues and awareness, including on violence against women and girls, through television and radio campaigns. In line with the Secretary-General's study on violence against children, several country offices have led campaigns on violence against children, with an emphasis on violence against girls.

In 2004, UNFPA supported a campaign on honour killings in Turkey. UNFPA is working jointly with UNICEF on the prevention and treatment of sexual and gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

In Djibouti, Eritrea and Ethiopia, WFP has taken an active role in promoting the rights of women and girl victims of FGM/C through awareness-raising campaigns and information sharing at all levels, including regional initiatives. WFP also contributed to the policy dialogue with government counterparts and key stakeholders during the sub-regional conference on FGM/C held in Djibouti.

In collaboration with FAO, WFP prepared action sheets for the food security sector of the IASC Guidelines for the prevention of sexual violence.

UN-Habitat emphasizes programmes and strategies aimed at preventing violence against women and, to that end, promotes partnerships between all concerned stakeholders. It encourages the consultation and participation of women at each phase of a project or activity.

Through the Safer Cities Programme, women safety audits and exploratory walks aim at an urban environment safer for all its inhabitants. Participants, mainly women, identify areas where the potential for crime is high or where women or other persons may feel unsafe. Based on the Canadian experience, safety audits were adapted to the reality of many cities in Africa, Latin America and Asia and the Pacific. At the national level, UN-Habitat has developed tools for, and implemented, women's safety audits in several cities, as well as partnerships to enhance women's safety. The Safer Cities Programme promotes the documentation and exchange of practices and lessons learnt; and the Women City networks at the regional and international level and between regions. Examples include: seminars and international conferences organized in Frankfurt, Naples, Nairobi, Antananarivo, Johannesburg, Montreal and Kampala; and the replication of tools and training sessions carried out in Johannesburg, Frankfurt, Montreal, Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam.

UN-Habitat co-organized the first international conference on "Women's Safety: Making the links" (Montreal, 2002). Direct outcomes of this conference were the development of networks on women and cities and the Women's Safety Awards.

In the Eastern Africa Region, Safer Cities collaborated with the non-governmental organization Raising Voices to co-organize a regional dialogue in 2003, which brought together representatives of non-governmental organizations and local authorities to discuss several aspects of prevention of violence against women.

In Bangladesh, IFAD and other partners are supporting the Government to set up "women's sections" in major markets to ensure women's safety and prevent sexual harassment women face from men in the marketplace.

As one of its key action areas, the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS advocates for strategies to halt violence against women and to address the linkages between violence and HIV transmission and access to services; promotes the right of women to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, free of coercion, discrimination and violence; and calls for greater action to address gender-based and sexual violence, including in conflict and post-conflict settings. The link between violence against women and HIV has been featured as an important part of UNAIDS advocacy messages and was the subject of the November 2005 Issues Brief for use with policy makers.

WHO, with other partners, is developing a framework of interventions for prevention of intimate partner violence and sexual violence that can be integrated into HIV prevention activities. A consultation on addressing violence against women in HIV testing and counselling took place in January 2006 and a meeting report with recommendations and good practices is available.

WHO convenes the working group on violence against women of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS to promote advocacy and communication activities on the intersections of violence against women and HIV/AIDS. WHO has undertaken advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives on violence against women, including sensitization of multidisciplinary groups.

In the area of education, UNESCO has produced peace education kits and training in non-violent conflict resolution, which also aim to reduce violence against women (e.g: Education for a Culture of Peace in a Gender Perspective (training manual) in English (2001) and French (2003).

UNESCO seeks to promote gender equality in primary and secondary education through curriculum reform. On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, UNESCO organized an International Round Table “School related gender-based violence (SRGBV): role and responsibility of stakeholders” (Nov 2006). As a follow up to the conference, SRGBV is being integrated in the work undertaken in Western and Central Africa in the context of UN Girls’ Education Initiative. A module on SRGBV was added to the training of trainers guide developed by UNESCO on the mainstreaming of gender in education systems for the 6 countries of the Economic Community of West African States (CEDEAO).

In the area of communication and information, UNESCO created a digital library, in Kazakh and Russian, in Kazakhstan. The library gives women free access to databases which contain more than 1000 legal documents related to human rights issues. In the area of culture, and within the context of its project “Culturally appropriate approaches to HIV/AIDS”, UNESCO is undertaking activities to raise public awareness on traditional attitudes and practices that are harmful to women’s health or put them at risk of infection, such as domestic violence (notably in Central Asia and the Caucasus). UNESCO works in rural areas in Kyrgyzstan to raise awareness about bride abduction among rural communities as a violation of women’s rights.

UNESCO participates in international and regional conferences/campaigns, including the Celebration of International Women’s Day 2007 and 2005 at UNESCO Headquarters, which focused respectively on “Women peacemakers” (<http://www.unesco.org/women/iwd2007>) and “Building a More Secure Future for Women Reporters” , focusing on the role of the media in the elimination of violence against women. UNESCO also coordinates International Years and distributes Prizes and Awards that acknowledge men’s and women’s contribution to the fight against violence in all its forms, including violence against women. UNESCO develops gender-sensitive information, education and communication materials and radio programmes on violence against women, such as “STOP This Violence!” in Kenya, and minority language radio programming for trafficking prevention in Mekong region, in China).

In May 2007 WHO convened an international Expert Meeting on Primary Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence to inform WHO’s future work in this area. The purpose of the meeting was to review the effectiveness of current approaches for preventing new occurrences of intimate partner and sexual violence; to identify WHO’s role on primary prevention; and to identify potential activities and products for WHO. Participants discussed strategies, implementation in resource-constrained settings, and obstacles and opportunities for scaling up. The group agreed that WHO should issue guidance on how to implement primary prevention strategies and monitor their impact, process and guiding principles.

UNICRI produced a website on trafficking in minors and commercial sexual exploitation of children, with a special focus on sex tourism and code of conduct for tourism operators. UNICRI has carried out awareness campaigns on trafficking in women and minors for the purpose of sexual exploitation with the aim to sensitize potential victims, political and religious leaders, public institutions, and the general public, in addition to raising awareness of the services available to victims.

In Nigeria, in 2003, UNICRI implemented awareness campaigns in the Edo State, including radio and TV spots, market campaigns, advocacy meetings and school visits. In Italy, in 2004, a video spot “Let’s help them to get free from slavery” was broadcasted on national TV channels.

In Costa Rica, UNICRI produced: TV and radio spots; billboards at the borders to sensitize/inform the public on the issue; a bookmark to raise awareness in the population at risk; a set of three different stickers posted up in the windows of all immigration offices; 14 movable billboards, circulated on buses, in the areas identified as the most vulnerable trafficking routes. In Ukraine, in 2006, awareness-raising campaigns included brochures advertising the free hot-line number and for specialists about national legislation; the dissemination of information through the La Strada website; multi-disciplinary round tables; and a television spot.

In Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States, IFAD has initiated a project to provide alternatives to migration and prevention of trafficking by developing new income generating activities, diversifying livelihood options and reducing barriers to entrepreneurship, specifically empowering high-risk vulnerable groups, with a focus on women and youth.

IFAD worked on women's empowerment in the Mahbubnagar region of Andhra Pradesh, India, in partnership with UNIFEM, The Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty and the Kovel Foundation, by organizing women into self-help groups and non-timber forest products collectors' associations. An evaluation of the project suggested that participants' control over their income increased, and also resulted in a substantial reduction in the drunkenness of men and violence within the home.

The ILO Guide on Preventing Discrimination, Exploitation and Abuse of Migrant Women Workers covers the full migration cycle, from pre-departure to reintegration in the country of origin, including a specific module on trafficking. The Guide has been used extensively to build the capacity of ILO constituents in protecting migrant women workers and preventing abusive situations. It is currently available in 10 languages. ILO through its International Migration Branch has specific technical cooperation activities on trafficking.

In 2005, IOM's Working Group on Gender Issues at Headquarters supported the production of a series of TV public service announcements for anglo-phone Caribbean countries on HIV/AIDS prevention and a documentary for Senegalese television on trafficking of children. Many of IOM's counter-trafficking projects include information campaigns that aim to change behaviour related to discrimination and violence against women.

In collaboration with UNFPA, IOM organized, in May 2006, an expert group meeting entitled "Female migrants: bridging the gaps throughout the life cycle", which brought together a wide range of stakeholders from countries of origin, transit and destination. Protection of migrant women against violence was part of the agenda.

#### *July 2007 to January 2008*

The OHCHR in general and the High Commissioner for Human Rights in particular have continued to raise the issue of violence against women on various occasions, including in connection with the discussion, by the Security Council, of follow up to resolution 1325, in October 2007.

On 25 November 2007, the Gender Team of the United Nations Peace-building Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) gave a presentation on sexual and gender-based violence to police officers during a workshop on women's rights organized by the Mission's Human Rights Section, in cooperation with UNHCR and UNICEF.

The United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) liaised with other United Nations entities (OHCHR, UNFPA and UNIFEM) on issues relating to women's rights, including violence against women. The Mission also participated in various forums such as the sexual and gender-based violence-Network, chaired by OHCHR, Security Council Resolution 1325 Peace Support Working Group, chaired by UNFPA and the Embassy of Norway, as well as in information sharing and strategy discussions on ways to support national mechanisms to address violence against women and girls.

DAW compiled information about recent activities of the entities of the United Nations system in follow-up to General Assembly resolutions 61/143 and 62/133, to complement the Inventory of United Nations system activities on violence against women, which was uploaded on the DAW website in July 2007.

BONUCA, in cooperation with UNIFEM, carried out sensitization efforts as part of the campaign “16 days of activism against gender violence”, in November/December 2007, including a radio interview with BONUCA’s Gender Affairs Officer; reports and interviews with women and men participants at the sensitization meetings broadcasted on radio; sensitisation meetings to raise awareness among military personnel and civil society; a sketch and a discussion on ways to reduce and eliminate gender-based violence in the Central African Republic; and banners, posters and T-shirts with sensitization messages.

UNDP advocates for the elimination of violence against women and raises awareness by promoting multi-media national and local campaigns, including the “16 days of activism against gender violence” and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

In November 2007, to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, DPI’s Development Section worked in collaboration with UNIFEM to produce an e-mail campaign. The UN Information Centres mobilized civil society partners to focus on the issue, particularly around the International Day and the campaign ‘16 days of activism against gender violence’. Several Information Centres, including those in Asunción, Bogotá, Baku, Cairo, Lima, and Lusaka, developed special campaigns and radio and television programmes, and held press conferences, seminars and educational forums. Africa Renewal magazine issued an article on the realities faced by millions of African women, also noting grassroots work to address violence against women; [this article is also being offered for placement in regional newspapers].

UNESCO is organizing awareness-raising activities on the elimination of all forms of violence against women, such as international conferences on the occasion of International Women’s Day (“Gender Equality – Make it your Business” in 2008) and other conferences on relevant topics.

UNTV produced several stories that were offered to broadcasters through their series “UN in Action” and “21<sup>st</sup> Century”, including features on honour killings in Turkey, domestic violence in Nepal and the prevalence of rape in Burundi. UN Radio produced various stories which included attention to violence against women, including in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq. A dozen stories were featured on the high-traffic UN NewsCentre website, with headlines ranging from “*When women are empowered, all of society benefits – Migiro,*” to “*Sexual violence against women in DR Congo amounts to war crime: UN expert*”. Several press releases highlighted the seriousness of the issue, including the visit of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, Yakin Ertürk, to the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Outreach Division, through the New York Festival/UN DPI Awards, has been encouraging filmmakers to publicize this issue by granting awards to several films highlighting women’s conditions globally.

An awareness-raising pamphlet for women prisoners in Afghanistan using drawings and cartoons is being published in cooperation with UNIFEM. The pamphlet aims to inform women in prison about their rights and takes into account newly approved regulations of penitentiary law.

UNODC country projects include components of awareness-raising and advocacy on violence against women.

With UNDP’s support, policy debates and dialogues, backed by research, on women’s security and citizenship in Lebanon, Egypt, Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco, and Bahrain were held to promote women’s human rights and draw attention to violence against women. In Belarus, the findings of an in-depth gender analysis of the situation of commercial sex workers, which was carried out with the support of UNDP, helped to integrate issues, related to human rights of commercial sex workers, including prevention of violence against them, into an on-going project.

In Samoa, a Human Rights Small Grants Scheme by UNDP has contributed greatly to increasing the knowledge of community men and women on human rights, especially prevention of domestic violence against women and children.

In 2007, UNIFEM launched a six-country programme designed to build community capacity to prevent sexual and gender-based violence and to build peace in post-conflict countries in Afghanistan, Haiti, Liberia, Rwanda, Timor Leste and Uganda. In Southeast Asia and the Pacific, as elsewhere, UNIFEM, as part of joint UN efforts, supported campaign efforts on ending violence against women.

UNHCR supports qualitative participatory child-centred approaches to SGBV prevention and response, including workshops that allow children to share their experiences, coping strategies, and suggestions to prevent and respond to violence in their communities.

UNWRA undertook awareness-raising on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including gender-based violence, for refugee community members through Women Programme Centres. UNRWA's Gaza Field Office undertook a gender equality initiative on domestic violence, including identifying prevention and protection measures through fostering understanding and discussion, and creating a radio station for and by women.

UNFPA organized a meeting in Addis Ababa on addressing female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) in August 2007, involving a wide range of stakeholders.

UNICRI undertook the production and distribution of information material for child sex crime victims.

In December 2007, UNFPA co-hosted the Africa Regional Forum on strengthening partnerships with faith-based organizations (FBOs) for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and violence against women, with the World Conference of the Religions for Peace, in Durban, South Africa.

In August 2007, UNAIDS convened a technical consultation on social change communication aimed, among other things, at examining the role of social change communication in HIV prevention, with a specific focus on tackling the drivers of the epidemic.

UN Habitat launched awards and competitions on "Safety and Security for Women and Girls in Cities" for Latin American and the Caribbean for 2007/2008 in November 2007.

FAO drafted a fact sheet on agriculture, food security and gender-based violence. This document analyzes the main causes of vulnerability of the rural population and proposes some actions to prevent and reduce gender-based violence, with special attention to the human rights of women and youth.

UNESCO is working on a campaign to fight human trafficking in Africa. UNESCO's flagship initiative of community multimedia centers (CMC) provides access to information and communication resources in the areas of women's rights and development, for poor and marginalized women. UNESCO has over 130 CMCs in more than 25 countries.

WHO has continued to provide technical support to Member States on request, including on health sector response, and primary prevention. Within the framework of violence prevention, WHO emphasizes the role of public health in the prevention and response to violence against women. WHO is actively advocating against the medicalization of female genital mutilation.

IOM Colombia also started the implementation of a project to prevent and address gender-based violence in IDPs at and across the Colombian borders with Panama, Venezuela and Ecuador.

UNFPA is working in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders to address gender-based violence, including outreach work with men on prevention and sensitization of populations at large.

In Grenada, St. Lucia and Trinidad & Tobago, UNIFEM is supporting implementation of a court-based batterer intervention programme.

*February 2008 to September 2008*

In the Southern African region, under the framework of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security and in close collaboration with other UN agencies, UNODC supports several activities, including counselling and establishment of support groups for male perpetrators and potential perpetrators in order to break the cycle of violence.

DAW completed the first issue of *Words to Action*, a quarterly newsletter designed to disseminate information about measures undertaken to address violence against women by: intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations; expert bodies, including the human rights treaty bodies; entities of the United Nations system; and States at the regional or sub-regional level.

DAW produced a brochure on the database on violence against women and the related questionnaire, which was distributed to Member States during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly and is available online. DAW participated in the closing conference of the Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence, in Strasbourg, France, in June, and in the 13th International Conference on Violence, Abuse and Trauma in California, United States of America, in September 2008.

DPI provided communications support for the launch of the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to end violence against women", on 25 February 2008, including generating awareness about the role of the United Nations in efforts to end violence against women. DPI coordinated an inter-agency communications group and produced multimedia information materials on the issue. Guidance on the campaign was disseminated to field offices to ensure that the communications campaign is prioritized. The Department's network of UN Information Centres (UNICs), based in over 60 countries, participated in promoting the launch. DPI created a website in the official languages for the launch ([www.endviolence.un.org](http://www.endviolence.un.org)); it issued press releases; it produced several radio stories for the campaign; and highlighted inter-agency efforts to address violence against women. The *News Centre*, a website for journalists worldwide, issued multiple stories which were picked up by the press. DPI provided live coverage of the launch of the campaign, along with the noon press briefing and the lunchtime panel discussion. The i-Seek Intranet site highlighted the Secretary-General's Campaign and violence against women issues.

Substantial media coverage was generated by the launch of the campaign in the international and regional press. The launch was also covered extensively by influential wire services and national media as well.

Along with the broadcast network HBO, DPI co-sponsored film screenings at New York's New School in April 2008, and included a panel discussion on sexual violence. UNTV produced several television stories that were offered to broadcasters through its series "UN in Action" and "21<sup>st</sup> Century", including features on violence against women in Nepal, women's rights in Rwanda and female infanticide in India. DPI's quarterly journal *UN Chronicle* published a story on UNIFEM's partnership with Avon in order to raise money to fight violence against women. *Africa Renewal* carried in-depth stories on violence against women focusing on Africa. More than 30 stories were also featured on the high-traffic UN News Centre website, including "[Ban leads call for greater efforts to end 'silent war' of sexual violence in conflict](#)" and "[Time to turn commitment to ending gender-based violence into action – Migiro](#)"

UNIFEM collaborated with several agencies to support "Women on the Frontline", a seven-part series of the BBC aired in April 2008 that profiled forms of violence against women around the globe.

In March 2008, OHCHR facilitated interactive expert panel discussions on the question of violence against women, and on maternal mortality as a human rights issue, respectively.

UNIFEM and DFID supported a conference organized by the Rwandan Defense Forces in Kigali in March 2008 on women's participation in peacekeeping missions, as part of prevention of gender-based violence. In collaboration with UNFPA and UNDP, UNIFEM organized a satellite session "From acknowledgement to action: Intersections between violence against women and HIV/AIDS", at the International Conference on AIDS in Mexico City, in August 2008.

UNIFEM leads or partners on several joint United Nations initiatives on violence against women, including programmes in Bangladesh, Colombia and Morocco; the Asia Pacific Regional Joint Programme Partners for Prevention: Working with Boys and Men to Prevent Gender-based Violence; and the One UN pilots in Albania, Rwanda and Uruguay, which include violence against women in their programming.

The *Say NO to violence* campaign ([www.sayNOToviolence.org](http://www.sayNOToviolence.org)) continued with a significant expansion in signatures from individuals, public figures, state officials, private sector entities and governments.

In 2008, UNHCR allocated an additional USD 1.5 million for prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence. Projects include raising awareness through home visits in Bangladesh; sports and cultural activities in Uganda, Panama and Venezuela. In relation to the safe school initiative, UNHCR has conducted assessment missions with Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) to Malawi, Namibia and Rwanda, to ensure safe learning environments and addressing sexual and gender-based violence in schools. A training module was prepared for testing.

In May 2008, UNHCR and Sonke Gender Justice launched the project, "*Embracing Men and Boys as Partners in Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence*". The key objectives are to integrate men and boys, and to train staff, partners and people of concern in addressing sexual and gender-based violence. Training workshops have been held in refugee camps in Burundi, Uganda and Kenya, with the goal of further roll-out in the region.

UNRWA held weekly discussion groups for women, men, girls and families on how to deal with domestic violence and awareness sessions at WPCs on human rights and domestic violence for refugee women and volunteers. In Gaza, the Agency held a discussion group for girls, women and families, and a discussion group for men, on domestic violence. In Lebanon, the Agency led awareness sessions in camps. Approximately 5000 refugee women attended awareness-raising sessions on domestic violence by UNHCR.

Many UNICEF country offices in 2008 have utilized television and radio campaigns and capitalized on international awareness days to publicize violence against women and girls.

Through the UNFPA and UNICEF Trust Fund and Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), achievements included: launch in Djibouti and Guinea Bissau, where a forum was created for advocacy and policy dialogue towards accelerated abandonment of FGM/C within a generation, with a wide range of stakeholders; policy discussions were held in four Country Offices of UNFPA and UNICEF and with partners, in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Sudan, and Egypt aimed at clarifying issues related to the operation of the Joint Programme and Trust Fund. In Sudan, the Trust Fund supported media advocacy capacity for partners implementing the Joint Programme.

In May 2008, UNESCO's Division for Gender Equality chaired a side event on female genital mutilation, organized by the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IAC), in the context of the WHO World Health Assembly.

In 2008/2009, UNICRI is implementing a second programme to counter trafficking in human beings from Nigeria to Italy, which also includes awareness-raising campaigns and education activities. Towards this end, an agreement was signed in February 2008 between Nigerian Government and UNICRI

UN Habitat held panel discussions during Kenya's National Youth Forum in February 2008 on preventing gender-based violence. An award ceremony was held in March 2008 in Costa Rica, as part of the "IV Safer Cities Competitions for Women and Girls - Safety and Security for Women and Girls in Cities", with the following municipalities receiving awards: San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina; Maipú, Chile; and Solidaridad, Mexico.

UNAIDS participated in several workshops and fora at the International AIDS Society Meeting in Mexico which presented new information on violence against women.

FAO is participating in the implementation of joint programmes in Guatemala and Morocco, under the One-UN initiative. The multisectorial joint Programme in Morocco aims at protecting women and girls against all forms of violence (economic, physical, verbal, psychological, sexual and trafficking) and addresses the linkages with poverty and vulnerability.

As part of its celebration of International Women's Day 2008, UNESCO's Division for Gender Equality, in collaboration with WHO, hosted the première of the documentary "Mutilation, Women's Cries", by the French-Gabonese association Kerciné. A UNESCO video spot to raise awareness and combat violence against women entitled "Being Fed Up" was posted online in April 2008 and is available at:

<http://www.unesco-ci.org/cgi-bin/media/page.cgi?g=Detailed/128.html;d=1>

*October 2008 to February 2009*

During the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women in 2008, OSAGI and UNFPA organized a panel discussion with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, which reviewed 15 years (1994-2009) of work of the mandate. OSAGI coordinated the performance of a play, "MIKA", which highlighted the far-reaching impact of violence against women and which was also performed at United Nations Headquarters in December.

Issue # 2 of *Words to Action*, DAW's quarterly newsletter on violence against women, was produced with a feature article on legislation.

On 17 November 2008, the Secretary-General appointed Academy Award-winning actress Charlize Theron as United Nations Messenger of Peace, tasked with promoting efforts to end violence against women. DPI facilitated a press conference in New York to announce the appointment, in which Ms. Theron participated. The event had extensive media coverage. DPI also undertook activities to promote the campaign on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

A number of stories related to violence against women were posted on the *How We Make a Difference* section of OHCHR's home page throughout 2008 and 2009. On International Women's Day 2008, OHCHR's home page featured a story on the launch of the Secretary-General's UNiTE Campaign. The Office also proposed and contributed a story on violence against women to DPI's 2008 "Ten Stories the World Should Hear More About" web page.

As a member of the "Gender is my agenda campaign" (GIMAC), ECA participated in the 13th Pre-Summit African Union Heads of State Consultative Meeting on gender mainstreaming where participants recognized the need to intensify measures in response to the Secretary-General's campaign "UNiTE to end violence against women".

The initiative by UNFPA Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office (LACRO) on sexual violence in select Central American countries included communication and advocacy strategies at country and sub regional level, in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders.

ESCWA participated in a meeting entitled “The effect of violence on women and family”, organized by the Doha International Institute on Family Studies and Development, in November 2008.

UNIFEM also established funds for community-based organizations working to prevent and respond to violence against women in Afghanistan, the Pacific and Haiti.

UNIFEM established formal partnerships in preventing violence against women, including MenEngage and Religions for Peace and continued to provide technical and other support in the context of joint United Nations efforts in the Asia-Pacific region, engaging men and boys to prevent violence against women. ESCWA is part of the steering committee of the OXFAM-UNIFEM joint project on “Strategies and approaches of working with men and boys to promote gender equality”.

Throughout 2008, UNDP-supported community conversation sessions were organized by village facilitators in Cambodia, in order to promote the communities’ understanding of social and legal issues related to domestic violence.

UNIFEM supported or co-organized a number of meetings, workshops and conferences in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders, including: on Security Council resolution 1820 and Peacekeeping (September 2008); on Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820 with respect to the EU’s Security and Defense Policy missions (October 2008); on cross-border female genital mutilation, with West African First Ladies (October 2008); on trafficking in South Asia for media, lawyers and police; and provided technical support for an Economic Community of West African States summit on trafficking and other trans-border issues (December 2008).

UNIFEM supported awareness-raising efforts, including: radio education on violence against indigenous women in the Andean Region; gender-based violence community sensitization in Rwanda, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam; and the 16 Days of activism against gender violence campaign in many countries.

In 2008, UNDP supported multi-media national and local campaigns, including during the “16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence”, in Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, Zimbabwe, Niger and Myanmar.

UNHCR marked the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence with activities at Headquarters, and a workshop on the involvement of men and boys in addressing sexual and gender-based violence; and the collection and display of handprints of UNHCR staff members as part of the “Hands United against Harm” project. Events in field operations included: roundtable discussions, traditional dances, songs, theatre plays, children’s drawing competitions, film screenings and training sessions to raise awareness on sexual and gender-based violence.

In Zimbabwe, IOM supported two community-based events during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, including information materials.

From its *Say NO to Violence against Women Campaign*, UNIFEM delivered over 5 million signatures, including from Heads of State and Ministers from 60 governments and more than 600 Parliamentarians from over 70 countries to the UN Secretary-General, on 25 November 2008, in support of his Campaign *UNiTE to End Violence Against Women*.

Within the framework of the campaign *Stop Raping our Greatest Resources: Power to the Women and Girls of DRC*, awareness-raising activities, funds and political commitment to end

violence against women and girls in the DRC were implemented from July to December 2008. Awareness raising campaigns in Edo State in Nigeria, have been designed with the support of UNICRI.

Within the framework of the commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UNESCO Doha Office with the collaboration of the Qatar Foundation for Child & Woman Protection organized a workshop on “The International Conventions for the Eradication of Violence and Discrimination against Women & their Reflection on the Qatari Legislations”.

In December 2008, a senior World Bank manager made a presentation at the “Cairo Declaration on FGM + 5 Meeting”. In November 2008, the World Bank contributed to the “Women and Security” conference in Abu Dhabi, organised by the Arab Women's Organizations.

UNHCR organized a regional workshop on masculinities in South Africa, in cooperation with Sonke Gender Justice and the Refugee Women's Commission, to promote the positive involvement of men and boys in addressing sexual and gender-based violence. Multifunctional teams from nine countries in the Great Lakes, Eastern and Southern Africa regions participated, and the event resulted in the development of country-level work plans. As a follow up, three trainings for men and boys were conducted in Kenya, also for the police. Two digital stories were developed on the involvement of men and boys in addressing sexual and gender-based violence.

The World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in November 2008, was organized jointly by UNICEF, the Government of Brazil, ECPAT and the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child., resulting in the *“Rio de Janeiro Pact to Prevent and Stop Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents”*.

UNICEF continued to support social mobilization efforts at all levels to change attitudes and behaviour on violence against women and girls, including sexual violence and exploitation, trafficking and female genital mutilation.

UN-HABITAT and UNIFEM Latin America and Caribbean jointly held a workshop on “Women's Safety”, in Mexico, in November 2008, to present the training and capacity building programme. UN-Habitat and the NGO “Women in Cities International” launched the evaluation report “Women's Safety Audits – What Works and Where?”. UNIFEM, UN-HABITAT, “Women in Cities International” and “Red Mujer” also organized a session entitled “Women and Safety in Urban Spaces”.

A meeting “Stopping the HIV epidemic – young women, girls and HIV in southern Africa. What must be done!” was convened in June 2008 by UNAIDS with the University of Witwatersrand Reproductive Health Research Unit. Three research papers relevant to violence against women were presented: intergenerational sex; sexual violence; and risk perception, knowledge and behaviour. The findings of the meeting were presented at ICASA in December 2008 along with communication material put together by Soul City to engage communities and decision makers. They were published in a special supplement of AIDS that was distributed at ICASA.

In November 2008, UNESCO Addis Ababa organized a workshop for film-makers, development workers and media professionals during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ethiopian International Film Festival in order to identify strategies for promoting greater awareness and positive behavioural change on HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence/discrimination and climate change through the medium of popular films. Several UNESCO Offices, including those in Montevideo, Brasilia and Almaty, included violence against women as a focus in their activities.

The Violence Prevention Alliance and the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention supported by WHO aimed to strengthen the role of public health in the prevention and response to violence, including against women. As part of the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention, WHO is giving

increased attention to the primary prevention of intimate partner violence and sexual violence. WHO also worked with the International Federation of Obstetricians and Gynecologists to advocate against the medicalization of FGM.

In Timor Leste, IOM published a brochure on internally displaced women's rights and responsibilities regarding the return and resettlement options under this National Recovery Strategy. It included information on health services, security and protection mechanisms upon return for victims of violence and was distributed in all IDP camps and Return Communities.

#### *March 2009 to September 2009*

DAW Issues # 3 and 4 of Words to Action were produced, with feature articles on the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to end violence against women" and the IANWGE Task Force's joint programming pilot initiative, respectively.

DPI worked to promote the Secretary-General's Campaign, focusing on raising awareness of violence against women globally; mobilizing public opinion to urge decision-makers to implement or change policies, in order to end violence against women; and generating awareness about the role of the United Nations in efforts to end violence against women. DPI's network of UN Information Centres (UNICs) actively participated in promoting the Campaign at the national and regional levels, including through work with governments, students and civil society. UNICs organized media workshops, panel discussions, performances, photography and art exhibits, as well as film screenings. DPI also worked to further develop a visual identity for the campaign, as well as a campaign slogan and poster, a campaign ideas brochure, and a brochure setting out the campaign's *Framework for Action*. The campaign website was updated on a regular basis in the six official UN languages.

A segment on domestic violence, entitled *Austria: Showing the Red Card*, was completed for the "21st Century" television series, and new radio programmes on ending violence against women and promoting gender equality were produced.

In support of the Secretary-General's Campaign, UNIFEM coordinated inter-agency efforts towards the launch of the UNiTE in Africa and UNiTE Latin America and the Caribbean regional components of the Campaign. It organized with OSAGI and the Center for Women's Global Leadership a civil society consultation in relation to the Campaign.

The International Women's Day in 2009 was used to highlight the campaign, with the theme of "Women and Men United to End Violence against Women and Girls." DPI carried out promotional activities and media outreach to promote the day at UN Headquarters and around the world, including the dissemination of information materials and press conferences. DPI also facilitated the placement of op-eds by the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for Human Rights for International Women's Day; these were published in major publications in all regions, particularly Europe, North America and Latin America. The Secretary-General's message for International Women's Day was picked up in articles in the international press.

A number of stories on violence against women, such as violence against albinos in Tanzania and violence against female domestic workers in Brazil, were posted during the Durban Review Conference, held in April in Geneva, on both the OHCHR and the Conference sites. Another story focused on the side event "Double Odds: Women Overcoming Multiple Discrimination" including a presentation by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences. Other stories were posted in 2009 in relation to human trafficking.

In March 2009, the OHCHR Women's Rights and Gender Unit co-organized a side event on "Honour Killings" during the Human Rights Council. On the occasion of the 12<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, UNHCR and OHCHR organized a side event entitled "A Modern day "Crucible" - Witchcraft accusations against women and children in the 21st Century"

to draw attention to witchcraft accusations, often targeting marginalized groups, including refugees and IDPs.

OHCHR participated in the organization of an awareness-raising workshop on human rights and national laws related to women's rights in May 2009 for an Arab settlement in Zeina, in Sudan. OHCHR's Regional Office in Central Asia produced leaflets, in Kyrgyz and Russian languages, with information on the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, including the template individual communications form.

In order to celebrate International Women's Day and the anniversaries of the adoption of the CEDAW Convention and its Optional Protocol in 2009, the OHCHR in Uganda featured an article in Uganda's main daily newspaper, calling for speedy enactment of pending bills, including the ones on domestic relations, sexual offences and domestic violence.. OHCHR's country office in Uganda, in cooperation with Pader NGO Forum and the Civil-Military Coordination Centre (CMCC), sensitized internally displaced persons (IDP) community leaders on the human rights of women, focusing on ending sexual and gender-based violence, forced and early marriages, and promoting inheritance and property rights. In February and July 2009, in Kitgum District/Uganda, the Office facilitated sessions on sexual, gender-based violence and human rights. The Country office also gave a presentation on the role of international organizations and civil society organizations in preventing sexual and gender-based violence during activities organized by the Refugee Law Project.

In February 2009, the OHCHR Regional Office for Eastern Africa commemorated the International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation through a range of activities. In March 2009, it participated in the launch of the "Leave No Woman Behind Project", implemented by the Ethiopian and Spanish Governments and UNFPA, including also elements on ending violence against women.

OHCHR supported financially awareness-raising and advocacy programs implemented by the human rights components of various United Nations Peacekeeping Missions. On International Women's Day 2009, the human rights component in the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire organized training and sensitization sessions through its nine regional offices, in close cooperation with other UNOCI components, the UN Country Team and a wide range of stakeholders. The mission has focused on raising awareness of gender-based violence in Côte d'Ivoire, such as rape and female genital mutilation, early and/or forced marriages, as well as of the legal provisions contained in the Ivorian Penal Code. The Human Rights and Protection Section of the United Nations Mission in Liberia, in collaboration with County Gender Coordinators and women's organisations, continued to raise awareness of women's rights, female genital mutilation and sexual and gender-based violence, targeting also traditional leaders.

UNIFEM supported public events and information dissemination on ending violence against women through various mediums, including: International Women's Day in India, Nigeria and Viet Nam; youth conferences on sexual harassment in Egypt and on support to sexual and gender-based violence survivors in Tanzania; a Zimbabwe television series to highlight trafficking issues; a documentary on good practices in ancestral justice for indigenous women in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador; and a youth rock concert in Colombia. Within an interagency programme in Haiti, UNIFEM supported the dissemination of information regarding especially to sexual and gender-based violence protection measures through media and schools (in collaboration with the Ministry for the Status of Women and Women's Rights).

In Egypt, UNV is working with the UN system and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to delineate the role of volunteerism in the FGM-Free Village initiative. National UNV volunteers are involved as youth leaders at the village level to raise awareness about the health related consequences of female genital mutilation (FGM), and to advocate

against the social pressure on young girls and women. Several villages have made public declarations renouncing FGM.

In Sudan, UNV works closely with UNFPA, the Ahfad University for Women and other stakeholders, engaging local volunteers to tackle FGM. By involving males and youths in peer education, engaging midwives and mothers in sexual education, and working with schools to raise the awareness of children, UNV and community volunteers were able to challenge practicing FGM from a community perspective. A combination of innovative information materials, entry into the community through schools, and reaching the families of pupils through public events has led to engaging a greater number of people. To ensure sustainability, UNV and partners supported the creation of a new non-governmental organization comprising the community volunteers it mobilized.

In Honduras, the joint programme for the *Support of Human Security* contributes to gender equality and youth development through volunteerism for peace and development. UNV promotes a “culture of peace” at the community level in a context where incidences of sexual and domestic violence are high. So far, the programme has encouraged over 500 youth, chosen from at risk areas/contexts, to voluntarily participate in activities.

UNHCR, in a joint endeavor with UNODC and IOM and in close co-operation with the Serbian Government, has developed a comprehensive and multi-year anti-human trafficking project in Serbia.

Four community-based films have been produced which encapsulate key issues addressed in the UNHCR’s *Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls*.

The UNRWA-supported Community Mental Health program in West Bank and Gaza continued psycho-educational workshops and lectures in all camps addressing topics such as sex education, equality between both sexes in the family, violence against women and children. The workshops targeted both women and men (whenever possible). In West Bank there is an ongoing program with 2 groups of male abusers.

UNIFEM continued to provide technical and other support in the context of joint United Nations efforts in the Asia-Pacific region, engaging men and boys to prevent violence against women.

In September 2009, UNHCR conducted workshops to promote the engagement of men and boys in the prevention of SGBV in the East and Horn of Africa. The participants of the workshop developed country level action plans for 2010 and contributed to a collection of good practices. In September 2009, UNHCR undertook a pilot training in Uganda on the e-learning Guide on Safe Schools and Learning Environment to build the capacity of UNHCR staff and partners to prevent and respond to violence, including SGBV, in and around schools.

On International Women’s Day, UNRWA Lebanon Field Office organized, in collaboration with a Lebanese NGO “KAFA”, awareness-raising sessions on “Women and men united to end violence against women and girls”. UNRWA’s Women Program Centers organized sessions on the use of the CEDAW Convention and Human Rights tools in advocacy.

UNFPA participated in the March 2009 Rio Global Symposium on Engaging Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality; developed a toolkit on Engaging Men and Boys in Gender Equality and sexual and reproductive health (with Instituto Promundo); developed case studies of Engaging Men and Boys in Gender, Sexuality and reproductive health in Asia and Africa (with ICOMP); and, documented good practices on Engaging Men and Boys in Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS. UNFPA represented the UN Team in the drafting committee of the Rio Call to Action and continues the collaboration with the “Men Engage Alliance” as well as respective partners.

UNFPA continued its advocacy work on elimination of violence, abuse and discrimination against women and girls, with a special focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups of women and girls. It collaborated with Help Age International, the Global Action on Aging and the NGO Committee on Ageing in advocating for the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, and contributed to UNAIDS's guidance note on *HIV and sex work*. Other instances of work with such groups includes the new UNFPA-AECID Latin America initiative - "Strengthening Indigenous Women's Organizations and Health Systems to Promote Maternal Health, with an Intercultural and Human Rights-Based Approach". In *Jamaica*, in partnership with the government, UNFPA support the launching of the campaign "Sister to Sister", using popular icons and messages.

During the Commission on the Status of Women, UNFPA hosted various events on the intersectionality of HIV/AIDS and violence against women.

During reproductive health and HIV field missions to MENA and West African countries, UNHCR health staff advocated with stakeholders for the strengthening of sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response and for the integration of reproductive health, including sexual and gender-based violence, into community-based outreach activities and awareness-raising campaigns.

In Liberia, UNHCR and its partners supported the establishment of a new community health department and organized community health committees and volunteers. The volunteers participated in awareness-raising sessions on primary health care, reproductive health, sexual and gender-based violence and HIV/AIDS.

UNFPA sent a high-level delegation participate in the March 2009 international colloquium that was held in Liberia on "Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace and Security". UNFPA made a presentation on "Developing Linkages for Collaboration on the SG Campaign on VAW" at the UNDP global annual gender meeting that was held in Caracas, Venezuela, in April 2009.

WFP used International Women's Day 2009 as an opportunity to raise awareness and plan activities to prevent gender-based violence including through a film screening, panel discussions and workshop in Burkina Faso; and a declaration signed by WFP and partners, as part of the launch of the National Action Plan for Women in Afghanistan, which included a commitment to "Fast track the enactment of the proposed law to combat violence against women".

In Chad, WFP has become part of a coordinated response addressing issues related to the collection of firewood by the beneficiaries in the camp. In response to sexual exploitation and abuse of women who venture outside of the camp for firewood, WFP provided women with fuel efficient stoves, increased access to firewood and improved roads through food for work programmes.

In collaboration with "Jagori", UN-Habitat initiated a *Youth and Safety Project in slums* in New Delhi. The project is implemented in the relocated community of Madanpur Khadar and focuses on gender-based safety by involving young men and young women, in order to enhance security in the slum for the most vulnerable.

A National Youth Crime and Violence Prevention Conference was held by UN Habitat in Nairobi, Kenya, with providing safe spaces for young women and girls, as one of the thematic areas. Recommendations were made to local government to be proactive in providing these spaces, especially in disadvantaged communities.

UNICRI continued to carry out activities related to women's empowerment in Nigerian Edo State as a preventive measure against trafficking of women. As part of these activities, a second lot of

beneficiaries was selected to receive training, micro-credit and all necessary equipment to start small business activities.

*October 2009 to February 2010*

DAW produced an updated brochure on the Secretary-General's database on violence against women in all official United Nations languages.

In November, DPI launched a re-designed UNiTE website so as to engage visitors, in particular through creating and linking to social media platforms for the campaign. For the tenth anniversary of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, DPI publicized and contributed to the organization of the launch of the Secretary-General's "Network of Men Leaders" at UN Headquarters, through the production of information materials, including a press kit, campaign banners and pins. The Secretary-General gave a press conference to mark the International Day, which generated considerable media coverage, with most news pieces leading with the launch of the "Network of Men Leaders". DPI also held a briefing entitled "Healing Wounds, Reclaiming Lost Lives: The Consequences of Female Genital Mutilation" in November 2009.

In all regions, DPI's network of UN Information Centres organized numerous events to promote the UNiTE campaign around 25 November, including the launch of national groups of UNiTE campaign supporters (see <http://endviolence.un.org> and <http://www.facebook.com/pages/UNiTE-To-End-Violence-Against-Women/314529270144>).

In support of the regional component of the Secretary General campaign "UNiTE to end violence against women" in Latin America, UNDP organized a Knowledge Fair on Violence against women, consisted in systematization of experiences from governmental and nongovernmental actors in the region; organization of experiences exchange and dialogue roundtables in different issues and exhibition of the experiences; creation of a virtual space with all the information about the Knowledge Fair to get access to everyone.

UNIFEM coordinated and supported the launch of the first regional campaign with UN sister agencies in Guatemala City (November 2009), in which ECLAC participated; advanced inter-agency consultations with multiple stakeholders in Africa and Asia; secured a Clinton Global Initiative Commitment for the Campaign related to the UN Trust Fund resource mobilization benchmark; and launched Phase II of the *Say No - UNiTE* campaign aiming for 100,000 actions by March 2010.

UNFPA carried out advocacy activities that link up with the Secretary-General's campaign, such as hosting an exhibition on "Congo Women" and "Women in the Frontline" in October 2009, at the UN Secretariat in New York, in which the Secretary-General's Campaign featured; supported the launch of the Secretary-General's network of men leaders to combat violence against women and a photo-exhibition on the theme of men and boys in this event; it was a key partner in the launch of the Secretary-General's campaign in Latin America and Africa; and initiated country-level efforts on the campaign in Africa and Latin America.

UNAIDS is an active member of the Secretary General's Africa-wide Campaign to End Violence Against Women.

DPI produced and disseminated in all its media outlets information on United Nations work to eliminate violence against women. These products were used by global broadcast and journalistic partners and were made available to the general public.

Working in the six UN official languages as well as Kiswahili and Portuguese, UN Radio covered the issue of violence against women in news reports, interviews, and feature programmes. Features drew attention to different aspects of the issue, including domestic violence, the needs

of women and girls in the aftermath of conflict, the Secretary-General's launch of a "Network of Men Leaders", and celebrity advocacy to end the practice of rape as a weapon of war.

UN Television produced programmes for broadcast partners around the world and in long-format magazine programmes attention was drawn to violence against women in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and domestic violence in Afghanistan. UNTV's live pool and daily highlights packages provided news syndicators with coverage of relevant Secretary-General's speeches and messages, meetings of the Security Council and press briefings. UNTV also made available on the Internet a number of materials, including coverage of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women](#), the launch of the "[Network of Men Leaders](#)" and "UNiTE to end violence against women" campaign, and an event co-sponsored by the United States, the Netherlands, and Brazil on combating violence against girls.

A wide range of UN activities to combat violence against women was covered on the UN News Centre portal in all official languages. The main site with searchable index can be viewed at [www.un.org/news](http://www.un.org/news). Intergovernmental meetings, open press briefings and statements of UN senior leadership were covered by DPI, which issued press releases on violence against women, including press release statements of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General and press briefings.

In September 2009, DPI assisted in coordinating the participation of Messenger of Peace Charlize Theron in recording a public service announcement for UN Action's "Stop Rape Now!" campaign. DPI devoted the first issue of UN Chronicle on challenges women and girls face across the world, including essays and first-person accounts of war and sexual violence, safety of refugee women and girls and the UN system's coordinated response to protecting the rights of women and girls everywhere.

To mark the "16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence" a number of initiatives were conducted and supported by UNDP, such as a joint UNDP/UNFPA initiative targeting secondary school pupils and school communities in Albania; a joint UNDP/UNFPA/UNHCR initiative including press conferences, public hearings, public service announcements broadcasting, film screenings and roundtable discussions in Armenia; a documentary on SGBV, screened on two of three national TV stations in Kosovo; a special session of the Committee for Gender Equality on SGBV to raise awareness of MPs in Serbia; the presentation of the global survey findings on domestic violence in Turkmenistan.

UNRWA participated in the 16 days of activism campaign against gender violence. In Gaza City, 700 women were invited to an informative talk about gender-based violence. A series of activities were held in UNRWA's schools and women's centres throughout the West Bank, including creative workshops, documentary screenings and sessions on the adverse consequences of gender-based violence. UNRWA, along with other UN agencies in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, held a joint event. In Syria, public events were organized in Damascus, Hama and Homs, including testimonies from victims, paintings, lectures and marches. Targeted audiences included youth, women, men, community leaders and religious leaders.

ESCAP convened a High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and Its Regional and Global Outcomes (November 2009), during which, a panel discussion entitled "Regional campaign to end violence against women" was held. The experiences of various countries in measuring and addressing violence against women, including through engaging with men and boys and with faith-based organizations, were shared. A regional consultation for the Secretary-General's campaign to end violence against women in the Asia-Pacific region was also organized.

A briefing on gender, including violence against women, was organized by DPI in September 2009 for the participants of the Reham Al-Farra Memorial Journalists Fellowship Programme.

UNDP launched a public campaign with a message “A Real Man Never Hits a Woman” in Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; supported the organisation of men leaders who are artists, athletes, politicians and writers to send a strong message against VAW in Ukraine; fielded a campaign to change the behavior and attitudes of actual and potential perpetrators of GBV in Venezuela.

UNHCR hosted a *White Ribbon Campaign* to mobilize men to end violence against women, and a photo exhibition to raise awareness about trafficking.

In November 2009, UNFPA hosted a consultation in Dakar, Senegal, on engaging men and boys in gender equality and preventing HIV, aimed at sharing promising practices among UNFPA staff and partners, while identifying ways of strengthening and institutionalizing this work, particularly at the policy level.

In Sierra Leone, the UNDP-supported project “Strengthening Access to Justice” promotes awareness of gender equality laws and GBV among traditional chiefs in Bo and Makeni. The priority is to ensure that the components of the Gender Acts to address GBV issues are contextualized within traditional law and culture. The project has produced legal education material on the prevention of GBV in communities, such as radios spots and drama.

UNIFEM participated in UNCT programmes and other inter-agency initiatives in many countries, including: the South Asia Anti-Trafficking Think Tank (formed in partnership with UNODC) and the Amal Coalition in Gaza. UNIFEM supported advocacy and survivor support networks in Algeria, Argentina, Morocco and Uruguay, as well as men’s networks in Cameroon and Mozambique. UNIFEM awareness-raising support included: a workshop on CEDAW and gender-based violence in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (with the Open Society Institute); a South African sexual harassment campaign; and various events for the 16 Days of activism against gender violence campaign.

FAO has prepared a module to be included in the Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools (JFFLS) and Farmers Field Schools (FFS) Curriculum in order to include gender based violence prevention. This module is being tested in several FFS in Kenya and Uganda, and focuses on legal empowerment. This approach has been scaled up and is being used in the DRC, Burundi and Rwanda. Women farmers’ field schools have also been put in place with additional modules on GBV, reproductive health, rights and other issues.

FAO supported the creation of community listeners clubs in Katanga (DRC), involving women and men of the community, including violence against women as a topic. The local community radios have aired several round tables and sketches on gender based violence.

FAO’s Dimitra Project partner works on a programme entitled “Synergies of the women and men communicators against HIV-AIDS and sexual violence against women and girls in rural areas”, collaborating closely with rural community radios to raise awareness of women’s role and help women’s voices be heard in South Kivu. The first ever women’s radio, “Radio Bubusa”, has been created.

UNESCO worked on a campaign to fight human trafficking in Africa.

The seventh session of the UNESCO Forum on Gender Equality, organized in collaboration with the Permanent Delegation of the United States of America to UNESCO, was held in October 2009. The Round Table, on the theme “Beijing: 15 Years After”, explored the progress which has been made in the twelve critical areas of action of the Beijing Platform for Action.

WHO held the Fourth Milestones Meeting of the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention in September 2009, focusing on strengthening violence prevention.

In November 2009, UNESCO's Office in Beijing sponsored the Institute of Anthropology in the Renmin University of China to initiate an advocacy forum and campaign to mark the "End Violence against Women Day". The project provided a platform for experts from the government and civil society organizations to discuss domestic violence and raised awareness among university students on the issue through a variety of campaigns, such as debate and drama.

#### *March to September 2010*

Issues # 7 and 8 of Words to Action, DAW's quarterly newsletter on violence against women, were issued, with feature articles on the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women, and the 15 year review of the implementation of the Platform for Action.

ECLAC continued to participate in the regional inter-agency working group, responsible for the regional implementation of the Secretary General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign. ECLAC contributed to the preparations of the Caribbean launching of the campaign.

The Department of Public Information continued to provide communications support to the Secretary-General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign, including through managing the campaign website ([endviolence.un.org](http://endviolence.un.org)) and related online platforms. Several social media platforms managed by the Department, including the UN Twitter account – which had approached 100,000 followers – regularly featured content on violence against women. News and developments in the global campaign to end violence against women were also covered by the UN News Centres in all the official languages. In English and French alone, 55 stories on the subject were produced, covering issues including violence against women in times of conflict and activities of United Nations experts and intergovernmental bodies. The Department produced a total of 17 official press releases related to the issue in English and French as part of coverage of six intergovernmental meetings, and another six press conferences at United Nations Headquarters.

DPI promoted the 45th session of the Commission on the Status of Women/15-year review of the Beijing Platform and International Women's Day 2010, including the issue of violence against women. The Department conducted media outreach and produced information materials, including a poster and information kits for media, delegates and civil society. The Department facilitated a four-week online discussion on "Women and the Media", one week of which focused on violence against women journalists. In all regions the Department's network of UN Information Centres organized numerous activities and events to mark International Women's Day, several of which focused on violence against women. The United Nations Information Office in Baku held a series of town hall meetings in remote villages and districts in Azerbaijan, which also included a session on early marriage and gender-based violence. In Sri Lanka, a one-day interactive forum on the theme "Discrimination against women: Our side of the story", organized by the United Nations Information Centre in Colombo, with the support of Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, generated recommendations for institutional measures to tackle gender discrimination and gender-based violence. The United Nations Information Centre in Yaounde organized a group discussion on violence against women journalists with media professionals in Cameroon.

Two articles on gender-based violence were published in DPI's quarterly Africa Renewal magazine: "*Security reform key to protecting women*" (January 2010), and "*Even with peace Liberian women struggle*" (April 2010). The Department's UN Television produced programmes on the subject, including short features under the UN in Action series on women in prison in Afghanistan; women on the frontline in Liberia; and a programme entitled "*Haiti: Violence Against Women.*" In addition, UN Television produced two long-form reports for its half-hour magazine programme "21st Century", aired by broadcasters in different regions of the world. These covered women in Liberia and the violence faced by female journalists in Iraq. Seven footage packages

were prepared for broadcasting partners, through UN Television's UNifeed team, which addressed violence against women, and presented United Nations activities to prevent it.

In partnership with UNFPA and UNIFEM, DPI produced and broadcasted a series of radio programmes called "Beijing + 15" which explored the impact of the commitments made at the Beijing Women's Conference on the lives of girls today. UN Radio staff travelled to Africa, Europe and Latin America to tell the stories of 15-year-old girls, and hear about their problems, including on the subject of violence. The series were adapted from English into Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish, Kiswahili and Portuguese, and were broadcasted by many UN Radio partners including, for example, Moldova National Radio.

OHCHR supported the on violence against women, its causes and consequences in advocating for the elimination of violence against women, such as in the conference on femicide in Latin America, organized with the European Parliament, and in a colloquium on domestic migrant workers in the EU, organized by OHCHR Regional office in Brussels.

In Sri Lanka, UNDP is preparing to use street dramas to present issues related to VAW. In Sierra Leone, UNDP supported 8 civil society organizations to be engaged in awareness-raising on gender laws, sexual gender-based violence, and harmful traditional practices. In addition, 24 radio programmes were organized by UNDP implementing partners for sensitization messages. UNDP also supported civil society organizations to raise awareness on issues of violence against women and human trafficking and act as monitors/watchdogs; and supported production of documentaries to increase awareness of the broader public on violence against women, including the legal and institutional frameworks in place to provide justice.

In the Arab region, a series of Human Development Reports were produced by UNDP, highlighting violence against women, as an issue of concern that affects progress in Arab societies. The most recent report analyzed and researched issues of human insecurities in the region, including gender-based violence. In Iraq, UNDP is working closely with UNIFEM on enhancing women's security. In Haiti, UNDP works with women and women's organizations in IDPs camps to identify and implement preventive measures against gender-based violence.

In Asia Pacific, the Partners for Prevention (P4P) - an inter-agency initiative of UNDP, UNFPA, UNIFEM and UNVs- which works with men and boys to prevent gender-based violence- has developed a comprehensive set of research tools on gender-based violence, including questionnaires, research protocols, and training manuals for the "Gender-based Violence Prevention and Masculinities" Collaborative Research Project for Asia and the Pacific. These tools have been shared with partners in Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. In Cambodia, the research findings on GBV and masculinities are informing a public awareness campaign. P4P is also developing the capacity of national partners in China, Indonesia, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and Papua New Guinea to conduct research in this area, in order to develop evidence-based programs and policy initiatives to address GBV across the region. Networks of practitioners have been established in South Asia and Southeast & East Asia to support the civil society and UN advocates to implement initiatives on GBV prevention through work with men and boys.

UNIFEM's Safe Cities Global Programme, implemented in partnership with UN-HABITAT, among other partners, completed impact evaluation validation missions with International Center for Research on Women in Cairo, Kigali, New Delhi, Quito and Port Moresby, to inform the selection of programme sites.

UNIFEM is involved in various global initiatives on primary prevention, including Clinton Global Initiative Commitments, focused on young people as a strategic group, by serving in the Steering Committee of one of the initiatives which addresses sexual abuse of girls; partnering with the Man Up Campaign, including around the 2010 World Cup on its Young Leaders Summit; and as a lead on violence against women within the UN Adolescent Girls Task Force. UNIFEM organized a

soccer tournament for the Africa Red Light 2010 campaign against trafficking of women and girls. In Colombia and Nepal, UNIFEM provided support for the establishment of male anti-violence advocacy networks, and their participation at the Men Engage African Symposium.

In Gaza, the Equality in Action programme, supported by UNRWA, continues the discussions that target men and women in the community, as well as religious leaders and UNRWA health staff, to raise awareness of the impact of violence against women.

During the World Soccer Cup in South Africa, UNFPA released globally the video-game that uses football as the medium to address violence against women, to be found at <http://www.breakawaygame.com>. Country-level efforts, under the umbrella of the Secretary General's campaign, are being initiated by UNFPA country offices in Africa and Latin America, being related to the five key outcomes of the campaign's Framework for Action.

The OHCHR/Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section in the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste has continued to conduct activities on the prevention and elimination of violence against women.

UN-HABITAT is implementing, in partnership with the NGO "Jagori", a project on Youth and Girls Safety, in one of the settlement communities in New Delhi. Project activities include: the sensitisation of young girls and boys to prevent and end violence against women and girls; and the re-examination of masculinities and gender identities by young men. The Core Strategies deployed are:

- mapping and training of a team on Safety Audit methodology;
- critical sensitization of a broad range of key stakeholders, to ensure their collaboration with the youth in the development and creation of a gender-equitable safe environment;
- developing competencies of the youth to demonstrate leadership and ownership in the community.

UN- HABITAT and UNESCAP have been jointly implementing the project "promoting urban safety for the poor in the Asia Pacific" and the final workshop ' *Putting Safety First for the Urban Poor on the Local Agenda* ' was held in the Philippines, in June 2010. One of the concerns raised was women's safety in the region and in the on-line Safer Cities toolkit for Asia and the Pacific women's safety features prominently.

UN-HABITAT is conducting safety assessments of 13 municipalities in Southern Serbia.

WHO/PAHO organized a workshop on the prevention of intimate partner violence and sexual violence with participants from four Latin American countries, aimed at introducing concepts of primary prevention, reviewing the evidence and encouraging development of country prevention initiatives.

*October 2010-February 2011*

Issue # 9 of Words to Action, former DAW's now UN Women quarterly newsletter on violence against women, was issued, with a feature article on addressing violence against women and HIV/AIDS effectively.

The former Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues (OSAGI, now part of UN Women) raised the question of violence against women and girls, including the crime of sexual violence in conflict situations, on various occasions; brought violations of women's human rights to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations; and the Special Adviser in her advocacy efforts urged various stakeholders to join the UNiTE campaign to end violence against women and to end impunity for perpetrators.

The UN News Centre of the Department of the Department of Public Information continued its coverage of the global campaign to end violence against women, particularly in English and French. In these two languages alone, a total of 62 stories were written, covering the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and reports prepared by human rights officials and experts.

Several social media platforms managed by the Department of Public Information, including the UN Twitter account ([twitter.com/un](https://twitter.com/un)) regularly featured content on violence against women. During the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence 16 tweets for 16 days were developed along with 16 Facebook updates for 16 days. The Department of Public Information was involved in the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women under the theme “Leadership of Corporate Sector in Empowering Women and Ending Violence against Women and Girls”, through the development and dissemination of UNiTE campaign and other press materials.

In Beirut, the UN Information Centre held a press conference and partnered with university students to distribute UNiTE campaign material. Social media were utilised to raise awareness of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women by several UN Information Centres, including those in Pretoria, Tunis, and Vienna.

The Department’s UN Radio produced coverage of activities surrounding the International Day and the 16 days of activism against gender violence, in the Organization’s six official languages, in Portuguese and Kiswahili. UN Radio covered the use of rape and sexual violence as a tactic of war in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, featuring statements by the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for Human Rights. A UN Radio programme highlighted aspects of a World Bank report on violence against women, and included interviews with members of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign, UNRWA, in collaboration with various stakeholders, organised events in Gaza, Jordan, Syria, and West Bank, involving its health, education, relief and social services programmes. Activities included photograph exhibitions, mobile theatres, awareness events and poetry. UNRWA, in Gaza, held awareness-raising workshops on the role of the international instruments in fighting gender-based violence, where UNRWA teachers participated.

Within the framework of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, UNESCO organized the following conferences and exhibitions:

- “Under the Wings of the Butterflies”;
- “Voices on the rise: Afghan Women Making the News”, as well as the projection of the film “Girls on the air”, both having a look into the lives of Afghan women;
- “Water, women and sustainable development in Africa”, organized in cooperation with the French association « Femmes de Demain » and the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), addressing the challenges that women face and the role they play in relation to water resources management, water governance and development.

ESCWA Centre for Women is a member of the Steering Committee of the project *Ending Violence against women through men and boys*, led by Kafa and Oxfam, in Lebanon. The chief of the Centre for Women gave several interviews to the media on the topic.

In Nepal, UNDP and UN Women public awareness materials on gender-based violence and the Anti-Domestic Violence Act were distributed. UNDP also partnered with the Office of Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers to organize a public awareness event in support of the “16-days of Activism Campaign” against gender-based violence.

The OHCHR/Human Rights Adviser in the Russian Federation contributed to activities of the annual campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” in partnership with the UN Gender Theme group.

The OHCHR Regional Office in Central Africa participated in a conference/debate (“causeries éducatives”), organised by the UN Theme Group on Gender, on 8 December 2010, in Yaoundé, Cameroon, where several issues were discussed, including early and forced marriages; female genital mutilation and gender-based violence and HIV/Aids. Several stakeholders participated in the event. The Human Rights Section of MINUSTAH in Haiti, in collaboration with the MINUSTAH Multimedia Center held a session on the different types of violence against women, with representatives of the civil society (November 2010).

The UN Television of the Department of Public Information covered the issue of violence against women in the following programmes: “Haiti: The Enemy Within”, on the situation of women and girls in Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake; “Bosnia: Healing the Wounds of War”, on the legacy of wartime rape in Bosnia-Herzegovina; “Senegal: Beyond Tradition”, on female genital mutilation; and “Jordan: In the Name of Honour”, on the campaign against “honour” killings in Jordan. UN Webcast covered 8 events related to violence against women, including media appearances by Margot Wallström and Michelle Bachelet, and the official observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

A total of 29 official press releases (in English and French) on the issue of violence against women were produced by the Department of Public Information, including coverage of four inter-governmental meetings and four press conferences at UN Headquarters. The Department raised awareness about the issue of violence against women throughout the UN Secretariat via several stories published on iSeek, the Organization’s intranet and deleGATE, the information site aimed at diplomatic missions ([www.un.int](http://www.un.int)). Several articles of the Department focused on violence against women, such as: “Who Speaks for the Poor and Why Does it Matter?” and “Adolescent Marriage: Crossroad or Status Quo?” (UN Chronicle magazine), “African women’s long walk to equality” (Africa Renewal magazine).

In October 2010, UNDP Myanmar organized a discussion forum on the advancement of women, drawing on the Asia-Pacific Human Development Report (APHDR) on Gender, including topics on gender-based violence and trafficking. The panel stressed that cultures and traditions can retain customs that are unfair to women and they need to be addressed.

Former UNIFEM now part of UN Women launched the Global Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women and Girls Programme in Cairo, Kigali, New Delhi, Quito and Port Moresby. Potential measures may include stronger laws and policies against violence in public spaces; training for urban planners, grass-roots women’s groups and police; special audits to identify unsafe areas; mass media campaigns on “zero tolerance” for violence against women; activities to engage local communities, men and adolescents of both sexes; and reviews of public sector budgets so that adequate resources are spent on making public areas safe for women and girls. Collecting reliable data will be an important aspect of the Safe Cities programme in order to highlight the problem and identify solutions. Other work to make cities safer for women and girls included support to establish the Social Watch Observatory on Violence against Women in El Salvador; and engagement with transportation unions to address violence against women and harassment in public transportation in Haiti. Community-level awareness raising initiatives were supported in Morocco and Yemen; and traditional, local and religious leaders were mobilized in Cameroon and Sudan to become advocates and champions in the fight against gender-based violence.

In New Delhi (India) a project implemented in partnership between UN-HABITAT and former UNIFEM (part of UN Women) has supported the development of a strategic framework for Delhi on safety, entry point being women’s safety. A non-governmental organization, Jagori, has been developing a stakeholder interview template as part of the work on developing a strategic

framework for the Delhi government on the seven pillars/institutions which are responsible for enhancing women's safety in public spaces (urban planning and design of public spaces; provision and maintenance of public infrastructure and services; public transport; policing; legislation, justice and support to victims; education; civic awareness). Jagori and UN Habitat consultant have been holding a series of consultations with key stakeholders.

UN HABITAT continues to support the NGO Jagori in the implementation of the project called "Youth and Girls Safety".

UN-HABITAT and WICI developed the background document on girls and urbanization for the Plan International Publication "**Because I am a Girl**". UN-Habitat attended the launch of the PLAN report "Because I am a Girl" in Nairobi and Kampala. An expert working group on "girls' safety in cities" will be based on the recommendations of the publication.

The *Third International Conference on Women's Safety: Building Inclusive Cities* was held in New Delhi, India in November 22nd to 24th 2010, with the participation of stakeholders from 41 countries and 60 cities. The conference was co-organised by Women in Cities International and Jagori, in collaboration with UN-HABITAT, UNIFEM, and the Huairou Commission with the support from the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom, the Canadian Government, the Interchurch organisation for development co-operation (ICCO), the Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED), UNICEF, the German NGO Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, CITYNET, the Australian Government, Red Mujer y Habitat America Latina, and Plan International. The conference resulted in the Delhi Declaration.

An important milestone of the recently concluded UNICRI programme "*Trafficking of Minors and Young Women from Nigeria to Italy*" is the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in combating trafficking in persons between the National Anti-Mafia Bureau of Italy (DNA) and the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and other related Matters of Nigeria (NAPTIP), which are the responsible agencies for the investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases in their respective countries.

A short film that showcases the Inter-agency joint programming initiative on Violence Against Women in the 10 pilot countries was developed and released during the global consultation on "Delivering as One on Addressing Violence Against Women: From Intent to Action", organised by UNFPA. The movie "Senegal: Beyond Tradition" that focuses on FGM/C prevention has been developed by UNFPA for broadcast on television networks around the world (including CNN, BBC Arabic, France 24, Denmark 4 and 55 other international networks). Moreover, almost all of the 142 country offices of UNFPA that has a country programme on addressing gender-based violence or on violence against girls have an awareness and advocacy component in-built in the programmatic interventions.

By providing fuel efficient stoves WFP contributes to reducing the vulnerability and frequency of exposure to risk of rape, beatings and murder as women and girls search for firewood. *SAFE* (Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy) combines solutions to protection concerns associated with fuel/firewood collection, environmental awareness, health improvement and livelihood creation/diversification. In Darfur, through food-for-training programs, WFP has established 14 centres to train women to build mud stoves. In North Darfur, women have been producing briquettes for home use in place of wood and charcoal. In Sri Lanka, WFP purchased and distributed about 15,000 anagi stoves to returnees in the North. In Uganda, women trained in the construction of stoves are reporting that faster cooking time has allowed them to pursue other activities, and that the reduced time in collection of firewood is decreasing exposure to violence. WFP-assisted schools in Karamoja are reporting that since they started using the institutional stoves, children are no longer bringing firewood to school on a daily basis but rather every two to three days.

Awareness on gender-based violence and livelihoods was raised through a documentary produced by UNAIDS “Empowered over their fields, empowered over their lives, food security response to HIV and gender inequities” (<http://vimeo.com/14921424> or <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/current-focus/hiv-aids-and-emergencies/en/>), a brochure <http://www.fao.org/docrep/012/a1315e/a1315e00.pdf> and several articles in FAO Dimitra newsletter and IRIN Media Centre (*Kenya: growing self-esteem at farm schools* (IRIN)) <http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=89179>).

UNICEF has provided support to awareness-raising and advocacy addressing violence against girls, including through the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Accelerate the Abandonment of FGM/C.

OHCHR Regional Office for Europe provided a briefing (21 October) on the work of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women at an International Conference on Violence against Women in Central America which took place in London and was organized by the Central America Women's Network (CAWN).

Technical assistance was given by Human Rights and Rule of Law Section of UNIOSIL in Sierra Leone to the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) during a series of sexual gender-based violence sensitizations to teachers of both primary and secondary schools in Kailahun and Kenema Districts. The OHCHR Country Office in Mexico issued a press release condemning the murder of recognised human rights defender Marisela Escobedo, as well as the impunity that prevails for cases of violence against women and attacks against human rights defenders in Chihuahua.

In Asia-Pacific, the work of the inter-agency initiative “Partners for Prevention” (P4P) was ongoing. Engagingmen.net ([www.engagingmen.net](http://www.engagingmen.net)) is a website where practitioners can share resources and learn about training opportunities. “Partners for Prevention” (P4P) organized several training sessions to support national social media campaigns in China, India, and Indonesia. Demand Media, a leading online media company and expert in developing social media platforms, provides pro bono support for the national campaigns. In December 2010, P4P organized a meeting with various stakeholders from Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, Fiji, the Philippines and Vietnam, who work to engage boys and men for ending violence against women. The participants agreed to work together to develop regional curricula and a collective approach for knowledge creation and sharing across the region.

In December 2010, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) “Standing Committee of Male Parliamentarians for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Children” met in Port Macquarie, Australia, where male parliamentarians from 13 countries signed a pledge to take action in their own countries and to stand together as a collective group to advocate for more actions for violence prevention among their peers. “Partners for Prevention” is supporting the Standing Committee of Male Parliamentarians as a collaborative partner with AFPPD and UNFPA. “Partners for Prevention” and AFPPD are conducting research on the challenges that parliamentarians face in moving prevention policy forward, and on ways to support them in their role in preventing violence.

#### *March 2011 to February 2012*

Issue # 10 of *Words to Action*, UN Women's quarterly newsletter on violence against women, was produced, with a feature article on reparations for women who have been subjected to violence.

UN Women supported an International Conference of Islamic Scholars (Ulemas) of West Africa, Egypt and Sudan on the position of Islam regarding harmful practices perpetrated on women, at the issue of which a regional fatwa (sharia law ruling) banning female genital mutilation was adopted. This fatwa has become a key instrument to raise the awareness of the population on this issue.

OHCHR supported the convening of the fourth session of the Forum on minority issues, established by Human Rights Council resolution 6/15, which took place on 29 and 30 November 2011 in Geneva and focused on "Guaranteeing the rights of minority women and girls." Over 400 participants attended this fourth session, including persons belonging to minorities from all regions, representatives of non-governmental organizations, academia and experts as well as delegates from United Nations Member States. During the two-day discussions, the multiple discriminations faced by minority women as members of minorities and as women, and other barriers, including violence against women, were highlighted. The outcome document contained practical and concrete measures and recommendations aimed at guaranteeing the rights of minority women and girls, including to better protect them and raise their awareness on violence against women and girls.

In the context of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Refugee Convention and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Statelessness Convention, UNHCR organized a series of in-depth Dialogues with over 1,000 refugees and displaced women and girls in seven different countries. From those Dialogues, a number of recommendations, including on ending violence against women, emerged that are currently being implemented by the respective UNHCR offices and partner organizations.

WHO reported that the 5th Milestones of a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention Meeting was held in Cape Town, South Africa. Under the theme "Joining forces, empowering prevention" almost 300 experts from more than 60 countries discussed progress in WHO's Global Campaign for Violence Prevention and strategized the way ahead by developing a global plan of action for 2012-2020. A special session during the meeting was dedicated to new research and effective interventions to address intimate partner and sexual violence. Details on the session can be found at:

[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/5th\\_milestones\\_meeting/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/5th_milestones_meeting/en/index.html)

The Department of Public Information (DPI) was heavily involved in promotion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November 2011. DPI updated and developed new press and campaign materials, and the key message emphasized in media materials – the call for resources for the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women – was picked up prominently in the media coverage. A short video, "Youth Voices on Ending Violence against Women", was produced and launched ahead of the Day.

In Algeria, UN Women provided support to the national mechanism for women human rights to carry out the national campaign on violence against women, under the framework of the Africa UNiTE campaign to end violence. For the first time, the civil society working on violence against women has been clearly invited by the Ministry to present their work and achievements and to join their efforts to address this issue.

UNRWA, supporting the gender-based violence campaign in Palestine and connecting it to the International Year of Volunteers +10 (IYV+10), highlighted the importance of volunteerism in achieving results in fighting gender-based violence. One initiative was UNRWA's use of a questionnaire to collect data on gender based violence in the Palestinian refugee camps. UNV mobilized around 300 local volunteers particularly university students. The added value of this partnership was that the volunteers considered themselves as recipients of this campaign.

WHO developed a capacity-building package on primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence accompanying the guidelines "Preventing intimate partner violence and sexual violence against women: taking action and generating evidence." Three regional workshops on primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence were conducted for policy makers and implementers from several countries in the African Region, the Western-Pacific region and the Americas. On the basis of the feedback of the workshops the training package was revised. The training package is currently being translated into Spanish. It can be found in English at:

[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/capacitybuilding/courses/intimate\\_partner\\_violence/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/capacitybuilding/courses/intimate_partner_violence/en/index.html)

UNICEF Country Offices continued to implement programmes to promote awareness and abandonment of harmful traditional practices in 15 countries covered by the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on awareness and abandonment of child marriage.

UNRWA organized several awareness-raising initiatives, such as in Lebanon in partnership with the General Union of Palestinian Women, in a UNRWA health clinic.

In October 2011, the ECA organized jointly with Mentoring and Empowerment Programme for Young Women (MEMPROW) a sub-regional advocacy workshop in Zambia on violence against young women and girls in centers of learning. The workshop identified issues affecting girls' performance and retention in the context of VAW and made recommendations to improve policy and practice.

In Haiti, the eight regional offices of the Human Rights Section of MINUSTAH conducted several sensitizations activities on international human rights instruments for the protection and promotion of the rights of women, the Haitian legal procedures for the prosecution of sexual crimes and the protection of women's rights in the event of natural disasters.

Both in the lead-up to the International Day and throughout the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence, DPI highlighted ending violence against women and girls on its UN social media platforms – including Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr and Sina Weibo – with related content posted on a daily basis.

In all regions, DPI's network of UN Information Centres organized numerous activities and events to mark the International Day, often in cooperation with government and civil society partners. The UN Regional Information Centre in Brussels organized and held Create4the UN, a Europe-wide ad campaign on the theme "Say No to Violence against Women", which attracted over 2,700 entries from 42 countries with over 120,000 people casting votes. The competition generated widespread media coverage and was picked up extensively on social media.

In commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, ESACP reported that an awareness raising exhibit was displayed in the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, including winning T-shirts from the UNiTE campaign T-Shirt Design Competition.

On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, UNESCO HQ organized a workshop on policies to prevent VAW. The workshop brought together different stakeholders who engaged in a dialogue on new ways to combat and prevent VAW and enabled them to make recommendations on concrete and realisable policies.

UN Women launched an initiative to celebrate the International Day on Violence against Women (25th November) directed to UN Staff in Algeria with the active involvement of all UN resident agencies, in particular UNHCR, UNFPA, UNIC.

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence Campaign, UN entities supported and/or organized several initiatives, in partnership with multiple stakeholders. In Gaza, Jordan, Syria and the West Bank, UNRWA organized interactive theatrical performances, puppet shows, athletic activities, awareness sessions and lectures, as well as speeches by Imams at mosques – all highlighting the need to end gender based violence.

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence Campaign, the Working Group on discrimination against women in law and in practice and the Special Rapporteur on violence

against women, its causes and consequences issued a joint press statement highlighting how political transitions are unique opportunities to ensure that women participate equally in public life and that their rights in legal and social systems, including the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence in law and in practice are addressed. Also in connection with the 16 Days of Activism and the Human Rights Day, OHCHR posted a number of stories on its website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Manuptoendviolenceagainstwomen.aspx>

During the 16 Days of Activism Campaign, UN Volunteers carried out a series of initiatives in Bangladesh refugee camps, a reproductive health assistance was set up and worked with medical teams from partner organizations; in Cambodia, more than 28 UN Volunteers have been trained to be able to carry out activities during the campaign; in Sudan, UNV collaborated with UNFPA, civil society organizations, universities, governments and volunteers and joined efforts to fight gender-based violence (GBV).

In WHO, the 16-days of activism campaign was accompanied by joint efforts of several departments through a web feature with 16 facts on violence against women, a poster exhibition and facts on violence against women disseminated via facebook and twitter throughout the 16 days of the campaign. More information on the campaign is available at: [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/global\\_campaign/16\\_days/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/16_days/en/index.html)

UNHCR offices organized numerous activities to raise awareness on SGBV as part of the annual 16 Days of Activism campaign. UNHCR also developed multimedia training and awareness raising materials, including a series of video clips on the Five Commitments to Refugee Women, which include SGBV.

UNICEF supported the Second Latin American and Caribbean Conference on the Right to Identity and Universal Birth/Civil Registration of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Organization of American States (OAS), and a similar high-level conference in Africa, under the umbrella of the African Union (AU), to continue its advocacy against child marriage and child trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

The UN Women Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women and Girls Global Programme has continued to support national partners in five countries (Ecuador, Egypt, India, Papua New Guinea and Rwanda) to produce, test and offer for wide application and upscaling by local governments, a set of model approaches for preventing and reducing sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces in cities, and to expand its full impact potential for strengthening women's empowerment, and enhance the quality of city life for all. Holistic programming includes building multisectoral partnerships in the areas of community mobilization, engagement of grassroots women, youth, men and boys, private sector, police, media; policy advocacy with local governments on practical urban safety measures, gender responsive budgeting, services provision for victims of violence. The focus of the country activities is on some of the most impoverished areas of the participating cities (Cairo, Kigali, New Delhi, Port Moresby and Quito). UN Women partners in this programme are UN Habitat, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO.

Gender-based violence prevention has been integrated into urban upgrading through the Barrios de Verdad (Real Neighborhoods) World Bank project in Bolivia. The project operates in collaboration with UNIFEM and DFID in sixteen poor neighborhoods in La Paz. Along with other activities the project built indoor sanitation facilities and street lighting to improve pedestrian mobility and women's security, which are said to have decreased outdoor violence against women. Several urban transport projects financed by the World Bank now include in their design indoor sanitation facilities and street lighting to improve pedestrian mobility and women's security.

The ECA organized a sub-regional workshop in Morocco in March 2011 on the CEDAW Convention which focused on the removal of reservations and the ratification of the CEDAW

Optional Protocol in North Africa. Violence against women was one of the key issues deliberated upon.

WHO is developing an implementation research project to identify ways to scale up effective violence against women prevention interventions in the context of national AIDS plans and programmes.

UN Women leads the MDG-Fund Gender programme in Morocco, a substantial joint programme involving 13 ministries and 8 UN agencies which has supported a coordinated multi-agency response to prevent violence against women and girls.

OHCHR continued supporting the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, in its active engagement with civil society organizations, including through participation in regional consultations. In June 2011, the Special Rapporteur participated in consultations held in Brussels with European civil society organizations, including representatives of European observatories on violence against women.

A Gender and Development Community of Practice was launched in November 2011, bringing together practitioners across the World Bank working on gender issues for events and learning, including on gender-based violence prevention.

At the country level, UNAIDS has provided catalytic funding through its Joint UN Teams to twenty-three (23) countries for actions to reduce gender-based violence through HIV responses, in particular highlighting the critical contribution of violence to HIV transmission, as well as its consequences in terms of non-utilization of services. UNAIDS also supported advocacy and capacity development on addressing violence against women in eight countries, through the civil society coalition Women Won't Wait and resulting advocacy messages used for the High-Level Meeting on AIDS.

UN Women carried out advocacy on the situation and conditions of Palestinian women in Israeli prisons internationally, through multi-media, itinerant, and photo exhibit.

In Algeria, UN Women supported the advocacy efforts carried out by the AVIFE non-government organization, which is part of the Wassila network, on domestic violence and its impacts on women and children both at national and local level: The second edition of the "Black Book" on domestic violence was published and workshops for non-government organizations were conducted in 3 regions. UN Women also supported the Ytto Foundation advocacy efforts to end forced marriage of minor girls and regularization of customary weddings in Morocco through caravans known as "Caravan of Peace, Equality and Citizenship." In 2011, the caravan covered more than 20 villages in remote areas. A documentary film on this issue was also produced which had a powerful impact on decision-makers. As a result, the Minister of Justice has launched missions led by judges and court clerks to ensure registration of customary marriages and enrolment in vital statistics of children born out of such marriages.

UN Women organized a regional seminar in Morocco with the participation of counseling centers from Morocco, Algeria, and Mauritania. Participating non-governmental organizations acquired a better understanding of the importance of working in networks and of the process of campaigning, and have exchanged best practices on ending gender-based violence.

OHCHR, as Chair of Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), organized a side event on protecting victims of trafficking during the 17th session of the Human Rights Council (June 2011). The panelists included ICAT members (i.e. OHCHR, ILO, UNHCR, UNODC, IOM, UNICEF, UNAIDS, and Interpol).

A regional consultative meeting on combating trafficking was organized in Qatar, in cooperation between OHCHR and the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Center for

South West Asia and the Arab Region, and in partnership with the Qatar Foundation for Combating Human Trafficking.

In July 2011 in Paraguay, UNODC, in cooperation with UN Women, held the International Conference "Answers to Gender-Based Violence in the Southern Cone: Progresses, Challenges and Regional Experiences." The Conference aimed at presenting and debating the above report and promoting the exchange of experiences, stimulating cooperation and facilitating the creation of an exchange network of good practices between community leaders, civil society and government institutions.

DPI's UN Radio produced a variety of programmes in the six UN official languages plus Kiswahili and Portuguese on the issue of violence against women (VAW), including features on gender selection of boys and a special programme on honour crimes in Jordan. UN Television covered the issue of violence against women in several of its features for the magazine programme 21<sup>st</sup> Century, including on a woman's fight for justice in Bangladesh, and the fate of widows in India. DPI's UNifeed disseminated 10 relevant news stories, while UN Webcast made meetings and 23 events on the issue at UN Headquarters available to audiences online.

DPI's UN News Centre produced 61 news stories highlighting the issue, with stories available online, through social media and by email to 40,000 subscribers. A special package was produced focusing on the UN's efforts to end violence against women in Haiti. The Department produced a total of 29 official press releases (in English and French) on the issue.

DPI raised awareness on VAW throughout the UN Secretariat via several stories published on iSeek, the Organization's intranet, and deleGATE, the site aimed at diplomatic missions. DPI's Group Programmes unit organized nine in-house briefings at UN Headquarters on the issue for 274 students.

Within the framework of UNESCO's International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), which is the only multilateral forum in the UN system designed to mobilize the international community to discuss and promote media development in developing countries, and especially through radio broadcasting, the following projects have been developed:

- "Capacity Building of Radio Journalists Working on Gender Violence" in Mexico: a series of workshops will be organized for 40 female and male community radio journalists in human rights, non-sexist language and gender based violence, with a view to enabling them to communicate and interact with other communities and with each other on issues pertaining to violence against women. The aim is to create gender-sensitive community radio programmes and increase the media coverage of issues related to gender based violence and discrimination against women.
- "Radio Nari Aawaj" in Nepal. UNESCO and the NGO Hamro Aawaj, Hamro Sarokar (Our Voice, Our Concern) has established the radio station "Radio Nari Aawaj" (Radio Women's Voice), a community radio station managed and operated by women living in the remote Jumla district. The aim of the radio station is to create and broadcast programmes on women's rights and the elimination of violence against women. The target audience is rural women residents in 30 villages, as well as women living in four villages in the neighboring districts of Kalikot (West) and Dolpa (East).
- "Enhancing Women's Roles and Voices in Media" in the Palestinian occupied Territory: the project seeks to provide training to rural women and girls on radio broadcasting, reporting skills and radio programme production to raise awareness of domestic violence and violence in schools, and inform the women of their rights.
- "Rural Radio for the Youth and Women of Bukavu" in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The project strives to give a voice to girls and boys and women by setting up a radio station in 13 villages around the Bukavu area. A three-week course on ethics, code of conduct and training

methods will be conducted, and a separate six-day training course will also be organized, focusing on broadcasting skills, targeting specifically women and young girls victims of abuse.

The UNV-run Takalm project in Jordan supported women's empowerment and tackled gender based violence through a community radio shows in the Zarqa region advocating for women's legal rights. Specific concerns were identified by a women's community development committee aiming to foster civic engagement in local development while drawing the attention of decision makers to the challenges faced by marginalized groups including women.

In the Dominican Republic, UN Women has printed and distributed 100 T- shirts with the UNITE logo. The Interagency Gender Group, to which UN Women is the leading agency in the Dominican Republic, organized a peer working breakfast on "role and responsibilities of the Media on ending violence against women" with Mass Media, led by the Argentinean journalist on gender Liliana Hendel.

A programme in the North and South Kivu Regions on "Involving Students in the Prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, and a workshop in Jacmel, Haiti, in June 2011 to train and inform young women on women's rights and gender equality and to help them develop programmes and strategies for the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence.

UNESCO's International Bureau of Education and UNESCO Hanoi are carrying out a project to promote gender equality in and through textbooks and in teacher training courses. The initiative includes teacher-training programmes in line with the national laws on gender equality and on domestic violence prevention and control.

In India, UN Women is supporting a social media campaign to engage young men for the prevention of violence against women and girls (VAWG) through the '*MUST BOL*' campaign, a call to young people to examine violence in their lives and speak out against it. *Must BOL* has reached over 10,000 people through social media platforms. The campaign is being expanded from Delhi to other parts of India (see <http://www.mustbol.in/campaign>). UN Women also supported a One Million signature campaign in Pakistan focused on public awareness-raising on some of the pending legislations and for the effective advocacy and lobbying for pro-women legislations at the provincial level. The Elimination of VAWG Alliance provincial chapter was launched in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. See <http://saynotoviolence.org/join-say-no/million-names-million-voices-break-silence-end-violence-against-women-girls?>

UN Women in the Asia-Pacific region has partnered with UNDP, UNFPA and UNV for the Regional Joint Programme "Partners for Prevention: Working with Boys and Men to Prevent Gender-based Violence Regional Joint Programme, which takes a coordinated approach to support primary prevention of gender-based violence with the deeper involvement of boys and men.

In the Caribbean, the UN Women-spearheaded Partnership for Peace (PfP) Violence Intervention Programme, which was approved in 2010 in Barbados during the launch of the UNiTE campaign, is operating in Grenada, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Belize and British Virgin Islands, It has been designed to encourage men to take accountability for their actions and to support them in achieving a violence-free lifestyle. This program is aimed at men who perpetrated violence against women and have been taken to court for this crime. To date 300 men have gone through this programme that uses a psycho-educational approach to show that violent habits can be replaced with respect, open communication and healthy relationships.

The Interagency Gender Group (IGG) organized and facilitated a workshop on "masculinities and men responsibilities towards ending violence against women" for 70 participants who were UN volunteers from universities and civil society currently collaborating with the UNV office.

"UNFPA's Strategic Guidance for Engaging Men and Boys" has been developed and carefully drafted to guide UNFPA's work with men and boys, to serve as strategic guidance for the Fund's actions at the Global, Regional and Country levels.

Through support for local organisations in India and Pakistan, UNV engaged boys and men to prevent gender-based violence (GBV) through a network of local and UN Volunteers. The project "Hamqadam – male involvement initiative to address GBV" initiated and sustained behavioural and attitudinal change in boys and men and sensitized them to violence against children and women.

*March 2012-February 2013*

Almost all UN agencies commemorated the International Women's Day and the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence by organizing events to raise awareness on violence against women. ESCAP and UN Women co-organized the 2012 Asia-Pacific Regional Commemoration of International Women's Day under the theme, "Youth voices UNiTE to End Violence Against Women and Girls", an interactive event that enabled discussions among nearly 200 youths and other stakeholders. On 7 December 2012, ESCAP and UN Women also co-organized the Asia-Pacific Regional Commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, which featured high-level attendance from the Thai government, as well as introduction of new regional members of the United Nations Secretary-General's Network of Men Leaders and a panel of multi-stakeholder voices from across the region; publishing information sheets on violence against women and its health consequences (WHO).

The Secretary General's UNiTE Campaign, managed by UN Women, has gained momentum around the world. It uses a variety of means to raise awareness and secure commitments to take action to end VAW, including public pronouncements on the part of high-level officials, media outreach and events. In 2012 The Africa UNiTE Campaign - Kilimanjaro Climb hosted by Tanzania under the auspices of the President raised the issue of VAWG to the highest levels, resulting in strengthened national commitments throughout the Africa Region. At the national level, Tanzania is implementing its commitments through the newly created multi-sectoral committee on VAWG. And in **Mozambique** the UNiTE Campaign was expanded to the provincial level in a joint effort with the UNiTE Champion of Change and Men for Change. More than 800 secondary school students, teachers and school managers in Quelimane, Zambézia Province participated in debates towards zero tolerance against VAWG, particularly in the school environment. In the **Pacific** the campaign succeeded in securing the "Pacific Members of Parliament UNiTE statement" – the first of its kind in the region, tabled at the Pacific Island Forum Leaders meeting in the Cook Islands.

The interagency initiative Together for Girls and UNAIDS co-hosted an event to commemorate World AIDS Day and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, focusing on the progress made toward addressing gender-based violence and the interface with HIV and on the leadership within the HIV and gender communities to raise awareness and increase access to prevention and care services. UNAIDS also supported Lesotho to use the Campaign on 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence to raise public awareness. UNAIDS supported Sri Lanka to integrate awareness-raising of HIV into its national advocacy and communication under the UNiTE campaign to end violence.

The inter-agency initiative Together for Girls brought greater visibility to empowering women and girls in the context of HIV at the International AIDS Society AIDS 2012 meeting in Washington DC, where the partnership was able to make the connection between child abuse, gender inequality and HIV.

On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the ILO, in collaboration with the UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, UN Women and the NGOs IBFAN-GIFA, launched the "*Maternity Protection Resource Package. From Inspiration to Reality for All*". The package

provides information, inspiration and tools to help organizations and individuals everywhere to strengthen and extend maternity protection to women in all types of economic activity. An ILO feature story on the issue of maternity-related discrimination at work was also published, available at: [http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/features/WCMS\\_193975/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/features/WCMS_193975/lang-en/index.htm)

In October 2012, on the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN WOMEN –co-hosted a high-level event in New York to address the issue of child marriage and called for renewed global action to end the practice.

UNRWA supported efforts of awareness-raising in Lebanon and the West Bank, targeting also school children and local communities.

UNICEF and UNMIL collaborated with Ministry of Gender and Development in Liberia to convene a retreat on Child rape in October 2012. Also in Liberia, UNFPA supported the Ministry of Gender and Development to collaborate with civil society groups to launch and build capacity of the GBV observatory to help raise awareness of the referral pathway and issues related to teenage pregnancy, early marriage and rape. Several advocacy initiatives were undertaken by THINK and CEP (UNFPA funded partners) to address the issue of SGBV, including strengthening of six networks and four community outreach sessions. Dialogue was initiated with traditional leaders and men's and women's groups to address harmful Traditional Practices, resulting in the Ministry of Internal Affairs' announcement that FGM is prohibited and prosecutable. UN Women continues to expand the Peace Huts, emphasizing the role of women as peace builders and recognizes their key role in engaging with local authorities for prevention, increasing women's voice and supporting them in engaging with authorities to improve access to justice, and provide active accompaniment of women and girls who are survivors of violence.

UNHCR continued its prevention work, in a coordinated and multi-sectoral approach, and with the participation of multiple stakeholders, including communities. For example, SGBV committees, consisting of both men and women persons of concern, take the lead in conducting awareness-raising campaigns, both en masse and door-to-door, as well as discussions and debates, theater pieces, and caravans related to SGBV prevention themes. In 2012, UNHCR also began a two-year Special Project on the prevention of female genital mutilation (FGM), in Ethiopia, Kenya and Yemen, focusing on awareness-raising relating to FGM and its consequences, and will culminate in the production of a documentary film and health responses.

UN-HABITAT, in collaboration with UNICEF and UN-Women, developed a global programme "Safe and Sustainable Cities for All". During 2012, the programme was launched in eight pilot cities – Greater Beirut (Lebanon), Dushanbe (Tajikistan), Metro Manila (Philippines), Marrakesh (Morocco), Nairobi (Kenya), Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), San José (Costa Rica) and Tegucigalpa (Honduras). Some city-level results of the programme include: a rapid assessment in 7 neighborhoods in Beirut, revealing interrelated challenges of poverty, overcrowding, and lack of safe public spaces for women, girls and children; the establishment of a permanent Safe Cities Committee within the Municipality in Marrakech which helped to increase resources for the Municipal Committee on Equity and Gender Equality; engagement of community members in participatory mapping of violence and safety conditions for women and girls in nine communities, in Rio; dialogues with informal settlers in Mandaluyong City, Manila, to design collaborative interventions and mainstream 'safety' into the city's planning and budgeting processes.

Some results of the global programme on "Safe Cities free from violence for women and girls", led by UN Women, in collaboration with UN-Habitat, include the approval of an *Amendment to the City Ordinance on Eliminating Violence against Women* by the Quito Municipality to also target violence in public spaces; Safe Cities' models and approaches are being integrated into a new government scheme in New Delhi aimed at enhancing women's safety and policing services; the Mayor's office in Kigali is advocating for Safe Cities measures to be included in its city plan and budget and for legal reforms to also address sexual harassment and violence in public spaces;

mainstreaming of Women's Safety Audits into the planning processes of the Egyptian Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development.

The Plan International, Women in Cities International and UN-Habitat joint programme "Because I am a Girl – Urban Programme" was launched in Hanoi (Vietnam), Delhi (India), Cairo (Egypt), Kampala (Uganda) and Lima (Peru). A rapid situational assessment (RSA) has been conducted to assess safety of girls in each of the five cities.

UN-Habitat and local authorities of the Kupang and Belu districts in Indonesia, spearheaded a "Local-to-Local Dialogue" for women, aimed at improving responses by local authorities to crises impacting women and empowering women, both from ex-refugees and host communities. UN-Habitat is supported by the Huairou Commission and by the local NGO CIS Timor. Such dialogues also offer the opportunity to exchange experiences among different grassroots female leaders from other post-conflict areas, in Southeast Asia. By supporting the role of organized women's leadership in community development processes, the "Local-to-Local Dialogue provides a foundation to prevent and reduce existing practices of discrimination, marginalization and violence against women in post-conflict areas.

In 2012, through the advocacy efforts of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM/C, 1,775 new communities publically declared their intention to abandon FGM/C, with Guinea Bissau becoming the 15th country where communities have announced their commitment to abandon. Since the establishment of the joint programme (2008), nearly 10,000 communities in 15 countries, representing about 8 million people have renounced the practice.

UNDP engaged in a number of prevention, advocacy and awareness-raising initiatives throughout the year. Efforts included: working with Ministry of Justice and women's groups in Niamey, Niger to reach 1,500 young people through their youth groups; collaborating with CSOs and the Family Support Units in Sierra Leone to reach 8,022 school children and their teachers from 54 schools; awareness raising campaigns targeting community leaders, youth and teachers in primary schools in the Democratic Republic of Congo; initiatives using social mobilization techniques and internet platforms to reach broad audiences in Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Serbia, India and Cambodia; monitoring of social media platforms under the *P4P* programme in the Asia Pacific Region to draw practical lessons from the campaigns in New Delhi, Hanoi and Beijing; development of the first ever comprehensive knowledge space dedicated to the Government's efforts on violence against women; and continued operation of the "Community Legal Empowerment for Women" clinics in Sri Lanka to improve legal awareness on sexual and gender based violence and rights related to marriage, divorce and maintenance.

The World Bank has approved two initiatives in 2012 to address prevention in urban contexts: the "Honduras Safer Municipalities" initiative focused on citizen security through integrated approaches (including through school-based GBV prevention programmes) and the "Urban Infrastructure Project (II) – Barrios de Verdad (Bolivia) upgrading 22 neighborhoods, benefitting 15,280 people through infrastructural improvements and the provision of technical assistance to municipalities in the planning, expansion and sustainability of urban service delivery.

OHCHR raised awareness amongst women human rights defenders in North Africa and the Middle East (Bahrain, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Syria and Yemen) on the UN framework on the protection of human rights defenders, including gender dimensions. OHCHR also organised a workshop in Beirut on the role of the UN in supporting the work of women human rights defenders in the Middle East and North Africa region.

DPI continues to raise awareness globally on the UN's efforts to address violence against women through various information dissemination mechanisms, including: articles published in the delegate; activities undertaken through the United Nations Information Centres across the globe (e.g. Azerbaijan, Ghana and Panama); the Messengers for Peace programme and Chelize Theron's advocacy on the issue; publications (e.g. "The Future We Want"; "Involving the

Forgotten: Widows and Global Sustainable Development," and "Delivering Justice"); the intra/internet (i.e. six stories on isseek and the dedicated section on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, with relevant informational links and social media tools on the UN Calendar of Observances: Making a Difference); through UN visitor services (12 groups exploring women's rights and violence and 3 sexual violence); in addition to the UN4U programme that reaches out to NYC schools having involved 62 UN staff members in 2012.

## **PROTECTION, SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR VICTIMS/ SURVIVORS**

*Baseline July 2007*

At times, OHCHR extends legal assistance to victims of violence and members of their families. In Côte d'Ivoire, OHCHR has initiated a series of high visibility activities on the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights of women as a tool to empower them in their efforts against gender-based violence.

UNODC's global project aims to build non-governmental support structures for victims of violent crime, including victims of trafficking in persons. UNODC's technical assistance projects at the national level have supported One-Stop Centres for victims of domestic violence, particularly for women and children, in South Africa, where all government services (social development, justice, police, correctional services, education) and community-based organizations' services are provided to victims/survivors in a coordinated and mutually reinforcing manner.

UNRWA supports women's programme centres in all refugee communities, where awareness-raising, support sessions on gender-based violence, and often legal advice, are provided to women. Women's programme centres have kindergartens, where possible abuse of children and women occurring in the home can be detected and counselling and advice are provided in such cases. Violence against women and children is also addressed through theatre and role playing.

UNHCR operational activities include establishing and maintaining drop-in centres to facilitate access to health and psychosocial service providers, safe shelters, and legal justice for survivors.

UNDP supports the provision of free legal service, counselling, mediation and rehabilitation, as well as micro-enterprise activities.

UNHCR collaborates with health partners, to ensure that survivors of violence have proper access to services, including access to post-exposure prophylaxis and emergency contraception. Such collaboration with UNFPA and other partners includes training on clinical management of rape survivors for health professionals.

In Kenya, UNFPA advocates for and provides counselling services for rescued girls who escaped from FGM/C or forced marriages to help them to return home without risking their health and well-being. UNFPA is working jointly with UNICEF on the prevention and treatment of sexual and gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

UNFPA promotes availability of services to victims of violence, including counselling for affected groups such as young people, pregnant women, the displaced and refugees. This entails strengthening referral networks, infrastructure and local capacity, including shelters, safe houses and legal and psychological services.

UNESCO created a digital library in Kazakhstan. There is also an online legal service which answers questions related to domestic violence, marriage and family, gender policy issues, and maternity.

WHO's guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence have been pilot-tested in Jordan, Nicaragua and the Philippines.

In Northern Uganda, WFP works in particular with formerly abducted girls, providing support for counselling and facilitating their reintegration in the community of origin. In Côte D'Ivoire, WFP supports young girls raped by military groups and children born out of rape.

A technical cooperation project, established by ILO, to address trafficking in human beings covering Albania, Moldova and the Ukraine provides social, economic and psychological support to victims of trafficking. IOM has one global assistance project targeting all developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and over 120 counter-trafficking projects targeting over 100 countries in Africa, Asia, Central, Eastern and Western Europe, and Latin America. In 2005, IOM's Working Group on Gender Issues at Headquarters supported and contributed funding for staffing a 24-hour hotline for victims of trafficking in South Africa.

The World Bank is executing pilot projects in Bolivia, Honduras and Nicaragua to improve the health system's ability to identify and appropriately refer cases of violence against women. These projects are designed to promote sustainable institutional change in the way that the health sector deals with violence against women.

IOM implements a cross border project at Beitbridge, Zimbabwe and a project for internally displaced persons in Colombia to assist returnees and facilitate their protection, particularly women, by building capacities of local entities and liaising with existing health facilities to ensure access to needed health services.

#### *July 2007 to January 2008*

The OHCHR Women's Rights and Gender Unit, established in 2006, continued the legal analysis with respect to access to justice for victims of sexual violence. An Expert Group Meeting on 'Prosecution of rape and other forms of sexual violence' was held in September 2007, with the aim to finalize an OHCHR legal position paper on the subject.

OHCHR has funded a legal assistance project in Tajikistan for women subjected to domestic violence. UNRWA provided legal aid and counselling through Women Programme Centres.

In Bolivia (Municipality of Cochabamba) and Ecuador, UNIFEM supported advocacy for increased allocations for services for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence, resulting in the Government of Ecuador committing \$2 million for implementation of the national plan of action.

UNRWA's Gaza Field Office undertook a gender equality initiative on domestic violence, including enhancing the quality of psychosocial support services and developing a hotline.

In China, UNIFEM support to the Xuzhou Domestic Violence Shelter is being considered for nation-wide scale-up by the Ministry of Civil Affairs.

A regional programme supported by IOM is providing assistance for the return and reintegration of trafficked women and girls, mainly exploited as domestic workers, throughout the region. Medical assessments are carried out in the shelters with special attention to HIV cases. Reintegration activities involve school support or income generating activities. IOM signed an agreement with the Colombian Ministry of Justice in order to develop counter-trafficking activities in the areas of assistance to victims and prevention through a hot-line.

#### *February 2008 to September 2008*

UNIFEM, through its gender-responsive budgeting programme in South East Europe, supported civil society, which led to increased regional and municipal budget allocations in 2008 for domestic violence shelters in Bosnia and Herzegovina and amendments to the domestic violence law to ensure co-financing for shelter operations.

In 2008, UNHCR allocated an additional USD 1.5 million for prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence. Projects include capacity building workshops for women in Panama; psychological counselling in Venezuela and Turkey; distribution of sanitary materials in India and Thailand; improved access to health facilities and income-generation activities in India; allocation of subsistence allowances to unaccompanied children in Egypt; language classes in Malta, vocational training in Bosnia; and the establishment of safe houses in Yemen and Turkey. UNHCR expanded the provision of Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) following rape to prevent transmission of HIV.

UNRWA has developed guidelines, a referral system and a training course for health staff on handling cases of violence against women and children in UNRWA clinics. The UNRWA West Bank field office produced a draft brochure on domestic violence for health clinics.

#### *October 2008 to February 2009*

In Venezuela, UNIFEM supported gender-responsive budgeting work that resulted in the earmarking of funds for shelters, in selected municipalities.

UNIFEM in partnership with various national government, bi-lateral government (donor), non-governmental and United Nations partners, supported legal aid to women survivors in the North of Uganda; training for Rwandan women survivors on handicraft, health and financial skills; the establishment of two referral centres in Afghanistan; efforts addressing post-election rape, including the development of guidelines to prepare women's court testimonies in Kenya.

UNIFEM provided support to civil society and women's organizations for initiatives including community-based Multi-purpose Centres in the Democratic Republic of Congo; HIV/AIDS and violence counselling protocols in Peru.

UNRWA's legal department in the Syrian Arab Republic provided refugees with access to legal and counselling services to combat gender-based violence.

During 2008, UNFPA's Latin America and Caribbean Regional Office (LACRO) undertook an initiative aimed at improving access of victims of sexual violence to justice through the design of public policies on sexual violence, and the strengthening of legal protection systems and health services in Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua). The initiative will develop pilot prevention and care models, to be linked to public security, legal, medicine, health and justice institutions.

The World Bank's Post-Conflict Fund (FCF) provides umbrella funding for a range of activities in Africa, including work on gender-based violence. An example is a US\$733,000 grant to administer a "Protection from Gender-Based Violence" programme in Côte d'Ivoire. The project aims to prevent sexual violence against women and provide assistance to victims, and it builds on initial work carried out by the International Rescue Committee.

Women's empowerment activities started under the project "Action against Human Trafficking from Nigeria to Europe", submitted by Edo State (Nigeria) NGO Coalition against Human Trafficking (ENCATIP) and NAPTIP (the Nigerian National Agency against Trafficking) and approved by UNICRI.

#### *March 2009 to September 2009*

In August 2009 in Bukedea district, northeastern Uganda, OHCHR met with 36 Local Council Courts members to stress the right to equality before the law, as well as protection for gender-based violence survivors by the Local Council Courts.

OHCHR offices allocated small grants to groups of women and human rights NGOs to provide legal aid for victims of domestic violence. OHCHR Colombia financially supported the follow-up to the 2008 Constitutional Court's order on assistance to female internally displaced persons who are victims; investigations of sexual violence, and prevention of sexual violence; and the reformulation of the Government's and Attorney General's Office's programmes for the protection of victims and witnesses. OHCHR's Regional Office in Central Asia, based in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan funded a 10-month project on legal aid to victims of domestic violence, through the allocation of a small grant to the Association of Crisis Centers of Kyrgyzstan. The Regional Office also funded an NGO project on legal aid to victims of domestic violence in Tajikistan, including awareness-raising among government officials and general public and the opening of a telephone hotline for victims of violence.

OHCHR's country office in Uganda spearheaded discussions with regard to reviewing the current policy in relation to the Police Form 3 (PF3). The law requires "a competent/qualified health professional" to collect and document evidence of sexual violence as per PF3. This has generally been interpreted to mean that only a doctor can carry out this process, while doctors are scarce in most health centers and districts.

On 30 March 2009, OHCHR's country office in Uganda carried out an investigation into cases of SGBV and other crimes in Moroto district (Karamoja), including the alleged rape of women by armed Karimojong civilians and physical assault of five other persons. Human rights components in United Nations Peace Missions in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone continued to monitor human rights violations with a special focus on gender-based violence including rape, female genital mutilation and domestic violence.

Technical cooperation was carried out by ECLAC with the Ministry of Health in Chile to elaborate a new clinical guide for health services' attention to adult victims of domestic violence.

UNIFEM continued to support the use of gender-responsive budgeting to secure budget lines for violence prevention, survivor assistance and access to justice in Mexico City and Burundi.

UNIFEM supported the establishment of the Kacyriu Police Hospital One Stop Centre for survivors in Rwanda (with UNFPA and UNICEF) and the national mapping of organizations providing services for survivors of gender-based violence in Kenya. UNIFEM also continued to provide technical and other support in the context of joint United Nations efforts, including: in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, developing capacity of non-governmental organizations to provide legal services to survivors of domestic violence; in the Asia-Pacific region, engaging men and boys to prevent violence against women; and in Venezuela, strengthening referral networks, increasing access to services, and conducting psychological care and legal workshops. UNIFEM supported the development of an integrated protection plan for victims and witnesses of human rights violations in Colombia (with the Swiss Program for the Promotion of Peace).

In Sri Lanka, the UNV Volunteer Information and Coordination Centre (VOICE) has been extended into 2008-2010 to include a Legal Empowerment Volunteers Scheme. This pilot project mobilizes university volunteers to support legal empowerment activities. Legal aid is provided to migrant women workers by 30 volunteers in seven locations. Through the empowerment scheme, the legal volunteers learn about marginalisation and vulnerability in their own society. The legal aid pilot project also concentrates on those affected by gender-based violence to help them attain equal access to justice. The VOICE project is supported by one national and five international UNV volunteers.

In Jordan, UNHCR and UNFPA coordinated a mapping of existing sexual and reproductive health and sexual and gender-based violence services available to Iraqi refugees. A matrix was developed and shared with the sub-group on Reproductive Health, the health group and other key actors providing services to mobilize improved services.

In Liberia, UNHCR and its partners supported the establishment of a new community health department and organized community health committees and volunteers. The volunteers participated in awareness-raising sessions on primary health care, reproductive health, sexual and gender-based violence and HIV/AIDS. Strong coordination on sexual and gender-based violence is also on-going between UN agencies, the government and NGOs, and response mechanisms to sexual and gender-based violence are being put in place and strengthened.

UNRWA Lebanon field office developed their field intervention on violence against women in a workshop the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2009. A referral system was drafted coordinating services for women victims of violence.

UNRWA Gaza and West Bank Field offices continued counseling sessions for victims of gender-based violence through the Community Mental Health program (CMHP).

In Syria, UNHCR and the Syrian Women Union are supporting a new centre for Iraqi refugee women at risk, particularly female teenagers who are involved in commercial sex work.

UNFPA Madagascar supported centers and legal advice for victims of violence. UNFPA country programmes supported the strengthening of the health sector response to gender-based violence, and reported a higher percentage rate of inclusion of gender-based violence issues in pre- and in-service training of health service providers as compared to 64 per cent in 2007. Working with a number of partners, initiatives included the development of medical kits to treat survivors of gender-based violence in Guatemala. In Honduras, a model of integrated care for gender-based violence victims was developed and implemented in 26 centers.

WFP has been actively involved in joint UN initiatives to deliver services to victims of gender-based violence. WFP provides food assistance for medical rehabilitation of victims and, through income-generating activities, supports the victims/survivors to become economically independent.

Action-oriented research on successful intervention modalities for Nigerian minor victims of trafficking was carried out by UNICRI in various Italian regions. Current modalities of services and assistance towards minor victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation were evaluated in several Italian regions in order to develop successful interventions.

In a meeting held by WHO in March 2009 the implementation and evaluation of health sector interventions was reviewed and an outline for guidance to the health sector, with a focus on resource poor settings, was developed.

#### *October 2009 to February 2010*

In Somalia, UNDP continued to support the project "Access to Justice Project in Somalia" and the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in Hargeisa, Somaliland, now operates as a 'one-stop' location, where victims of GBV can receive medical care and counselling. In Democratic Republic of Congo, the project "Support Community Development for Women Associated with and Affected by Armed Conflicts" supports leadership development and economic empowerment of women associated with or affected by armed conflict. In Croatia, the project "Assistance in the Development of a Witness and Victim Support System" supports services for victims and witnesses of major criminal offences, including rape.

UNIFEM continued to provide technical and other support, in the context of joint United Nations efforts, to service provision initiatives.

UNIFEM contributed to government funds for Tajikistan's Girls' Support Centre and supported advocacy and survivor support networks in Algeria, Argentina, Morocco and Uruguay.

UNRWA carried out a number of activities to build referral systems to improve victims' access to services. The Lebanon Field Office began the implementation of their referral system in the Tyr Area and the Gaza Field Office drafted a referral system based on the services offered by the different programs. The West Bank Field Office is developing a family protection referral system and held several workshops to discuss principles and standards, also in 4 refugees camps (Dheisheh, Fawwar, Jalazon and Qalandia) in order to establish the referral system. The Syria Field Office is building the capacity of two legal advice offices in Yarmouk and Deraa camps to launch a "hotline" and offer social and legal aid to victims of domestic violence.

With the Sexual Violence Research Initiative, WHO is supporting capacity building of health services to respond to the consequences of sexual violence in sub-Saharan Africa.

#### *March to September 2010*

The OHCHR/Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section in the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste monitored the response of the formal justice system to reported cases of violence against women, including whether traditional justice mechanisms are given priority in such cases. In March 2010, through participation in working groups, the OHCHR also provided a human rights and protection commentary on draft governmental policy related to emergency shelters and safe houses for survivors of violence against women.

In Albania, UNDP supported the establishment of a community centre in Durrës to assist victims of domestic violence which provides free legal services, and a telephone hotline. A new programme entitled "Economic Empowerment of Women Victims of Domestic Violence" was launched in FYR Macedonia in March 2010. Under this programme, UNDP will assist victims by providing opportunities for self-employment and training for skills in demand in the job market. The project is part of the Joint UN programme "Strengthening National Capacities to Prevent Domestic Violence", supported by the Government of the Netherlands and the UN Trust Fund for Elimination of Violence Against Women.

With the support of UNDP Kosovo, five Legal Aid offices, became fully operational in Gjakove, Dragash, Ferizai, North Mitrovica, and Gracanica, providing legal aid services to residents.

UNIFEM contributed to improved policies and service delivery for women survivors of violence, through its work with National Women's Machineries, including in Ghana, Liberia and Peru; increased access to legal assistance in Ethiopia, Fiji and the Occupied Palestinian territory (oPt); and strengthened police response in Nigeria. UNIFEM deployed teams in post-earthquake settlements in Haiti to provide referrals for survivors of violence.

UNRWA prioritized addressing gender-based violence in 2009 and is developing a systematic multi-sectoral approach to gender-based violence, which includes services provision, prevention, working with community leaders and participation in national advocacy efforts. To increase victims' access to services, UNRWA is developing referral systems in its fields of operations. In West Bank, a pilot intervention of a community protection referral was developed with the support of the BirZeit University for the referral system in 9 camps (Kalandia, Jalazone, Duheisheh, Aroub, Doura, Aida, Al Azeh, Aqbat Jaber, Ein Sultan). This intervention is based on a concept of community protection 'committees', comprised of UNRWA staff, as well as a number of key community members. The purpose of the committees is to coordinate referrals both internally to UNRWA, as well as to external resources.

In Gaza, UNRWA is consolidating the services within the legal advice bureaus, while developing 5 'one-stop' centres. In Syria, interventions have been consolidated in the 'legal advice bureaus'

(LABs) in two areas (Yarmouk and Deraa) to add social interventions and counselling to the existing legal aid. A hotline service for victims was launched in May 2010. In Jordan, a national referral system exists and UNRWA is developing the capacities of the LABs to act as liaison mechanisms with the national structures (Family Protection Unit and Jordanian National Women Commission). In Lebanon, a referral system has been put in place in the Tyr region.

UNFPA has developed a knowledge asset on "Addressing Violence against Women and Girls in Sexual and Reproductive Health Services". The review of the literature in this asset focuses on the integration of violence against women and girls – into sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, aimed at providing guidance to health sector programme designers and managers. This asset is available on the following web-link:

<http://www.unfpa.org/public/home/publications/pid/6233>.

WHO is developing Guidelines for the health sector response to intimate partner and sexual violence.

In 2010, UNHCR and partners referred 83% of those who reported sexual and gender-based violence cases in camps for assistance. In urban settings, this was the case for 97% of reported cases. UNHCR operations put in place a number of innovative approaches to preventing sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and providing comprehensive support for survivors. For example, in Burundi, it was agreed to use the hospital as a safe haven for SGBV survivors, avoiding the stigmatization that often results from having a specific shelter. In Yemen, safe accommodation is rented rather than having a specific safe house, in order not to isolate an SGBV survivor from the community. In Ecuador, UNHCR set up livelihoods programmes for SGBV survivors, including access to micro-credit. Survivors are also given access to legal assistance.

*October 2010-February 2011*

Advocacy and assistance by former UNIFEM now part of UN Women contributed to: improved policies and service delivery for women survivors of violence in Kazakhstan, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Venezuela, Afghanistan, Haiti, Pakistan; increased access to legal assistance in Algeria, Kenya, Morocco, FYR Macedonia, Colombia, Argentina and Thailand; and economic empowerment initiatives for women survivors of violence in Morocco and Georgia. Additionally, in the context of the International Conference on the Role of Security Organs in Ending violence against women and girls in the framework of the UNiTE to End Violence Campaign, 12 African countries adopted the Kigali Declaration on the Role of Security Organs, reaffirming their commitments for action to continue building on best practice to expand justice and services for survivors in the continent.

WHO Guidelines for the health sector response to intimate partner and sexual violence are under development, with a final draft of the Guidelines being available at the end of 2011.

The FAO regional project "Eastern Africa regional response to food insecurity, HIV and GBV" supports victims/survivors of gender-based violence to rebuild their livelihoods, improve their technical and practical knowledge in farming leading to increased self esteem and their reintegration in their communities and households (see <http://www.disasterriskreduction.net>).

The OHCHR supported the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences in participating in the 2010 General Assembly, including convening a side event on reparations for women who have been subjected to violence.

UNRWA continues its collaboration with UNICEF in Jordan to address violence in schools against girls and boys and to establish mechanisms in the health centres to address child abuse. During 2010 UNRWA focused on building referral systems. In Syria, UNRWA has identified its mechanism of referral in Yarmouk and Deraa camps, and worked to enhance staff capacities for

detection of gender-based violence victims. In West Bank, UNRWA has collaborated with various stakeholders to develop its referral system, based on a community participation approach, and to organise trainings for medical staff. In Gaza, UNRWA is establishing one-stop shop centres, and has identified the role of staff involved in the process. In Jordan, UNRWA has been working with local partners towards the establishment of a referral system, and has commenced the mapping of external partners to provide support services to victims of gender-based violence.

In November 2010, the United Nations launched the "United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children" that has been established by General Assembly resolution on the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The Fund will be administered by UNODC, as the designated Fund Manager.

In December 2010, UNDP and UN Women organized a workshop in Kampala, attended by several experts on transitional justice issues and reparation, focusing also on gender, with the objective to initiate a more integrated UN approach to reparations.

In FYR Macedonia, survivors of domestic violence were supported by UNDP to start their own businesses or to be employed in the private sector through subsidized employment.

UNDP Paraguay supported the project "Attention to the victims of inter-familial and gender violence: Citizen security", implemented by the Department of the Interior (MDI) and financed by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID), aimed at supporting the the capacity-building of MDI, enhancing coordination with other departments and improving police interventions with victims of domestic and gender-based violence. Results of this project include the installation of three police stations specializing in violence against women, educational workshops to train personnel, proposals that increase visibility on the issue of violence against women, and the incorporation of a gender perspective in the citizen security program.

UNDP Argentina, with UNICEF and UNIFEM, continues to support the work of a Domestic Violence Office at the National Supreme Court of Justice, which has provided assistance to 13,000 victims of domestic violence the last two years (80% women and 20% men, mainly boys). The office has collected and disseminated statistics on the issue of violence against women for the first time in the history of Argentina's justice system. Three more similar offices opened in the provinces of Tucumán, Santiago del Estero, and Salta.

In Papua New Guinea, UNDP continued to work with faith-based organizations to strengthen the protection and support services for survivors of gender-based violence. UNDP supported the National Council of Women to maintain their protection and support services for survivors at the local level.

The UNDP project "Access to Justice" in Nepal supports training and the establishment of community-based paralegals to provide information, awareness, and support for women seeking redress in cases of gender-based violence.

A joint mission by UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre/Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery made recommendations to the Justice and Human Rights project in Afghanistan to enhance the involvement of women in shuras/jirgas, to raise awareness on rights and entitlements under the law, and to continue engagement with religious leaders on issues related to women in Islam.

*March 2011 to January 2012*

The UN Women Universal Access to Critical Services initiative aims to achieve access for all women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence to at least a core set of services for their emergency and immediate needs, within the next ten years, in a significant number of countries of the world. It addresses a clear implementation and accountability gap in the dearth of

State mapping, benchmarking and monitoring for expansion of services for universal access, and promotes an evidence-based, results-driven approach to policy making similar to that of the Millennium Development Goals.

WHO is finalizing clinical and policy guidelines for the health sector response to intimate partner and sexual violence. The Guidelines Development Group (GDG), bringing together researchers, practitioners and policy makers, met in September 2011 to review the evidence and develop evidence-based recommendations for the health sector response to these forms of violence. A draft is being reviewed by the GDG and will be finalized by June 2012. A Programming Guide on Addressing violence against women in the context of HIV is also being finalized.

WHO is currently finalizing a systematic review of evidence on effective interventions to address violence against women and HIV for peer-reviewed publication. A systematic review of evidence on the links between violence against sex workers and risk of STI and HIV infection as well as of effective interventions to reduce violence against sex workers is being finalized for peer-reviewed publication. In addition, grey literature is being reviewed and a technical consultation is being convened to document "good practices" in preventing and addressing violence against sex workers in the context of HIV/AIDS in Montreux on January 30-31 2012. The outcomes of the systematic review and the technical consultation will be the basis for developing a section on addressing violence against sex workers in the WHO Guidelines on HIV prevention, treatment and care among sex workers.

As part of its strategic leadership role, the UNAIDS Secretariat has gathered evidence to better address gender barriers that hinder women's access to services, including violence.

With the support of UN Action, WHO organized, in collaboration with UNICEF and UNFPA, a technical meeting on responding to the psychosocial and mental health needs of survivors of sexual violence. The meeting in November 2011 reviewed the evidence and experiences from the field and made programmatic, policy and research recommendations.

UNRWA has installed referral systems in its five fields of operations (Gaza, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and West Bank). In Gaza, UNRWA has established 12 one-stop centres located in UNRWA's health centres. In the West Bank, a multi-sectoral, community approach to addressing gender-based violence (GBV) has been the core of the referral system. Family and Child Protection Committees made up of representatives from UNRWA departments and community members are in place in 10 refugee camps to promote awareness and prevention of GBV/violence against women (VAW), and provide protection, and access to services. In Jordan, the primary mechanism of the system is to provide assistance to GBV survivors through referral to external partners who would be able to provide more comprehensive support to those seeking assistance. In Syria, the system was developed in Yarmouk and Deraa camps around the Family Support Offices, which consolidated introducing new services (social interventions and case management), while also strengthening relations with external partners to provide services that are not readily available at the offices (psychosocial counselling, sheltering). In Lebanon, the referral is in the early phases of development. Through the system that is being set-up, UNRWA staff will detect and refer GBV victims to its external partners for counselling and support. From January until November 2011, 561 survivors were detected and referred for services, protection and support.

UN Women continued to support the first multi-purpose Centre in the occupied Palestinian territory (West Bank) for women victims of violence through provision of technical and financial assistance. The Centre includes a shelter which has hosted twenty women and their children on a monthly basis. Towards the end of 2011, the revision of policies and procedures of the Centre was initiated and will lead to the upgrading to national policies and procedures. The first multi-purpose Centre in the Gaza Strip was established modeling the Centre in the West Bank.

UN Women provided women inmates in Palestinian correction and rehabilitation centres (Palestinian prisons) with legal aid and representation from a gender perspective, social counseling sessions, recreational and rehabilitative activities; and provision of goods for primary needs for the women and their newborn children leaving inside the prison. Regular monitoring of the situation (social and legal) of women inmates in the occupied Palestinian territory was conducted and a paper was produced. UN Women has also provided financial support to the existing toll-free help in the occupied Palestinian territory for women and children victims of violence.

UN Women provided support to survivor assistance networks and counseling/crisis centers in Algeria (the CIDDEF and BALSAM network), Morocco (the ANARUZ network), and Mauritania (El Wafa crisis center, AMSME), which enabled women survivors of violence (about 830 in Algeria, 1700 in Morocco, and 150 victims of sexual violence in Mauritania) to access psychological and legal advice and support. In Algeria, four new counseling centers joined the BALSAM network, which is now composed of 15 counseling centers. This enlargement enabled the BALSAM network to cover other regions and provide services to women survivors of violence in rural areas. Technical assistance to a leading non-government organization in the area of economic empowerment of women survivors of violence in Morocco resulted in the development of tools necessary to the establishment of a fund to support income generating activities for women victims of Economic Violence Based on Gender.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), UNICEF is the lead agency, with the Ministry of Health, to coordinate response – “the Multi-Sectoral Assistance pillar” - with a goal to improve the quality, accessibility and delivery of services for survivors. In the Horn of Africa, UNICEF supported safe access to fuel and fuel efficient stoves. A regional strategy is being developed along with Women’s Refugee Committee, UNHCR and WFP.

In October 2011, in collaboration with Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF) and the Togolese Ministry of Women Affairs, the ECA organized a Regional Stakeholders’ Meeting in Togo on “Women’s Access to Legal and Judicial Services”, which focused on access to justice for women victims of violence including in conflict settings, and on the need for a multisectoral response to victims through the provision of legal, medical and psychosocial support services.

In Bolivia, with the sponsorship of UN Women, the Centre for Integral Development of Aymara Women (CDIMA) worked with local authorities from the municipalities of Mocomoco, Comanche and Simanco. Following this collaboration, the authorities signed agreements to ensure indigenous women’s access to justice in particular in cases of gender based violence. In the process of improving women’s access to justice, CDIMA has strengthened the coordination between ordinary jurisdiction and indigenous justice systems.

In Uganda, OHCHR, in partnership with the Human Rights Commission, consulted women and girls who were victims of grave violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law on their views on remedy and reparation. This work was published in the report “The Dust Has Not Settled: Community reflections on reparations in northern Uganda.” In May 2011, an expert meeting on gender and witness and victim protection was organized. The discussions elaborated on specific challenges and demands with respect to witness and victim protection in proceedings and programmes relating to human rights violations disproportionately affecting women, such as sexual and gender-based violence, domestic violence, so-called honour crimes and trafficking, and will contribute to the development of the framework of a tool for use at national level.

Under the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund-EVAW), UN Women was supporting activities to monitor cases of sexual and gender-based violence committed under the Khmer Rouge regime, as well as to build safe working conditions for women workers.

UNHCR office in India and in cooperation with the government, in response to one of the recommendations from the Dialogues with refugee replaced paper refugee certificates with smart ID cards, resulting in enhanced protection and access to services. In refugee camps where UNHCR has SGBV programs, UNHCR and its partners ensured that 95% of known survivors received support services; in urban areas the support reached 87% of survivors.

In Afghanistan, OHCHR/UNAMA provided support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs and provincial Departments to establish commissions on the elimination of violence against women in different provinces. UN Women supported the establishment of a half-way house for 30 women survivors of violence and released ex-detainees with no family, to economically empower them for one year.

In Latin America, UNODC Regional Office for Brazil and the Southern Cone developed a project for the strengthening of public and civil society institutions to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. The project seeks to improve the countries' capacity to offer support to gender-based violence victims and to develop a regional knowledge/expertise on this problem and to architect a good practices network, gathering players from the community, civil society and governmental institutions.

UN Women manages the project Pacific Regional Facility Fund in Support of Organisations and Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women (EVAW), which is a regional 'basket fund' to support a small grants facility for Pacific Island organisations and actions to eliminate VAW.

*March 2012-February 2013*

During the reporting period, UNRWA detected more than 600 survivors and over 400 formal referrals to services were made. Those survivors who did not want to be further referred benefited from counselling by trained staff. UNRWA is continually extending support services into less well-served areas. In Gaza, UNRWA is working through 21 one-stop shops located in UNRWA health centres, while in West Bank, Family and Child Protection Committees have been established in 17 refugee camps with links to 11 health centres. In Syria, survivors are supported through coordination with multiple stakeholders and UNRWA has ensured survivors' access to adequate services.

UNHCR launched a policy on Access to Justice for Survivors of SGBV, in 2012, aimed at strengthening provision of legal services for survivors. The policy included conducting advocacy and awareness-raising with high-level and local authorities, and capacity-building activities in both formal and informal justice fora.

The establishment of Special Projects is a key development in the UNHCR protection response for survivors. They support multi-sectoral projects in 15 countries and cover a wide range of activities, including strengthening psychosocial response for urban refugees in India, provision of safe houses for IDPs in Haiti, and promotion of livelihoods for refugees in Ethiopia. Other examples include one-stop services to all survivors of SGBV in Jordan, regardless of their legal status; an agreement between the government and Lawyers without Borders to assist UNHCR and partners in facilitating legal services for refugees in Burundi; mobile courts in Uganda and Colombia to ensure that persons in areas lacking judicial infrastructure can have access to justice.

UNODC, in cooperation with UN Women, undertook a mission in Viet Nam to assess the situation women facing when dealing with the criminal justice system, including women subject to gender-based violence, with a view to identify recommendations and programming suggestions.

WHO clinical and policy guidelines on "Responding to intimate partner violence and sexual violence against women" and the programming tool on "Addressing violence against women in the context of HIV" have been finalized in 2012 for publishing in 2013.

In 2012, around 3,144 health facilities have integrated FGM/C in their reproductive health services, particularly in their antenatal and postnatal care, with the support of UNFPA. UNFPA has ongoing collaboration with the Auckland University of Technology to support health systems in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Kiribati to better respond to survivors of violence, including through the development of protocols and multi-sectoral referral mechanisms, as well as training for doctors and nurses.

In 2012, UNFPA responded to crises under the GBV cluster coordination mechanism with special focus on the health needs of women and girls in Afghanistan, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Georgia, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

An ILO programme, funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), on Economic Empowerment and HIV Vulnerability Reduction along Transport Corridors in Southern Africa, reported that acceptance attitudes towards violence, through project interventions, such as education on gender equality, had significantly decreased. The project has a strong component on violence against women and focuses on building women's economic resilience, business skills and related capacities.

UNDP, UN WOMEN and UNICEF have collaborated on a number of initiatives, including: development of "Integrated Responses to Gender-Based Violence in Serbia" to be implemented in 2013-2014 with funding from UN Trust Fund to end Violence against Women; the joint programme "Every Safe Home: Supporting Thailand towards Effective Implementation of Protection of Domestic Violence Victims" aimed at strengthening coordination, capacity-building and public awareness to end violence against women in public and private spaces; and integration of GBV in the security sector reform process of Guinea.

UNDP is working to strengthen access to justice, including: in Guinea through training of magistrates and auxiliaries, CSOs and CBOs to establish credibility, professionalism, independence and efficiency of the justice system; in the Dominican Republic, through capacity development of the Justice System on monitoring and integration of citizen safety and security and through the inclusion of gender and GBV in the observatories under the auspices of the Nation's Attorney General; in Sierra Leone through support to CSOs operating nationwide providing shelter, legal and prosecution assistance; in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where more than 4,500 women have been reached in North and South Kivu through multipurpose community centres offering legal assistance and support for sustainable economic and social reintegration into their community; in Afghanistan providing access to legal support through the Help Centres located in each province reaching 3,000 victims of domestic violence; and in Nepal and Pakistan through legal aid clinics.

UNDP is also working to develop the capacity of service providers, including: integration of specialized and clear rules of conduct in cases of VAW into the General Protocol of Cooperation of relevant institutions, together with the Government in Serbia; technical assistance to the Ministry of Women's Affairs in Cambodia to pilot the recommendations identified in the One-Stop Service Centre (OSSC) feasibility study; and technical assistance to the Papua New Guinea Family Sexual Violence Action Committee to integrate GBV into the national training curriculum for civil servants in 2012.

The World Bank through its Health Sector Support and Multi-Sectorial Aids Project in Burkina Faso has proposed additional financing to support the training of professionals from the mass media, such as journalists from the main daily and weekly journals, national and local radios and television on HIV infection and prevention, including on issues of gender violence. The additional funding will also support women's organizations at all levels to strengthen their capacity to

programme and implement activities focused on HIV prevention, negotiation capacity in sexual relationships and sexual violence including the problems related to female mutilation. In Solomon Islands and Kiribati, the Bank is supporting increased access to various services for women survivors of domestic violence and in Bangladesh and the Democratic Republic of Congo, support to strengthening of the health systems.

In Togo and Chad, OHCHR supported activities on the implementation of UPR and CEDAW recommendations on violence against women.

In Guinea Bissau, OHCHR supported and provided technical assistance to national NGO Djinopi in the organisation of the Islamic Conference on combatting Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), where a Declaration by the Imams of Guinea Bissau on the Abandonment of FGM was adopted. Support to Djinop also resulted in the publishing of a "Golden Booklet" in English, French, Portuguese and Arabic containing short Islamic studies and statements against FGM.

UN Women has provided an array of support to implement laws and policies and improve access to services. Such support has included: formalization of multi-sectoral mechanisms with 13 departments led by the Ministry of Justice in Morocco; One-stop centres and shelters for survivors of violence in Afghanistan, Burundi, Ethiopia, DRC, Guatemala, Mozambique, OPT, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Tunisia; increased police capacities to respond in Ethiopia, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Kenya, Thailand; and access to justice to end impunity in Argentina, Brazil, India, Kosovo, Lao PDR, Tanzania, Zimbabwe; institutionalization of national standards for sheltering services, sustainability of the Mehwar Centre and establishment of the comprehensive service centre -Al Hayat Centre in the State of Palestine; legal aid services in Zimbabwe; joint support with UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and PAHO to the Domestic Violence Office of the Supreme Court of Justice in Argentina; and at the request of the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, facilitated a capacity assessment for the deployment of female officers to the borders, support for an equal treatment and equal opportunity policy and together with the Liberia National Police developed a Gender Sensitive Basic Curriculum for Recruits. In Nepal, UN Women supported dissemination of standard operating procedures on violence against women for district level police and supported the establishment of POURAKHI (an organisation of women migrant workers, now functional in 15 districts) who assist migrant workers who have faced abuse.

## **DATA COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH**

*Baseline July 2007*

DAW was responsible for the preparation, and now supports the follow-up to the 2006 Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women (A/61/122/Add. 1 and Corr.1).

OHCHR commissions and conducts research and analysis on access to justice for victims of sexual violence, clarifies and draws attention to this issue, and develops materials to assist the development of policy and advocacy strategies. One of the mechanisms for so doing is through the development of legal analyses, guidelines and principles based on human rights, which address issues of critical importance for women. These will be developed in response to regional priorities but the aim is to ensure global resonance, with a focus on the current jurisprudence relating to the prosecution of rape, both under international humanitarian law and human rights law, and on the inter-linkages between access to justice and the protection of women's economic, social and cultural rights, with the aim to influence legal standard-setting and subsequently policy development. In addition OHCHR conducts research and analysis of all forms of violence against women and girls.

OHCHR has the responsibility to provide support and advice to country and thematic special rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council, including the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. In addition to the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, over the past year the following special procedures have addressed issues related to violence against women in their reports, including from field missions, to human rights bodies:

- The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons (trafficking for the purposes of forced labour, particularly in factories and domestic work; forced marriage; and/or for purposes of sexual exploitation including in conditions of slavery and debt bondage);
- The Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child pornography and child prostitution (violence against girls pertaining to abduction and rape practices; sale of girls forced to marry; domestic labour or sexual exploitation of girls; and domestic violence);
- The Special Rapporteur on the right to education focused his annual report of 2006 on the girl child's education (the socio-cultural context of gender discrimination under a patriarchal society, underpinning discriminatory behaviour, and domestic work by children as a major cause of exploitation and violence);
- The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing has received an explicit mandate by the Commission on Human Rights to specifically study the issue of women, adequate housing and land. From 2002 to 2006 regional consultations were held with grass root women in Eastern Africa; Asia; Latin America and Caribbean; Central-Asia/Eastern Europe; and Euro-Mediterranean. Based on the regional consultations, the Special Rapporteur has regularly drawn the attention to linkages of lack of adequate housing with violence against women (domestic violence; impact on forced evictions accompanied by violence; and vulnerability of homeless women to violence);
- The Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (so-called "honor killings"; executions of women accused of adultery; and allegations of a pattern of killings affecting women or femicidio);
- The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons (sexual and gender-based violence against internally displaced women and girl-children);

The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) consistently includes visits to detention centres for women, in the course of its country visits.

UNODC was a partner in the roll-out of the International Violence against Women Survey, which was carried out in 11 countries worldwide.

UNECE organizes regional and sub-regional meetings and workshops where experts from national statistical offices, users of statistics and international organizations can discuss the value of surveys on violence against women and can develop guidelines on how to improve them. Through the Conference of European Statisticians Task Force, an inventory of methods used to measure violence against women through population-based surveys was carried out for the region.

UNECE has collected countries' experiences in the implementation of national violence against women surveys with a view of encouraging their implementation under the framework of official statistics.

UNICEF's current round of Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys provides data on child marriage, on attitudes towards domestic violence, and on FGM/C. The Secretary-General's study on violence against children includes as one of its principal recommendations that States develop and implement systematic national data collection and research, calling for the disaggregating of data by sex and emphasising this as a factor in strengthening child protection.

UN-Habitat undertakes surveys under the umbrella of the Safer Cities Programme, and assesses four types of violence against women, i.e. economic, physical, emotional and sexual abuse.

These surveys have been developed in South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon and Papua New Guinea, with the aim of assisting policy development and advocacy at international, national and local levels.

UNAIDS works closely with its co-sponsors (WHO, UNPFA, UNICEF), and partners (UNIFEM, Amnesty International, the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, and others) to better understand and document the linkages between violence against women and AIDS.

The ILO Conditions of Work and Employment Programme (TRAVAIL) conducts research on violence, including violence against women, at work including on laws, workplace policies and other initiatives to prevent and respond to it.

In 2004, ECLAC completed research on good practices in preventing and eliminating violence against women, based on an extensive survey of national mechanisms for the advancement of women in the region and a number of non-governmental organizations active in the field.

FAO supported the incorporation of gender perspectives in agricultural censuses and surveys in several FAO Member countries.

The issue of violence against women was thoroughly investigated during the last Food Security and Nutrition assessment by WFP in Darfur, Sudan, and a specific section on physical insecurity and gender-related violence was added into the final assessment report.

In 2001, ECLAC convened an International Meeting on Gender Statistics and Indicators for Measuring the Incidence of and Trends in Violence against Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. The meeting was convened through the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas. Subsequently, ECLAC convened an Inter-agency Coordination Meeting on Gender Statistics (2002) to harmonize the methodology for technical assistance on gender indicators used by the organizations of the United Nations system, with specific attention to violence against women.

In 2004, WFP collected data in 28 country offices in the framework of its Enhanced Commitment to Women Baseline Survey Initiative, and qualitative data to complement the surveys in 6 more countries, of which some were conducted in collaboration with UNHCR. The surveys determined the awareness levels of male and female beneficiaries of: the fact that they are not to provide any favour in exchange for receiving food; and the channels available to them to report cases of abuse linked to food distribution.

UNICRI's anti-trafficking projects include a specific assessment component aimed at the collection and analysis of information and data on trafficking patterns and modalities, routes and flows and existing counter-trafficking measures. UNICRI carried out research on trafficking in women for sexual exploitation in the Philippines (2002), Nigeria and Italy (2003), Czech Republic (2004), the Balkans (2004 and 2006), Poland (2005), Germany and Romania (2005). Under the programme of action against trafficking in minors for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, research was also conducted in Thailand, Ukraine, and Costa Rica.

UNICRI developed databases in Costa Rica and Thailand, in 2005-06, that collected and analyzed judicial cases of trafficked minors.

In the framework of its project to fight human trafficking in Africa, UNESCO carries out research on factors leading to human trafficking in 6 pilot countries (Benin, Nigeria, Togo, Lesotho, Mozambique and South Africa) and proposes concrete recommendations.

In the area of counter-trafficking, IOM undertakes research and publishes the findings about the situation of trafficking in specific countries and/or regions. A recent publication gave an assessment of changing patterns and trends of trafficking in persons in the Balkan region. IOM

also maintains one of the largest international trafficking database which contains health related information to facilitate planning and programmatic actions.

UNDP supports research for policy development, the collection of data disaggregated by sex and the development of databases on gender issues.

UNFPA supports and advocates for attention to the macro-economic impact of gender-based and the costs of interventions to prevent it; for the inclusion of the costs of gender-based violence in gender equality and health accounts, as well as the provision of more resources for such efforts; and for the mapping of existing programmes and projects and the sharing of good practices to address gender based violence across regions.

ECA supported 12 countries to undertake field studies using the African Gender and Development Index. The 12 pilot countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Egypt, Ghana, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda) have collected qualitative data on domestic violence, harmful practices, rape, sexual harassment and trafficking in women. They assessed the extent to which governments have ratified international conventions, met all reporting requirements, passed national laws, developed plans with specific targets, set institutional mechanisms, allocated sufficient financial and human resources, undertaken research, collaborated with civil society organizations, disseminated information and set monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for each type of violence against women. The project has been extended during 2007 to five countries, Cape Verde, Senegal, the Gambia, Namibia, and Botswana.

ESCAP helps to catalyze gender analysis and policy-making among Member States at the governmental level through ESCAP subsidiary bodies. It serves as a coordinating body and forum of discussion and policy development on gender-based violence issues through the organization of expert group meetings, intergovernmental meetings, and thematic seminars. Recent examples include a sub-regional seminar on using legal instruments to combat trafficking in women and children (2001) and a series of expert group meetings on: the promotion and implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, with emphasis on violence against women and trafficking in women (2005); strategic planning for the intensification of regional, sub-regional and inter-regional cooperation to combat trafficking in women and children (2003).

The main focus of ECLAC's activities in addressing violence against women is research. Efforts have included: development of a theoretical and methodological framework aimed at the construction of indicators; collection of available statistical data and information on existing legislation, programmes and public policies; analysis of good practices; and understanding the relationship between gender-based violence and poverty.

ESCAP conducted regional research on South Asia (2000), and national research on violence against women in Bangladesh (1999).

In April 2007, the Gender and Development Section of the Emerging Social Issues Division organized an expert group meeting at ESCAP addressing "Regional Strategies for Implementing the Recommendations from the Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Women with Particular Emphasis on Harmful Traditional and Cultural Practices and the Role of National Machineries".

ESCWA published *Social and Economic Situation of Palestinian Women 2000-2006*, which analyses the close links between increased poverty and social burdens and increased domestic violence against women.

UNIFEM facilitates the strengthening of knowledge bases by supporting efforts to improve the generation and use of data, including through supporting research studies and the creation of

databases on violence against women, to build more effective institutions and improve the access of women survivors to services.

In October 2006, together with OHCHR and WHO, UNICEF launched the UN Secretary-General's study on violence against children. The study examined violence against children in a range of settings including: home and family, schools, workplace, institutions, and in the community. The study identifies violence against girls as a priority issue and acknowledges that girls face greater risks of neglect and sexual violence than boys.

In 2007, UNICEF's State of the World's Children report was entitled "Women and Children: The Double Dividend of Gender Equality", which also included an analysis on the impact of violence against women on children.

UNICEF's Innocenti Research Centre conducts research on UNICEF's priority areas, including on violence against women and girls. UNICEF recently published a report and strategy for the abandonment of FGM/C within one generation and together with the Body Shop, it published a report "Behind Closed Doors", on the impact of domestic violence on children.

UNFPA undertakes research and studies, for example on the socio-cultural context of violence against women, on masculinity, fatherhood, men as offenders and as protectors including religious leaders and military personnel.

Under the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour, ILO has carried out analyses of the situation of girl child labour in agriculture, domestic work and in situations of sexual exploitation.

UNESCO (Social and Human Science Section) undertakes research on the causes and social structures that foster violence against women. As part of its research activities for the ten-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, UNESCO produced a conceptual framework for qualitative and quantitative information on women's empowerment. One of the 7 sets of indicators pertains to women's bodily integrity and health, including data on the prevalence of female genital mutilation; sexual abuse of women; and physical abuse against women by an intimate partner.

In January 2006, UNESCO, in collaboration with the Palestinian Ministry of Women's Affairs, established a Palestinian Women's Research and Documentation Center. The first of its kind in an Arab country, outside North Africa, this institution serves as both a documentation and resource centre and as an observatory. It is devoted to research on gender equality and human rights with an emphasis on women's rights legislation, the causes and consequences of poverty among women, violence against women and women's participation in political life.

To raise awareness on human rights issues and specifically on violence against women, ECA launched in April 2007, with the collaboration of the UNDP Regional Gender Programme, the African Women's Rights Observatory (AWRO). The AWRO is expected to contribute to strengthening of tracking and monitoring protection/violations of women's rights, including violence against women, in African countries.

WHO has carried out a multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women, aimed at enhancing availability of reliable data on the root causes, magnitude, and consequences of violence against women and facilitating the search for solutions. A report summarizing initial data from Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Japan, Namibia, Peru, Samoa, Serbia & Montenegro, Thailand and the United Republic of Tanzania was published in 2005; other countries are replicating the methodology (Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Maldives and New Zealand). WHO has also published 'Putting women first: ethical and safety recommendations for research on domestic violence against women' (2001), as well as a package of study materials, including the protocol, survey instruments and training manuals for implementing the Study.

Based on the experience gained with the Study, WHO is contributing to the development of indicators and survey methodology on violence against women.

The Global Forum for Health Research and WHO supported the development of the Sexual Violence Research Initiative. This Initiative aims to build a network of researchers, policy-makers, activists and other stakeholders to ensure that sexual violence is addressed from the perspective of different disciplines. A research agenda for sexual violence has been developed and reviews of evidence have been done on women's and medico-legal responses to sexual violence.

WHO has carried out groundbreaking research on the obstetric sequelae of female genital mutilation and continues to support Member States in their efforts to end FGM as well as research on community interventions, decision-making, FGM and sexuality, with the aim of informing policies and community action.

IOM conducts and supports research designed to guide and inform migration policy and practice, with a special focus on violence against women, not only in counter-trafficking studies, but also in labour migration and in emergency and post-conflict research.

#### *July 2007 to January 2008*

In September 2007, OHCHR organized a seminar on women and torture, for United Nations and civil society representatives, with the aim of providing input for the thematic report of the Special Rapporteur on Torture, on strengthening the protection of women from torture (A/HRC/7/3), to be presented to Human Rights Council at its seventh session. The report is aimed at ensuring that the torture protection framework is applied in a gender-inclusive manner.

Recent publications of UNODC included: child-friendly version of the Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime (published in February 2008); Handbook for Female Prison Staff on Responding to the Specific Needs of Women Prisoners in Afghanistan (published in December 2007 in Dari).

In November 2007, ECLAC published the regional report on violence against women. The Spanish version was launched in November 2007, under the title "¡Ni una más! El derecho a vivir una vida libre de violencia en América Latina y el Caribe". In December 2007, ECLAC published a report on the follow-up to Goal 3 of the Millennium Development Goals, including a chapter on violence against women.

Policy influence has been a major component of UNDP's assistance in supporting governments to address gender-based violence in Mozambique, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Mexico, Zimbabwe, and Maldives. In Cambodia, for example UNDP's policy advocacy and support for the development of monitoring indicators on gender equality has resulted in the adoption by the Cambodian government of four Monitoring Indicators on gender equality, one of which relates to domestic violence.

UNIFEM supported initiatives for better data collection and national statistical monitoring on gender-based violence, including in Afghanistan, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Mexico, Morocco, Senegal, and Venezuela. In Afghanistan, UNIFEM supported the development of a database to collect and track service-based data to monitor the 'Strategic Framework for Eliminating Violence against Women'.

ECE's work is undertaken by a Task Force that operates under the framework of the Conference of European Statisticians. The Task Force prepared an assessment of existing surveys and methodology on measuring violence. During 2006-2007, ECE completed the following: a comparative analysis of 25 National Surveys carried out by 17 Member countries<sup>2</sup>, which

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2006.09.gender.htm>

highlighted the differences and commonalities of the methodology used to measure violence against women and a common basis from where it would be possible to develop standard methodology was also identified; eight indicators were identified for sexual, physical and intimate partner violence, and harmful practices while other areas were identified for the development of new indicators, such as sexual harassment, killing of women by intimate partners, psychological and economic intimate partner violence.

As a follow up to the Secretary-General's Study on Violence Against Children, in December 2007, UNICEF supported the development of a new publication on violence against girls, entitled " *From Invisible to Indivisible*" highlighting the recommendations of the Secretary-General's study on violence against children and the study on violence against women.

In December 2007, UNFPA published *A Holistic Approach to the Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting*. This document describes the holistic approach utilized by UNFPA - such legal and policy reform, national capacity building and working at the community level – in its FGM/C abandonment programmes, and gives a brief sampling of the organization's country level experiences.

In 2007, UNFPA, in collaboration with the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW), developed a model for costing violence against women, to be used for Bangladesh, Uganda, and Morocco. Data collection has commenced.

WHO is continuing the analysis from the database of the WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women. Results of research on the obstetric complications of female genital mutilation from 6 African countries were published.. WHO has continued to provide technical support to Member States on request, including on data collection and violence against women surveys, health sector response, and primary prevention.

The World Bank "The Measuring Empowerment in Four Countries" programme is piloting a mixed-method (qualitative and quantitative) approach to measuring empowerment in different contexts. The study is being implemented in Ghana, Ethiopia, Jamaica, and Bangladesh. The study focuses on the empowerment of women, and the questionnaire that is administered to women only includes questions on domestic violence and violence against women outside of the home. In Bangladesh, the partner for the implementation of the programme was the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

In partnership with Gender Links, UNIFEM in its capacity as Chair of the Southern African Gender and Human Rights Advisory Group, promoted the development of score-cards to measure progress in ending violence against women in the context of the SADC Gender and Development Protocol.

#### *February 2008 to September 2008*

In September 2008, DAW sent a questionnaire to Member States on measures undertaken to address violence against women, for the purpose of obtaining information for the Secretary-General's database on violence against women (A/RES/61/143, para. 19).

DAW co-sponsored, together with the Permanent Missions of Canada and of Finland to the United Nations, the presentation of the book "Violence against Women: An International Perspective" which presents comparative results for nine of the countries which have implemented the International Violence Against Women Survey (IVAWS).

ECA, in partnership with the African Union (AU) and development partners, has set up the Network on Gender-Based Violence/Violence against Women (GBV/VAW), in Addis Ababa. Its members include Regional Economic Communities, the Swedish, Finnish, Danish and South African Embassies, United Nations agencies and civil society organizations. The Network is

undertaking the following activities: review global and regional legal commitments on GBV/VAW and analyse obligations by States; review and recommend for strengthening AU reporting frameworks to facilitate monitoring progress and improve performance in implementation of commitments; compile good practices in addressing GBV/VAW in Africa.

ECA's African Center for Gender and Social Development (ACGSD/UNECA), in collaboration with UNDP regional gender programme for Africa, developed the African Women's Rights Observatory (AWRO) website. Violence against women is one of the three thematic areas covered by the AWRO. The AWRO was officially launched on 28 August 2008, at the Conference of Ministers of Gender and Women's Affairs in Addis Abba.

ECLAC initiated the development of a Gender Observatory, as a tool to support governments in analysing regional realities, monitoring gender equality policies and international agreements, and providing technical support and training to national mechanisms for the advancement of women, as well as to national statistical agencies in countries that request such support. Violence against women is one of four main issues of concern of the Observatory.

The United Nations Statistical Commission, at its thirty-ninth session held in February 2008 in New York, approved the formation of a "Friends of the Chair" group to conduct an in-depth technical review of proposed indicators to measure violence against women, and requested the group to report back to the Commission at its fortieth session. The work of the group is based on the proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on Indicators to Measure Violence against Women, held in Geneva, Switzerland, in October 2007. The group consists of representatives from eight Member States (Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Ghana, Italy, Mexico and Thailand), and is chaired by Mexico. Observers include representatives from United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the World Health Organization. The Statistical Division is providing substantive and technical support to the Group.

In March 2008, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, submitted to the Human Rights Council her reports on indicators on violence against women and State response, and on her country missions to Algeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Ghana. She also addressed the Council within the framework of the review, rationalization and improvement of the mandate on violence against women, renewed by resolution 7/24. The Special Rapporteur conducted two official visits, in May 2008 to the Republic of Tajikistan, and in July 2008 to Moldova, the latter jointly with the Special Rapporteur on Torture. At the 11th session of the Human Rights Council, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, presented a report (A/HRC/11/2) which, inter alia, focused on the issue of ongoing practice of killing of "witches".

UNODC continued to support, and conducted research related to trafficking in persons, including on the nature of trafficking and national and regional responses to trafficking.

UNICEF's MICS 3 (Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey) collected in 2007 for the first time information on attitudes towards domestic violence and child disciplining. MICS also includes modules on female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage (information is available at [www.childinfo.org](http://www.childinfo.org)). UNICEF Swaziland, in partnership with the Centres for Disease Control, published a study on sexual abuse of girls, which will be replicated in other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The West and Central Africa UNICEF Regional Office produced an analysis on gender-based violence and its effects on HIV. The report provides strong evidence that chronic violence can lead to HIV risk behaviours which are not necessarily chosen in a conscious way.

UNAIDS undertook two reviews focusing on violence against women and AIDS: (1) a review of the gender policies of the three major AIDS financing institutions – the World Bank, the US President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) – with a view towards strengthening harmonization and coordination of approaches; and (2) a review of over 50 national strategic plans on AIDS to ascertain the degree to which gender issues were integrated.

UNIFEM supported the issuance of two publications to raise awareness about the linkages between violence against women and HIV, namely “The Multiple Faces of the Intersections Between HIV and Violence Against Women” and “Women, Violence and HIV&AIDS: Exploring Interfaces”.

Through the UNFPA and UNICEF Trust Fund and Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) a quarterly monitoring tool was developed to capture achievements of each output under the Joint Programme, the lessons learned and challenges; the contribution of each output towards achievement of the outcomes in the Joint Programme was developed; a baseline matrix was drafted to guide the collection of baseline information and was circulated to all countries for adaptation.

A technical consultation was undertaken by the inter-agency team (UNFPA, the IRC and UNHCR) to pilot test the Gender-based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) in Uganda in May 2008.

In May 2008, UN-INSTRAW undertook an assessment of gender-based violence in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Noel in the Dominican Republic. The study revealed that there was very little attention to, or provision in post-disaster reconstruction efforts to address gender-based violence, particularly among residents of temporary shelters.

As part of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI), UNICRI published the proceedings of a PNI workshop on "Eliminating violence against women: forms, strategies and tools" on the occasion of the seventeenth session of the United Nations Commission On Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, 14 April 2008). The publication is available at the following link:

[http://www.unicri.it/wwk/publications/books/docs/eliminating\\_violence.pdf](http://www.unicri.it/wwk/publications/books/docs/eliminating_violence.pdf)

FAO encouraged the disaggregation of data by sex and age in the agricultural and rural sectors.

WHO continued to analyse data from the Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women, specifically on emotional abuse and mental health issues, child sexual abuse and risk and protective factors for intimate partner violence.

UNESCO’s Culture Sector compiles and maintains a trafficking statistics database focusing on Asia and other regions, available on-line at: <http://203.146.233.12/culture/WebTraffickingV2/>. It has linked databases with information related to trafficking, rates of HIV/AIDS incidence, interventions and their coverage, and the distribution of at-risk populations (migration, population in sex work) to discover, record and map related trends.

A World Bank report on Bangladesh dated March 2008 on gender and social transformation entitled “Whispers to Voices” (2008) examined among other aspects, attitudes towards and extent of gender based violence (GBV). As a follow up, the Nordic Trust Fund (NTF) is supporting work in Bangladesh that addresses GBV by exploring the social and economic impacts of women’s employment and its possible linkages to violence against women.

*October 2008 to February 2009*

DAW worked to finalize the development of the Secretary-General's database on violence against women and the website for the database, as well as to coordinate the launch of the database. It also followed up with Member States in order to obtain further responses to the questionnaire for inclusion in the database. DAW followed up with Member States in order to obtain further responses to the questionnaire for inclusion in the database.

OSAGI is collaborating with the Council of Europe to prepare a "Joint study on trafficking in organs and tissues, including trafficking in human beings for the purpose of removal of organs". A second round of consultations with partners was held in October 2008 in Strasbourg.

OHCHR finalized a study on the current jurisprudence relating to the prosecution of rape, both under international humanitarian law and human rights law, entitled "*Prosecution of Rape under the Formal Justice Mechanisms*". This and another expert paper on "Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights" were launched in December 2008, in Geneva, with the participation of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. A case study, "*The Bosnian Experience*", which analyzes the experience of women victims of violence accessing justice in a post-conflict society was prepared.

In follow-up to an expert group meeting of April 2007 on regional strategies for implementing the recommendations from the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women, ESCAP posted on its website a sub-regional study documenting harmful traditional and cultural practices as forms of violence against women in South Asia. The study covers Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

UNICRI continued to implement a second programme to counter trafficking in human beings from Nigeria to Italy, 2008/2009. As part of this programme, UNICRI has commissioned a research team to conduct a research and analyze the social interventions carried out in favor of the Nigerian minor victims of trafficking in Italy.

The World Bank's Post-Conflict Fund (FCF) is supporting a "*Risk Assessment of Schools in Afghanistan and Identification for Mitigatory Action*". The objective is to assess the specific local context of attacks on schools, teachers and students (attacks primarily target females) and to identify sustainable models for community involvement in protection of schools. This research is being conducted by CARE International.

ECA's African Centre for Gender and Social Development supported the Sixth African Development Forum (ADF) on *Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and Ending Violence Against Women in Africa*, held in October 2008. Participants from Member States, research institutions, academia, civil society, donor communities and other stakeholders discussed, among other topics, ways for tackling violence against women. The ADF adopted a Consensus Statement with and Plan of Action with 3 pillars, one of which is on violence against women. (see: <http://www.uneca.org/adfvi/ConsensusStatement.asp>). In follow-up to the ADF Consensus Statement and Plan of Action, ECA is designing a methodology to collect data on violence against women.

UNECE launched its website on violence against women ([www.unece.org/stats/gender/vaw/](http://www.unece.org/stats/gender/vaw/)). The site includes copies of national surveys and publications, an overview of terms and definitions, general resources and reports, statistical data and useful links.

In order to define the basic set of indicators necessary for the functioning of the ECLAC Gender Observatory, two technical meetings were organized, with representatives from National Machineries for the Advancement of Women/Gender Affairs and National Statistical Offices of Latin America (Aguascalientes (Mexico), in October 2008) and the Caribbean (Port-of-Spain, in December 2008). Reports of both meetings were approved at the Forty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, December 2008).

UNECE, together with the World Bank Institute, published a 15 minute video on gender-based violence and issues in its measurement ([www.unece.org/stats/video/violence.htm](http://www.unece.org/stats/video/violence.htm)).

ESCAP held an expert group meeting on “Gender statistics and the use of violence against women indicators in support of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA)”, in October 2008. It aimed at building partnerships between national statistical offices (NSOs) and national women’s machineries (NWMs) in the development and use of statistics in policymaking, implementation and monitoring.

UNIFEM provided support to national surveys on gender-based violence in Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Uganda, as well as the second iteration of the Cambodian Gender Assessment, including in regard to violence against women.

UNHCR has included a section in the Health Information System (HIS) to collect data on injuries reported at health centers, disaggregated by age and sex.

UNHCR has conducted in-depth assessments on vulnerabilities and at risk groups in refugee camps in Kenya and Tanzania. Protection interventions have been developed to combat sexual exploitation of children.

In follow up to the recommendations of the UN Study on Violence against Children, and in preparation of the World Congress III, UNICEF continued to support research, studies and data collection on different forms of violence against girls, including in collaboration with other stakeholders, such as ILO-IPEC, IOM, ECPAT, and Save the Children.

UNFPA published the technical report of the Global Consultation on female genital mutilation/cutting, held in Addis Ababa, in 2007.

UN-HABITAT has commissioned the preparation of a publication “Using Planning to Combat Violence Against Women”, geared towards stakeholders dealing with women’s rights, urban planning and human settlements.

#### *March 2009 to September 2009*

The Secretary-General’s database on violence against women was launched by the Deputy Secretary-General at an event convened by DAW on 5 March 2009. The database provides the first “one-stop site” for information on measures undertaken by Member States to address violence against women, including their: legal frameworks; plans, strategies and policies; institutional mechanisms; preventative measures, including awareness-raising, and training; and services for victims/survivors.

In 2009, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, of the Human Rights Council focused her annual report to the Council on the “Political Economy of Women’s Human Rights”. The report flags how the current political economic order profoundly affects both the prevalence of violence against women and efforts to eliminate it; and it provides recommendations to governments and non-state actors on ways to enhance women’s enjoyment of the full range of their rights, as a key strategy for the prevention, the protection and prosecution of violence against women. The Special Rapporteur also submitted to the Council her reports on missions undertaken to Tajikistan, Saudi Arabia, and the Republic of Moldova in 2008. OHCHR and UNFPA have supported the Special Rapporteur on violence against women (SRVAW) in presenting to the Human Rights Council (June 2009) a critical review of the 15 years of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, which takes stock of the achievements of 15 years of work on the VAW mandate which at the time of the review had produced an impressive collection of 14 annual reports, 32 country visit

reports, 11 communication reports comprising many communications to and from Governments on individual and group cases and several other pieces of research.

ESCAP issued a publication on commercial sexual exploitation in the Pacific region, entitled "Pacific Perspectives on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse of Children and Youth", providing an analysis of the cultural, political, economic and social aspects of the commercial sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, as well as its root causes and consequences in the Pacific.

UNICEF undertook in-depth research into the social dynamics of abandonment of harmful practices and social norms, in collaboration with partners. This research provided new insights and increased the understanding of social norms in perpetuating different forms of harmful traditional practices, including Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), child marriage, household violence and other forms of violence, such as sexual exploitation and trafficking.

In Ethiopia and Djibouti, HIV/AIDS vulnerability assessments by UNHCR were conducted for high risk groups in refugee camps. The assessments substantiated that survival sex takes place in the refugee camps. The recommendations included immediate protection measures for children who have been sexually exploited and abused, as well as setting up peer led systems, HIV/AIDS and health education to targeted groups.

The research study supported by UNFPA and conducted by the International Center for Research on Women on "*Costing Intimate Partner Violence in 3 identified countries*" was finalized and a colloquium was organised in Washington DC, in May 2009, at the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW) to make the findings of the study public.

Analysis and publications have been completed on the basis of the WHO *Multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence*, such as on risk and protective factors for intimate partner violence across 15 settings, partner violence and reproductive health (associations with abortion, miscarriage and unintended pregnancy). Local teams in Kiribati and Solomon Islands, supported by AUSAID and others, completed surveys, using WHO methods and support, and they are using the results for policy and programmatic responses.

UNECE participated in the "International Conference on a Joint Approach to Family Violence: legislation, indicators, enforcement" organized by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, European Commission, Soros Foundation, UNECE, World Bank Institute (WBI) and the Center for Research of Democratic Processes. UNECE provided a presentation on international initiatives to develop indicators on violence against women.

UNSD commenced a trial compilation of national statistics on violence against women, pursuant to the Statistical Commission's request in its decision 40/110 on gender statistics (2009).

Implementation of the project "Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women" was commenced, being coordinated by ECLAC in collaboration with the other four regional commissions, the UN Division for the Advancement of Women and the UN Statistics Division, as observers. A meeting was held in May, in Geneva, in order to coordinate the main activities of the project. The objective of the project is to strengthen national and regional capacity to prevent, sanction and eradicate violence against women, through enhanced statistical data and indicators on violence against women, as well as to create or reinforce knowledge-sharing networks at the regional and interregional levels. The project recognizes the importance of collaboration, participatory action and the sharing of good practices, including the need for Regional Commissions to promote active participation of national machineries for the advancement of women as well as national statistical institutions and civil society.

ECLAC contributed to the proposal on indicators on violence against women which was put forward in the report of the Friends of the Chair to the United Nations Statistical Commission and adopted as an interim set of indicators at the Commission's 40<sup>th</sup> session.

Work continued on the Gender Observatory, coordinated by ECLAC in collaboration with INSTRAW, PAHO, UNDP, UNIFEM and UNFPA together with the technical assistance of the Spanish Agency for International Co-operation (AECID) and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB).

In Romania, UNFPA and the National Agency for Family Protection (NAFP) assisted the East European Institute for Reproductive Health (EEIRH) to develop centralized data collection – the Integrated Information System (IIS) - which allows confidential access to gender-based violence services for survivors.

UN-HABITAT published "*Women's Safety Audits: What Works and Where?*" which provides an international comparative assessment of existing safety audits. Results are intended to influence the development of a set of guidelines for local authorities to refer to, when considering the use of the women's safety audit tool. This report examines best practices, local adaptations, positive and negative outcomes and suggestions for future use of the women's safety audit tool based on a review of the literature as well as surveys and interviews with organizations around the world that have used the tool.

UN-HABITAT also published the "*Global Assessment on Women's safety.*" This assessment was completed in collaboration with the Huairou Commission, Women in Cities International and Red Mujer y Habitat, with a review of tools and strategies promoting women's safety at the global, regional, national and local levels. This has resulted in the creation of a database of close to 200 institutions, local authorities and grassroots initiatives working on women's safety.

With the aim to support the Nigerian National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP), and the National Monitoring Centre on Trafficking in Persons (NMC), UNICRI adapted the Italian National Anti-mafia Bureau (DNA) database – SIDDA 2000 –to the Nigerian legal framework and local context of the country. Technical staff and users of database of NAPTIP were trained on the software. Participants included staff from NAPTIP HQs and 6 Zonal Offices.

UNESCO is involved in several research projects related to violence against women as a member of UNAIDS, including a research project to consolidate existing evidence from the peer-reviewed literature on the intersections between gender-based violence and AIDS epidemic (led by UNFPA in cooperation with the Harvard School of Public Health); and a research project, led by WHO, which focuses on the relation between HIV and intimate partner violence, as well as sexual violence against women.

UNESCO's Regional Office in Santiago was involved in the development of the baseline assessment conducted in Chile as part of the UN joint programming pilot initiative.

*October 2009 to February 2010*

DAW continued to update the Secretary-General's database on violence against women.

A WHO intervention study to identify and respond to women suffering violence during antenatal care has started in 2 countries in sub Saharan Africa.

IOM published a study on *Gender and Labour Migration in Asia* which addresses the impact of labour migration on gender roles and the gendered division of labour in the household in six countries, namely Bangladesh, China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The study covers different migration scenarios (women "independent" migration, men outmigration and parental couples's migration) and highlights how violence, whether of a physical,

psychological, sexual or economic nature, can mark women's migratory experience. IOM also published a study on *Working to Prevent and Address Violence against Migrant Women Workers* which presents the approach IOM adopts towards the protection and empowerment of women migrant workers. The publication seeks to better inform policymakers, practitioners and the public of the vulnerability of women migrant workers and of good practices for the protection of their human rights throughout the labour migration cycle.

A meeting of the Friends of the Chair group, organized by the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía of Mexico and UNSD, took place in Mexico, in December 2009, on statistical indicators on violence against women. The meeting focused on the content of the recommended set of indicators, irrespective of the source of statistics; the list of indicators for statistical surveys on violence against women; and the future development of international statistical guidelines to conduct statistical surveys on violence against women. The Friends of the Chair concluded that the interim set of indicators adopted by the Statistical Commission needed to be expanded and constituted as a core set of nine statistical indicators for measuring violence against women. The full report of the meeting is available at:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/vaw/default.htm>

ECLAC prepared a study analyzing the sources of information available in Latin America and the Caribbean in relation to the set of interim indicators on violence against women, approved by the Statistical Commission at its 40<sup>th</sup> session (2009).

ECLAC prepared an updated version of the regional interagency report on violence against women on the basis of the information available in recent demographic and health surveys. The report was presented as part of the launching of the regional chapter of the Secretary General's Campaign to end violence against women in Guatemala City, in November 2009).

In the framework of the interregional project, ECLAC collaborated with ECE in the development of a proposal for developing and testing a short module questionnaire on violence against women together with a proposal for the accompanying interviewer's guide and training package. Testing of the module is being prepared by two or three pilot countries in each region.

Within the framework of the Observatory on Gender Equality, ECLAC organized a meeting on good practices in public policies which included a panel on violence against women in Santiago, in September 2009.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between ECLAC and the General Attorney of the Public Ministry of Peru toward the transfer of statistical information on violence against women in Peru.

UNDP supported initiatives for better data collection and national and local statistical monitoring on gender based violence in Cambodia, Mauritius, Venezuela, El Salvador, Albania, Kosovo, Serbia. UNDP continues a baseline study on domestic violence prevalence, in Albania; a report on judicial responses to domestic violence was conducted in Kosovo; a research on methods for data gathering on SGBV cases, as well as a compilation of best practices for dealing with perpetrators of domestic violence, and a mapping of existing services provided to victims of SGBV, were initiated in Serbia. A report of a GBV study "An Exploratory Study of GBV in Mongolia: Responses and Implications" was published in January 2010.

UNIFEM supported: a gender-based violence observatory in Guanajuato, Mexico; integrated domestic violence data collection and monitoring systems in the Caribbean, with PAHO and UNFPA; and studies on domestic violence among Romany women (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), violence against women and HIV policies (Mercosur countries) and survivor services (Sierra Leone), with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs and International Rescue Committee.

In October 2009, the “Sakhli Advice Centre for Women”, an NGO and partner of UNHCR in Georgia, published a booklet on *IDPs and the Problem of Violence*, which is based on surveys on sexual and gender-based violence among IDP affected communities.

UNHCR and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are working on a population-based survey to understand the magnitude of sexual and gender-based violence and the barriers to protection and other services among refugee populations.

In December 2009, UNESCO’s Office in Beijing, along with the UN country team, launched a project on “Preventing and Responding to Domestic Violence in China through a Multi-Sectoral Approach”. The project is supported by the UN Trust Fund and coordinated a host of UN agencies and national partners. UNESCO is taking the lead role to conduct baseline surveys in identifying risks and needs in prevention and response to domestic violence; and developing a pilot program for training community leaders in prevention of violence against women.

WHO Regional Office for the Americas (AMRO)/ Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are working on a comparative analysis of existing population-based survey data on violence against women from 13 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In September 2009, UNAIDS helped launch and lead a new initiative to prevent sexual violence against girls, which unites the work of five UN agencies with the Clinton Global Initiative and the US Centers for Disease Control, with a particular emphasis on AIDS affected countries. Six countries have begun data collection and programmatic action to strengthen legal and judicial policies as well as health, child protection and community responses to reduce sexual violence. ILO, through its International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), is carrying out statistical work with a view to producing a global estimate on child domestic work.

The ILO study project on *protecting migrant workers and combating trafficking: Building an information and knowledge base for policy support on international migration in the Gulf Council States* examines the living and working conditions of migrant workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States, in which women domestic workers are a crucial concern. The project is based on a survey on the recruitment of migrant workers, their protection in employment including from all forms of violence, their income earning particulars, and their working and living conditions. It addresses issues concerning treatment at the hands of their employers and also with regard to channels through which they can address their grievances.

UNESCO continued to conduct research on violence against women and its activities under its project to fight human trafficking in Africa.

WHO and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) are working on new estimates of prevalence and health risk of intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence and child sexual abuse for the Global Burden of Disease Study.

#### *March to September 2010*

DAW continued to update the Secretary-General’s database on violence against women. During the ECOSOC High-level segment that took place from 28 June to 2 July 2010, DAW organized a parallel exhibition featuring the Secretary-General’s database on violence against women.

Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences presented a thematic report on reparation for women subjected to violence to the Human Rights Council (June 2010).

The ECLAC Gender Observatory of Gender Equality of Latin America and the Caribbean recollected and analysed national legislation on violence against women.

UNHCR will expand the use of the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) to improve safe data collection, analysis and information, in coordination with International Rescue Committee and UNFPA. The countries where the system will be introduced are: Yemen, DRC, Liberia and Colombia. The system is already in place in a number of countries, including Kenya, Uganda and Sudan.

UNIFEM supported data collection toward the development of effective public policies in Guinea Bissau and Moldova, and supported women's networks in Ecuador to monitor commitments to end violence against women through surveys.

*Global burden of disease:* WHO and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine are continuing work on new global and regional estimates for the prevalence of intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, child sexual abuse, and the health risks and consequences associated with these types of violence.

At the global level, UNDP is working with the Social Science Research Council and other research institutions around the world to establish the Global Center for Research on Gender and Crisis Prevention and Recovery (G-CPR). This initiative will strengthen research and capacity in the field of gender and security, including through the provision of grants to southern research institutions, with a view to informing policy and programming.

ECLAC has pursued the coordination and execution of the interregional project "Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities", in coordination with the other Regional Commissions. Activities that are being carried out are the following: a) five national studies on the prevalence, nature, causes, consequences and repercussions of violence against women, as well as the measures taken by the main stakeholders (Argentina, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago); b) three subregional workshops to enhance the capacity of eradicating violence against women and collect information on the indicators recommended by the Statistical Commission in the Caribbean, South American and Central American countries.; c) establishment of a Confluence wiki-platform to integrate various regional communities of knowledge.

UN-HABITAT and Women in Cities International developed a background document on girls and urbanization for the publication "Because I am a Girl", of the NGO, Plan.

The World Bank's first global study of urban violence, "Violence in the City" (2010), included analysis of gender based violence (GBV) in urban neighborhoods of Port-au-Prince, Haiti; Dili, Timor-Leste; Nairobi, Kenya; Johannesburg, South Africa; and Fortaleza, Brazil. The study reported lifetime sexual violence victimization ranging from 08.% to over 20% in some neighborhoods, with over half of all incidents occurring in public spaces.

*October 2010-February 2011*

In January 2011, UNESCO signed an agreement on the establishment of a Research and Documentation Centre on Women, Gender and Peace-building for the Great Lakes Region, located in Kinshasa (the Democratic Republic of Congo). This Centre is part of UNESCO's programme to promote the human rights of women living in the Great Lakes Region through policy-oriented research, consultations, networking, capacity-building and the promotion of sustainable peace in this region.

UNDP and UNESCO supported the Gender Studies Institute (GSI) based at the Kabul University in Afghanistan to conduct a multi-province research on the nature and forms of gender-based violence within educational institutions in Afghanistan. The research was conducted in 2009 in three Afghan Universities (Kabul, Mazar, and Herat); (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001899/189969e.pdf>). The findings and

recommendations of the research were presented in October 2010 during an advocacy workshop with the Gender Studies Institute, the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health. The objective of the workshop was to raise awareness on gender-based violence among stakeholders and to adopt a Declaration with concrete recommendations to address gender-based violence.

The UNESCO Office in Beirut launched in November 2010, in Lebanon, a study on school-related gender-based violence, expected to be completed in December 2011. The study is funded by the Government of Italy, and implemented within the framework of the project “*Supporting Gender Equality in Education in Lebanon*”, in close collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Education. UNESCO continued to conduct research on violence against women and its activities to fight human trafficking in Africa.

The UNESCO project on “*Transforming the Mainstream: Addressing Structural Gender-related Vulnerabilities to HIV and AIDS*”, initiated in January 2010, strengthened national and international capacities and skills to support gender-transformative strategies that help eliminate the structural gender inequalities that are driving the HIV pandemic. The project includes the dissemination of the main findings of the research conducted in the context of the UNESCO/Social Science Research Council (SSRC) publication entitled “*The Fourth Wave: Violence, Gender, Culture & HIV in the 21st Century*”. More information is available at: <http://blogs.ssrc.org/fourthwave/>

In 2009, the World Bank launched the study “*Risky Business for Poor Women Traders in the Great Lakes Region*”, and the results of the study were captured in a report in January 2011. It identified challenges, including harassment and physical violence against women, and opportunities for cross-border trade between the Eastern Democratic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda, and brought both national and regional technical and political recommendations to key stakeholders.

Support provided by former UNIFEM now part of UN Women for data collection and research provided the basis for informing the development of effective public policies and advocacy initiatives in countries such as Afghanistan, Mexico, Moldova, Morocco, Nigeria, Serbia and Uganda.

UNICRI is participating in the Pilot/Pre-testing survey on violence against women, which is carried out within the work programme of European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). In December 2010, the FRA awarded the contract to the consortium of six partners, which was established for the purpose of this pilot study, led by the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI). UNICRI is responsible for consortium coordination in this study in six Member States – Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Spain. The survey will consist of standardised interviews with a random sample of women concerning their ‘everyday’ experiences of all forms of violence. The data provided by the survey will be crucial for developing and evaluating legislation and policies to fight violence against women. To carry out the Italian component, UNICRI is working with the Council Network Fighting Violence against Women at Municipality of Turin, Italy.

As the result of the concluded program “*Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Minors and Young Women from Nigeria to Italy*” Phase 2, UNICRI adapted a centralized database - the software system SIDDA 2000 of the Italian National Anti-mafia Bureau (DNA) on investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases, to the Nigerian legal framework and context. The new project aims at upgrading the software system SIDDA 2000 and expanding it to all 7 Zonal Offices..

UNFPA is a key member of the Inter-agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security and worked with Task Force Members to develop the global indicators under UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (and which was presented by the UN Secretary General to Security Council Member States in end-October 2010).

In October 2010, UNICEF, the OHCHR and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children, supported by the Government of Sweden, organized a panel discussion on the promotion of better data and research to inform child-sensitive and effective laws, policies and action, where UNICEF presented the results of its forthcoming report on Child Disciplinary Practices at Home.

In 2010, UNICEF in collaboration with Religious for Peace, published the guide *“From Commitment to Action: What Religious Communities Can Do to Eliminate Violence against Children”*, aimed at helping religious communities harness their spiritual, moral and social strengths to prevent, respond to and eliminate violence against children. This was followed up by a discussion, convened by Religious for Peace and UNICEF, in November on the role that religious communities can play in eliminating all forms of violence against children across the work.

The OHCHR Country Office in Mexico has completed the first stage of validation of the indicators on violence against women, involving several stakeholders. The OHCHR supported the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its causes and consequences to conduct three country visits, namely to Algeria (1-10 November), Zambia (6-11 December) and the United States (24 January-8 February 2011). The OHCHR supported the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women in attending the civil society regional consultation for the Asia-Pacific region (January 2011).

A Second Expert Group Meeting on Measuring Violence against Women was organised by UNECE in Geneva (18-19 November 2010) to review the results of the testing of a survey module on violence against women developed by UNECE. The aim of the module is to enable countries to collect a minimum set of information to measure the prevalence of physical, sexual and intimate partner violence. Other regional commissions helped with preparations and participated in the meeting.

The UNECE Gender Statistics Database provides sex-disaggregated data on violence and crime indicators.

UNDP support for data collection, analysis, and research in the ECIS region has covered topics such as: services available to survivors of sexual gender-based violence in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia, the prevalence of domestic violence in Serbia, and an analysis of the legal and policy framework related to domestic violence in Croatia.

In Indonesia, UNDP engaged with the National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) through the project *“TARGET MDGs”* to assist in building the capacity of all stakeholders to monitor progress on the attainment of the MDGs and human development, and create a comprehensive database to be used for policy-related decisions. The partnership has introduced basic tools to assist BAPPENAS in developing a system that looks at gender analysis, as well as data and statistics on violence against women.

ECLAC, in coordination with the other Regional Commissions, has carried out the following activities to implement the interregional project *“Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities”*:

- a) A sub-regional meeting for South America was held in Santiago on 4 and 5 November 2010 to enhance the capacity of eradicating violence against women and collect information on the indicators recommended by the Statistical Commission, attended by representatives of several countries.
- b) A regional seminar to strengthen the use of administrative records on violence against women in the Caribbean was carried out in Trinidad and Tobago, with the participation of representatives from mechanisms for the advancement of women and producers of administrative data to promote arrangements on the construction of unified national registries.

c) Expansion of the knowledge community that uses the protected wiki Confluence platform, especially the National Statistical Offices and National Women(registry available at <http://wiki.cepal.org/>)

d) Construction of a public interregional website that disseminates the knowledge and tools produced by the five Regional Commissions and the Statistical Commission (available at <http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/cepal/>).

*March 2011 to January 2012*

UN Women continued to maintain and update the Secretary-General's database on violence against women. As of 31 January 2012, a total of 119 responses to the questionnaire on violence against women were received and uploaded into the database. In March 2011, UN Women gave a presentation, as a side event during the 55<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women, on how to use the Secretary-General's database on violence against women and the Virtual Knowledge Center to End Violence Against Women and Girls. Participants to the demonstration were delegates of Permanent Missions to the United Nations, officials of Member States' ministries, and non-governmental organizations.

UN Women has expanded the resources available through the Virtual Knowledge Centre (VKC) to End Violence against Women to include a database of 800 tools in 60 languages, including in-depth programming modules on campaigns, health, justice and security sectors.

The UNAIDS Secretariat, together with UN, development partners and civil society, worked to develop a global indicator on "prevalence of recent intimate partner violence", to raise the political awareness accordingly. The indicator has been included in the Global AIDS Response Progress Reporting for 2012 to enable national reporting on violence in the context of HIV.

[http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/document/2011/JC2215\\_Global\\_AIDS\\_Response\\_Progress\\_Reporting\\_en.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/document/2011/JC2215_Global_AIDS_Response_Progress_Reporting_en.pdf)

WHO provided technical support to an interagency convened process led by UN Women, PEPFAR and MEASURE Evaluation to identify one global indicator on gender equality for inclusion in the revised UNGASS list of core indicators. Based on the evidence, technical inputs and advocacy, the indicator "Prevalence of recent intimate partner violence among ever partnered women 15-49" was included. This will require 193 Member States to report data on prevalence of intimate partner violence to UNAIDS as part of Global AIDS Progress Reporting. It is expected that this will serve for countries not only to identify the problem of violence against women, but also put in place prevention interventions in order to show progress over time.

WHO also, with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), has been calculating global and regional prevalence estimates of intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, and childhood sexual abuse for the Global Burden of Disease Study. Final prevalence estimates will be released in 2012. Likewise, systematic reviews have been completed on the associations between violence against women and a range of health effects related to mental health, sexual and reproductive health, injuries and death to be included as risk factors in the Global Burden of Disease Study. These estimates will provide sound evidence of the global health burden of violence against women.

The ECA Series of Meetings on Gender Statistics held in Ghana in November 2011 followed the workshop and included a session on the role of statistical data and indicators to inform policy and actions to prevent, sanction and eradicate violence against women.

ESCWA has implemented the project on "Enhancing Capacities to Eradicate Violence against Women (VAW) through Networking of Local Knowledge Communities" in coordination with all other United Nations Regional Commissions, the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) and the former United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (UNDAW) (now UN Women). This project addresses the need to strengthen the capacity of the countries to regularly and

appropriately measure violence against women in respective regions. Effective policies and programmes to eradicate violence against women need to be planned on the basis of extensive knowledge.

A dedicated website for the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) was launched ([www.gbvims.org](http://www.gbvims.org)) and a Training of Trainers curriculum was developed to expand the roll-out process. Lessons learned on ethical data collection through the GBVIMS are particularly relevant to inform the implementation of the Monitoring Analyses and Reporting Arrangements (MARA, SCR 1960).

WHO supported Mahidol University in Thailand to develop and implement a regional adaptation of a one-week training course based on the manual “Researching violence against women-A practical guide for researchers and activists”. The course addresses the conduct of quantitative and qualitative research and the use of research findings for advocacy and programme development.

As part of the African Gender and Development Index, Phase II, the ECA is supporting 17 countries (Algeria, Botswana, Burundi, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, The Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo and Zambia) to collect data on domestic violence, harmful practices, rape, sexual harassment and trafficking in women. Countries are also tracking government progress in ratifying relevant international conventions; designing and implementing policies and strategies; and in meeting reporting obligations on violence against women.

Under the Child Protection Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group, UNICEF leads a technical working group that is developing guidelines for data collection on violence against children. UNICEF also continues to support data collection on violence against children through the Together for Girls initiative, which is a public and private sector partnership to address sexual violence against girls. The study undertaken in Tanzania was launched in August 2011 by the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children with support from UNICEF and the Centers for Disease Control Prevention (CDC). In Kenya, the results of a similar survey are being analysed, and in Haiti preparations are underway to undertake the survey in early 2012.

In the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), UN Women has continued to support the multi-purpose Centre for women victims of violence by assisting in the development of formats for the data collection.

In June 2011, UNAIDS presented the findings of the “Scorecard on Gender Equality in National HIV Responses”, which monitors country-level progress on implementing the UNAIDS Agenda for Women and Girls. As of December 2011, 93 countries reported data which show that less than one fifth (18 of 93) of countries have national data on the intersection between gender-based violence and HIV; and 40% (38 of 93) of countries’ health sector policies address gender-based violence.

Through the UN Women-spearheaded Partnership for Peace (PfP) Violence Intervention Programme in the Caribbean, statistics from a longitudinal assessment in Grenada show that less than 20% of the men who have gone through the programme return to court as repeat offenders. Even though the programme’s evaluation is currently in progress, the available information suggests that its methods are effective in changing men’s violent behaviours.

The Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (RCM TWGGEW) (co-chaired by ESCAP and UN Women) established a Working Group on Gender Statistics, which includes a focus on VAW statistics.

WHO is also developing an information pack summarizing the evidence for different forms of violence (e.g. intimate partner violence, sexual violence, trafficking, female genital mutilation).

ESCWA reported that an e-learning course delivered by the Development Account Project entitled "Measurement of Violence against Women through Statistical Surveys" was conducted from 26 November to 10 December 2011. The e-learning course focused on the following objectives: 1) enhancing knowledge of the conceptual understanding of pervasiveness of violence against women (VAW), in addition to increasing awareness about the available sources and use and limitation of statistics on VAW; 2) enhancing understanding of the importance and use of the core indicators recommended by the Statistical Commission; 3) enhancing the understanding on how to use the UNECE module as part of a questionnaire developed for a dedicated survey; 4) being able to develop, adapt, translate and pre-test a questionnaire for a survey on VAW; 5) being able to develop an appropriate training curriculum for training of field staff and knowing how to use training materials as developed for the UNECE module; 6) enhancing knowledge on the role of stakeholders to ensure use of statistical data on VAW. The training targeted persons working in different ministries in the ESCWA region.

UNICEF is undertaking secondary analysis of Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data on harmful practices (FGM/C and child marriage) to be published in 2012. The organization has also completed the revision of the research toolkit on children born of sexual violence and survivors.

With the assistance of UN Women, the national machinery for women (MASEF) and the National Statistical Office (ONS) in Mauritania launched the first national survey on the prevalence of violence against women (VAW). This survey will establish a baseline of accurate data that will allow the development of a policy on gender-based violence and provide stakeholders with reliable and relevant information that will help define strategic guidelines in the field of VAW. UN Women also organized for the capacity building of non-governmental organizations in Mauritania, Algeria, and Tunisia on counseling techniques, data collection, and database management improved the ability of counselors to assist women survivors of violence and elaborate relevant periodic reports on gender-based violence based on the collected data.

Following the Pilot/Pre-testing survey on violence against women, carried out within the work programme of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) during 2011, UNICRI, in partnership with IPSOS and HEUNI, is currently working on the FRA Violence Against Women Survey, involving 27 EU countries and 1 accessing country, Croatia. The survey will consist of 1,500 standardised interviews in each country concerning experiences of violence against women. This is the first survey carried out in the 28 countries. The data provided by the survey will be crucial for comparative analysis, for scientifically based information on the extension of violence against women and for developing and evaluating legislation and policies to fight violence against women. The project will end in November 2012.

The international partnership "Together for Girls", to which WHO is a member, conducts national surveys to document sexual violence in a number of countries, promotes evidence-based programming to address sexual violence and has developed a strategy to increase global advocacy and public awareness. WHO contributes through technical guidance on survey development and implementation and capacity building as a follow-up of the surveys. Two research papers were published in 2011 from the WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence database, one showing the increased risk of suicide attempts among women who experienced intimate partner violence, and the other showing the risk factors for intimate partner violence across 15 sites. The WHO multi-country study database continues to be analyzed, providing evidence of the risk factors and health effects of violence against women.

In May 2011, UNODC Viet Nam, in cooperation with relevant national authorities, published a survey report on law enforcement practices and legal support available to victims of domestic violence. It presents information on what kind of action the police undertook when an incident of domestic violence was reported, how they treated the victims and what the result of the police intervention was. It is expected that the findings of the surveys will play a crucial role in

determining existing gaps in Viet Nam's response to domestic violence and plan future activities and initiatives to address those gaps.

ECLAC reported that the Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean has developed the indicator "Women's deaths at the hands of their intimate partner or former partner", reported on by 15 countries in 2010. The office made contact with electoral bodies, judicial bodies and public prosecutor's offices with a view to promoting greater synergies between producers and users of statistical information and administrative records, such as data on violence against women. As part of technical assistance provided through the Observatory, in August 2011 support was given in Argentina for the development of an Observatory on human rights and indicators on VAW. The Observatory is available online in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish ([www.cepal.org/oig](http://www.cepal.org/oig)).

The African Women's Rights Observatory (AWRO), launched by the ECA in 2007, was presented at the 7th session of the Committee on Women and Development (CWD), held in May, 2011. The 44 member states present during the session commended the initiative and moreover, have committed to appoint focal persons in order to provide data on a timely basis.

During the 5<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee on Women held from 19 to 21 December 2011 at the UN house in Lebanon, a session was dedicated to discussing the issue of violence against women (VAW), and the main findings and recommendations of ESCWA's Regional Study on Violence against women included: 1) the enactment of special laws to criminalize the acts of VAW ; 2) provision of services for the protection of victims of VAW and their psychological, social and physical rehabilitation; and 3) initiation of nation-wide campaigns to raise awareness about the negative effects of VAW and sensitize the public at large.

In India, a 2011 World Bank report entitled "Poverty and Social Exclusion in India" explores the association between domestic violence and health outcomes for women and their children. An upcoming gender study in Brazil will analyze gender equality and the impact of several home-grown policies and programs on protection of human rights and gender-based violence prevention in particular.

ECA produced a synthesis report of studies conducted in Cameroon, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia which provides an overview of violence against women (VAW) in each country, the scale and prevalence of different forms of VAW, its causes and consequences. It also identifies gaps in knowledge and data collection and gives particular attention to good practices in addressing VAW.

The UNAIDS Secretariat is a member and supports the innovative public-private partnership, "Together for Girls", to end sexual violence against girls, which has initiated additional studies in Kenya and Zimbabwe, to increase awareness on violence.

UNFPA developed and rolled out the compendium of case studies on engaging men and boys in gender equality and gender-based violence programmes in Africa and Asia.

In 2011, according to most recent data available, UNHCR and partners received reports of 6,218 incidents of SGBV in refugee camps, and 4,868 incidents among urban refugees.

ECLAC prepared a user guide to promote and support the use of the Wiki Confluence. As the project entered its final phase, ECLAC began exploring the possibility to make the Wiki platform public in the future. It is available at <http://wiki.cepal.org/>

ECLAC also, in coordination with the other Regional Commissions such as ECA, finalized in December 2011 the implementation of the interregional project "Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities" and undertook the following activities:

- a) The development and testing of an international questionnaire on violence against women to be applied as a stand-alone or to be integrated as a module in population-based surveys, which contributed to the development of indicators proposed by the Friends of the Chair of the President and approved by the UN Statistical Commission at its 40<sup>th</sup> session;
- b) The organization of an international seminar in Peru in May 2011 on Gender Violence administrative registers;
- c) An international seminar in Ethiopia in October 2011 which resulted in recommendations including the establishment, through the UNiTE Campaign, of a platform to support the creation of national working groups on VAW and the identification of national focal points to link national initiatives on VAW with the ECA; and
- d) The organization of a meeting on measuring violence against women in the context of the XII International Meeting on Gender Statistics in Mexico in October 2011.

*March 2012- January 2013*

UNRWA maintains records for referral and case management of GBV survivors, while efforts are made to consolidate best practices, including by organizing a meeting which convened focal points on GBV and referral for discussion of best practices.

UNHCR field operations continued to collect and analyze data on sexual and gender-based violence incidents in collaboration with partners, according to UNHCR and interagency guidelines and principles. However, SGBV remains widely under-reported and thus it is estimated that the number of known cases represents only a fraction of actual cases. UNHCR is working to strengthen and harmonize data collection on SGBV by rolling out the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) in selected operations in 2012, including in Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Chad.

The Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, supported by ECLAC, continues the analysis of homicide penalization in the region; the analysis of specific laws and policies on violence against women; and the identification of registers on femicide. ECLAC also supports the Central American Court of Justice in the creation of a Central American Regional Observatory against gender-based Violence.

UNODC released the "*Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*" that revealed an increase in the number of girl victims, who make up two thirds of all trafficked children. Girls constitute 15 to 20 per cent of the total number of all detected victims. The vast majority of trafficked persons are women, about 55 to 60 per cent of victims detected globally and the total proportion of women and girls together soars to about 75 per cent.

WHO supports additional countries in the Western-Pacific Region, including Cambodia and Lao PDR, to conduct population-based surveys on violence against women, using the WHO multi-country study methodology.

WHO, PEPFAR, UNFPA, UN Women and the University of British Columbia convened a panel on "GBV and HIV linkages: Taking stock of the evidence and setting an implementation research agenda" at the International AIDS Conference in Washington DC in July 2012.

WHO, in partnership with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and the Medical Research Council in South Africa, is finalizing global and regional estimates of prevalence of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence, drawing upon up to date data from 90 countries. Estimates of the health impacts of violence against women are also being produced.

Two research papers, from the WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence database, examine the risk and protective factors for intimate partner violence among young women (15-24 years old) and the association between intimate partner violence and induced abortion, respectively.

A randomized controlled trial of a counseling-empowerment intervention in antenatal care settings is being supported by WHO in two countries in Southern Africa. South Africa has already completed the research phase and is currently preparing for the randomized controlled trial. This intervention has been shown to be effective in other settings but will be tested in a low resource, high HIV prevalence setting for the first time.

WHO held consultations among researchers from different parts of the world on interventions research for addressing violence against women in health care settings in order to identify common tools, methodologies and ethical considerations for undertaking such research. As outcomes of the meeting, an international network of researchers conducting interventions was launched and a handbook of interventions research will also be developed.

Two WHO systematic reviews of prevalence and risk factors of violence against sex workers and its links to HIV were finalized and submitted for publication. A recommendation to address violence against women was integrated into WHO Guidelines for Sex Workers released in December 2012. Further information available at: <http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/violence/en/index.html>; [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/en/)

UNFPA supported the UN Special Rapporteur on VAW (SRVAW) on the global research relating to the interpretation and implementation of the international law principle of the due diligence obligations of States in the promotion and protection of women's human rights in general and to a life free of violence in particular.

UNFPA, supported by AusAID, has carried out research on the sexual and reproductive health needs of women with a disability in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tonga, and carried out a study on prevalence and women's health, in Samoa, in Republic of Marshall Islands, Cook Islands, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and Nauru. It also supported data collection in the Central American region, in collaboration with INGO Ipas. The project **Comprehensive security for women, with an emphasis on sexual violence: Campaign to combat impunity related to sexual violence** is implemented in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua and it proposes recommendations on data collection and indicators monitoring.

UNFPA and UNICEF completed the inception phase of a joint global evaluation of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM/C.

UNAIDS supported countries to collect data and report on the proportion of ever-married or partnered women aged 15-49 who experienced physical or sexual violence from a male intimate partner in the past 12 months. This was reported for the first time in the 2012 UNAIDS Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic [http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/epidemiology/2012/gr2012/20121120\\_UNAIDS\\_Global\\_Report\\_2012\\_en.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/epidemiology/2012/gr2012/20121120_UNAIDS_Global_Report_2012_en.pdf)

The Violence Against Children Survey part of the Together for Girls Initiative (including UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, UNAIDS and WHO as partners) has collected prevalence of and circumstances surrounding violence, targeting females and males aged 13-24, and has already been completed in Kenya, Haiti and Zimbabwe. Results were released in Zimbabwe and Kenya, in May and November 2012, respectively. The results will be released in Haiti, in early 2013.

UNAIDS produced two publications on transgender people and HIV which highlighted the extremely high prevalence of HIV amongst transgender persons (30 – 38% in Argentina, 10 – 42% in Asia), and the fact that violence against transgender men and women is a significant risk factor for them both in terms of contracting HIV as well as deterring them from accessing health and justice services.

UNDP has supported a number of data collection initiatives to support planning, including: research on bottlenecks in the justice chain in the Democratic Republic of Congo; a mapping of specialized services in Serbia; monitoring of cases presented to the Legal Help Centres in Afghanistan; action-oriented research on gaps and issues in accessing justice in Pakistan; a readiness assessment for institutions delivering services for HIV and GBV in Papua New Guinea; and a study in Panama on the "...Inter institutional obstacles, conducts and attitudes that hinder the effective implementation of domestic and sexual violence laws and most vulnerable population." UNDP has supported the development of a methodology for the economic costs of gender-based violence in the family context in Kyrgyzstan as well as conducted research on the vulnerability of women affected by HIV and GBV; and provided technical support to Ministry of Women's Affairs to conduct the Feasibility Study on One Stop Service Centers (OSSC) with UNICEF and UNFPA.

UNDP has also worked in Thailand to improve the the management of VAWG data system across responsible agencies and produced a report "Dataset according to Violence Against Women/Girls (VAWG) Indicators and data cooperation mechanism in two pilot provinces" on its use; produced cutting-edge findings on men's experiences, attitudes and use of violence including comprehensive cross-country comparable data on men's violence perpetration for the first time in the Asia Pacific region under the *P4P* programme; and is developing a joint report to obtain reliable and relevant data on the prevalence and forms of gender based violence in selected countries in the Caribbean to feed into a baseline study which will help formulate evidence-based conclusions and recommendations for policy and programmatic responses on legal aid for women, supported through the UNDP Region Service Center in Latin America and the Caribbean.

UNDP supported a baseline survey on determining population knowledge, attitude and perception about the prevention and prosecution of SGBV in Liberia in the HUB region where legal and protection services will be provided from 2013.

UNFPA and UNHCR are in the process of supporting the Ministry of Gender to develop a GBV Information Management System. The GBV IMS will be modelled on the global GBV IMS which is already being piloted in several countries. The work will be supported by the Global IMS surge team and locally by the Liberia Institute for Geo- Statics and Information (LISGIS). The system aims to harmonise all existing data sources on GBV and strengthen systems for storage and dissemination.

UNICEF is continuing work on secondary analyses of MICS and DHS data on FGM/C and child marriage to be published in separate publications in 2013. UNICEF is undertaking global evaluations of its work in emergency and development contexts to address violence, as well as providing technical and financial support to an interagency action research project on the functioning and effectiveness of community based child protection mechanisms. Under the Child Protection Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group, UNICEF leads a technical working group that is developing guidelines for data collection on violence against children. Focused support is also being provided to countries in East and Southern Africa to improve M&E systems related to violence prevention and response in collaboration with governments. At the global level, data analysis (drawing largely on MICS and DHS) is being undertaken with the Population Council to determine the markers of vulnerability that make children more susceptible to various forms of violence. UNICEF has also contributed to the following publications: Ethical principles, dilemmas and risks in collecting data on violence against children: a review of available literature ([http://www.childinfo.org/files/Childprotection\\_EPDRCLitReview\\_final\\_lowres.pdf](http://www.childinfo.org/files/Childprotection_EPDRCLitReview_final_lowres.pdf)); Inter-Agency Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Response; (<http://cpwg.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Minimum-standards-for-child-protection-in-humanitarian-action.pdf>); Protection of children of children from violence: a synthesis of evaluation findings ([http://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/index\\_66192.html](http://www.unicef.org/evaldatabase/index_66192.html)).

OHCHR published a Guide on indicators for human rights which integrates indicators and methodological tools in relation to violence against women; and supported fact-finding missions to Mali and Commissions of Inquiry on Syria which, inter alia, look into violence against women including sexual violence.

In 2012 UN Women supported data collection efforts in Uruguay, Lao PDR, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mexico, Morocco, Zimbabwe, Timor Leste, and Viet Nam – looking at causes, prevalence, and specific types of violence that require tailored interventions. For example, in Bosnia and Herzegovina UN Women, UNFPA, the Gender Equality Agency and BiH Statistics Agency conducted a first ever Prevalence Survey on domestic violence and violence against women. In Mexico, the study *Femicide Violence: Characteristics, Trends and New Expressions at the state level 1985-2010*, in collaboration with INMUJERES, the Congress and Academia was produced. In Viet Nam, UN Women commissioned a costing study estimating the economic impact of domestic violence against women at the household and macroeconomic levels and a report on Masculinities and GBV in collaboration with UNFPA. In Nepal, UN Women with UNFPA and the Enabling State Programme/ Department for International Development (ESP/ DFID) commissioned a study to track GBV cases to gain a better understanding of how the country's systems respond to reported cases.

UN Women's flagship programme, Safe Cities for Women, is operating in 13 countries to develop models of urban spaces free from violence against women and girls. Five cities (Cairo, Delhi, Kigali, Port Moresby and Quito) are applying an impact evaluation methodology to contribute a solid evidence basis for what works. Cities are using various data collection methods, for example: multi-media and smart phone technology in Rio's favelas; engendering of existing survey instruments in the Municipal Observatories of Quito; and institutionalization of safety audits in Cairo.

UN Women continues to manage the Secretary-General's Database on Violence against Women, the first-ever, central repository on government measures to address the issue. As of 31st December 2012, the Secretary-General's Database contained information on over 180 countries with 132 Member States having made formal submissions.

## **TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

*Baseline July 2007*

DPKO gender units support regional and national initiatives to respond to gender-based violence, for example by working with national machineries for the advancement of women as is the case in Haiti, Timor-Leste, Kosovo and Burundi. DPKO civilian police advisers in missions assist local police in crime prevention and investigation.

A regional training workshop conducted by DAW in Bangkok, Thailand, 2006 on follow-up to concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, included violence against women as one of the three areas of focus. DAW also has a programme of support to countries emerging from conflict (Sierra Leone, Liberia, Haiti and Afghanistan) to enhance their capacity for implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Beijing Platform for Action. Violence against women is regularly addressed under the framework of this programme.

Successful collaboration between DPKO and civilian police advisers has resulted in the establishment of special units within police stations to deal with violence against women, provision of private spaces for women to report gender-based violence, and establishment of safe houses for women victims of violence. Drawing from the experience in Sierra Leone, family

support units have been established in Liberia. UNIFEM also supports the creation of specialised institutions, such as police gender desks.

ECA supports Member States, at their request, and undertakes capacity-building activities for non-governmental organizations on women's human rights. ECA supports training workshops on women's human rights, with a focus also on violence against women, in collaboration with partners from governments, United Nations entities and civil society. Examples include a regional training workshop on women's human rights in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in 2003; and a national training workshop on gender mainstreaming in Uganda, in 2004.

UNDP supports and undertakes the development of training modules for policy makers, law enforcement agencies and communities aimed at addressing violence against women, and contributes to capacity development at national and local levels.

In its programming to end violence against women, UNIFEM works to support and build the capacity of duty bearers to fulfil their responsibilities to promote and protect women's human rights, including the right to be free from violence, with primary focus on the judiciary, law enforcement officials, parliamentarians, government ministries, legal practitioners, and departments of statistics.

DAW convenes training activities and workshops on women's human rights for government officials, judicial officers and representatives of civil society, at national and regional level. For example, DAW has convened judicial colloquia on the application of international human rights law at the domestic level in Santiago, Chile, 2005, Nassau, The Bahamas, 2004, Arusha, Tanzania, 2003, Bangkok, Thailand, 2002 and Vienna, Austria, 1999, which have also addressed the issue of violence against women. Events such as the foregoing serve to highlight legislative and judicial approaches in addressing violence against women, provide opportunities for exchanging experiences and enhancing cooperation among different stakeholders in efforts to eliminate violence against women.

The Department of Political Affairs (DPA) missions assist governments in preparation for reporting under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women. UNOGBIS assisted the Government of Guinea-Bissau with the preparation of, and advised on the content of, its initial report under the Convention.

As part of its regional efforts to strengthen governmental capacity to deal with trafficking in persons in West and Southern Africa, UNODC has provided legislative assistance, trained officials, and supported regional coordination. A UNODC sub-regional project on juvenile justice that covers Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt includes components that target girl victims of crime. National projects in Colombia, Brazil, Lebanon, Vietnam, Philippines, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Moldova, Albania, Benin, Togo, Nigeria and South Africa assist Member States in implementing the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, including training initiatives.

ESCAP undertakes capacity-building activities for more effective programme planning by governments and civil society organizations for achieving gender equality and health promotion, including addressing HIV/AIDS issues, human trafficking, and combating commercial sexual exploitation of children in Asia and the Pacific. It promotes strengthening of women's national machineries at the governmental level and serves as a facilitator in building linkages among government, civil society and development partners. ESCAP also undertakes training activities, such as the sub-regional training workshop on elimination of violence against women in partnership with men, New Delhi (2003).

UNFPA supports and advocates for the integration of training on gender-based violence into the curricula of school teachers, healthcare providers, the police, the judiciary, planners and statisticians.

Much of UNICEF's work on gender-based violence focuses on capacity-building, with all regions increasingly prioritizing this aspect, as well as the development of a protective environment. Emphasis is placed on training of the police, the judiciary, and teachers. For example, both the West and Central Africa region and the East and Southern Africa region have developed strategies on gender-based violence and are working on capacity-building of UNICEF staff, partners and other actors to prevent and respond to gender-based violence. Training materials have been developed for UNICEF staff and partners on gender-based violence.

WFP, in collaboration with UNICEF and Save the Children/UK designed, developed and implemented a regional training initiative in Southern Africa in 2002/2003 on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse for almost 5,000 staff from the United Nations, non-governmental organizations, government, and commercial partners, including truck drivers involved in food distribution. The training materials were reviewed in 2004 to reflect lessons learned and feedbacks from country offices. In collaboration with Relief International, WFP implemented a food-supported training programme on fuel-efficient stove-making that aimed at tackling sexual and gender-based violence in North Darfur by reducing the need for, and the time women spend outside camps collecting firewood.

In 2004 UNICRI prepared and tested a training manual to combat trafficking in human beings in peace operations, which targeted peace support operations' personnel deployed in the Balkans. In 2006, within the framework of the project "Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) and Peace-Support Operations (PSOs): Pre-Deployment/ In-Service Training Programme for International Law-Enforcement Personnel", UNICRI updated the training manual and carried out three training sessions, targeting, in particular, police officers deployed or to be deployed in peace-support missions through the South-East European region. The courses involved a total of 35 participants from 17 countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands and United Kingdom).

Throughout 2003-04, technical cooperation activities (e.g. training of law enforcement officials and NGO staff, creation of National Monitoring Center on Trafficking in Human Beings, pilot police cooperation activities, signature of a Memorandum of Understanding, between the Italian National Anti-mafia Bureau and the Nigerian Attorney General, to establish and improve cooperation on trafficking in persons and other related organized crimes) were implemented within the framework of the UNICRI Programme of Action against trafficking, targeting the trafficking of women from Nigeria into Italy for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

UNICRI also developed training courses for immigration and border police in Costa Rica to strengthen their capacity to address cases of trafficking in children for sexual exploitation. As a follow-up to the programme of action against trafficking in minors for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, UNICRI is currently carrying out in Costa Rica specialized training for judges and prosecutors and hotline operators, in collaboration with Fundaci3n Paniamor.

Furthermore, UNICRI developed a multi-disciplinary training manual for all the stakeholders involved in preventing and tackling trafficking in minors in Thailand and three major training courses took place. In Ukraine, in 2005-06, UNICRI focused on training, especially for specialists working for the national hotline on trafficking dealing with children, and prevention/awareness-raising activities.

*WHO developed ethical and safety recommendations for interviewing trafficked women*, which contain recommendations for researchers, media, police and service providers who are new to working with trafficked women.

In 2001, ILO established a broad-based technical cooperation programme, the Special Action Programme to combat forced labour, to spearhead ILO activities against forced labour, including

trafficking, irregular migration and bonded labour, aimed at addressing all aspects of forced labour. Under this programme, projects have been implemented in Ghana, Nigeria, Brazil, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Hong Kong SAR, and Nepal.

ILO's Labour Standards Department, in cooperation with ILO's field offices, provides technical advice on policy and legislation, and conducts training on sexual harassment legislation and policies for constituents. Recently work has been undertaken in this area in the Asian region, in particular Malaysia, China and Pakistan, as well as in the context of the annual training at the ILO training centre in Turin on international Labour standards and gender equality. ILO also implements technical cooperation projects on child labour, migration, trafficking and forced labour in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

WHO has developed various training programmes, such as Teach-VIP that includes modules on intimate partner and sexual violence; a virtual course on comprehensive care for sexual and domestic violence victims (PAHO). WHO, with PATH, has developed *Researching violence against women: A practical guide for researchers and activists* that will be used as the basis of regional training courses. It also developed training packages on management of childbirth for women with FGM.

UNHCR formulated *Guidelines for the Protection of Refugee Women* in 1991. In 2003, it released *Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees, and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for Prevention and Response*, which was an update of its existing 1995 guidelines. The guidelines have been published in the six United Nations languages and in 13 other languages, and have been distributed to persons of concern, government counterparts, and implementing and operational partners. In addition, a *Handbook on the Protection of Women and Girls* was provisionally released in 2006.

UNFPA employs a wide range of operational strategies to address violence against women, including the development of guidelines and tools, capacity-building and training. As such, UNFPA has supported sensitivity training of medical professionals to meet the health needs of women affected by violence. Pilot interventions have been tested in 10 countries—Cape Verde, Ecuador, Guatemala, Lebanon, Lithuania, Mozambique, Nepal, Romania, Russia and Sri Lanka. It has also supported an international consultation on programming to address gender-based violence.

WHO developed a *Handbook for the documentation of interpersonal violence prevention programmes*, which provides guidance on how to document violence programmes, as a basis for monitoring and evaluation of interventions to prevent and reduce violence. It also developed *Preventing child maltreatment: a guide to taking action and generating evidence* to assist countries to design, deliver, and measure the impact of programmes for the prevention of child maltreatment by parents and caregivers; and *Preventing injuries and violence: A guide for ministries of health*, which provides guidance to ministries of health for a public health approach to violence prevention. It covers policy development, data collection, advocacy work and capacity building.

UNICEF hosted a region-wide workshop on best practices to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in South Africa which brought together representatives from more than 20 UNICEF offices in Africa, along with government partners to learn from the South African experience of addressing gender-based violence and share experiences to prevent and respond to it.

*July 2007 to January 2008*

UNFPA is working in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders to address gender-based violence, including training of uniformed personnel, health workers and law enforcement.

The Civilian Police Section of DPA/United Nations Peace-building Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) conducted training for national gendarme officers on human rights issues and gender-based violence,. DPKO Gender Advisers have partnered with UNPOL to highlight gender-based violence in training for National Police.

DAW, in cooperation with ESCWA's Centre for Women, convened a regional capacity building workshop on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for judges and parliamentarians from 13 countries in Western Asia, in Amman, Jordan, in October 2007. The meeting focused on follow-up to the Secretary-General's study on violence against women and General Assembly resolution 61/143, and on family law.

OHCHR provided training for representatives from human rights organizations in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), on women's rights in general and violence against women in particular.

In Afghanistan, UNODC supported training for prison staff on the special needs of preparing women and girls for release and several tools developed.

Ongoing and planned UNODC projects on juvenile justice in Afghanistan, Burundi, Egypt, Haiti, Jordan, Lebanon and Yemen pay particular attention to the situation of girls and to awareness raising and training on the special needs of girls. A global project on implementation of the Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime is ongoing and gives special consideration to the situation of girl victims and witnesses of crime.

In Rajasthan, India, UNODC contributed to an initiative together with MIT's Poverty Action Lab, to train police officers to respond effectively to violence against women. The programme aimed at improving public perception and trust of the community as well as overall capacity of over 2000 police personnel, including police officers in four women police stations.

As part of a programme to assist the prison reform in Southern Sudan, UNODC has developed, together with UNMIS, a training programme to build leadership capacity within the prison service and address the circumstances of prisoners with special needs.

In Nicaragua, a UNDP pilot project on domestic and sexual violence is being implemented in two municipalities in partnership with the National Police. In Afghanistan, UNDP is supporting the implementation of a project to strengthen the Police Force's family violence unit in Kabul.

In Rwanda, UNIFEM supported the training of over 2,000 defence force members and local leaders and support was provided to the national police in drafting training manuals for investigating sexual and gender-based violence.

In August 2007, INSTRAW in collaboration with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), hosted an expert workshop on gender and security sector reform, which brought together a number of experts in different areas of the security sector (police, military, border management, private security companies, etc.) to discuss issues such as gender training, gender mainstreaming, and an appropriate response to physical and sexual violence against women.

UNIFEM supported the Kosovo Police Service (KPS) and Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) to establish a gender working group in the Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Investigation section. WFP supported the establishment of two Gender Desks in the National Police and in the Ministry of Defence, in Rwanda. The primary task of these units is to assist Concerned National Institutions and other stakeholders to address issues related to gender-based violence.

In June 2008 in Uganda, 35 schools received support by UNICEF to form child rights clubs. Trainings for Parents/Teachers Associations (PTAs) and School Management Committees

(SMCs) on child rights and sexual abuse were conducted. UNIFEM supported a regional radio network (ALER) to train community radio staff in Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, working among indigenous communities. In Honduras, a violence prevention programme was signed between the Instituto Luis Bogran, the Ministry of Education and UNDP for training teachers, parents and students to become change agents in preventing violence.

In Costa Rica, UNICRI carried out specialized training for law-enforcement professionals. It provided training for Hotline and Information Call Centers operators on commercial sexual exploitation of children; the extension of the Information System for specialized public prosecutor offices to the Prosecutor's Office of Liberia and Jacó and related training of personnel.

WHO held an expert meeting on primary prevention of intimate partner violence and sexual violence on 2-3 May in Geneva (report and background paper available in the WHO website).

Local stakeholders from government agencies, civil society and service provider organizations are trained with the support of IOM to offer an enhanced assistance for trafficked victims and prosecute traffickers. Since February 2008, IOM has conducted specialized training and capacity building workshops in a number of cities in Pakistan to sensitize a variety of actors on human trafficking, emphasizing the different dimensions of violence against women. IOM signed an agreement with the Colombian Ministry of Justice in order to develop counter-trafficking activities in the areas of technical assistance and support in the de-centralization of the national strategic plan.

#### *February 2008 to September 2008*

A project, funded by the UN Development Account, to establish Women Police Stations to deal with gender-based violence cases is being implemented in Brazil and Southern Cone countries.

In the Southern African region, under the framework of the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security and in close collaboration with other UN agencies, UNODC supports activities aimed at strengthening capacity to address gender-based violence as a human rights violation, and empowering survivors, inter-alia, through training.

UNRWA held workshops on domestic violence, a workshop for health staff on addressing major gender-based violence issues and a workshop on advocacy and campaigning in Lebanon. Protection clusters in North Lebanon were set up to train frontline staff on gender-based violence.

UNODC is carrying out training of law enforcement officials in Colombia and India, concentrating on investigation and punishment of trafficking in persons with a gender perspective. Regular training for military officials, including NATO, focusing particularly on trafficking for sexual exploitation is also being provided.

UNESCO's Communication and Information Sector implemented a project in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, entitled "Training of female radio reporters to prevent violence" in association with the local NGO "Casa de la Mujer." Two workshops were conducted with women and men on existing legislation against domestic violence, and forty 30-minute radio programmes (in various broadcasting formats) are being produced and will be broadcast by participating radio stations.

A specialized training for representatives of the Edo State NGO Coalition against Human Trafficking and NAPTIP (the Nigerian National Agency against Trafficking) has been carried out with the support of UNICRI.

UNIFEM provided capacity development to the Burundian police and judiciary to improve protection mechanisms for survivors of violence against women and to civil society partners, working on violence against women in Indonesia, Thailand, Timor-Leste and the Philippines. It also supported the development of a training course, "Empowerment, HIV and violence against

women in the Caribbean." As part of the *Safe Cities* Programme, UNIFEM and Red Mujer y Habitat supported an online learning course, "Urban violence, insecurity and discrimination". UNHCR organized training courses using the WHO/UNHCR Clinical Management of Rape Guidelines in East Africa and Asia.

In Burundi, UNIFEM, UNDP, UNESCO and UNICEF worked together to provide training and reporting assistance for civil society organizations and police to improve statistics and data collection on cases of gender-based violence.

UN-HABITAT and UNIFEM held a joint workshop during the International Seminar "Cities without Violence, Safe Cities for Women and Girls", in July 2008 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and presented a joint training initiative on women's safety audits for cities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In February 2008, UN-INSTRAW, in collaboration with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), published the *Gender and Security Reform Toolkit* that aim to support gender mainstreaming; the participation of women in the security sector; the capacity-building of the security sector to respond to violence against women. The toolkit includes 12 tools and corresponding practice notes on gender and police reform, gender and border management, gender and justice reform, and gender training for security personnel, among other topics. The Gender and SSR Toolkit was launched during the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Advocacy is being carried out among Member States and other stakeholders to encourage the use of the toolkit in ongoing security sector reform processes.

The "*UNFPA Strategy and Framework of Action to Addressing Gender-based Violence, 2008-2011*" has been widely disseminated. A booklet entitled "*Gender Snapshot: UNFPA Programming at Work*" has been published. It includes a chapter on gender-based violence prevention and response.

UNHCR's Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls (March 2008) describes the protection challenges faced by displaced women and girls and explains how UNHCR and partners work together to promote gender equality, in particular, to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence through a rights and community-based approach.

*October 2008 to February 2009*

OHCHR organised training activities on women's rights and violence against women for Arab-speaking NGOs; Iraqi NGOs; judges from the United Arab Emirates; NGOs and parliamentarians from Bahrain. Gender-based violence in Sudan was also covered.

In November 2008, ESCWA held the second regional workshop on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against women for Judges and Parliamentarians, with a special focus on the role of judges and parliamentarians in preventing and responding to violence against women.

In partnership with a wide range of stakeholders, UNIFEM supported: a police training on violence against women and human trafficking in Nigeria; a training on sexual and gender-based violence for all police recruits in Uganda; the establishment of gender coordinating desks within the Defense Forces in Sudan and Burundi; trainings of Gacaca judges in Rwanda dealing with sexual and gender-based violence cases; training of 100 Vietnamese National Assembly deputies on the implementation of the Family Violence Prevention Law. It also provided technical inputs to the African Union's Committee of Inquiry in Allegations of Sexual Misconduct in Sudan.

In Turkey, more than 2 million soldiers were trained by UNFPA-supported initiatives on gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health. Also in Turkey, by the end of 2008, 250

police facilitators were trained on domestic violence prevention who, in turn, trained 40,000 of their peers.

UNIFEM supported the financing of domestic violence courts with senior African judges and gender-responsive budgeting work that resulted in the earmarking of funds for gender-justice courts and women's prisons in Venezuela.

UNHCR supported the training of community and health services staff to improve their response to sexual violence and exploitation, to ensure safe access to services and to develop peer HIV prevention programmes for vulnerable groups.

A first pilot training on conducting women's safety audits for the Caribbean was held in Kingston, Jamaica, in mid-November 2008, with 30 participants from Jamaica, Grenada, St Lucia, and Haiti. A concept note by UNDP and UN-HABITAT, submitted to the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund for up-scaling this programme to cover other municipalities in Jamaica, has been accepted.

UNICRI worked on the establishment of a cooperation platform between the regional institutions in Italy dealing with human trafficking. A long-distance learning component of the training programme supported by the UNICRI, which aims to enhance research, local and international networking and capacity for preparation of grant proposals, started in August 2008 and will continue until April 2009.

#### *March 2009 to September 2009*

OHCHR participated in Northern Uganda and Karamoja in the IASC GBV Sub cluster (Protection), where the IASC clusters were beginning to hand over their work to the Government. In this context, OHCHR Kitgum and Gulu participated in the drafting of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for programmes targeting Gender Based Violence in August 2009.

OHCHR in Guatemala supported the Gender Unit of the Police to strengthen the abilities of law enforcement personnel to address violence against women. OHCHR country offices continued capacity-building for the monitoring and investigation of cases of violence against women. OHCHR Uganda (Lira) organized on 28 May 2009 a training on human rights and gender-based violence for members of the Unit Disciplinary Committee (the UDC is the lowest court in the hierarchy of the administration of justice in the Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF)).

As part of a One-UN project on violence against women, UNODC held a training course in Viet Nam to build the capacity of law enforcement officers to effectively deal with cases of domestic violence. This first train-the-trainers session focused on gender equality principles, common characteristics of domestic violence and best practices in dealing with victims, witnesses and perpetrators.

In September 2009, the NGO "Centre for the Protection of Constitutional Rights", and UNHCR partner in Georgia, conducted 16 training sessions on the Georgian Law on Domestic Violence, in which 332 police officers and social workers were trained. UNRWA Syria Field Office trained midwives in detecting women victims of violence.

In Nigeria, UNICRI provided the NGO Coalition against Human Trafficking training on "Providing Services to and Case Management of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings in Nigeria".

OHCHR arranged trainings of media professionals with regard to gender-based violence. Within the framework of the "Defending and Protecting Women's Human Rights in Mexico" project, OHCHR organised in Mexico a training programme for journalists on "Human Rights and the Violence against Women in the Media" from 18 to 20 February 2009. In Uganda, OHCHR Teso Region (Soroti) organized a training of media professionals on how to conduct respectful

interviews of victims/survivors of gender-based violence and their role to educate communities on gender-based violence as a serious human rights issue.

UNIFEM continued to support capacity development and programming, including with regard to: identification of linkages between violence against women and HIV/AIDS by Caribbean National AIDS Councils; the work of an Albanian network of non-governmental organizations to better coordinate responses to domestic violence with municipal authorities; training on gender and trafficking for teachers and adolescents in Thailand; partnership with a National Commission in Mexico to provide financial and technical resources to indigenous women's organizations and networks addressing violence against women.

UNECE conducted a workshop on measuring violence against women for users and producers of statistics in the Kyrgyz Republic. The workshop included participants from the national statistical system, crisis centres and gender machineries.

UNHCR published a *Guidance Note on Refugee Claims* relating to Female Genital Mutilation. The note affirms that Female Genital Mutilation is a form of gender-based persecution and can constitute grounds for asylum according to the 1951 Refugee Convention. The guidance will be used by states and UNHCR to facilitate asylum.

In Paraguay, UNFPA supported the institutional strengthening of the Gender Unit of the Human Rights Division of the Supreme Court, which is responsible for the monitoring of the violence against women policy. In Rwanda, WFP supported the establishment of two Gender Desks: one in the National Police and one in the Ministry of Defence. The primary task of these units is to assist Concerned National Institutions and other stakeholders to address issues related to gender-based violence.

In Liberia, UNHCR, the government and other partners, was involved in drafting the *Sexual Assault and Abuse Prosecution Handbook* for the Criminal Court in Monrovia, which has concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute sexual and gender-based violence cases throughout the country. UNHCR also assisted with the establishment of a Sex Crimes Unit at the Ministry of Justice and sponsored a training for its staff and prosecutors in Liberia.

The Women's Refugee Commission and UNHCR hosted a workshop for NGOs and UN agencies on the guidance produced by the *IASC Task Force on Safe Access to Alternative Fuel and Firewood*. The guidance has also been disseminated to field operations where access to firewood is a protection concern for women and girls.

UNFPA country programmes, working with a number of partners, undertook various technical assistance and training activities, including: (i) development of manuals, protocols, guidelines and curriculum on gender based violence in Rwanda, Botswana, Uganda, Albania, and China; (ii) training of service providers in Cote D'Ivoire, Mongolia, Nepal, South Africa, and Zambia. Other training and capacity development initiatives in gender-based violence were supported by UNFPA in several countries such as Swaziland, Cambodia, Sudan, Turkey, Romania and Nicaragua.

*October 2009 to February 2010*

UNDP supported the training of about 450 professionals in Moldova and the development of curricula on GBV for the judiciary, the police and the government in Serbia. In Argentina, UNDP initiated, in collaboration with the women's machinery, a project to help the effective implementation of the law on violence, including the development of local diagnostics and the strengthening of provincial areas of women through training. UNDP has also focused efforts on enhancing the capacities of police officers, judges, paralegals, court administrators and religious leaders. In Sierra Leone, with the project "Strengthening Access to Justice" legal orientation training has been provided to women's organizations to ensure that women are aware of how to access basic legal services in their communities.

In December 2009, UNHCR held a training with NGOs from several African countries on resettlement and the heightened risk identification tool (HRIT), which has been developed to enhance the identification of individuals at heightened risk of protection problems, including SGBV. Resettlement is an important protection tool for survivors of SGBV.

UNFPA, in collaboration with UNIFEM HQ and UNFPA and UNIFEM country offices, and key government and civil society organization stakeholders, held capacity development workshops, in Uganda and in Sierra Leone, to develop key indicators under the National Action Plans on Security Council resolution (SCR) 1325.

FAO has organized trainings in DRC and Niger based on a module entitled “Communicating Gender for Development”, involving a wide range of stakeholders, during which GBV and how to address it was discussed, as well as the role community leaders and radios can play in combating domestic violence.

UNIFEM provided support to civil society and women’s organisations for initiatives, including training for Pakistani civil society groups on masculinities; and developing a high school curriculum on violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia.

UNRWA is strengthening the capacity of its counselors in the health centres, its lawyers in legal advice offices, and its social workers in the women program centres to offer a more targeted intervention to victims in Gaza and West Bank through the Community Mental Health, the MDG-Gender and the Equality in Action programs.

UNIFEM’s efforts to strengthen programming and institutional responses included support for: the establishment of a domestic violence office in Argentina’s Supreme Court, with UNDP and UNICEF; judicial guidelines on in-camera hearings (Nepal), on domestic violence (China) and on traditional justice in indigenous communities (Ecuador); a reference guide for Albanian magistrates; a legal assistance guide for Haitian SGBV survivors; technical assistance for the International Commission of Inquiry for Guinea Conakry; training for justice sector personnel in the Great Lakes Region, Kenya, Paraguay and Thailand; South-South study tours for Ugandan police to Liberia and Sierra Leone; and specialized police units in South Sudan and Tanzania. Support to national institutions contributed to: India’s Integrated Women’s Protection Scheme; and national coordination of Moldova’s Stakeholders Council on Violence against Women. UNIFEM also provided support to civil society and women’s organizations for initiatives, including: advocacy for the first special court on trafficking in Mumbai; using CEDAW to reform domestic violence redress in the Philippines.

UNHCR, in cooperation with UNFPA and WHO, published an e-learning tool on the clinical management of rape. UNHCR’s *Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls* has been translated into Arabic, French, Russian and Spanish and a CD-ROM version in Arabic, English, French and Spanish has been produced.

Pursuant to resolution 18/1 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UNODC convened an intergovernmental expert group meeting, in Thailand, in November 2009, to develop, consistent with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (SMR) and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules), supplementary rules specific to the treatment of women in detention and in custodial and non-custodial settings. The meeting was attended by experts from twenty-five countries and non-governmental organizations and it endorsed a set of seventy draft rules.

UNAIDS Programme Acceleration Funds have supported 35 countries over the last year to scale up work on gender-related responses to HIV, including a focus on violence against women. UNESCO continued its activities under its project “Culturally appropriate approaches to HIV/AIDS”.

*March to September 2010*

In El Salvador, officials of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, the Public Prosecutor Office and the Police participated in an expert seminar, organized by the OHCHR, on legal frameworks to protect women from violence, including femicide.

In Morocco, UNDP is working with UNIFEM and UNICEF to strengthen family sections of civil status courts in the implementation of the new family code which provides for much greater rights for women in marriage, divorce and alimony issues, all of which are necessary steps towards guaranteeing violence-free environment for women. In Kosovo, UNDP supported the establishment of the Anti-Trafficking Secretariat in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. UNDP and MINUSTAH are supporting the Haitian National Police to set up special police groups for increasing surveillance in the camps.

In Sri Lanka, the Equal Access to Justice Project, supported by UNDP, has provided training to women and men working as 'first respondents', including welfare officers, crèche attendants, midwives and CBO officers, in order to support victims at village level. The programmes have been targeted in the estate (plantation) sector, where relatively high incidences of alcoholism contribute to high rates of GBV, and the former conflict affected areas, where they have been conducted in tandem with livelihood support projects.

The UNDP Regional Center in the Arab States, in cooperation with UNIFEM, conducts in Egypt training of trainers and sensitization to gender-sensitive measurements for equitable service delivery. UNDP's regional HIV programme conducted leadership trainings to women living with HIV from Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen, Djibouti and Saudi Arabia. A gender and HIV toolkit was also prepared on human rights and religious perspectives demanding equity, taking also a stand against all forms of violence against women.

UNODC has continued its implementation of a project in Viet Nam to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement and justice sectors to prevent and respond to domestic violence. Similar projects are being developed in Panama and Kenya.

The United Nations Integrated Peace Building Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL), with the larger UN community, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs engaged women's groups, through an interactive session during the Global Open Day consultations on issues of women's peace and security. The women spoke about concerns related to violence against women and girls. The UN Family continues to work jointly in strengthening capacity of respective gender focal points in responding to issues relating to violence against women through training workshops.

The Panama Regional Office of the OHCHR undertook training activities in Panama in connection with the Universal Periodic Review. Women's organizations participated in trainings for the civil society and made submissions to the process. The OHCHR also provided training to Instituto Salvadoreño para el Desarrollo de la Mujer (ISDEMU) in El Salvador, for the preparation of the follow-up report to CEDAW's concluding observations. The follow-up report will focus on priority recommendations, including on efforts to eradicate violence against women.

UNODC published the *Handbook on effective police responses towards violence against women*, accompanied by a training curriculum, and the Toolkit on Gender (which is part of the overall UNODC Toolkit on Criminal Justice Assessment). In June 2010, UNODC launched the Needs Assessment Toolkit on the Criminal Justice Response to Human Trafficking, found at: [http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Needs\\_Assessment\\_Toolkit\\_ebook\\_09-87518\\_June\\_2010.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Needs_Assessment_Toolkit_ebook_09-87518_June_2010.pdf).

In addition to ongoing training of judges, lawyers, police and other 'duty bearers' in many countries, UNIFEM finalized programming modules, available at [www.endvawnow.org](http://www.endvawnow.org), which offer state-of-the-art guidance from leading experts and country experiences on how to address violence against women, in three areas: safe cities, engaging men and boys, and legal reform.

UNHCR has prepared an e-learning tool on gender-based violence, which will be made available to all UNHCR staff and partners.

In Jordan, UNRWA and UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health in developing guidelines (pilot version) for medical and paramedical staff on addressing violence against women. UNRWA organized a workshop with practitioners from all over the region to develop lessons learned that were documented in the first issue of UNRWA Gender Series on referral systems for victims of violence.

Within the UN joint project funded by the Spanish MDG Achievement Fund on "Building Social Cohesion in Southern Serbia", UN-HABITAT has conducted a training needs assessment with specific questions on women's safety.

*October 2010-February 2011*

UNESCO supported the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) and the Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC) of Vietnam to implement two recent laws, the Law on Gender Equality and the Law on Domestic Violence Prevention and Control through supporting a training programme with the provincial Departments of Education and Training on gender mainstreaming in education, including domestic violence prevention and control: supporting the Ministry of Education and Training in developing and piloting Teachers' Training Modules on gender issues, including domestic violence: assisting the Ministry of Information and Communication to develop a training programme on gender issues and a Handbook on Gender Sensitive Reporting for journalists, including the elimination of domestic violence.

Former UNIFEM now part of UN Women supported ongoing training of judges, lawyers, police and other "duty bearers" in various countries, such as in the Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Democratic Republic of Congo, Fiji, Haiti and Indonesia.

Within the joint MDG funded project on "building social cohesion" UN-HABITAT has conducted a training needs assessment, also on women's safety UN-HABITAT is just embarking on the safety assessment of 13 municipalities, results to be presented during a restitution workshop in mid-October. In conjunction with the restitution workshop, a training will also be conducted on safety tools and women's safety audits. Training of trainers on conducting women's safety audits was conducted in October 2010.

As part of the Strengthening Community Safety through Local Government Capacity-Building project being implemented in Kingston, Jamaica in partnership with UN HABITAT-UNDP, a two-day women's safety audit training for local government community workers and other key stakeholders was organised in October 2010. The trained community workers are conducting safety audits with women in the communities in partnership with Huairou Commission and the University of Technology, Jamaica. With the aim to support and strengthen the capacity of the Nigerian National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) in countering organized crime groups involved in trafficking of minors and young women for sexual exploitation from Nigeria, UNICRI submitted a project proposal based on current assessment of NAPTIP's requests and operational needs.

In partnership with NGOs, UNFPA community-based work on the abandonment of FGM/C (under the joint programme with UNICEF) has produced capacity-building trainings and guidance documents that are vital to the programme. Under programme support by UNFPA to the Institute

for Development Studies (IDS), the Institute developed capacities of stakeholders in India, Kenya and Uganda to engage men and boys to combat violence against women in institutional settings.

In November 2010, UNODC in collaboration with the Southern African Development Community and the Southern African Regional Police Chief Council Organisation, organized in Pretoria a regional training workshop on effective law enforcement responses to violence against women in the Southern African region, involving trainers from six countries (South Africa, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe). The training tested the UNODC Handbook on effective police responses to violence against women and a related training curriculum, adapting them into the specific needs of the Southern African region. In Panama, within the framework of the MDG project "*Improving citizen's security in Panama-contributing to the social construction of peace*", UNODC organized a training workshop for justice and law enforcement officers, based also on the UNODC Handbook and on national and international regulation framework (17-18 November).

UNDP Argentina coordinated inter-agency efforts to organise a workshop for journalists, aimed at raising awareness about violence against women and enhance gender-sensitive media coverage on the topic.

WHO/PAHO organized a workshop on preventing intimate partner and sexual violence, with participants from four Latin American countries, aimed at introducing the concept of primary prevention, reviewing the evidence and encouraging development of prevention initiatives in these countries.

With the US-based Educational Development Center (EDC), WHO has developed a three-day training course on the primary prevention of intimate partner and sexual violence.

The workshop "*Tackling legal empowerment: the Farmer Life School approach*" in which rural Farmer Field Schools (FFS) communities include as topics gender-based violence prevention and support to victims/survivors in Kenya is published at: <http://www.fao.org/dimitra/dimitra-workshops/workshop-reports/en/>

The OHCHR Regional Office for Central America continues participation in the inter-agency group on gender by providing input to a regional project by the SG "UNiTE" Campaign, which focuses on strengthening the capacity of States in the region to improve investigation, prosecution and reparation in cases of gender-based violence.

The OHCHR Regional Office for the Pacific, in partnership with the Regional Rights Resource Team and the International Services for Human Rights, held a regional training and consultation workshop for civil society representatives, (6-10 September) presenting, among other issues, a topic on violence against women. The meeting focused on raising human rights issues through local and international mechanisms. Human Rights & Rule of Law Section of UNIOSIL in Sierra Leone organised in October 2010 an interactive forum for Traditional Women Leaders in the northern region and Family Support Units and Local Court officials in Kenema district respectively, addressing human rights, child's rights and gender-based violence with emphasis on harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation (FGM). Participants resolved to collaborate with human rights institutions to monitor, prevent and prosecute gender-based violence in their communities. Within the joint UN MDG gender programme on gender equality and women's empowerment in the oPt and in coordination with other specialized organizations, UNRWA conducted several trainings in West Bank and Gaza reaching members of the community involved in services provision, women, men and religious leaders on the provision of assistance to victims of gender-based violence.

UNDP, through Capacity Assessment Framework for Gender Mainstreaming, has engaged gender focal points in Indonesia to strengthen their knowledge and skills to raise awareness on violence against women. In Papua New Guinea, UNDP has worked with the National Council of

Women, an umbrella non-governmental organisation, to strengthen their awareness-raising and advocacy capacities on violence against women at the provincial and local levels.

In Papua New Guinea, UNDP conducted numerous training sessions on awareness-raising and advocacy on violence against women; a Training of Trainers for staff of the Office for the Development of Women (ODW), National Council of Women (NCW), and the Gender and Development Branch of the Department of Community Development, to support strengthening coordination and communication between the three organizations to address and effectively respond to violence against women at the provincial and local levels.

UNDP supported the establishment of subregional networks of practitioners in South Asia and Southeast & East Asia to enhance the knowledge and capacity of several stakeholders to engage men and boys in gender-based violence prevention. The South Asia sub-regional network (The South Asian Network to Address Masculinities, SANAM), finalized a curriculum on masculinities and gender equality for practitioners, which has been used to provide training and mentoring on the issues of masculinities and gender-based violence to a selected group of 'fellows' from the region.

UNDP Argentina, with a view towards guaranteeing access to justice for women, including victims of violence, implemented a joint programme (with UNIFEM, UNICEF, PAHO/WHO, UNFPA, and UNIC) to develop a training protocol on gender and gender-based violence in the judiciary. 120 civil servants were trained and will continue by training others in the 24 provinces, including all judicial staff, during 2011.

In Nepal, UNDP has provided assistance with regard to (a) the development of a training manual and provision of five trainings on gender-based violence and gender justice (reporting, investigation and prosecution) for 125 judges and lawyers; (b) a gender-based violence assessment (on-going); (c) transitional and gender justice training of trainers programmes for civil society actors; and (d) a series of district and central level consultations on "gender-sensitive transitional justice".

#### *March 2011 to January 2012*

UN Women Virtual Knowledge Centre (VKC) to End Violence against Women conducted its first global technical webinar on Costing the Implementation of Violence against Women Laws and Policies for United Nations and government colleagues undertaking or embarking on similar work.

In May 2011, UNHCR and partner staff from ten countries participated in a workshop on UNHCR's Updated Strategy against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), which emphasizes a multi-sectoral approach to prevention, along with identification and response activities, starting the roll out of country-specific strategies to all operations.

OHCHR conducted a training course for law enforcement officials from Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates on the Commentary on the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking with capacity building activities.

OHCHR has undertaken a joint initiative with UNFPA and the University "Centro Americana José Simeón Cañas" in El Salvador to create a certificated training course on "Attention and Investigation of Gender-based Violence" for professionals in the justice, security and health sectors.

During the period March 2011 to June 2011, the UNODC Regional Office for Southern Africa organized, together with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat and the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (SARPCCO), a 5-day

national training workshop, like in November 2010, on the development of effective law enforcement responses to violence against women for law enforcement officials in Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe during which a total of 138 law enforcement officers were trained. Furthermore, the Office developed and published contextualized national pocket book versions of the “UNODC Handbook for Effective Police Responses to Violence against Women” and its accompanying “Training Curriculum on Effective Police Responses to Violence against Women” for each of the above countries.

In the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), UN Women has trained Police Family Protection Units (FPUs) officers (level I and II) on violence against women (VAW) cases and has supported them in the development of their first strategy, standard operating procedures and minimum guidelines for the establishment of the Units. An initial group of six Palestinian judges have also been targeted in order to support the development of their capacity to deal with VAW cases during trial. Technical support to the Palestinian Bar Association has also been initiated in order to develop a specialized group of lawyers capable to deal with and legally represent cases of VAW in a gender sensitive manner.

UN Women supported the National Judicial Academy to conduct trainings on gender-based violence, gender equality issues and gender justice to 122 law enforcers/implementers and 99 civil society actors in five districts of Nepal.

UN Women manages a programme for capacity development for elimination of violence against women (EVAW) practitioners, institutional strengthening for EVAW organisations, knowledge-building and sharing of effective strategies and promising practices.

UNICEF revised its Child Protection in Emergencies (CPIE) Face to Face training to improve the stand-alone modules on gender based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) and included a new stand-alone module on Gender and CPIE. In July 2011, with support from the Danish Refugee Council, UNICEF organized a 5-day course on GBV programing in emergencies for 30 participants to improve GBV technical expertise of its surge capacity mainly through stand-by partners. UNICEF has also developed dedicated learning material on Caring for Child Survivors and organized a five-day course from 23 to 27 January 2012 aimed at equipping UNICEF and implementing partner staff with the knowledge and skills necessary to implement high quality case management and psychosocial care for child survivors of sexual abuse.

UN Women organised a workshop jointly with the Ministry of Women and Child Development in India (Goa) in September 2011 to strengthen capacity of National Women’s Machineries at State and Central levels on gender and planning, which deliberated on integration of trafficking, gender biased sex-selection and violence against women in development planning.

Following the programme support provided in 2011 by UNFPA to the Institute for Development Studies (IDS), a curriculum based on the work in the 3 countries (India, Kenya and Uganda) has been developed by UNFPA in collaboration with IDS in 2011 and will be rolled out over 2012.

WHO also provided technical support and capacity building as part of an interagency workshop on integrating gender-based violence and engaging men and boys for gender equality in national AIDS programmes in Istanbul in which more than 25 country teams comprising of national AIDS programme managers, civil society groups working on violence against women or representing women living or affected by HIV and UN partners participated. WHO is also exploring additional opportunities for capacity development through new e-learning technologies.

As part of the implementation of the interregional project “Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities,” ECLAC has:

a) Organized a sub-regional meeting to enhance the capacity of eradicating violence against women was held in Guatemala in April 2011 in collaboration with the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Ministers for Women in Central America and the Dominican

Republic, attended by representatives of several countries and representatives of the Central American Integration System; and

b) Held the interregional e-learning course "Measurement of violence against women through statistical surveys" in October and December 2011, with participants from 41 countries. It aimed at installing sustainable technical capacities at country level to measure violence against women. The course incorporated the results and conclusions of piloting the module in the five regions. ECLAC contributed with 48% of the total number of participants in the course, from 14 countries in the region, with the majority from various central government institutions.

#### *October 2012-February 2013*

UNRWA conducted training on gender-based violence, detection and referral of survivors, for community-based organizations and Health Ministry representatives, including in Gaza and the West Bank.

UNODC organised several activities to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement, justice and health sector officials to better prevent and respond to violence against women, including training workshops, awareness-raising initiatives and relevant projects in Zambia, South Africa, Vietnam, Kyrgyzstan and Lao People's Democratic Republic; and publication of materials on the "*Abuse of a Position of Vulnerability and other "Means" Within the Definition of Trafficking in Persons*", to assist criminal justice officers in penal proceedings.

WHO, in collaboration with Partners for Prevention and the Medical Research Council/South Africa, supported capacity-building initiatives on research and developing interventions to prevent gender-based violence in Bangkok, in July 2012.

UNFPA carried out several workshops and programmes in order to strengthen the capacity of governmental officials and civil society representatives to address violence against women and their access to sexual and reproductive health services. Such efforts included:

- the development of a curriculum, in collaboration with UN ECLAC, on the implementation of the SCR;
- support to the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders to develop capacities of grassroots women's activists to advocate on SCR 1325 implementation, in Burundi and Nepal;
- a workshop targeting government and civil society stakeholders in the Caribbean region to roll out the UNFPA Regional Strategy on Sexual Violence;
- consultations in South Africa on the importance of gender transformative approaches in addressing violence against women and its impact, promoting reproductive health and rights;
- engaging men and boys to promote gender equality, addressing gender-based violence;
- development of a comprehensive course and manual for police training programmes in Afghanistan, which cover the forms, causes, and consequences of violence against women in Afghanistan, national, international laws and women's rights in Islam, evidence collection and referral mechanisms;
- technical and financial support to the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees in Bosnia and Herzegovina to develop a programme for improvement of the status of women victims of conflict-related sexual violence, including through rehabilitation, reparations and re-socialization;
- development of pocket-sized "National Law Cards" in South Sudan, as a reference tool, to assist judges, lawyers, police officers, health care workers, and other stakeholders working with survivors.

UNDP supported the following initiatives: in Sierra Leone the training of State Counsels on the new Sexual Offences Act and Criminal Procedure Bill, the training of journalists and civil society organizations to report and publicize SGBV cases in a gender-sensitive manner and published

the *'Handbook for the Media on Reporting SGBV Cases in Sierra Leone'*; in Kyrgyzstan the first gender training of border officers; in Serbia, the strengthening of capacities of various health and law enforcement officials; in Afghanistan, various workshops to raise awareness on rights of women and strengthen the capacity of the justice sector to provide better services to victims; in Nepal, training of law enforcement officials and lawyers, including on investigations process and sexual harassment at work; in Colombia, awareness-raising about gender-based violence and training on justice, peace; processes related to truth and reconciliation processes, including reparations; in Chile, with the Women's National Service (SERNAM), a training program for service providers on the National Plan of Domestic Violence; in Panama training to justice sector officials to implement Criminal Accusatory System.

UNICEF supported government and civil society efforts to prevent and respond to sexual abuse and exploitation of girls and boys in more than 70 countries (including development and emergency contexts). UNICEF also held its third annual learning course "Advances in Social Norms" at the University of Pennsylvania in July, with 51 participants coming from all regions, the majority from West Africa and South Asia, as well as Headquarters; disseminated the 'Compendium to the Training Manual to Fight Trafficking in Children' to all of its regional and country offices; and organized a regional Training of Trainers for UNICEF staff and government counterparts from the MENA region in Cairo, Egypt.

In Sierra Leone, OHCHR organised a workshop for members of the Parliamentarian Human Rights Committee on the new Sexual Offences Act.

In Liberia: UNDP supported the SGBV Crimes Unit to design and conduct a specialized trainings for 95 Judges, Magistrates, Prosecutors and Public Defence lawyers, on the rape law; UNFPA supported THINK (local NGO) and the Ministry of Health and social Welfare to train 120 health service providers and 90 general community health volunteers in Clinical management of Rape; WHO supported the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to establish a pool of 52 trainers for the programme on psychosocial counselling; UNICEF supported the Judicial Training Institute in partnership with the Ghana Judicial training institute to train around 100 Judges, Magistrates, County Attorneys and Public Defenders on national and international standards for violence against women and children cases; and UNMIL provided capacity-building support to the Liberian National Police which has included the provision of refresher courses for 212 police officers of the Women and Children Protection Service and other officers, focusing on the management and handling of sexual violence cases reported to the police.

In Nepal, UN Women worked with 6 lawyers and 14 police officials to strengthen their knowledge and capacity on UNSCR 1325 and 1820, and on gender sensitive transitional justice mechanisms; 300 Government and CSO functionaries (District Coordination Committee (DCC) members and journalists) were oriented on their roles and responsibilities under the NAP on 1325 and 1820 in 10 districts; and six "Training manual for Gender Equality and UNSCRS 1325 and 1820" were adopted by the Nepal Army.

UN Women continues to develop, manage and coordinate the largest capacity development resource in English, French and Spanish – the Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls (<http://www.endvawnow.org>). The 10<sup>th</sup> programming module on establishing and running shelters was launched in 2012 and the tools database was expanded to more than 850 representing over 60 languages. The site received 375,899 visitors in 2012, an increase from 197,260 in 2011.

## **MEASURES TO ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS**

*Baseline July 2007*

DPKO works to ensure that adequate policies are in place to prevent and respond to gender-based violence against women in armed conflict, and to protect women against sexual abuse and exploitation.

UNDP's 2006-2007 Plan of action for mainstreaming gender perspectives in crisis prevention and recovery addresses violence against women in the context of conflict and post-conflict situations.

UNICEF has played a major role in the new initiative UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as co-chair of the advocacy working group. UNICEF also supports the provision of care and support for survivors of rape, especially in conflict situations. UNIFEM and UNFPA jointly hosted an expert meeting on sexual violence in humanitarian situations to strengthen inter-agency collaborative action to combat sexual violence in crisis. UNFPA also supports the Global Call to Action to End Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict.

As part of its work on women, peace and security, OSAGI carries out research and analysis on gender-based violence against women in armed conflict, especially with a view to preparing reports for the Security Council. In collaboration with the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE), OSAGI coordinated the preparation of the Secretary-General's Study on Women, Peace and Security (2002), which also covers violence against women.

OSAGI prepares regular annual reports of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), which also addresses the question of violence against women. It coordinated the preparation, and now supports the implementation of a United Nations system-wide action plan for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). The plan includes steps to prevent and respond to gender-based violence against women in armed conflict.

The project "Building capacity to enhance humanitarian protection in the context of food assistance in emergencies, 2005-2006" is part of WFP's ongoing effort to address violence against women. The project aims to enhance WFP staff's understanding of gender issues and how to address them adequately.

OHCHR continues to cooperate with various agencies such as UNICEF, UNIFEM and WHO on the development of particular tools, such as "Manual on Caring for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict-Affected Areas" (with UNICEF) and "Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Researching, Documenting and Monitoring Sexual Violence in Emergencies".

ESCAP produced a publication on women, violence, human rights and armed conflict (2000).

OCHA's Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN) has produced a number of publications and videos on violence against women in war, and on female genital mutilation. OCHA contributes to awareness-raising and outreach by informing communities about the availability and value of support services for victims of gender-based violence, including sexual violence. It disseminates information on international humanitarian law to arms bearers.

The ESCWA Centre for Women devoted the first issue of its newsletter on women and armed conflict. The newsletter examined gender-based violence against women in conflict settings in the Arab world. The March 2007 issue was devoted on violence against women in the ESCWA region and was distributed on International Women's Day 2007, as part of the global effort to call attention to this important issue.

The Third Session of the Committee on Women of ESCWA was convened in Abu Dhabi, in March 2007, and focused on women and armed conflict in the Arab region, including violence against women. ESCWA also convened an expert group meeting in March 2007 on the impact of armed conflict on women, and the advancement of women living under conflict conditions. Topics included gender-based violence during armed conflict.

In the context of armed conflict and the ongoing crisis in the occupied Palestinian territory, UNRWA supports women with the provision of temporary employment, with psycho-social support to family members, provision of shelter and emergency food and cash support. This emergency support is critical considering the drastic economic and social decline being experienced by Palestinians in the occupied territory, which has contributed to increased levels of social violence, including gender-based violence.

WHO developed in collaboration with UNHCR, UNFPA and the International Committee of the Red Cross "*The Clinical management of rape survivors: developing protocols for use with refugees and internally displaced persons* (updated, 2005)". These guidelines provide guidance on setting up rape services in emergency settings. Following an expert consultation in December 2006, WHO is finalizing *Safety and ethical recommendations for data collection, monitoring and research on sexual violence in conflict*. WHO also developed training programmes for health providers and technical support for the integration of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict settings (Burundi, Congo, Liberia and Sudan).

In 2008, technical consultations were conducted to support the roll-out of gender-based violence information management system (GBVIMS) in Kenya and Northern Uganda. GBVIMS is a joint effort of UNHCR, UNFPA and IRC.

UNDP has developed gender equality and crisis prevention and recovery training materials for technical staff of its Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. UNDP has trained 13 UNDP offices in conflict and post-conflict situations on gender mainstreaming for country programming.

IFAD's Transitional Programme of Post-Conflict Reconstruction in Burundi aims to combat sexual violence, a primary threat to the physical security of Burundi's rural women and girls, and end impunity of perpetrators. The programme, which started in 2004, includes a legal component to make justice available to the rural poor, particularly women, and vulnerable people.

Regional teams of UNAIDS in Southern and Eastern Africa have explored how health services can be improved for women who experience sexual and physical violence during crisis and conflict situations (supported by the Global Coalition, WHO, UNDP and UNAIDS).

UNFPA convened a workshop on the findings of case studies from 8 countries on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) (Bucharest, October 2005).

Within the framework of its training initiative, UNITAR conducts courses for peacekeeping operations on the special needs of women and children in conflict situations; enhances the capacity of peacekeepers to deal with societies in and after armed conflict; and promotes the incorporation of gender perspectives into multilateral peacekeeping operations. From 2001 until 2005 25 seminars had taken place. UNITAR's training programme also supports the United Nations' efforts to raise awareness for the rights and needs of children in situations of armed conflict.

WFP has developed a concept paper that examines protection and gender issues related to WFP's operations in both conflict and post-conflict situations, with particular attention to gender-based violence.

UNRISD undertook research on violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations, as part of its report on the occasion of the ten-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

In implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325, UNESCO, in collaboration with partners from the University of Hull (UK) and the Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria (South Africa), launched a research programme on women's rights for peace and security in post conflict democracies in Africa. The aim of this program is to develop policy recommendations that address obstacles, such as violence against women, to women's full participation in and contribution to peace and security in post conflict countries in Africa. UNESCO organized, in 2005, a consultation in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, engaging a wide range of stakeholders. It focused on the status of women in the Great Lakes region of Africa, covering also violence against women, especially sexual violence.

As follow-up to Security Council resolutions 1308 and 1325 (2000), the UNAIDS Office of Security and Humanitarian Response is providing support to strengthen HIV/AIDS education within international peacekeeping operations. It also assists countries to strengthen their HIV/AIDS responses for national uniformed services, including through the development of a training manual, which includes a section on coercion and sexual violence.

UNAIDS is working with partners to clarify linkages and effective programmes on violence and HIV in emergency affected populations. A number of activities, funded by Department for International Development (UK), were carried out, including:

- A review, in collaboration with WHO, of epidemiological evidence of the links between HIV and gender-based violence in emergency settings
- Participation in UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, a global initiative on gender-based violence in emergency settings
- Support to regional task forces on gender-based violence in emergency settings
- Collaboration with WHO in building capacity in the clinical management of sexual violence in emergencies
- Collaboration with FAO on building the capacities for addressing underlying causes of transactional sex.

*July 2007 to January 2008*

The Secretary-General's report to the Security Council on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict (S/2007/643) of 28 October 2007, prepared by OCHA, placed considerable focus on gender-based violence in conflict and highlighted ways for all actors to strengthen their actions. The report called on states to investigate, prosecute and punish perpetrators, including the commanders under whom they serve, if the commanders failed to take measures to prevent the violations, in the case of the armed forces and the police. The report also called on humanitarian actors to strengthen and better coordinate their work.

In December 2007, the Under-Secretary-General of DPA drew the attention of the heads of all DPA field missions to the initiative – UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, and to the Security Council's Presidential Statement calling on the Secretary-General to include in his reporting to the Council information on violence against women and girls. He noted the Department's commitment to the principles on which UN Action was based, and requested staff's compliance with the Security Council's request.

As part of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) Gender Group, BONUCA contributed to the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) with a proposal focusing on sexual and gender-based violence. BONUCA will be part of a task force on gender-based violence in humanitarian interventions, which was put in place following a workshop, organized by UNFPA, in cooperation

with UNICEF, the Inter-agency Standing Committee (IASC) and the Ministry of Social Affairs and National Solidarity, on guidelines for gender-based interventions in humanitarian settings.

FAO closely collaborated with the IASC Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance in mainstreaming a gender perspective in humanitarian settings and raising awareness on gender issues of humanitarian officers and policy and decision-makers. In follow-up to Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, FAO integrated gender analysis in emergency and rehabilitation programmes and addressed the specific needs of the socio-economic groups most at risk of violence.

DPKO Gender Advisers are making efforts to ensure that regular reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council highlight steps taken to combat sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In the field, DPKO Gender Advisers are involved in advocacy, in ensuring United Nations leadership on the issue of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) as well in strengthening national and regional efforts towards combating SGBV and they are working with peacekeeping missions' public information units, particularly radio stations. They have also supported national organizations to spearhead campaigns on SGBV.

DPKO Gender Advisers in peacekeeping missions support efforts to address gender-based violence within the work of mission components such as the UN Police (UNPOL), human rights, rule of law and public information, as an important part of their gender mainstreaming strategy.

On behalf of the IASC Sub-working group on Gender, OCHA led a pilot workshop in Nairobi for seven country teams from the East African region to build their capacity to implement multi-sectoral gender-based violence programmes in humanitarian settings and to use the Guidelines for gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian settings and the Gender Handbook of the IASC.

OCHA is a founding member of the IASC Steering Committee for the Gender Standby Roster (GenCap) which deploys senior gender advisors to work in humanitarian situations. OCHA supported the GenCap Standby capacity to deploy nine senior gender advisors to the offices of Humanitarian Coordinators to ensure strengthened coordination on programmes to address gender-based violence in conflict and displacement. OCHA participated in inter-agency efforts to develop a standard gender-based violence incident reporting system. OCHA spearheaded efforts along with other members of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict to pay special attention to gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as to the follow-up to the UN Action mission to Darfur, Sudan.

The OCHA Emergency Relief Coordinator went on mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in September 2007 and placed considerable attention on gender-based violence. He followed this up with reports to the Security Council and external media coverage. He hosted the meeting of the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and gender-based violence in December 2007. The meeting further directed the United Nations system to support the field operations (MONUC and the UNCT) to accelerate and strengthen their actions to prevent gender-based violence and respond to survivors. Collective efforts also resulted in an improved mandate for MONUC to address gender-based violence.

In December 2007, the OHCHR conducted a feasibility mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo to determine the most effective manner for contributing to ensuring accountability for crimes of sexual violence against women and the added value of its active participation in on-going or planned United Nations activities in this regard.

Working in partnership with United Nations Country Teams (UNCT), DPKO Gender Advisers are also supporting national partners to develop and adopt national action plans as well as build capacity of national actors to address sexual and gender-based violence.

Through its “Addressing Gender-based Violence in Darfur” project, UNDP undertook a project on gender-based violence from 2006 to 2008. The project established a Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Working Group that served as a forum for coordination and collaboration; provided technical support to the SGBV committees in compiling a national plan on SGBV, in collaboration with other UN entities; established women’s committees/centres that were trained in dealing with SGBV; conducted SGBV and GBV awareness raising sessions and trainings for paralegals, judges, lawyers, the judiciary and local communities; established a partnership with the Chief Justice, the Chief Prosecutor, the Chief Attorney-General in El Fasher, in raising awareness on SGBV and on addressing it; referred several SGBV cases to the UNDP-supported Legal Aid Network.

The UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador launched a global internet-based campaign ([www.sayNOTOviolence.org](http://www.sayNOTOviolence.org)) in consultation with UN sister agencies, NGOs and private sector. UNIFEM is a founding member of and hosts the Secretariat for the UN Action to End Sexual Violence in Conflict Situations.

UNICEF has played a major role in the new UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict initiative, as Co-Chair of the advocacy working group. Under the auspices of UN Action, UNICEF, together with the women’s rights NGO V-Day is leading a global campaign against sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Campaign, *Stop raping our Greatest Resource: Power to the Women and Girls of DRC* was launched in Bukavu, DRC, in November 2007.

As a member of UN Action, UNFPA co-organized inter-agency trainings on violence against women for coordinators in humanitarian settings in 2007 and provided strategic assistance to the UNCT in Darfur (Sudan) and DRC in 2007. UNFPA hosted a workshop in Tunisia during the summer of 2007, on the topic of displaced women in conflict and post-conflict situations. Recommendations from the workshop focused on ways to engage in efforts to accelerate implementation of Security Council 1325.

In the UNRISD research programme for 2005-2009, violence against women is being addressed under the Gender and Development Programme. The Programme has recently launched an edited volume series, co-published with Routledge, the second of which is *Gendered Peace: Women’s Struggles for Post-War Justice and Reconciliation*, 2008. Its particular focus is on “post-conflict” or “post-war” period.

FAO collaborated with the members of the IASC Task Force in the dissemination of "Guidelines for gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian settings: focusing on prevention of and response to sexual violence in emergencies" and the handbook "Women, girls, boys and men: different needs - equal opportunities", which also includes some actions to address gender-based violence.

UNFPA is working in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders to address gender-based violence, including addressing sexual violence in emergency and post-emergency humanitarian responses.

A consultation was held to develop the WHO ethical and safety recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies. This is now available in English and French, and translation into Arabic is under way.

WHO co-chairs the IASC Sub-working group on gender and humanitarian action and is actively involved, including as members of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, in responding to sexual and gender-based violence in emergencies.

As part of the United Nations system-wide work programme on scaling-up HIV/AIDS services for populations of humanitarian concern, FAO carried out research on HIV AND AIDS, gender

inequality, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and equal property rights in Western Kenya (Busia District).

*February to September 2008*

On 19 June 2008, the Security Council adopted resolution 1820 (2008) on women, peace and security, which recognizes the use of sexual violence as a threat to international peace and security.

UNIFEM advocated for the adoption of Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008) on sexual violence in conflict. As Chair of *UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict*, UNDP/Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) advocated with Security Council members for the adoption of Security Council resolution 1820 (2008).

In July 2008, the Executive Committee on Peace and Security (ECPS), chaired by DPA, discussed the issue of sexual violence in conflict and Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008). It was agreed that ECPS would continue to receive regular briefings. The Under-Secretary-General of DPA sent a note to all ECPS members and relevant field presences requesting them to include a paragraph on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1820 (2008) in their reporting to the Security Council.

The DPKO/DFS Policy Directive on Gender Equality in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (November 2006) highlights DPKO/DFS obligation and commitment to address and prevent sexual and gender-based violence against women in post-conflict contexts, including sexual exploitation and abuse committed by civilian and uniformed personnel.

In February 2008, DPKO/DFS sent a Code Cable to all DPKO/DFS Field Offices on improved and systematic reporting on sexual violence to the Security Council, as had been requested during the 2007 open debate on resolution 1325 (2000). A further Code Cable was sent in June 2008, following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1820 (2008).

In June 2008, DPKO/DFS developed Guidelines for integrating gender perspectives into the work of United Nations Police in peacekeeping missions and a checklist of gender equality considerations in addressing sexual and gender-based violence. In August 2008, DPKO/DFS briefed Heads of military components of peace-keeping operations during their annual meeting on Security Council resolution 1820 (2008) and the role of the military in its implementation.

In February 2008, the Economic Commission for Africa organized a high-level policy dialogue in Addis Ababa on national implementation of the Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) in Africa, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women.

In June 2008, UNIFEM, in cooperation with UNICEF, OHCHR, UNFPA and the UN Peacekeeping Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, held a regional consultation towards the creation of the regional action plan to eradicate sexual violence and end impunity in the Great Lakes Region.

OHCHR contributed to the elaboration of a pilot project in the Democratic Republic of Congo to enhance access to justice for survivors of sexual violence.

In June 2008, UNIFEM organized a workshop with representatives from Afghanistan, Haiti, Liberia, Rwanda, Timor-Leste and Uganda as part of a programme on *Supporting Women's Engagement in Peace-Building and Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict: Community-Led Approaches*.

UNIFEM facilitated the Wilton Park conference of May 2008 on the role of military peacekeepers in addressing sexual violence during armed conflict, and contributed to the dissemination of the results.

ECA collaborated in the organization of a seminar by the African Union Commission, held in April 2008 in Addis Ababa, to commemorate the fourteenth anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide, on the theme "Ending violence against women in conflict situations: lessons drawn from the Rwandan Genocide".

Under the United Nations System-wide Work Programme on Scaling-up HIV/AIDS Services for Populations of Humanitarian Concern (PHC), in 2008 FAO analyzed the results of the research undertaken in 2007 in Kenya on the linkages between HIV/AIDS, gender inequality, and sexual and gender-based violence among populations of humanitarian concern (PHC) and refined the research tools to undertake a similar assessment in two provinces in Northern Uganda. This assessment will concentrate specifically on understanding the impact of sexual and gender-based violence on people's livelihood options, particularly among PHC.

UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences Sector has undertaken a programme of research on women's rights for peace and security in post conflict democracies in Africa. Researchers from 11 countries of the Great Lake Region, Sierra Leone and South Africa submitted papers on violence against women and the relationship between women's human rights, peace and security in post conflict context, as well as recommendations for the way forward to be addressed to policy- and decision-makers.

The Gender-based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS) in humanitarian and recovery settings, a joint effort of UNFPA, UNHCR and the IRC, is a first attempt to systematize management of reported data related to gender-based violence, with a focus on humanitarian and recovery contexts. A technical consultation was undertaken by the inter-agency team (UNFPA, the IRC and UNHCR) to pilot test the GBVIMS system in Uganda in May 2008.

*October 2008 to February 2009*

OSAGI participates in the work of the task force responsible for preparation of the Secretary-General's report on Security Council resolution 1820 (2008).

The Security Council adopted the third edition of the Aide Mémoire on the protection of civilians, annexed to the Presidential statement (S/PRST/2009/1), as the result of consultation between the Security Council and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), as well as between OCHA and concerned United Nations departments and agencies, and other relevant humanitarian organizations. The revised document includes substantive sections on sexual violence; protection of and assistance to women in conflict situations; and the equal and full participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution. The Emergency Relief Coordinator highlighted the significant progress made by United Nations actors in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to develop a comprehensive strategy to combat sexual violence but also noted that the absence of similar strategies in other contexts where sexual violence was widespread raised important questions of consistency.

OCHA is the co-chair of the Executive Committees on Humanitarian Affairs and Peace and Security (EHC/ECPS) UN and NGO Taskforce on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. It led the development of field-guidance for the implementation of a victim's assistance programme in accordance with GA resolution 62/214. Since 2008, 25 OCHA advisors have been deployed through GenCap to 18 humanitarian emergencies.

OCHA's Policy Development and Studies Branch organized an experts meeting to review current research on, and identify gaps in relation to: 1) Sexual violence in armed conflict: understanding the motivations; and 2) The nature, scope and motivation for sexual violence against men and

boys in conflict. Key outputs of the meeting were: 1) Identification of research priorities in order to design more effective strategies for preventing sexual violence in armed conflict; and 2) Identification and agreement on next steps to build on the current knowledge-base and establish communities of practice.

OSAGI prepared the annual report of the Secretary-General (S/2008/622) to the Security Council in follow-up to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). OSAGI continued to chair the Inter-Agency Task Force on women, peace and security, which supports the full implementation of resolution 1325. The Office serviced the open debate of the Security Council on 29 October 2008 and organized side events in partnership with other United Nations entities, Member States and NGOs. A photo exhibition "*A Global Crescendo: Women's Voices from Conflict Zones*" at United Nations Headquarters addressed violence against women and girls during armed conflict.

In collaboration with the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), OSAGI organized a virtual dialogue on best practices in national implementation of resolution 1325, in regard to violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations. As part of its effort to create an online training course on development of national action plans on resolution 1325 for Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa, OSAGI carried out research and analysis of gender-based violence in the relevant regions.

OSAGI continued to work on developing a common set of indicators for monitoring the implementation of resolution 1325 at the international and national levels, and participated in consultations with key United Nations system entities on the development of indicators on gender-based and sexual violence.

OSAGI, in collaboration with UNIFEM, UNFPA, UNIDO, UNICEF and UNDP, participates in the organization and support of the "International Colloquium on Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace and Security", scheduled to take place in Monrovia, in Liberia, from 7 to 8 March 2009. OSAGI provided substantive contributions to the consultations organized by Member States and United Nations entities on the situation in Democratic Republic of Congo regarding the increase of sexual violence.

The URGENT ACTION FUND, in collaboration with the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders, convened "Regional Consultations on Violence against Women in the Context of Conflict in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa Region", in Nairobi, Kenya, in December 2008. The consultations which brought together women human rights activists and advocates, regional networks, policy makers and researchers provided an opportunity for participants from conflict and post conflict countries to share experiences and develop strategies for more effective networking and partnership with the special mandate holders.

In December 2008, a week-long consultation was convened that brought together staff from UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Legal Counsel to the Great Lakes Conference, MONUC and relevant units within the OHCHR, to develop a coherent strategy for 2009 to address sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

OHCHR's home page featured a story focusing on Security Council resolution 1820. In December 2008, a story focused on the search for justice in post conflict situations. The story is based on two major OHCHR-commissioned studies on the effectiveness of international post-conflict accountability mechanisms in prosecuting sexual violence and on women's economic, social and cultural rights.

As a contribution to the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women", OHCHR financially supported and participated in a conference organized by the NGO *Medica Mondial*, entitled "*Women Seeking Justice - Getting Law*", in September 2008. Women from twenty-six mostly conflict or post conflict countries attended. The meeting took stock of

challenges and achievements in terms of access to justice for women, victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and proposals in order to overcome women's inequality.

In 2008, UNDP/Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery began the roll-out in 19 countries of the global programme Strengthening the Rule of Law in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations. In eight conflict/post-conflict countries (including Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Guinea Bissau, Kosovo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Timor Leste), the programme has strong components on gender-based violence.

UNFPA, in collaboration with World Education, held an expert workshop to develop a curriculum to address gender-based violence and violence against women in humanitarian/conflict/post-conflict settings.

WHO organized and hosted a meeting on data and data collection methodologies on sexual violence in conflict on behalf of UN Action in December 2008. In January 2009, WHO co-organized a workshop for humanitarian actions in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo, to introduce existing guidelines and initiate the integration of gender-based violence prevention and response actions.

UNHCR continued to work on the development of an Information Management System to improve data collection and information sharing on sexual and gender-based violence (GBVIMS). UNHCR and UNFPA jointly conducted technical support missions to Uganda and Kenya.

*March 2009 to September 2009*

UNFPA – via its Country Offices - was involved in implementing various components of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820 in humanitarian settings, including programming to address the needs of survivors of gender-based violence.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, UNDP worked with local authorities and traditional leaders to set up systems to prevent domestic and sexual violence.

UNIFEM, as part of UN Action, contributed to the organization of a high-level colloquium on conflict-related sexual violence and peace negotiations, which shared its conclusions at a United Kingdom-hosted Security Council Arria formula meeting related to the Secretary-General's report on Security Council Resolution 1820. UNIFEM continued to support activities to improve government and community police responses to sexual and gender-based violence in Darfur (with UNAMID).

In Liberia, under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Liberia 2008-2012, the WFP Country Office is midway through the first stage of a UN Joint Programme to reduce SBGV.

In Darfur, UNV volunteers mobilized a paralegal aid network comprised of attorneys, professors and speakers to volunteer their services. They provide seminars and training to internally displaced persons (IDPs), community members, women and men, youth, and traditional community leaders on gender-based violence, and how to best provide support to survivors and families. Volunteer attorneys also accompany UNDP on field missions with the Mobile Legal Aid Clinics to provide legal assistance to survivors.

UNESCO developed a project on school-related gender-based violence in six post conflict countries in Africa. This project is a follow up to the United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children.

WHO chaired the Scientific Committee for the 2009 *Sexual Violence Research Initiative* Forum which brought together almost 200 researchers and others from 78 countries to address:

prevention, health response, including mental health, HIV and sexual violence, and sexual violence in conflict.

In 2009, OHCHR in Colombia, in coordination with the OHCHR's Women's Rights and Gender Unit, undertook several training sessions to strengthen the capacity of the Attorney General's Office, as well as specialized NGOs, to prosecute crimes of sexual violence in the context of the armed conflict. The project foresees the elaboration of recommendations for a prosecution strategy.

In Sudan, OHCHR's technical cooperation programme focused on sexual and gender-based violence, including awareness-raising workshops; the implementation of a workplan to combat violence against women through the Unit for Combating Violence against Women of the UNMIS; supporting activities of three Darfur state committees on this issue; and trainings for female police officers, as well as investigative officers of the Family and Child unit. OHCHR, through the Human Rights section of UNAMID, conducted a series of workshops on skill-building for medical doctors, prosecutors, lawyers and midwives, dealing with victims of rape, in El fasher and Nyala. A workshop on human rights and rape counselling was organized for male and female police officers in North Darfur, and for male police investigators in South Darfur. UNAMID Human Rights staff also organized a workshop for the Central Reserve Police in West Darfur on international human rights law and the importance of laws and regulations regarding sexual and gender-based violence in their daily work.

*October 2009 to February 2010*

Issues # 5 and 6 of Words to Action, DAW's quarterly newsletter on violence against women, was produced with feature articles on sexual violence in conflict settings, and the vital role of CEDAW in eliminating violence against women.

In November 2009, UNFPA participated and was a key note speaker in the international conference on monitoring implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820, held in Oslo, Norway.

The project "Strengthening prevention of sexual violence in conflict with parties to armed conflict (phase I)" was submitted for funding to UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict in December 2009. The project, in which UNICEF, UNFPA, DPA and OCHA have partnered up, aims to develop a set of tools and approaches for engaging parties to conflict, and calling on them to respect international law and to stop using rape and other forms of sexual violence as a weapon of warfare.

In the context of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflicts, UNAIDS and partners aim to incorporate the HIV implications of sexual violence in conflict and post conflict situations into the progress report on implementation of resolution 1308, to be presented at the Security Council in Fall 2010. Sexual violence is one of the three output areas for the "UN system-wide work programme to scale up HIV services for populations of humanitarian concern" project implemented by FAO, OCHA IRIN, OCHA, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, WFP, WHO, UNICEF under the coordination of the UNAIDS Secretariat. This is an example of how UNAIDS is integrating attention to sexual and gender-based violence into HIV programming. FAO has elaborated a GBV guidance note related to HIV-AIDS and GBV in emergency situations.

UNAIDS is providing technical and/or financial support to an additional six countries to strengthen programming to reduce sexual violence against girls. Violence against women has been made a priority of the Global Uniformed Services Task Force on HIV. A strategy is being developed and implemented to ensure that uniformed services undergo basic awareness raising and training in the prevention of sexual violence in addition to HIV.

During 2009, UNHCR organized a session for staff at Headquarters to raise awareness about Security Council resolutions 1820 and 1888, and also held a lecture on *Revisiting Strategies of Inclusion and Violence against Women*. UNHCR commemorated the 16 days of activism campaign against gender violence at Headquarters and in the field with a variety of activities, including a demonstration of solidarity by UNHCR staff in joining the “Get Cross” campaign of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

In December 2009, UNFPA held a training in Mauritius for staff working in regional and country offices to improve their capacity to effectively prevent and respond to GBV in humanitarian settings and to coordinate multi-sectoral responses to GBV in humanitarian settings. In November 2009, UNFPA, in collaboration with the International Center for Reproductive Health at Ghent University in Belgium, organized a 2-week training for humanitarian professionals in Ghent, Belgium, on addressing gender-based violence in humanitarian settings.

On behalf of the IASC Sub-working group on Gender, in November 2009 OCHA facilitated a workshop in Panama on gender equality and gender-based violence programming in humanitarian settings for the Central American region. The workshop aimed to roll out the Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action and the Guidelines for gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian settings.

The Gender Capacity Standby Roster (GenCap) Steering Committee held its annual planning and strategy meeting in October 2009. It decided to increase the number of deployments from 120 months in 2009 to 170 months in 2010 and to recruit more members to the GenCap roster. The IASC Gender Sub-Working Group (SWG) on Gender and Humanitarian Action, in collaboration with InterAction, developed a certificate-based online course on gender in humanitarian action. The target audience is humanitarian field workers, and prevention of gender-based violence in a key facet of the course.

UNDP continued to play a key role in increasing access to justice for women, girls and survivors of gender-based violence in crisis and post-crisis countries.

UNIFEM continued advocacy related to Security Council resolutions 1888 and 1889. UNIFEM participated in UNCT programmes and other inter-agency initiatives in many countries, such as in the development of the UN Action-supported strategy on sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

UNFPA partnered with the Center for Diseases Control (CDC), the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI), UNICEF, UNAIDS, UNIFEM and WHO in a multi-country multi-stakeholder initiative on addressing sexual violence against girls. The initiative is being rolled out in 4 pilot countries.

The UNESCO Communication and Information Sector conducted numerous activities in post-conflict countries, where an emphasis was put on women’s involvement in conflict resolution, peace-building, and reconstruction through better access to information. In this context, safety training for women journalists against violence and specific threats to foster security of women journalists in conflict and post conflict situations is strongly supported. UNESCO is following up on the development of its project on school-related gender-based violence in six post conflict countries in Africa.

The WHO Global Health Cluster tools and guidance integrate prevention of and response to sexual violence as part of the minimum set of actions to be undertaken by the health sector in humanitarian settings. Training on these tools and guidance is ongoing at global, regional, nation and sub-national levels and technical support is provided to country level humanitarian health clusters. WHO with UNHCR and UNFPA, launched an e-learning programme on the clinical management of rape in emergencies settings.

In September 2009, a workshop, jointly facilitated by UNHCR, UNFPA and the International Rescue Committee, was held on the establishment of standard operating procedures to address SGBV, and on the gender-based violence information management system (GBVIMS). The workshop included participants from the Central African Republic, Chad, Liberia, Nepal, and Sudan. UNHCR and UNFPA conducted GBVIMS technical support missions to the refugee operations in Kenya and Thailand.

#### *March to September 2010*

OHCHR, along with the Office of the SRSG on Sexual Violence in Conflict, DPKO and UNDP, worked on the operationalization of the team of experts to be deployed to situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict, in order to assist national authorities to strengthen the rule of law, as called for under Security Council Resolution 1888. At the headquarters level, UNDP and other UN entities have developed a joint programme document and secured seed funding from the UN Action Against Sexual Violence Multi-donor Trust Fund (MDTF) for an initial six month period to recruit and put in place the team of experts.

During its Standing Committee in June, UNHCR introduced the outline of its strategy for the next five years to address sexual and gender-based violence.

The OHCHR/Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section in the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste worked on the Draft Laws on Reparations, through an OHCHR-funded consultant, tasked with producing the original draft laws, and the follow-up institution for the truth commissions, such as the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR) and the Commission for Truth and Friendship (CTF), advocating for the inclusion of victims of sexual violence.

With the support of UN partners, i.e. the UN Gender Technical Team, the President of Sierra Leone launched the Sierra Leone National Action Plan (SILNAP) on the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820. The National Action Plan has five pillars: prevention of conflict, including violence against women and children; protection and empowerment of victims and vulnerable persons especially women and girls; effective prosecution of perpetrators and protection of women and girls; safeguard of human rights to protect during and post conflict; rehabilitation of survivors of SGBV and perpetrators; participation and representation of women; promotion of coordination of the implementation process, including resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation of reporting on the National Action Plan.

UNFPA organized the panel of the Commission on the Status of Women on “Women, Peace and Security”.

OCHA, with UNICEF, is conducting research on strengthening prevention of sexual violence in conflict by state and non-state armed groups.

In Sierra Leone, UNDP provided grants to 6 civil society organisations to provide support services to SGBV victims, including legal aid, primarily in Bo and Makeni. The referral mechanism for SGBV cases has been enhanced across communities and several perpetrators have been convicted. Services provided by civil society organisations to victims of SGBV has also led to the conviction of several perpetrators. UNDP also supported legal aid clinics in the Kivus area, located in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, resulting in the conviction of several perpetrators of SGBV. UNDP is supporting the Family Support Units in the Police, both in Sierra Leone and DRC, by developing guidelines on SGBV case management and by ensuring the necessary equipment for their implementation.

In Somaliland, Somalia, the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) operates in Hargeisa, as a ‘one-stop’ location, where victims of SGBV can receive medical care, counselling, free legal advice and representation. The victims are also given the opportunity to report the assault to the

police. In Puntland, in Somalia, the Puntland Elders Network has been established in line with the State Conference for Traditional Leaders of Puntland Declaration, according to which the elders are committed, inter alia, to refer cases of rape to the formal justice system.

In Southern Sudan, women's security and their access to justice is a top priority for UNDP. Four Special Protection Units (SPUs) were established to provide a secure environment for women to report cases of gender-based violence. UNDP's law enforcement project supports the SPUs. Through the SPUs, UNDP in close collaboration with the Southern Sudan Police Service, and other UN actors, including UNIFEM, UNFPA, UNMIS and UNHCR, helps women secure services in protected and confidential environments. The SPUs, along with the training of 120 police officers is expected to increase the number of reported cases of GBV in addition to a number of cases being concluded; to increase cases of gender-based violence that are investigated and prosecuted; to reduce incidents of gender-based violence; to enhance the police responsiveness to community concerns.

UNHCR continues work through the newly established Stabilization and Recovery (STAREC) funding in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. UNHCR received support for its consolidated program in South Kivu and Ituri provinces in the east. The main activities will be developing standard sensitization tools, training of military personnel and National Police, bolstering the capacity of community networks and targeted groups to better prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence, and facilitation of the establishment of community networks and mediation committees.

UNHCR and the U.S.Center for Disease Control (CDC) continue to work together on a population based survey on the magnitude of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and the barriers to protection and other services among refugee populations. A feasibility mission was carried out in one refugee settlement and one urban site in Uganda.

In DRC, in order to strengthen assistance and support to victims of sexual violence, OHCHR has assembled a high-level panel of experts that will convene in the end of September 2010. The panel, led by the Deputy High Commissioner, will hold a series of hearings in various parts of the DRC with survivors of sexual violence as well as other actors. It will examine how victims perceive and evaluate institutional responses to the crimes committed against them. Ultimately, this project will provide a much needed advocacy tool not only for developing a reparations mechanism for all victims of sexual violence, but also for addressing the many weaknesses in the judicial system that affect prosecution of this crime in the DRC.

UNFPA is a key partner, along with the Centre for Diseases Control, the Clinton Global Initiative and UNICEF, in a research programme on ending sexual violence against girls, that has been rolled out in 4 countries.

UNIFEM released *Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence: An Analytical Inventory of Peacekeeping Practice*, developed with DPKO as part of UN Action and supported emergency efforts in Kyrgyzstan related to gender-based violence.

In DRC, the MONUSCO Sexual Violence Unit (Office of the DSRSG-Ro) created an inter-section forum on data collection and sharing with the aim to find a solution with respect to the collection of reliable data on sexual violence. Led by the UN Joint Human Rights Office, a common MONUSCO database was developed, in order to provide more accurate data on sexual violence cases, collected by the Mission's Military and Civilian Sections. Another project, aimed at increasing and better managing available information on perpetrators of serious human rights violations, is the *Profiling Exercise* of MONUSCO Human Rights Division, jointly carried out by MONUSCO, UNDP and OHCHR. The project focuses on members of the Congolese security services, especially those in the upper echelons or ranks, with a special focus on their human rights records. The Profiling Team has created a database which will link commanders to serious

human rights violations (including sexual violence but not exclusively), clarify current and former command structures of security services and armed groups and serve as the basis for creating detailed profiles of such individuals. This database is still being developed and data is being entered. The database will be fully operational in February 2011. OHCHR is carrying out a mapping of major violations of human rights and humanitarian law, including sexual violence, committed in the DRC from 1993 to 2003. OHCHR's Mapping Report will be released on 1 October with the objective to enable the Government of the DRC to identify appropriate transitional justice mechanisms to deal with the legacy of these violations.

*October 2010-February 2011*

The Security Council Resolution 1960 on women, peace and security, was unanimously adopted by the Security Council on December 16, 2010. Resolution 1960 calls upon the Secretary-General to include information in his annual reports on parties "credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence", as well as listing in an annex parties credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for "patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict that are on the Security Council agenda". It calls upon the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and senior UN officials to engage in dialogue with parties to armed conflict to secure specific, time-bound commitments to prevent and address sexual violence.

Former OSAGI, now part of UN Women, led and coordinated the preparation of the annual Report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security (S/2010/498), which was presented to the Security Council during a Ministerial-level Open Debate (26 October 2010) to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). The report included as an annex a set of indicators for use at the global level to track the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). A major recommendation of this report relates to the development of a framework to guide the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) over the next decade.

UNDP-Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR) has recruited an expert to contribute to the Team of Experts who will be in post as of February 2011. The Expert will undertake the technical work and deployments of the Team of Experts, whilst BCPR Rule of Law, Justice and Security team and senior management will continue to be closely engaged with the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and the Team of Experts Team Leader regarding the overall strategy and direction of the Team.

In December 2010, a high-level event that brought together petitioners and thinkers on the issue of gender-based violence and conflict was held. This has been followed by a note on sexual violence during conflict and engagement with the US government on their inputs into the National Action Plan to advance the commitment on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security.

UNFPA has developed a draft strategy on gender-based Violence for the Latin America and Caribbean region via a workshop held in Guatemala in September 2010. The sub-regional strategy – with a focus on sexual violence – will aim to provide guidance to UNFPA country offices and partners in the region to develop a comprehensive response to addressing sexual violence.

In Serbia, UNDP supported the development of strategies to address sexual gender-based violence and a draft document on this topic was finalized. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, strategies to address sexual gender-based violence were also developed as a part of the transitional justice strategy, which includes a focus on survivors of sexual gender-based violence from the 1992-95 armed conflict.

UNFPA provided technical and funding support to the Nepal government to develop the National Action Plan on SCR 1325. UNRWA is participating in UNHCR's (Jordan and Syria) Sexual Gender-Based Violence coordination meeting.

A guidance note "*Gender-based violence and livelihood interventions: Focus on populations of humanitarian concern in the context of HIV and AIDS*" has been developed and widely disseminated through the FAO/DIMITRA network(<http://www.fao.org/dimitra/resources-by-theme/violence-against-women/en/>).

Implementation continued of the multi-country programme of UNIFEM now part of UN Women on community-based peacebuilding and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence in Timor Leste, Liberia, Uganda, and Haiti. The joint programming initiative under the Inter-agency Task Force on Violence against Women works to develop the capacities of national stakeholders to achieve specific international commitments.

UNFPA in collaboration with UNIFEM and UNESCAP organised a capacity development workshop in Thailand in October 2010 aimed at helping 11 country offices in the Asia-Pacific region understand SCR 1325. This workshop also launched the Asia-Pacific technical platform on SCR 1325, the purpose of which is to provide technical assistance to countries in the region on the development of National Action Plans on SCR 1325.

UNFPA provides support to the Kofi Annan Peace Institute in Ghana to develop capacities of grassroots women to implement SCR 1325 components in select African countries.

The OHCHR Regional Office for South-East Asia participated in the Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of UN Security Council 1325, on Women, Peace and Security held by the Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (TWG-GEEW). The event also launched the Regional Advisory Group on Women, Peace and Security, where several stakeholders were present. The OHCHR Regional Office in the Pacific gave a presentation on "Women and Conflict and Peace and Security" at the Regional Training Program on violence against women, which was organized and facilitated by Fiji Women's Crisis Center (FWCC). On 26 October, the Regional Office and the OHCHR New York Office organized a workshop for the 1325 anniversary in New York entitled: *Unrecognized Conflict: Women's Survival and Security*. The workshop discussed issues of unknown and unrecognized conflicts and how they impact women's security. On 27 October, in New York, the OHCHR facilitated a workshop on "Building Peace: Exploring the Intersections of Militarism and Violence against Women", as part of the 1325 anniversary. The OHCHR Regional Office in the Pacific published a discussion paper for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, entitled "*Armed Tribal Conflict and Sorcery in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea*." On 25 October, the Regional Office further presented issues from the discussion paper at a workshop 'Voices from the Frontlines' organized by the United Methodist Women and World Council of Churches.

The Department of Public Information worked to promote the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 on women and peace and security, by producing press materials, including a media backgrounder.

The Department's UN News Centre covered Security Council action on violence against women, and violence against women in crisis or conflict situations, especially in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Cote d'Ivoire. Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict Margot Wallstrom was also interviewed for a News Centre feature as part of the "Newsmakers" series.

ESCWA Centre for Women organized several events on 25-26 October 2010 to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UN SCR 1325, including the launch of the publication entitled "Means to strengthen the role of women in conflict resolution and peace-building", a round table discussion with the theme "Ten years 1325: Where are we now?", and a workshop for Member States on

drafting national action plans to implement the UN SCR 1325. On the occasion of the International Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women and the 16 Days of Activism, ESCWA Centre for Women organized several events, including a discussion on violence against women in conflict settings in Arab countries, held on the International Human Rights Day.

UNESCO continued its activities in post-conflict countries, including activities on women's involvement in conflict resolution, peace-building, and reconstruction through better access to information.

UNFPA Country Offices – in more than 32 countries – are operationalizing various components of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, under the four pillars of the Resolution, including the pillar on Prevention and Protection.

The launch of the UNFPA's 2010 State of the World Population Report (SWOP) was held in October 2010 and it links Peace, Security and Development to Women's Rights and Empowerment and its release coincided with the 10th anniversary of the SCR 1325 landmark resolution.

Several initiatives in countries in the ECIS region were supported by UNDP to raise awareness and support advocacy work related to sexual gender-based violence. In Kosovo, documentaries were produced and a series of debates were held, including one on the possession of firearms and its potential impact on households and communities in Kosovo. In Kyrgyzstan, multi-stakeholder fora were organized. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, civil society organisations were supported to implement advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns. Several countries organized events and activities around the "16 days of activism" campaign to end violence against women. Kosovo held an SMS campaign and debates with students, Kyrgyzstan hosted a forum promoting the role of women in peace-building, and Croatia organised, in partnership with the Ministry of Interior and Croatian police, a nationwide awareness-raising campaign, where influential Croatian men participated, including the president.

The newly constructed centre to treat and reintegrate survivors of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo is a joint project of V-Day, a global activist movement to stop violence against women and girls, UNICEF and Panzi Hospital. WHO contributed to the 2010 revision of the IAWG inter-agency field manual on reproductive health in humanitarian settings which features a section on sexual and other forms of gender-based violence.

Since October 2010, FAO is the new Chair of the Regional Inter-Agency working Group on HIV and gender-based violence in emergency settings. The Regional IAWG ensures that HIV and gender-based violence prevention and protection, AIDS treatment, care and impact mitigation are prioritized and scaled up in humanitarian emergency work in Eastern Africa, the Horn and the Great Lakes Regions.

In its efforts to address the protection concerns of its beneficiaries, WFP has started a project which will enhance the prevention and response to sexual- and gender-based violence (SGBV) in displacement settings. The project period is from September 2010 to September 2011, and aims to:

- a. conduct a mapping exercise of the extent of SGBV in relation to food assistance in displacement settings;
- b. collect and compile good practices on prevention and response to SGBV in food assistance to guide WFP staff and partners;
- c. build the capacity of WFP and partner staff to understand the relation between protection threats, SGBV and food assistance and be able to respond as appropriate;
- d. ensure WFP compliance with the UN zero-tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in pilot countries.

Targeted countries for implementation include: Kenya, Sudan (Darfur), Haiti, DRC, Myanmar, Chad and Burundi. In Myanmar, WFP has completed an analysis on protection and SGBV, and

conducted a protection training with a special session on SGBV. In Kenya, WFP has conducted an SGBV mapping and support has been provided to PSEA focal points..In Chad, WFP has conducted an SGBV mapping and SAFE (Safe Access to Firewood and alternative Energy) assessment, provided training on protection, SGBV (including PSEA) and SAFE and provided programme support for the integration of protection (including prevention of and response to SGBV) into WFP programme tools.

With the support of UNESCO's Research and Documentation Centre for Women, based in Kinshasa (the Democratic Republic of Congo), a three-day workshop on "Sociocultural Approaches to Combating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence" was organised in Kinshasa from 9 to 11 December 2010. Several stakeholders discussed about the root causes of sexual violence and the role of stakeholders to combat it. Socio-cultural messages, strategies and activities to prevent violence against women were elaborated and stakeholders to implement those were identified.

UNICEF has been leading a mapping exercise on the activities of different actors at the field level to increase the safety and security of women and children, girls especially, and to prevent gender-based violence related to conflict and disasters. This information will be used to inform an overall gender-based violence prevention framework. Through the initiative "Together for Girls" – a public/private sector partnership to address sexual violence against girls–UNICEF has supported the undertaking of two surveys on violence against children in Tanzania and Kenya, with a particular focus on sexual violence against girls. In January 2011, UNICEF officially joined, IRC, UNFPA and UNHCR in the Steering Committee of the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBV IMS). UNICEF finalized an inter-agency training package "The Caring for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Emergencies", that has been endorsed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Sub-Working Group on Gender in Humanitarian Action with support from the Gender-based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR). The training package provides information and skill development, for various stakeholders, in relation to treatment of sexual violence survivors in conflict-affected countries or complex emergencies, including medical treatment.

UNICEF led the development of the *Handbook for Coordinating Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings*, which is a quick-reference tool that provides practical guidance on leadership roles, key responsibilities and specific actions to be taken when establishing and maintaining a gender-based violence coordination mechanism in a humanitarian setting. It is disseminated in English, French and Arabic. Trainings were conducted for coordination partners in Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Ethiopia on utilizing the Handbook.

UNICEF and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) launched a joint initiative to improve programs to address gender-based violence in emergencies and support child survivors. A course "Protecting Women and Child Survivors of Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies through Improved Coordination" has been developed and the first one will be provided in February, in New York. This course focuses on GBV coordinators' role in their response for children, and in their work with other clusters, especially Child Protection Working Groups/Sub-clusters, to mitigate risk to women and girls in diverse emergency response settings.

The Human Rights Section of MINUSTAH in Haiti participated in a workshop organized by the Direction départementale du Ministère à la condition féminine et aux droits de la femme, aimed at sensitizing the local population on sexual gender- based violence. The Human Rights Section together with the UNIFEM and IOM organized training for 20 UNPOL team leaders concerning the protection and response to the widespread occurrence of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) within IDP camps. In light of the increased incidence of sexual and domestic violence, the Human Rights Section in Jacmel, together with the Ministry for Women, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (ONUSIDA), participated in a sensitization workshop at the Pinchinat Camp. The Human Rights Section stressed the importance of victims of sexual violence obtaining a medical certificate and

denouncing the authors of these violations, in order to reduce their recurrence through accountability.

Following the report of the “Panel on Reparations for Sexual Violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo”, in December 2010, the OHCHR undertook a follow-up mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo to discuss the findings and recommendations of the report with all stakeholders.

In Sri Lanka, UNDP’s “Equal Access to Justice” project launched its “Community Legal Empowerment for Women” project in November 2010. The project targets also men and includes initiatives, such as legal awareness workshops, which address prevention and response mechanisms related to sexual gender-based violence; benefits of formally registering marriages. The workshops also seek to build effective referral pathways for those who are interested in accessing the projects. Two programs of training of trainers have already been conducted.

In Guinea Conakry, UNDP partnered with several stakeholders and coordinated the development of “Standard Operational Procedures” on assistance for survivors of sexual violence and of a referral system. UNDP supports a women’s network to provide legal aid, and information to survivors of gender-based violence.

In Sierra Leone, UNDP continued to support six civil society organizations to provide legal aid to sexual gender-based violence survivors, resulting in 19 convictions bringing the total to 45 convictions in 2010 (compared to zero in 2009, according to GoSiL). UNDP will continue to build the capacity of the Sierra Leone Bar Association to ensure institutional sustainability of legal service provision on sexual gender-based violence.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, UNDP supported NGOs to establish eight paralegal centers at the community level; two in North Kivu and six in South Kivu. The paralegal centers have assisted with more than 183 cases by providing information and orientation to victims and ultimately positively influencing national peace processes and contributing to post-crisis recovery and peace-building. In partnership with Avocats Sans Frontieres, UNDP supported the South Kivu Bar Association to launch a pro bono office providing legal aid, now serving Bukavu. As a result of the collective efforts of the international community to support the strengthening of the rule of law in Eastern DRC to counter sexual gender-based violence and through the leading role of UNDP leading role in these efforts (training, mentoring, logistics and equipment to police, victims, paralegals and lawyers), two important investigations were conducted in Walikale territory following the large number of rapes which occurred in May and August 2010.

In Somalia (Somaliland), a referral system, facilitated by UNDP, was established in 2010 through which clan elders refer cases involving serious violations of gender violence to the formal courts. As a result of the new referral system, and the work of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre in Hargeisa (SARC), there has been a 44% increase of sexual violence cases referred to the formal courts, compared to 2009.

In Nepal, informal legal aid desks, operating in police stations, were supported by UNDP. Mobile legal aid clinics in three districts provided free legal services and information to 1524 people (80% were women). The paralegal programme, at the community level, was expanded in 2010 and the paralegal committees received training on gender-based violence and justice, helping to mainstream a national awareness initiative on sexual gender-based violence.

Human Rights Sections of Peace Keeping Operations continue to implement activities related to sexual gender-based violence.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Serbia, UNDP supported the development of curricula and the training of judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement agencies on how to approach cases of sexual gender-based violence: capacity-building for monitoring trials related to sexual gender-

based violence, in Bosnia and Herzegovina by targeting NGOs, and in Kyrgyzstan through the Ombudsman Institute.

In Sri Lanka, UNDP's "Equal Access to Justice" project has undertaken a series of workshops targeting community-based organizations in plantation areas, in order to strengthen the support networks for survivors of gender-based violence at the local level. In these workshops several issues related sexual gender-based and domestic violence were discussed.

In Liberia, through its programme on Strengthening the Rule of Law and Administration in Liberia, UNDP supports the capacity of national institutions to address sexual gender-based violence crimes; to implement the recommendations of CEDAW and the Action Plans on SCR 1325 and the National Gender Policy to promote gender equality. The programme continued with financial and technical support to the sexual gender-based violence Crimes Unit.

The main objectives of the UNDP "Access to Justice Program" in the Democratic Republic of Congo are to promote legal awareness; strengthen judicial response; and increase access to justice. In 2010, 213 local and traditional leaders benefited from sensitization campaigns, and 20 military officers in charge of training and communication were trained to provide awareness-raising amongst military forces on sexual gender-based violence, command, leadership and disciplinary measures. These officers have further sensitized high-ranking officers and soldiers. Brochures and posters on "how to exercise your rights as a victim of sexual gender-based violence" were disseminated, primarily targeting victims. In Guinea Conakry, UNDP partnered with the Bar Association to organize sensitizations on sexual violence for judiciary personnel.

With sponsorship from the Government of Norway, OSAGI collaborated with INSTRAW and ECLAC, to develop an online training course entitled Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) in Latin America and the Caribbean to be distributed by the Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI). A second course on the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) in Africa, is being finalised for distribution. The courses will provide students with an overview of the resolution as well as context-specific issues and challenges that impact effective implementation, and will outline the process of developing a National Action Plan on resolution 1325 (2000). As chair of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security former OSAGI and UNIFEM- now both part of UN Women, in consultations with Member States and UN entities, led and coordinated the development of both the framework and the set of indicators to track the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000).

#### *March 2011 to January 2012*

The UNAIDS Secretariat provided support for the Security Council debate in June 2011 on Impact of HIV/AIDS on International Peace and Security. The resulting UN Security Council resolution 1983 includes prevention of sexual violence in conflict and post conflict situations.

From 13 to 14 September 2011, the Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (RCM TWG-GEEW) (co-chaired by ESCAP and UN Women) organised and hosted the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional Advisory Group on Women and Peace and Security, during which the terms of reference were adopted and priority areas for action and support were discussed. The outcome was shared in an open session ("Priorities for Implementing United Nations Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in the Asia-Pacific region"). In addition, at its 2 September 2011 meeting, the RCM TWG-GEEW agreed to establish a UNiTE Working Group under its auspices, which is now working to implement the UNiTE Campaign in the Asia-Pacific region.

OCHA supports the Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap), in collaboration with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), aimed at building the capacity of humanitarian actors at country level to mainstream gender in all sectors of humanitarian response. From June 2007 to April 2011, 54 GenCap Advisers have supported 30

Humanitarian Country Teams. A Gender-Based Violence (GBV) window has been established in the GenCap Roster. In August 2011, the Global Public Policy Institute (GPPI) embarked on an evaluation which was commissioned to inform the decision over whether the GenCap Project should be phased out, maintained or expanded, in addition to providing concrete suggestions for change. In mid-September the evaluators interviewed a broad spectrum of stakeholders in Geneva. Field visits included South Sudan, Sudan, Pakistan and Zimbabwe. Two learning workshops were conducted to verify findings and refine recommendations. The evaluation found that GenCap advisers have made an effective contribution to raising awareness and increasing the understanding and acceptance of gender among humanitarian actors. It concluded that the GenCap project remains highly relevant and should be continued in the medium-term future.

The OHCHR continued to work closely with the SRSG on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SVC) to support her mandate through the provision of information and support in connection with country visits; support to staff fielded by the SRSG SVC for specific purposes and joint follow-up to SRSG SVC's visit. OHCHR also provided secretariat support to Commissions of Inquiry created by the Human Rights Council. UN Women supported these Commissions by seconding a gender advisor to ensure adequate attention and treatment of violence against women, including appropriate collection and storage of evidence and protection of survivors' confidentiality.

In Colombia, prior to the adoption of the Victim and Land Restitution Law, UN Women provided technical assistance to the government to incorporate a gender perspective and promoted regional consultations with women's organizations and a public hearing at the National Congress. This law recognizes that women are among the most vulnerable victims and therefore they need to receive special attention in the provision of medical and physiological services, access to education and restitution of their properties.

In West Africa, OHCHR's Regional Office, together with other UN entities and partners, supported the organization of a round-table of the Ministers of Women's Affairs of the 16 ECOWAS Member States at the end of which a regional action plan was adopted. The plan has three main objectives: to improve participation of women in conflict prevention in the ECOWAS countries; to ensure effective protection of women and girls in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict periods; and to ensure fair participation of women and men in peace, security and reconstruction processes in post-conflict situations.

A meeting of the Asia-Pacific Regional Advisory Group on Women, Peace and Security was held in Bangkok, in September 2011, with the purpose of rolling out technical assistance to countries on developing SCR 1325 National Action Plans.

Following UNFPA's technical and funding support to the Nepalese government, the National Action Plan on SCR 1325 was publicly released during the 2011 CSW in New York.

In Senegal, OHCHR was part of the national steering committee supporting the Ministry of Gender in the formulation of a national action plan on Security Council Resolution 1325.

OHCHR supported the organization of a full-day discussion on women's rights at the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council, which focused on the prevention of violence against women and conflict-related violence against women and girls.

In October 2011, UNODA's Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) organised a workshop, with the UN Togo country team, to draft and support the adoption of a National Action Plan for Togo to implement UNSC Resolution 1325 (2000). Furthermore, UNREC assisted in the creation of REPSFECO-TOGO, the Togo branch of ECOWAS' Women's Network Working for Peace.

As a member of the "Gender is my agenda campaign" (GIMAC), the ECA co-hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> Pre-Summit Consultative Meeting, in partnership with Femmes Afrique Solidarité and The Mary

Robinson Foundation—Climate Justice, in January 2012. Participants recognized the need to intensify measures to end violence against women and girls, especially in the areas of sexual violence in conflict.

In November 2011, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) carried out radio and television awareness-raising programmes on the prevention and elimination of violence against women in cooperation with the Togolese Ministry for Women.

DPI's UN Radio produced a variety of programmes in the six UN official languages plus Kiswahili and Portuguese on violence against women, including features on abuses suffered by women in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Three films on gender-based violence and the impacts of war on women were made in Afghanistan, Guatemala and Iraq and the films were broadcasted globally via various TV channels. UNFPA interventions in these countries on addressing the issue were focused on in each film.

In June 2011, the United Nations Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) co-organised a workshop on Gun Violence in Nepal that brought together political leaders, government officials and media representatives, with significant women's participation, to raise awareness on gender-based violence.

UNICEF and OCHA completed phase 1 of a joint project to prevent use of sexual violence by armed groups. In October 2011, UNODA New York provided expertise to a meeting of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) on 'Why Women? Effective Engagement for Small Arms Control' that launched a report on why it is important to include women in small arms control and disarmament initiatives.

In July 2011, the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, participated in a general discussion on the protection of women's human rights in conflict and post-conflict which was organized in New York by the CEDAW Committee.

In post-earthquake Haiti, a project funded by the Rapid Social Response Multi-Donor Trust Fund provides technical assistance to promote women and girls' safety and addresses sexual violence through community-based interventions. The project has the following components: 1) public education to promote awareness and prevention of GBV; 2) institutional strengthening to enhance resources and outreach for GBV; 3) knowledge sharing and exchange of experiences on GBV in post-disaster or post-conflict settings; and 4) project coordination and monitoring and evaluation.

In Sudan, the Human Rights Section of UNAMID organized workshops addressing sexual gender-based violence in West Darfur, developed and installed billboards related to sexual and gender-based violence around South Darfur, produced leaflets on the mandate, role and services of the Family and Child Protection Units and trained State actors on human rights and criminal investigation procedures.

In March 2011, UNODA's Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) organised a seminar on "UN Regional Best and Promising Practices on Armed Violence Reduction and Prevention for South and Southeast Asia". A full session of the seminar analyzed, discussed and assessed the interrelations between armed violence and gender. In cooperation with civil society organisations, UNRCPD identified best practices in mainstreaming gender issues and in armed violence reduction programming.

In Somalia, UNHCR is working with UNDP on several programmes to improve security and prevent sexual violence. Neighbourhood watch scheme were set up, and cooperation with the police was strengthened to prevent and respond to sexual violence in IDP camps. In Colombia, UNHCR established partnerships with government agencies and civil society organizations to

address sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) at national, regional and local levels, to ensure implementation of prevention and response strategies at all levels.

In South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the World Bank supports a program providing medical, psychological, and legal assistance to survivors of gender based violence (GBV) and their families, as well as community-led prevention activities. A similar project in Cote d'Ivoire is expected to run until March 2012. Both projects incorporate impact evaluation to measure the effectiveness of the interventions.

UNICEF and WHO, supported by UN Action funds, organized a technical meeting on Responding to the Psychosocial and Mental Health Needs of Sexual Violence Survivors in Conflict-Affected Settings from 28 to 30 November 2011.

UNICEF also developed in partnership with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) a 5-day curriculum "Protecting Women and Child Survivors of Gender Based Violence in Emergencies through Improved Coordination." This course is unique in its attention to the gender-based violence (GBV) coordinators' role in effectively prioritizing specialized response for children, and its consideration of how GBV coordinators can effectively work with other clusters, especially Child Protection Working Groups, to mitigate risk to women and girls in diverse emergency response settings.

The Joint Human Rights Office of MONUSCO (Democratic Republic of Congo - DRC) issued special reports on sexual violence notably in the DRC. It is also implementing a program to increase access to justice for victims and witnesses, including through technical and financial assistance to local non-governmental organizations to enable them to provide free legal advice to victims of sexual violence, as well as support to prosecutors and judicial investigators.

In May 2011, UNICEF and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) jointly published "Advancing the Field: Caring for Child Survivors of Sexual Abuse in Emergency Settings, A Review of Promising Practices to Improve Case Management, Psychosocial & Mental Health Interventions, and Clinical Care for Child Survivors of Sexual Abuse."

UN Women organized for community-led programming at the country level, such as in Liberia with its continued support to women's peace huts, where women volunteers refer survivors of gender-based violence to medical, psychosocial and justice services, carry out grassroots mediation to prevent conflict, and have even investigated cases of sexual violence and referred them to police stations; the development of referral pathways for survivors in Timor-Leste, in collaboration with other UN entities, local women's organizations, and local *succo* chiefs; and the organization of neighborhood safety patrols near Haiti's IDP camps along the same routes as the women use to go to school, the market, or water pumps, in order to mark out areas for improved lighting or police presence and encourage women and girls to report any instances of gender-based violence.

In 2011, together with UN Women, OHCHR supported the preparation of a study on reparations for victims of conflict-related sexual violence, which will inform a guidance note on this issue to be finalized in 2012.

The report of the High Level Panel on remedies and reparations for victims of sexual violence in the DRC was launched in March 2011. A joint follow-up project with UN Women was developed and is being implemented. It focuses on the development of small pilot initiatives in the areas of Bukavu and Shabunda, in close consultations with the victims and with the participation of the State. They include economic reinsertion initiatives; symbolic reparations and support for payment of court awarded damages.

As a key member of UN Action as well as co-chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Sexual Violence in Conflict, UNFPA is actively involved in addressing issues of sexual violence in

conflict via ongoing programmatic interventions in countries that are in conflict, post-conflict and humanitarian settings.

OHCHR, UNFPA and other UN agencies participated in the work of the Standing Committee on Women, Peace and Security of INAGWE and in 2011 was closely involved in the development of the 1325 Strategic Framework and in the technical development of relevant 1325 indicators.

UN Women developed, as requested by the Secretary-General and in collaboration with DPKO and UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, early warning indicators of conflict-related sexual violence, to be adapted to relevant country-based contexts, integrated into existing and emerging early warning systems, and used by a broad range of protection actors. These indicators were endorsed by the UN Action Steering Committee and will be rolled out in 2012.

UN Women supported the Afghanistan Ministry of Women's Affairs to collect data on violence against women (VAW) and set up a web-based database and coding system on VAW. UN Women and UNDP supported an assessment of gender-based violence (GBV) Prevalence, Trends, Legal Recourse, Impact Focusing on Conflict and Transitional Period in ten selected districts of Terai, Nepal. GBV was found to be widely prevalent during the conflict and the transition phase. Recommendations were made to various government and development agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Several products related to the Gender-Based Violence Information and Management System (GBVIMS) were developed and rolled out in Somalia, Nepal, South Sudan, Uganda, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire and Colombia. Focus remained to train agencies working in humanitarian sites in these countries. To access the GBVIMS System, visit: [gbvmimis.org](http://gbvmimis.org)

A 2011 study "Sex and Age Matter" produced by the Feinstein International Center and sponsored by OCHA and CARE International demonstrates that the humanitarian community needs to greatly increase its collection and use of sex and age disaggregated data (SADD) to better inform programming. Researchers thoroughly reviewed numerous published reports from academia, the UN, non-governmental organizations on the effects of natural disasters and armed conflict on civilian populations, with a focus on publications that used SADD, gender and generational analyses to document and analyze those effects. The report can be found at: <http://www.unocha.org/what-wedo/policy/thematic-areas/gender-equality>.

"The Hive: A Knowledge Platform on Fragility, Conflict and Violence" was launched in the Fall of 2011 by the World Bank to connect policymakers and practitioners, and it includes a focus on gender-based violence.

At the global level, data analysis, drawing largely on Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), is also being undertaken by UNICEF, in collaboration with the Population Council, to determine the markers of vulnerability that make children more susceptible to various forms of violence.

UNFPA continued to be a key partner in the action research programme that has been rolled out in 4 select countries on ending sexual violence against girls and that is being co-led by the Centre for Diseases control, the Clinton Global Initiative and UNICEF.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, the Learning on Gender and Conflict in Africa (LOGiCA) Multi-Donor Trust Fund (totaling over US \$8 million) aims to contribute to peace and security in Sub-Saharan Africa by supporting gender-sensitive activities related to insecurity and violence in conflict-affected and post-conflict countries in the region. Established in 2009, LOGiCA's specific objectives are to: 1) increase gender-sensitive programming in Demobilization and Reintegration operations in the Great Lakes Region by better addressing the gender-specific needs of male and female ex-combatants; and 2) generate knowledge and good practice on how to address gender and conflict issues - with a focus on programs addressing Demobilization and Reintegration, sexual

and gender based violence (SGBV) and male youth at-risk. LOGiCA is providing technical assistance to the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) for the operationalization of the Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children in relation to the establishment of a special regional facility for training and sensitization of persons who handle cases of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region. LOGiCA is currently conducting a feasibility assessment for the establishment of the Special Facility.

In September 2011, UNODA's Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) co-organised a seminar for women working in civil society organisations in South America. The seminar enhanced their knowledge of linkages between sexual and gender-based violence, small arms control and armed violence prevention and reduction.

In collaboration with ECLAC, UNFPA hosted a multi-stakeholder workshop in Santiago, Chile, in September 2011. The workshop focused on strategies for developing a Women, Peace and Security Curriculum for the Latin American and Caribbean region over 2012, with a focus on gender-based violence.

In its fifth year, the Ghent Gender-based Violence Course in humanitarian settings conducted by UNFPA in collaboration with Ghent University attracted 120 participants. The course was designed to improve knowledge, understanding, and communication skills to effectively prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV) in humanitarian settings, and to build capacity to coordinate multi-sectoral responses to GBV in humanitarian settings. A course curriculum has been drafted, tested, and revised over time, based on the evaluations and opinions of course team members, guest faculty, experts and the participants themselves.

In September 2011 ECLAC, together with UNFPA, organized a regional dialogue on violence and safety of women in conflict and post-conflict environment in efforts to promote the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325. This dialogue was launched with a three-day workshop entitled "Experts Workshop for the discussion of a Regional Training Program on Women, Peace and Security in Latin American and the Caribbean", to provide a space for debate and exchange of experiences on the link between gender violence and physical autonomy on the one side, and situations of insecurity, conflict and post-conflict on the other, including the needs for training in this area in the region.

The development of an e-learning course to address gender-based violence issues in humanitarian settings was developed and rolled out; the course covers a broad swath of other issues under the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) agenda. To access the e-learning course, visit: <https://extranet.unfpa.org/Apps/GBVinEmergencies/index.html>

UNFPA continued to provide support to the Kofi Annan Peace Institute in Ghana to develop capacities of grassroots women to implement Security Council resolution 1325 components in select African countries. The training curriculum on women, peace and security for the African region was developed over 2011 and will be rolled out over 2012.

In Sudan, the Human Rights Section of UNAMID organized workshops addressing sexual gender-based violence in West Darfur; it has developed and install billboards related to sexual gender-based violence around South Darfur; it has produced leaflets on the mandate, role and services of the Family and Child Protection Units; and it has trained State actors on human rights and criminal investigation procedures.

In Senegal, OHCHR has been involved in a government training directed at the police and the armed forces on Security Council resolution 1325. OHCHR is also actively involved in the training for women high-level mediators developed by UNOWA.

UNFPA supported the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders to develop capacities of grassroots women's activists in Burundi and Nepal to enable them to monitor and advocate at the policy level on Security Council resolution 1325 implementation, with a special focus on sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence. Workshops were held over 2011 in both these countries and results of the monitoring and advocacy initiatives were presented at a high-level meeting held in New York in October 2011, along the sidelines of the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the resolution.

In partnership with DPKO and the Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, UN Women developed scenario-based pre-deployment training for military peacekeepers to prevent and respond to sexual violence, which were tested in several troop contributing countries, such as Nepal where 466 army personnel were trained. Both the Security Council, in resolution 1960, and the Secretary-General, in his annual report on conflict-related sexual violence, have encouraged member states to incorporate these modules into their regular training for peace operations.

*March 2012-February 2013*

UNHCR headquarters staff conducted missions to emergency operations in order to strengthen SGBV response in conflict zones in Niger, Burkina Faso and Jordan. Remote support was also provided to operations in Mali, Lebanon, Turkey and Syria. UNHCR also conducted reporting and monitoring on sexual violence in conflict as part of its activities under the United Nations Security Council resolutions 1960, 1820 and 1888. UNHCR also liaises with UN Country Team members and Gender Working Groups, where applicable, to consolidate data on SGBV.

ECLAC, with the support of the UNFPA, has finalized a proposal for a regional training curriculum on gender and security and the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security. The proposal incorporates regional ECLAC research findings on the progress achieved in relation to the topic, as well as on the training needs of different governmental institutions. The proposal was presented in a workshop at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago (27-28 November 2012).

In March 2012, the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (TWG-GEEW), co-chaired by ESCAP and UN WOMEN, established a Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). The Working Group strengthens interagency cooperation and collaboration in support of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the region and provides a forum to address issues related to this agenda, including sexual violence in conflict situations. ESCAP and UN Women provide a joint secretariat for the Working Group, which also supports the Regional Advisory Group in implementing its workplan to advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the Asia-Pacific region.

During the reporting period, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) has conducted three courses of Inter-institutional Training Course on Combating Illicit Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives (IITC), which contributes to enhancing the capacity of law enforcement and legal practitioners to prevent armed violence, including against women. Participants came from across the Caribbean, as well as Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. In addition, UNLIREC launched in New York the publication "Forces of Change: Profiles of Latin American and Caribbean Women in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms", at a First Committee side event "Women Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control", hosted by the Honorable Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

In the area of sexual violence in emergencies, WHO published several documents including:

1. Sexual violence in emergencies: Setting a research agenda (2012)
2. [Do's and don'ts in community-based psychosocial programming in regard to sexual violence in conflict-affected settings](#) (August 2012)

3. [Mental health and psychosocial support for conflict-related sexual violence: 10 myths](#) (August 2012)
4. [Mental health and psychosocial support for conflict-related sexual violence: principles and interventions](#) (August 2012)

UNAIDS, together with UN Peacekeepers, distributed inflatable solar-powered lights to women and families, in Haiti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and South Sudan, and raised the issue of sexual and gender-based violence against women and HIV. <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/pressreleaseandstatementarchive/2012/november/20121127prshinealight/>

UNAIDS and DPKO collaborate in implementing the SRC 1983, including in the Democratic Republic of Congo. AIDS programmes are helping address sexual and gender-based violence, sensitise perpetrators, and promote integration of human rights standards in national legal and policy frameworks. <http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2012/september/20120926hivandsecurity/>

In Timor-Leste, UNDP, in collaboration with UN Women and the Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), continued to support the Open Day Dialogue events as recommendations to the Government and the UN system regarding women, peace and security and GBV. UNDP and UNFPA, supported the Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality to complete the National Action Plan on GBV in East-Timor.

UNDP supported services provision in various countries, including in the Democratic Republic of Congo, through support to investigations and hearings of the military courts, leading to the imprisonment of the accused for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed from 7 to 16 October 2012 in Mupoke (Walungu territory) by the FARDC elements against the civilian population; in DRC it also supported the establishment of specialized police units and provided training on the judicial treatment of cases relating to sexual violence; in Afghanistan, Legal Help centres were established in order to provide support to survivors for access to justice; in Colombia, several initiatives were organized to encourage victims of sexual violence in armed conflict to seek support.

The World Bank continues to support various initiatives in post-conflict and emergency settings, including: the *Sexual Violence Against Women and Girls in Haiti's Reconstruction* project, through institutional strengthening, enhancement of women's civil participation, and project coordination, monitoring and evaluation; the *Knowledge Exchange Program on Women's Access in Fragile Contexts*, by developing tools to strengthen the operational competence and capacity of client country partners and Bank Staff to design interventions that address the needs of women in fragile and conflict-affected settings and support knowledge exchange among clients and practitioners; the *Learning for Equality, Access and Peace Program: Conflict-Post-Conflict and Gender (Africa)*, through a number of inter-linked components, including a LOGiCA and Promundo project to increase operational knowledge on effective engagement of men and boys in SGBV post-conflict programming in sub-Saharan Africa; and the *Protection from GBV in Cote d'Ivoire* project improving commitment and capacity of local authorities and community members to prevent and respond to GBV, improving access to multi-sectoral services for victims and improving coordination and capacity of local organizations and key stakeholders.

OHCHR developed a two-day specialised course on monitoring and investigating conflict related sexual violence; briefed the C.34 on its work on sexual violence, together with DPKO and the Office of the SRSG SVC; supported research to understand patterns and consequences of sexual violence during the 1999 conflict in Kosovo, including gaps in access to justice, institutional capacity needs, and perspectives of survivors with regard to reparations; and together with UN Women is finalizing a draft guidance note concerning reparations for victims of conflict-related sexual violence.

Through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund of UN Action, OHCHR, in cooperation with DPKO, the Office of the SRSG on Sexual violence in conflict and other partners, obtained support for the deployment of Women Protection Advisors to the human rights components of DRC and Cote d'Ivoire. OHCHR also seconded a staff member to act as the Senior WPA in UNMISS (South Sudan) and assist the mission in the setting-up of the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA). In Angola, an Advisor was deployed to the office of the Resident Coordinator to assist the UN system in promoting follow-up to the commitments made by the Government in relation to sexual violence during the visit of the former SRSG SVC. With the support of UN-Women, the commissions of inquiry for Libya and Syria all included experts on sexual violence. As a member of the TOE, OHCHR worked with Human Rights components to strengthen the capacity of national rule of law and justice actors to address impunity for conflict-related sexual violence.

OHCHR also supported field office work, including: activities to increase access to justice (mobile courts, legal clinics, training of judges); support on holding investigations; and support to the judicial data project. In the DRC, a five pilot initiative to provide support to over 1000 survivors of sexual violence in the areas of Bukavu and Shabunda was implemented.

In Liberia: UNFPA through the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare promoted the availability of services to Survivors of violence including sexual violence through the One Stop Centre; UNDP supported the Ministry of Justice through the SGBV Crimes unit to launch the In Camera Trial Mobile Partitions countrywide; WHO supported the establishment of a Referral List for Board Certified Mental Health Clinicians in Liberia by County and trained them to provide basic SGBV Psychosocial counselling in accordance to available guidelines; UNFPA continued to support the Government to establish 5 safe homes; UNICEF supported the Ministry of Justice and other key stakeholders to develop and standardize the victim assistance framework; and UNMIL provided logistical support to the Women and Child Protection Sections of the Liberian National Police in 12 counties, to improve mobility, investigation, reporting and communication.

In Nepal, UN Women in close collaboration with the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction, supported the activation of 28 District Coordination Committees (DCCs) in the five development regions of the country to implement the NAP on 1325 and 1820. UN Women also supports proposal submissions to the Nepal Peace Trust Fund for implementation of the NAP on 1325 and 1820.

## **ANNEX 1**

### **CONTENTS OF THE ANNEX**

<b>INTER-AGENCY MECHANISMS AND ACTIVITIES.....</b>	<b>1758</b>
Secretary-General’s Campaign “UNiTE to End Violence against Women, 2008-2015” .....	1768
Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) .....	17759
Task Force on violence against women .....	17759
UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN ACTION) .....	1791
United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women (UN Trust Fund) .....	1792
Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action.....	1824
ECHA/ECPS UN and NGO Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse....	1836
<b>SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS .....</b>	<b>1846</b>
Department of Political Affairs (DPA) .....	184
Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).....	1857
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) .....	1858
Department of Economic and Social Affairs.....	18669
i. Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), now part of UN Women .....	18669
ii. Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), now part of UN Women.....	1891
iii. United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD/DESA Statistics) .....	1902
Department of Public Information (DPI) .....	1913
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) .....	1946
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).....	1968
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).....	179
Regional Commissions .....	1980
i. Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).....	1980
ii. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) .....	2002
iii. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).....	2002
iv. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) .....	2046
v. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) .....	2057
Office of Internal Oversight Services .....	2068

**UNITED NATIONS FUNDS, PROGRAMMES, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS..... 20789**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) ..... 20789  
    I. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), now part of UN Women ..... 2080  
    II. United Nations Volunteers (UNV) ..... 2102

UN Women.....193

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) ..... 211

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)..... 2135

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) 2157

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)..... 215

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) ..... 2179

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).....200

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) ..... 2191

United Nations University (UNU) ..... 2202

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)..... 220

United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW), now part of UN Women..... 2213

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) ..... 2235

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) ..... 2246

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)..... 2257

International Labour Organization (ILO) ..... 2268

Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) ..... 232

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)..... 2324

World Health Organization (WHO) ..... 2346

The World Bank..... 2368

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) ..... 238

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)..... 23820**

**INTER-AGENCY MECHANISMS AND ACTIVITIES**

## **SECRETARY-GENERAL'S CAMPAIGN "UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, 2008-2015"**

### **About the Campaign**

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On 25 February 2008, the Secretary-General launched his campaign "UNITE to End Violence Against Women", 2008-2015. The campaign provides a collective platform for an unprecedented level of global mobilization to engage a wide range of stakeholders to end violence against women. The campaign focuses on three areas: global advocacy; strengthened efforts and partnerships at national and regional levels; and United Nations leadership by example. The Secretary-General is calling on Governments, civil society, women's organizations, young people, the private sector, artists, the media, the entire United Nations system and individual women and men to join forces in addressing the global pandemic of violence against women.

The Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI) serves as the Secretariat of the Campaign. Under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General, supported by a high-level steering committee and OSAGI, a framework for action and a communications strategy for the campaign have been elaborated. To further operationalize the framework, a campaign strategy has been prepared to provide the basis for mobilizing resources and for building alliances.

The framework for action provides an umbrella for activities by multiple stakeholders at global, regional, national and local levels in the course of the multi-year campaign. It identifies five key outcomes as benchmarks for the campaign, to be achieved in all countries by 2015: (a) adoption and enforcement of national laws to address and punish all forms of violence against women and girls, in line with international human rights standards; (b) adoption and implementation of multi-sectoral national plans of action that emphasize prevention and that are adequately resourced; (c) establishment of data collection and analysis systems on the prevalence of various forms of violence against women and girls; (d) establishment of national and/or local campaigns and the engagement of a diverse range of civil society actors in preventing violence and in supporting women and girls who have been abused; and (e) systematic efforts to address sexual violence in conflict situations and to protect women and girls from rape as a tactic of war and the full implementation of related laws and policies. United Nations entities are linking a growing range of activities to the campaign.

The campaign is contributing to renewed momentum for action to prevent and address all forms of violence against women. In its first year, 2008, the campaign focused on advocacy, awareness-raising and mobilizing resources to support various activities. At global level, a campaign logo and poster have been developed and a campaign website (<http://endviolence.un.org>) has been launched. Consultations with non-governmental organizations have been held to explore possibilities for partnerships in advancing the campaign, especially at the field level. *Mika*, a play written specifically in support of the campaign, was presented to the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters. The Secretary-General is creating a "network of men leaders" to spearhead advocacy and action at the community, national, regional and global levels. The network includes members from diverse backgrounds, including political, religious and civil society, as well as arts and sports celebrities.

The Secretary-General has encouraged the Heads of United Nations entities to actively contribute to the campaign, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has invited Resident Coordinators to lead their country teams to further develop the campaign at the local level. The United Nations information centres, based in over 60 countries, are actively promoting the campaign through a diverse array of activities, such as media workshops, panel discussions, performances, photography and art exhibits, marches and film screenings.

## Address/website

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<http://endviolence.un.org>

## **INTER-AGENCY NETWORK ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY (IANWGE) TASK FORCE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

### **Background**

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The Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) brings together the gender equality specialists of all United Nations offices, funds and programmes, and specialized agencies. The Network supports and monitors the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (2000). The Network also supports implementation of gender-related recommendations emanating from other recent United Nations General Assembly special sessions, conferences and summits, especially by ensuring effective co-operation and coordination throughout the United Nations system. The Network acts as a catalyst for, and monitors the use of, the gender mainstreaming strategy in the programmatic, normative and operational work of the United Nations system.

Womenwatch, an inter-agency project of the United Nations Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE), is a gateway to web-based information on United Nations system-wide work on gender equality and empowerment of women. The portal contains a directory of resources which provides access to specific information on selected topics - including the critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action, statistics and indicators, gender mainstreaming and online clearinghouses on specific issues that are currently on the UN global agenda, such as climate change.

The implementation of multilingual sections - making the information of the directory of resources available in all official UN languages - has been a long-term goal of Womenwatch. In 2009, the translation of more than 1500 database records, each consisting of title, description, and links to UN resources on gender equality and empowerment of women, was completed with the support of DGACM, UNESCO, and ESCWA. The processing of the records in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish into the Womenwatch database and the implementation of a multilingual interface is in progress and is scheduled to be completed by summer 2010, with the public launch of the Womenwatch multilingual directory of resources planned for summer/fall 2010.

**Note: The IANGWE Task Force on Violence Against Women stopped being operational in 2011 at the Headquarters level since the work has been handed over to the pilot countries.**

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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Through its Task Force on violence against women, the Network addresses all forms of violence against women, globally, regionally and at the country level. The Task Force will aim to: enhance support to States, at the national level, in their efforts to eliminate violence against women; strengthen systematic and timely information exchange among entities of the United Nations

system about existing and planned strategies, programmes and activities on violence against women, at global, regional and national level; achieve an enhanced understanding of resources available from the United Nations system, at the national level, to support work by Governments and non-governmental organizations to prevent and respond to violence against women; and ensure leadership by senior officials of entities of the United Nations system to address violence against women.

In 2008, the Task Force began a joint programming pilot initiative to address violence against women in ten pilot countries: Burkina Faso, Chile, Fiji, Jamaica, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Philippines, Rwanda, Yemen. The initiative brings together all relevant stakeholders at the national level, including Government actors, the UN Country Teams, and civil society stakeholders to harmonize initiatives and budgets, and maximize each stakeholder's comparative advantage, to end violence against women. The ten pilot countries were selected on the basis of a number of factors, including: support from UN entities for programmes on violence against women; evidence of substantial efforts and commitment at the national level to address and eliminate violence against women; existence of baseline data on violence against women; and a geographical balance of the countries represented. Countries in, or emerging from, conflict and Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Achievement Fund grantees were not considered for inclusion among the pilot countries, as UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict is implementing joint programming in the former and the latter are receiving funds for joint programming on violence against women and related initiatives.

The six steps in the joint programming pilot initiative are:

- *Step 1:* A baseline assessment is conducted to determine: existing initiatives addressing violence against women, including in the areas of law, service-provision, prevention, and data collection; stakeholders involved and their respective capacities and strengths; existing data on violence against women; gaps and challenges to addressing this issue in a concerted manner; and identified priorities for action.
- *Step 2:* Based on the baseline assessment, a national multi-stakeholder workshop is held. These workshops are instrumental in developing a multi-sectoral framework that brings together UN system actions in support of national efforts to address violence against women, including in support of the implementation of national action plans on violence against women where such plans exist; or to assist in the development of such plans where they do not yet exist.
- *Step 3:* A joint national committee is formed, consisting of stakeholders from Government, the UN, and civil society.
- *Step 4:* The joint national committee drafts a multi-sectoral joint programme proposal which is submitted to various bodies for funding.
- *Step 5:* Joint programming activities are implemented based on availability of resources.
- *Step 6:* Monitoring and evaluation is undertaken to identify lessons learned and scale up efforts.

As part of the work plan of the Task Force, the Division for the Advancement of Women compiles and updates the Inventory of United Nations system activities on violence against women twice annually (in February and September) and posts it online.

#### **Address/Websites**

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IANWGE

2 United Nations Plaza, 12th floor, New York, NY 10017  
[www.un.org/womenwatch/ianwge/](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/ianwge/)  
[http://www.un.org/womenwatch/ianwge/taskforces/tf\\_vaw.htm](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/ianwge/taskforces/tf_vaw.htm)

## **UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT (UN ACTION)**

### **Background**

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UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action) is a network of 13 UN system entities with the goal of ending sexual violence during and in the wake of conflict. Launched in 2007, it is a concerted effort by the UN system to improve coordination and accountability, amplify programming and advocacy, and support national efforts to prevent sexual violence and respond effectively to the needs of survivors. It has three main pillars: (1) Country Level Action: support joint strategy development and programming by UN Country Teams and Peacekeeping Operations, including building operational and technical capacity; (2) Advocating for Action: action to raise public awareness and generate political will to address sexual violence as part of a broader campaign to Stop Rape Now; and (3) Learning by Doing: creating a knowledge hub on the scale of sexual violence in conflict, and effective responses by the UN and partners. UN Action is headed by the SRSG on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and orchestrates the UN's response to Security Council Resolutions 1820, 1888 and 1960 on conflict-related sexual violence.

### **Policy framework**

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In June 2007, the Secretary-General's Policy Committee endorsed UN Action as "a critical joint UN system-wide initiative to guide advocacy, knowledge-building, resource mobilization, and joint programming around sexual violence in conflict". Security Council resolutions 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009) have shaped UN Action's bi-annual Strategic Framework, which sets goals for the network.

### **Areas of focus**

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UN Action organises its work around three pillars: (a) strategic support to UN system action at country level; (b) advocating for action; and (c) knowledge building. Drawing upon their comparative strengths, UN Action member entities commit to leading or co-leading the network's deliverables in these three areas of activity.

### **Address/website**

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The Secretariat for UN Action is based in UNIFEM – 304 E 45th Street New York, NY 10017, [www.stoprapenow.org](http://www.stoprapenow.org).

## **UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND IN SUPPORT OF ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (UN TRUST FUND)**

### **Background**

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The UN Trust Fund is a leading multi-lateral grant-making mechanism that supports country-level efforts of governments, non-governmental organizations and UN Country Teams to end violence

against women and girls. Since it began operation in 1997, the UN Trust Fund has supported 291 initiatives in 119 countries and territories with more than US\$44 million (as of August 2009).

Established in 1996 by UN General Assembly resolution 50/166, the UN Trust Fund is managed by UNIFEM on behalf of the UN system. The UN Trust Fund is governed by its 1996 terms of reference, as well as by multi-year UN Trust Fund strategies. In 1997, UNIFEM established an inter-agency Programme Appraisal Committee (PAC) comprised of UN agencies, leading experts and other stakeholders, as a “consultative mechanism in consideration of the UN Trust Fund’s activities, inter alia to enhance the effectiveness of UN system-wide efforts and aid in the mobilization of additional resources for the Fund”. Since 2005, in addition to convening global inter-agency PACs, UNIFEM has convened sub-regional PACs. There are currently some 20 UN agencies engaged in PACs at the global, regional and sub-regional levels.

The UN Trust Fund 2005-08 Strategy was approved by the global PAC in 2004, introducing measures to strengthen the Fund’s impact, outreach, knowledge base, efficiency and resources. Grant-making focuses on supporting implementation of existing laws, policies and action plans to address the multiple forms of violence against women and girls, helping bridge the accountability between existing commitments and realities on the ground. It also contributes to the achievement of the five key outcomes of the Secretary-General’s Campaign “*UNiTE to End Violence Against Women*”, 2008-2015 with regard to enforcement of national laws, implementation of multi-sectoral action plans, support to data collection systems, enhanced social mobilization and prevention strategies and addressing sexual violence in conflict situations. The UN Trust Fund aims to expand the global knowledge base on effective approaches to end violence against women and girls by supporting the piloting, testing, up-scaling, evaluation, documentation and dissemination of catalytic, innovative and promising initiatives.

The UN Trust Fund operates based on the voluntary contributions of UN Member states, non-profit organizations, foundations, the private sector and concerned individuals.

## Resources

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Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the activities of the Fund to eliminate violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (A/HRC/10/43 - E/CN.6/2009/10)

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw53/OfficialDocuments.html>

*It’s a Global Emergency*. 2008.

[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=127](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=127)

Activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women to eliminate violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/2008/9 - A/HRC/7/53)

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw52/OfficialDocuments.html>

*A Life Free of Violence Is Our Right! The UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women*. 10 Years of Investment. 2007.

[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=83](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=83)

*A Life Free of Violence Is Our Right! – Trust Fund Testimonies* (Video), 2007.

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/2007/6)

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw51/OfficialDocuments.html>

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the elimination of violence against women (E/CN.6/2006/10 )

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw50/documents.htm>

Note by the Secretary-General on Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (E/CN.6/2005/7)

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw49/documents.html>

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the elimination of violence against women (E/CN.6/2004/8)

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw48/documents.html>

*Making a Difference: Strategic Communications to End Violence Against Women.* 2003.

[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=6](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=6)

*Not a Minute More: Ending Violence Against Women.* 2003,

[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=7](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=7)

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the elimination of violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/2003/11-E/CN.4/2003/121)

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw47/documents.html>

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the activities of the Fund to eliminate violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/2002/13)

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N02/251/89/PDF/N0225189.pdf?OpenElement>

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the elimination of violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/2001/126)

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N01/241/07/PDF/N0124107.pdf?OpenElement>

*With an End in Sight: Strategies from the UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women,* 2000,

[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=14](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=14)

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the elimination of violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/2000/6)

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/282/89/PDF/N0028289.pdf?OpenElement>

Report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the elimination of violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1999/6)

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N99/012/38/PDF/N9901238.pdf?OpenElement>

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1998/9)

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N98/032/28/PDF/N9803228.pdf?OpenElement>

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1997/8)

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N97/053/63/PDF/N9705363.pdf?OpenElement>

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women - Note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/1996/11)

<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N96/046/30/PDF/N9604630.pdf?OpenElement>

**Address/website**

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The Secretariat for the UN Trust Fund is based in former UNIFEM, now part of UN Women:  
866 UN Plaza, 5th Floor, Room 586-10  
New York, NY 10017, USA  
[http://www.unifem.org/gender\\_issues/violence\\_against\\_women/trust\\_fund.php](http://www.unifem.org/gender_issues/violence_against_women/trust_fund.php)

## **INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE (IASC) SUB-WORKING GROUP ON GENDER AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION**

### **Background**

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The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) is a unique inter-agency forum for coordination, policy development and decision-making involving the key United Nations and non-United Nations humanitarian partners. Together with the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs, the IASC forms the key strategic coordination mechanism among major humanitarian actors.

According to General Assembly resolution 46/182, the IASC is intended to be composed of all operational organizations and with a standing invitation to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the International Organization for Migration. Relevant non-governmental organizations can be invited to participate on an ad hoc basis.

In December 2006, the IASC Principals converted the IASC Gender Task Force into a Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action and agreed to support the strategy for integration of gender as a crosscutting issue into the Cluster Approach and into other elements of the humanitarian reform. The IASC Sub-Working Group addresses gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, and in humanitarian settings. It is co-chaired by OCHA and WHO. The members of the Task Force are: CARE, FAO, INEE, ICRC, IFRC, IMC, IOM, IRC, NRC, OCHA, OHCHR, Office RSG/IDPs, OSAGI, OXFAM, UNDAW, UNDESA, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNMAS, WFP, WHO, and the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. Attempts will be made to broaden partnerships and expand membership.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above. The IASC was established in response to United Nations General Assembly resolution 46/182 on the strengthening of humanitarian assistance. General Assembly resolution 48/57 affirmed its role as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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The work of the IASC Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance focuses on the implementation of a 5 point strategy which is reviewed yearly and revised as needed.

The 5 key objectives for 2008 were to:

- Implement gender and gender-based violence (GBV) standards contained in guidance documents produced by the SWG.
- Build capacity of humanitarian actors on gender issues including gender-based violence (GBV) and deploy experts on gender and GBV in emergencies.
- Get the right data by encouraging the collection and use of sex and age disaggregated data for decision-making.
- Build partnerships with NGOs for increased and more consistent gender equality programming in crises.

- Strengthen accountability systems on gender and GBV in humanitarian action.

The following key objectives were identified for the work of the IASC SWG in 2009:

- Continuation of roll out of key Sub-Working Group Documents, including the “Women, Girls, Boys and Men, Different Needs – Equal Opportunities” Handbook and Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings in a coordinated manner and in several languages.
- Build capacity of humanitarian actors on gender issues, including gender-based violence.
- Support collection and use of sex and age disaggregated data (SADD) for decision-making
- Build partnerships with non-governmental organizations for increased and more consistent gender equality programming in crises.
- Strengthen accountability systems on gender and gender-based violence in humanitarian action
- Strengthen mechanisms for integrating gender and gender-based violence into the work of relevant clusters and other coordination mechanisms including at the regional level

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## Resources

*IASC Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Emergencies: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence.* 2005

[http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/pageloader.aspx?page=content-subsidi-tf\\_gender-gbv](http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/pageloader.aspx?page=content-subsidi-tf_gender-gbv)

*Women, Girls, Boys and Men - Different Needs, Equal Opportunities: Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action.* 2006

[http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/pageloader.aspx?page=content-subsidi-tf\\_gender-genderH](http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/pageloader.aspx?page=content-subsidi-tf_gender-genderH)

*Broken bodies, broken dreams: Violence against women exposed* (Book of photography on violence against women)

*Our bodies, their battlegrounds* (video)

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## Address/Websites

IASC

[http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/pageloader.aspx?page=content-subsidi-tf\\_gender-default](http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/pageloader.aspx?page=content-subsidi-tf_gender-default)

## **ECHA/ECPS UN AND NGO TASK FORCE ON PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE**

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### Background

The Executive Committees on Humanitarian Affairs and Peace and Security (ECHA/ECPS) United Nations (UN) and Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse was established in February 2005 with the aim of preventing acts of sexual exploitation and abuse and improving response to it when it occurs. OCHA and DFS co-chair this task force that includes more than 35 UN and non-UN entities. This Task Force took up the work of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises.

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### Policy framework

In October 2003, the Secretary-General issued a Bulletin entitled *Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse* (SGB). The SGB stipulates that any acts of sexual

exploitation or sexual abuse committed by UN staff members or persons under contract with the UN “constitute acts of serious misconduct and are therefore grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal.” It also notes that Heads of Departments, Offices and Missions are responsible for “creating and maintaining an environment that prevents sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.” Through the Task Force, members seek to implement this obligation with the benefit of inter-agency collaboration.

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#### **Areas of focus**

The work of the Task Force is divided into four focus areas: 1) engagement with and support of local populations, 2) prevention, 3) response systems, and 4) management and coordination.

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#### **Address/website**

The Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Task Force website was redesigned adding a new online library for resources materials and best practices were shared in relation to joint complaints mechanisms, reporting procedures, barriers to reporting and ways to gain senior management support for PSEA. <http://www.un.org/en/pseatastaskforce/achievements.shtml>  
The Task Force can be contacted at [seاتف@un.org](mailto:seاتف@un.org).

## **SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

### **DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS (DPA)**

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#### **Background**

The mission of the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) is to provide advice and support on all political matters to the Secretary-General in the exercise of his global responsibilities under the Charter relating to the maintenance and restoration of peace and security.

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#### **Policy framework**

See main instruments listed above, in particular Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

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#### **Area(s) of focus**

DPA addresses the issue of violence against women both during and after conflict as part of its overall efforts to achieve gender equality within its conflict prevention, peacemaking and peace-building mandate. The Department also ensures that staff at Headquarters and field missions are informed of and report on the Secretary-General’s special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

In April 2007, the Executive Committee on Peace and Security (ECPS), chaired by DPA, discussed the issue of violence against women in the context of conflict, under the lead of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. ECPS members endorsed the proposed coordinated approach and stated their commitment to further the work of UN Action. The meeting agreed that Violence against Women in the context of conflict should also be considered a peace and security issue. DPA will soon become a member of the Group on UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

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#### **Address/websites**

DPA

## **DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (DPKO)**

### **Background**

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The mission of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in the United Nations Secretariat is to plan, prepare, manage and direct United Nations peacekeeping operations so that they can effectively fulfil their mandates under the overall authority of the Security Council and General Assembly, and under the command vested in the Secretary-General. DPKO is a member of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above, and in particular Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

### **Area(s) of focus**

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DPKO works to address all forms of gender-based violence against women, including sexual exploitation and abuse by civilian and uniformed peacekeeping personnel, within in Department's overall mission.

As each functional unit of peacekeeping has direct responsibility for supporting prevention and response to gender-based violence against women, activities vary from mission to mission. Furthermore, many gender units/advisers are building collaboration with partners from the United Nations system for the promotion of gender equality, and on addressing gender-based violence against women.

### **Address/Websites**

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DPKO  
United Nations, New York, NY, 10017  
[www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko](http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko)  
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/CDT/index.html>

## **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (OCHA)**

### **Background**

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The mission of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering, advocate for the rights of all people in need, promote preparedness and prevention and facilitate sustainable solutions. OCHA is a member of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

## **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above.

## **Area(s) of focus**

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OCHA is active in coordination, policy setting, information management and advocacy on issues of gender-based violence against women as well as men. Among OCHA's priority activities in the field of protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian settings are: monitoring security, defining protection strategies, providing protection and advocating for the implementation and compliance with international instruments, and ensuring accountability and redress. OCHA liaises with security personnel to ensure physical protection of displaced populations, and to ensure that security patrols are initiated to prevent gender-based violence, including sexual violence when displaced women seek to meet their basic needs. OCHA, working with the IASC, has recently launched a gender marker to track gender and GBV programming and budgeting in humanitarian financing and appeals processes including the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP), CERF and pooled funds. The IASC Gender Marker is a tool that codes the extent to which a humanitarian project is designed to benefit women, girls, boys and men equally. It was successfully applied in ten countries in the 2011 CAP. The IASC Gender Marker has been made mandatory for all CAPs in 2012.

## **Resources**

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Women, Girls, Boys and Men: Different Needs – Equal Opportunities, Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action: 2006 <http://onerresponse.info/crosscutting/gender/Pages/Gender.aspx>

Gender Marker Tool Kit: Collection of practical tools for implementing the IASC Gender Marker: <http://onerresponse.info/crosscutting/gender/Pages/The%20IASC%20Gender%20Marker.aspx>

Gender E:learning: The IASC's on-line certificate-based learning on gender in humanitarian action: <http://onerresponse.info/crosscutting/gender/Pages/Training.aspx>

## **Address/Websites**

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OCHA

1 United Nations Plaza, 18th floor New York, NY 10017

<http://ochaonline.un.org/>

<http://gender/onerresponse.org>: The IASC website on Gender and GenCap

<http://gender/onerresponse.org>: The IASC website on Gender and GenCap

[www.irinnews.org/](http://www.irinnews.org/): Inter Regional Information Network, provides news and analysis about sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia for the humanitarian community.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

### **i. Former Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), now part of UN Women**

#### **Background**

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The former Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), established in 1997 and located within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, supports the Special Adviser in promoting and strengthening the effective implementation of: the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly held in 2000; Economic and Social Council Agreed Conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming; Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security; and the Millennium Declaration.

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### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above.

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### **Area(s) of focus**

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Within its overall efforts to support and promote the development of new strategies, programmes, policies, methodologies and practical tools and guidelines within the United Nations system to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women in all sectors, former OSAGI promotes and participates in inter-agency collaboration to eliminate violence against women.

The Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI) continued to support the development of new strategies, programmes, policies, methodologies and practical tools and guidelines within the United Nations on gender equality and the empowerment of women. Former OSAGI chairs the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE).

Since the launch of the Secretary-General's Campaign, "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" in February 2008, former OSAGI has served as the Secretariat for the Campaign and is responsible for coordinating core activities and fundraising efforts. (See below on the Campaign).

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### **Resources**

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*Planning for Action on Women, Peace and Security: National-level Implementation of Resolution 1325 (2000)*, 2010 (in partnership with the former International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW, now part of UN Women) and International Alert), which reviewed National Action Plans (NAPs) and the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) at the country level.

Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security, S/2010/498, 2010

Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security, S/2005/636, 2005

Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security, S/2004/814, 2004

Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security, S/2002/1154, 2002

Women, Peace and Security. Study submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), United Nations, 2002.

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### **Address/Websites**

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Former OSAGI now part of UN Women  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
2 United Nations Plaza, 12th Floor,  
New York, NY 10017

[www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/)

## **ii. Former Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), now part of UN Women**

### **Background**

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Former Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) now part of UN Women advocates for the improvement of the status of women and the achievement of their equality with men. DAW supports the work of United Nations inter-governmental bodies in relation to the promotion of gender equality, such as the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, including through servicing agenda items and discussions on violence against women. DAW was responsible for the preparation of the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women (2006) and undertakes follow-up to General Assembly resolutions adopted pursuant to the study, including General Assembly resolutions 61/143, 62/133 and 63/155.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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Former DAW undertakes research and analysis, and prepares policy recommendations on all forms of violence against women. It also organizes expert group meetings in order to identify best practices in addressing violence against women. DAW acts as co-chair of the IANWGE Task Force on violence against women, along with UNFPA, and functions as the secretariat of the Secretary-General's database on violence against women. As a member of the Working Group on the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to End Violence Against Women", chaired by the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, DAW contributed to a number of aspects of the campaign. Since October 2008, DAW has produced a quarterly newsletter, "Words to Action" designed to disseminate information about measures undertaken to address violence against women by: intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations; expert bodies, including the human rights treaty bodies; entities of the United Nations system; and States at the regional or sub-regional level. Former DAW continues to promote and disseminate the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women, which is now available in book form in English, French and Spanish, and online in mimeographed form in Arabic, Russian and Chinese.

### **Resources**

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*Handbook for legislation on violence against women (UNDAW/DESA, 2010)*  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-handbook.htm>.

Secretary-General's database on violence against women: [www.un.org/esa/vawdatabase](http://www.un.org/esa/vawdatabase)

Ending violence against women: from words to action. Study of the Secretary-General. United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.06.IV.8, 2006.

Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/62/201, A/63/214, A/64/151, A/65/208), Reports of the Secretary-General

Violence against women migrant workers (A/60/137 and A/60/137/Corr.1, A/62/177, A/64/152), Report of the Secretary-General

Trafficking in women and girls (A/59/185, A/63/215, A/65/209), Reports of the Secretary-General

Eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations (A/63/216), Report of the Secretary General

Expert group meeting on good practices in national action plans on violence against women:  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-egms-nap2010.htm>

Good practices in legislation to address harmful practices against women. Report of the expert group meeting  
[http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw\\_legislation\\_2009/Report%20EGM%20harmful%20practices.pdf](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw_legislation_2009/Report%20EGM%20harmful%20practices.pdf)

Good practices in combating and eliminating violence against women. Report of the expert group meeting  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw-gp-2005/docs/FINALREPORT.goodpractices.pdf>

Violence against women: a statistical overview, challenges and gaps in data collection and methodology and approaches for overcoming them. Report of the expert group meeting  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw-stat-2005/docs/final-report-vaw-stats.pdf>.

Trafficking in women and girls. Report of the expert group meeting  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/trafficking2002/reports/Finalreport.PDF>.

Elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child. Report of the expert group meeting  
[http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/elim-disc-viol-girlchild/EGM%20Report\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/elim-disc-viol-girlchild/EGM%20Report_FINAL.pdf)

Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century (E/CN.6/2005/2). Report of the Secretary-General

#### **Address/Websites**

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Former Division for the Advancement of Women now part of UN Women  
United Nations New York, NY, 10017  
General email: [daw@un.org](mailto:daw@un.org)  
Secretary-General's database on violence against women email: [vawdatabase@un.org](mailto:vawdatabase@un.org)

Former DAW website on violence against women: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw>

Secretary-General's database on violence against women: <http://www.un.org/esa/vawdatabase>

### **iii. United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD/DESA Statistics)**

#### **Background**

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The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) has four main functions: 1) the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information; 2) the standardization of statistical methods, classifications and definitions; 3) implementation of the technical cooperation programme; and 4) the coordination of international statistical programmes and activities.

#### **Policy framework**

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The Beijing Platform for Action invited national, regional and international statistical services to develop improved data on the victims and perpetrators of all forms of violence against women (para. 206 (j)).

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**Area(s) of focus**

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UNSD contributes to strengthening the knowledge base on violence against women through statistical analysis and dissemination. Its five-yearly publication, *The World's Women 2000: Trends and Statistics*, contains a section on violence against women. The 2005 edition, *The World's Women: Progress in Statistics*, describes the current state of statistics on violence against women and identifies gaps and challenges. Since February 2008, UNSD has supported the work of the United Nations Statistical Commission to develop an agreed set of indicators on violence against women.

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**Resources**

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*The World's Women 2005: Progress in Statistics*. Social Statistics and Indicators Series K No. 17 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.K/17), United Nations New York, NY, 2006, with a section on violence against women. The publication is available for download at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/indwm/wwpub2005.htm>.

*The World's Women 2000: Trends and Statistics*. Social Statistics and Indicators Series K No. 16 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.K/16), United Nations New York, NY, 2000, with a section on violence against women. The publication's main findings are available for download at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/indwm/wwpub2000.htm>.

*Manual for the Development of a System of Criminal Justice Statistics*. Studies in Methods Series F No.89 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.F/89) United Nations, New York, 2003. The manual is available for download at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?mysearch=criminal>.

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**Address/Websites**

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Statistics Division  
United Nations New York, NY, 10017  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/>

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (DPI)**

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**Background**

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The mission of the Department of Public Information (DPI) is to help fulfil the substantive purposes of the United Nations by strategically communicating the Organization's activities and concerns to achieve the greatest public impact. To achieve this goal, DPI holds close consultations with some 50 United Nations departments and offices and 26 field missions, which are identified as its clients.

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**Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above.

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**Area(s) of focus**

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DPI's work on ending violence against women can be divided by its three divisions, Outreach, News and Media, and Strategic Communications.

The Outreach Division provides services to delegations, liaises with civil society and facilitates events and activities for the general public. UN Chronicle has prepared features on violence against women; CyberSchoolBus has a briefing paper on the girl child; UN Works has created a series profiling women activists, many of which relate to work on violence against women.

The News and Media Division delivers timely, accurate, objective and balanced news to the world media. Its Internet Service, which encompasses the Internet language units, is one of the most heavily visited areas of the United Nations site. The United Nations News Centre covers the Commission on the Status of Women and other relevant events, and promotes statements of all high-level officials on violence against women, in addition to statements in the field by humanitarian or human rights officials. The Radio and Television Service produces programming on violence against women, relating to sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women or the Commission on the Status of Women, special events such as the anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), or International Women's Day, with a focus on violence against women.

The Strategic Communications Division devises and disseminates United Nations messages around priority themes and designs and executes issue-driven promotional campaigns. The Peace and Security Section places emphasis on women during the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process by peacekeeping missions; it supports the public information components of individual missions in their communications work on women affected by armed conflict, pointedly publicizing that rape during conflict is a war crime, and advocating against human trafficking. Public information components also engage in campaigns against sexual exploitation and abuse by UN personnel. The Development Section works directly and regularly with the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women on promoting their activities, which include those on violence against women. Promotional efforts may be associated with the observance of International Women's Day, the launch of reports, such as the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women, or sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. On occasion, the Section may assist UNIFEM, as it did in 2006 in distributing materials on the occasion of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign. The Palestine and Human Rights Section works directly with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, including the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as well as the New York Office. The Section is the focal point for issues relating to Palestinian women.

## **Resources**

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*Yearbook of the United Nations, 2007* (produced by the Department of Public Information in 2010), which identifies violence against women as a critical area of concern to the United Nations. A separate chapter on the Promotion of Human Rights gives prominent attention to the Special Rapporteur's report of that year on violence against women, its causes and consequences.

### *21<sup>st</sup> Century television series*

Austria: Showing the Red Card (domestic violence)  
[http://www.un.org/av/unfamily/21stcentury\\_27.html](http://www.un.org/av/unfamily/21stcentury_27.html)

### *UN Radio (selected stories)*

The following radio stories on aspects of violence against women are available for downloading in MP3:

- 8 April 2009: Engaging men and boys in gender equality <http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/english/detail/72597.html>
- 26 November 2008: On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, a renewed commitment to ending abuse of women and girls: <http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/english/detail/35305.html>
- 21 November 2008: Charlize Theron becomes the newest United Nations Messenger of Peace <http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/english/detail/35343.html>
- 26 February 2007 - Gender equality must remain the mandate of the entire UN family: DSG
- 24 November 2006 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women: UNIFEM Director Says There Is a Big Increase in Laws Against Domestic Violence
- 25 November 2005 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- 08 March 2007 - UNIFEM Links Development to Ending Violence against Women
- 10 October 2006 - Public Service Providers and Government Institutions Join Forces in Combating Violence Against Women
- 13 September 2006 - Preventing Sexual Violence Against Women
- 28 June 2006 - Violence Against Women, A Human Rights Issue
- 03 March 2006 - Sudanese Women on Violence against Women in Darfur
- 27 February 2006 - Top UN Agency Officials Urge End to Violence in DRC
- 28 October 2005 - Security Council Condemns Sexual Violence against Women
- 10 October 2006 - Congolese Armed Forces Remain Main Human Rights Violators in DRC: UN
- 24 November 2005 - WHO Report on Domestic Violence
- 15 May 2007 - Arbour Urges DRC Authorities to Fight Against Impunity
- 11 October 2006 - UN Report Shows Most Member States Without Laws to Protect Women from Violence.

#### *UN News Centre*

Examples of DPI's coverage of violence against women include:

- 24 November 2006 -- UN joins in 16-day campaign to fight violence against women
- 15 January 2007 -- Women and girls must be protected from violence, UN official tells rights committee
- 26 October 2006 -- Security Council highlights women's role in peace process, urges more involvement
- 8 March 2007 -- UN must take lead in eradicating violence against women, Ban Ki-moon says
- 7 March 2007 -- Security Council reaffirms key role of women in conflict prevention and resolution
- 5 March 2007 -- UN officials press for urgent action to end human trafficking, a 'modern-day slave trade'
- 24 February 2007 -- UN's all-female formed police unit can help maintain peaceful Liberia – envoy
- 16 February 2007 -- UN marks 10th anniversary of fund to end violence against women with call for action
- 18 October 2006 -- Sexual violence against women and children remains a major concern in Liberia:
- 15 September 2006 -- Spotighting 'cancer' of sexual abuse in DR Congo, UN aid chief calls for global pressure
- 10 October 2006 -- UN officials urge global backing for Annan's report on violence against women
- 9 October 2006 -- Annan calls for more political will to combat scourge of violence against women
- 7 September 2006 -- UN humanitarian chief promises justice for victims of sexual violence in DR Congo

- 5 May 2006 -- UN joins inquiry into reported sex abuse by African Union troops in Darfur
- 28 April 2006 – UN Security Council strongly condemns violence against civilians in wartime
- 10 April 2006 -- Granted Seville culture award, Annan donates proceeds to project helping women (victims of violence in DRC)
- 17 March 2006 -- AIDS scourge in Africa shows urgent need for new women's agency: US envoy
- 6 February 2006 – UNICEF hails progress toward ending female genital mutilation

Links to special events organized by United Nations Information Centres (selected)

UNIC Accra: [http://accra.unic.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=69&Itemid=73](http://accra.unic.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=69&Itemid=73)  
 UNIC Ghana: [http://accra.unic.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=69&Itemid=73](http://accra.unic.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=69&Itemid=73)  
 UNIC Lagos: <http://lagos.unic.org/content/view/56/76/>  
 UNIC Tripoli: [http://tripoli.unic.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=59&Itemid=73](http://tripoli.unic.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=59&Itemid=73)  
 UNIC Yaounde: <http://unic.un.org/imu/recentActivities/category/Yaounde.aspx>

### **Address/Websites**

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Website for the Secretary-General's Campaign UNite to End Violence against Women:  
<http://endviolence.un.org>  
 International Women's Day: <http://www.un.org/events/women/iwd/>  
 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women:  
<http://www.un.org/events/women/violence/2008/index.shtml>

## **OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)**

### **Background**

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The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), guided by the mandate provided by General Assembly resolution 48/141, works to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and international human rights instruments. It also undertakes, inter alia, to follow-up the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (1993), the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (2001) and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

As reflected in the OHCHR Strategic Management Plan for 2006-2007 and in her Plan of Action, the High Commissioner for Human Rights is committed to placing gender and women's rights at the core of the work of the Office as a whole. To this end, a Women's Human Rights and Gender Unit was established in 2006.

Institutionally, OHCHR is committed to strengthening the United Nations human rights programme and to providing it with the highest quality support. OHCHR is committed to working closely with its United Nations partners to ensure that human rights form the bedrock of the work of the United Nations.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above, as well as gender-related resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, Security Council and Human Rights Council, and relevant subsidiary bodies.

## **Area(s) of focus**

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The mission of OHCHR is to work for the protection and promotion of all human rights for all people; to help empower people to realize their rights; and to assist those responsible for upholding such rights in ensuring that they are implemented. In carrying out its mission with respect to violence against women, and within the overarching strategies to ensure country engagement, leadership, partnership, and support and strengthening of the Office and the human rights machinery, OHCHR is focusing on:

- Gender sensitive administration of justice, through the provision of expert legal analysis of international (and, where appropriate, regional and national) jurisprudence with commentary, relating to the effective prosecution of gender-based violence as well as legal analysis of obligations in relation to social and economic rights and the impact of the enjoyment of such rights for women on access to justice for victims of sexual violence.
- Piloting of integrated and thematic gender strategies for country engagement, including on violence against women.
- Mainstreaming gender and women's human rights in OHCHR and with UN system partners.

OHCHR is an active member of UN Action against sexual violence in conflict. Since August 2008, the Coordinator for UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, previously based with UNIFEM in New York, is hosted on OHCHR premises in Geneva. Since 2009, OHCHR has chaired the Resource Management Committee of the UN-Action Multi-Donor Trust Fund.

Human rights monitoring and investigations, including in relation to sexual violence, are also key features of the field presences of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), particularly country offices and human rights components of UN peace operations.

Monitoring of the human rights situation, including advocacy and public reporting, is a fundamental tool for OHCHR to assess human rights problems, support the identification of adequate solutions, promote accountability and deter further violations. In particularly serious human rights violations including collective rape cases, the Office also conducts human rights investigations, by conducting detailed interviews with victims and witnesses, when possible visiting the location of the violations, and undertaking circumstantial analysis of facts, mapping of perpetrators to promote accountability through follow up with judiciary authorities.

OHCHR supports the Human Rights Council and its special procedures, including the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Working Group on discrimination against women in law and in practice, and the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, as well as human rights treaty bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

In its' work, the Committee on the Elimination on the Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) urges States parties to give priority attention to eliminating all forms of violence against women and to adopt comprehensive measures to address it in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 19.

## **Resources**

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Report on laws discriminatory to women, prepared by Dr. Fareda Banda, 2009:  
[http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/laws\\_that\\_discriminate\\_against\\_women.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/laws_that_discriminate_against_women.pdf)

Compilation of General Comments and General Recommendations Adopted by Human Rights Treaty Bodies, U.N. Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.6  
<http://www.unhchr.ch/pdf/wcargender.pdf>

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/rapporteur/index.htm>

Fact Sheet No.23, Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children

<http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu6/2/fs23.htm>

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/children/rapporteur/index.htm>

Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking, Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Economic and Social Council, E/2002/68/Add.1.

<http://www.unhcr.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf/>

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/trafficking/index.htm>

Commentary on the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/PublicationsResources/Pages/SpecialIssues.aspx>

Violence against women

- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/rapporteur/>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/rapporteur/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/housing/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/housing/women.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/idp/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/detention/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/executions/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/minorities/expert/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/SRWomen/Pages/SRWomenIndex.aspx>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WGWomen/Pages/WGWomenIndex.aspx>
- [http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/MinorityRights\\_en.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/MinorityRights_en.pdf)

### **Address/Websites**

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OHCHR

Palais Wilson, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

<http://www.ohchr.org>

OHCHR Women Human Rights and Gender Unit webpage:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/>

## **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

### **Background**

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The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is mandated to assist Member States in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime and terrorism. In the Millennium Declaration, Member States resolved to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, to redouble efforts to implement the commitment to counter the world drug problem and to take concerted action against international terrorism. UNODC develops tools, manuals, handbooks and guides to support countries in criminal justice reform efforts to strengthen the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, including post-conflict reconstruction. These efforts also target the needs of women and children.

## **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above. In addition, UNODC's policy framework for addressing violence against women is contained in the following six documents: (i) Economic and Social Council resolution "Violence against women in all its forms" (1993/26); (ii) General Assembly resolution "Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women" (52/86); (iii) Economic and Social Council resolution "The rule of law and development: strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, with emphasis on technical assistance, including in post-conflict reconstruction" (2004/25); (iv) "Custodian of the Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners", which has a gender dimension; (v) Economic and Social Council resolution "Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime" (2005/20), which is pertinent to girls; and (vi) Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

## **Area(s) of focus**

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UNODC works to address domestic violence and trafficking in human beings, as well as to develop policies in support of women victims of violence, and women in prisons. UNODC integrates gender dimensions and the question of violence against women into its efforts to build the capacity of criminal justice systems.

The Office supports policy development in the justice sector, including in relation to violence against women and girls. It supports and undertakes research related to trafficking in persons, including on the nature of trafficking and national and regional responses to trafficking. UNODC implements technical assistance projects, produces and disseminates public service announcements to counter trafficking in persons, and conducts outreach activities.

## **Resources**

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*Gender in the Criminal Justice System Assessment Tool*, October 2010. The tool forms part of the Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit and it addresses inter alia the treatment of survivors of violence against women by the criminal justice system.

<http://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/crimeprevention/E-book.pdf>

## **Address/Websites**

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UNODC

Vienna International Centre, PO Box 500,  
A-1400 Vienna, Austria

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/index.html>.

## **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS (UNODA)**

### **Background**

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The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) provides substantive analysis and advice to the Secretary-General on germane issues. The Office assists Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all areas of disarmament and non-proliferation. Additionally, it assists Member States in their efforts to prevent the destabilizing and excessive accumulation of illicit small arms and light weapons. The Office promotes transparency, based on the principle of undiminished security for all, and confidence-building measures in the field of disarmament. Through its regional centres for peace and disarmament, UNODA assists Member States in promoting regional approaches to

disarmament, non-proliferation in all its aspects and regional and international peace and security.

### **Policy framework**

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The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) contributes to policy development including on the gender aspects of disarmament, and executes disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation programmes at the regional, subregional and national levels through its three UN Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament in Africa; Asia and the Pacific; and Latin America and the Caribbean. The Office began mainstreaming a gender perspective into its work in 2001, with the issuance of briefing notes on "Gender Perspectives on Disarmament", followed by a Gender Action Plan, the first such plan at the UN Secretariat. In 2006, UNODA issued guidelines for "Mainstreaming Gender for the Effective Implementation of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms", which were revised in 2010. In addition, ODA supports Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and General Assembly resolution 65/69 (2011). UNODA chairs the inter-agency coordination mechanism on arms, the arms trade and ammunition (CASA), where gender aspects are fully taken into account. It also participates in UN-wide joint programming to prevent and reduce armed violence. Finally, UNODA has developed a long-standing cooperation with the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) on gender aspects of the small arms / arms trade issue.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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Military expenditures, disarmament & development, arms trade, small arms, landmines, cluster munitions, DDR, SSR.

### **Address/Websites**

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United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs  
[www.un.org/disarmament](http://www.un.org/disarmament)

#### Regional Centres

- UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC)  
[www.unrec.org](http://www.unrec.org)
- UN Regional Centre for Peace and Development in Asia and the Pacific (RCPD)  
[www.unrcpd.org.np](http://www.unrcpd.org.np)
- UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC)  
[www.unlirec.org](http://www.unlirec.org)

## **REGIONAL COMMISSIONS**

### **i. Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)**

#### **Background**

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As the regional arm of the United Nations in Africa, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is mandated to support the economic and social development of its 53 Member States, foster regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development. The African Centre for Gender and Development, a Division of ECA, is mandated to orient the policies of the ECA into areas concerning gender equality and to advise the ECA on the implementation of appropriate strategies for the economic and social advancement of women in Africa.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above. In addition, ECA's mandate and policy framework on violence against women derives from the Dakar Platform for Action (1994) and the outcome and way forward-document of the Seventh African Regional Conference on women (2004). Its policy framework is also rooted in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and its Additional Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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ECA through the African Centre for Gender and Development undertakes policy development and research activities, as well as operational activities and awareness-raising activities in relation to violence against women.

### **Resources**

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Africa Women's Rights Observatory: <http://awro.uneca.org/>

The African Gender and Development Index – African Women's Progress Scoreboard  
[http://www.uneca.org/eca\\_programmes/acgd/Publications/AGDI\\_book\\_final.pdf](http://www.uneca.org/eca_programmes/acgd/Publications/AGDI_book_final.pdf)

### **Address/Websites**

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ECA  
Menelik II Ave. P.O. Box 3001, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
<http://www.uneca.org/>

## ii. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

### Background

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The UNECE Statistical Division implements the work of the Conference of European Statisticians which is the main body dealing with the coordination of official statistics in the region. The work on violence against women relates to the improvement of the availability and quality of data. Recognizing the limitations of measuring gender-based violence through administrative data, UNECE focuses its efforts on improving the measurement of violence against women through population-based surveys.

### Policy framework

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See main instruments listed above.

### Area(s) of focus

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Under the framework of the Conference of European Statisticians and its work on gender statistics, a UNECE Task Force on Gender-based Violence aims to improve the measurement of violence against women through national surveys. The main objectives of the task force are to:

- exchange and promote methods for specialized violence against women surveys;
- promote training for National Statistical Offices and users in the field of violence against women; and
- define common concepts, identify a methodology and minimum set of questions for a short module that can be incorporated into appropriate on-going surveys.

### Resources

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*Developing Gender Statistics: A Practical Tool (UNECE/World Bank Institute (2010)).* It is a reference manual prepared by the UNECE Task Force on gender statistics training for statisticians with contributions from various experts. The manual has a section on data collection on gender-based violence (available at: <http://www.unece.org/stats/gender/manual/Welcome.html>)

*Training video on gender-based violence:*The video is intended for users and producers of statistics, middle and senior staff in statistical organizations, policy and decision makers, academia, and stakeholders interested in gender statistics (available at: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.11.vaw.htm>)

*Special Issue: Violence against women. Statistical Journal of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Vol. 22, Numbers 3 and 4, 2005.*

### Address/Websites

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ECE  
Statistical Division  
Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10  
[www.unece.org/stats/gender/vaw/](http://www.unece.org/stats/gender/vaw/)  
[www.unece.org/stats/video/violence.htm](http://www.unece.org/stats/video/violence.htm)  
[www.unece.org/stats/documents/2007.10.gender.htm](http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2007.10.gender.htm)  
[www.unece.org/stats/archive/01.0b.e.htm](http://www.unece.org/stats/archive/01.0b.e.htm)

## iii. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

## Background

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As the regional arm of the United Nations in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC/CEPAL) contributes to the economic and social development of Member States in the region, coordinating actions directed towards this end, and reinforcing economic relationships among the countries and with the other nations of the world. In the last decade, the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in its projects and programmes has increasingly become a clear part of its mandate.

## Policy framework

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See main instruments listed above. In addition, ECLAC's mandate and policy framework in the area of violence against women derive from the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean (1994), confirmed by the Lima Consensus, adopted by the Eighth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (2000), and the Mexico Consensus, adopted by the Ninth Regional Conference (2004).

ECLAC's mandate and policy framework in the area of violence against women has been further strengthened by the recommendations of the Quito Consensus, adopted by the tenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (August 2007) and the bi-annual meetings of its Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference. At their forty-second meeting (Santiago, Chile 4-5 December 2008), the Presiding Officers and other member countries reported on measures being taken in their respective countries to eliminate gender-based violence, particularly at the institutional level as well as through the media and campaigns to unit with men against violence.<sup>3</sup> In their final agreement, they "condemn(ed) violence against women, in all its forms, including violence in conflict situations, request(ed) the support of international cooperation to strengthen efforts to eradicate such violence, and ask(ed) that specific budgets be approved to support national action plans for the prevention and punishment of gender-based violence and the provision of care to people affected by it" (par. 26 and 27).

At their forty-third meeting (Port of Spain, 7-8 July 2009), the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean reiterated their support to the attainment of the objectives of the Secretary-General's Campaign to end violence against women and participate actively in the launch of the campaign in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2009

## Area(s) of focus

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ECLAC addresses all forms and manifestations of violence against women. It undertakes research and policy development and the identification of good practice examples; it implements operational activities and contributes to awareness-raising and outreach on these issues. ECLAC aims to strengthen the capacity of countries in the region to produce knowledge on gender-based violence, including the measurement of its incidence and trends.

## Resources

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Alm3ras, D.; Bravo, B., Milosavljevic, V., Montaaño S. and Rico, M.N. (2004), *Violence against women in couples: Latin America and the Caribbean. A proposal for measuring its incidence and trends*, Mujer y Desarrollo Series No 40, ECLAC (LC/L.1744-P) (original Spanish version, 2002).

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<sup>3</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, M3xico, Paraguay, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands and Uruguay presented reports on their progress in relations to legal instruments, programmes and media campaigns to prevent, sanction and eradicate violence against women.

ECLAC (2002), *Report of the international meeting on gender statistics and indicators for measuring the incidence of and trends in violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean*, La Paz, Bolivia, 21-23 November 2001 (LC/L.1734).

ECLAC (2004), "Policies against domestic violence" in: *Roads towards Gender Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean*, position document presented to the Ninth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico City, Mexico, 10-12 June 2004 (LC/L.2114 (CRM.9/3), pp.66-70.

Rioseco, L. (2005), Buenas prácticas para la erradicación de la violencia doméstica en la región de América Latina y el Caribe, *Mujer y Desarrollo* series No 75, ECLAC (LC/L.2391-P).

Women and Development Unit (2005), "Violence against women: a human rights and development issue" in: Machinea, J.L, Bárcena, A. and León, A. (eds.), *The Millennium Development Goals: a Latin American and Caribbean perspective*, Chap. IV "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment", Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile (LC/G.2331), pp. 131-135.

ECLAC (2006), "Indicadores de género: Violencia contra la Mujer" en *Guía de asesoría técnica para la producción y el uso de indicadores de género*, Santiago de Chile. Produced with the financial support of UNFPA and technical collaboration of UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNICEF, OIT, UNESCO, OPS and FLACSO (LC/R.2136).

ECLAC (2007), *The right to live a life free of violence in Latin America and the Caribbean (¡¡¡Ni una más! El derecho a vivir una vida libre de violencia en América Latina y el Caribe)*, Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile (forthcoming).

ECLAC (2007), "Gender based violence and women's autonomy", in Women and Development Unit (eds.), *Promote gender equality and empower women*, Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile (forthcoming).

ECLAC (2007), *No more! The right to live a life free of violence in Latin America and the Caribbean (¡¡¡Ni una más! El derecho a vivir una vida libre de violencia en América Latina y el Caribe)*, Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile. A new color edition was published in March 2009 with the financial support of UNICEF (LC/L.2808/Rev.1)

ECLAC (2007), "Gender based violence and women's autonomy", in *Millennium Development Goals 2006: a look at Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean*, Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile (LC/G.2352-P/1)

ECLAC (2009), ¡Ni una más! Del dicho al hecho: ¿Cuánto falta por recorrer?, Campaña del Secretario General "Únete para poner fin a la violencia contra las mujeres", Santiago de Chile.

ECLAC (2010), *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and challenges*, Chap. V. E: "Violence against women perpetrated by an intimate partner" Santiago, Chile, ECLAC/ ILO/ FAO/ UNESCO/ PAHO/ UNWTO / UNDP/ UNEP/ UNHCHR / UNICEF/ UNFPA/ WFP/ UN-HABITAT / UNIFEM/ UNAIDS / UNOPS / OCHA (LC/G. 2460), August [online]  
<http://www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=%20/publicaciones/xml/5/39995/P39995.xml&xsl=/tpl-i/p9f.xsl%20&base=/tpl-i/top-bottom.xslt>

Lorena Frías y Victoria Hurtado (2010), *Estudio de la información sobre la violencia contra la mujer en América Latina y el Caribe*, Serie Mujer y Desarrollo No 99, Santiago de Chile, Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (LC/L.3174-P), marzo [online]  
<http://www.eclac.cl/publicaciones/xml/8/38978/Serie99.pdf>.

Rocío Villanueva (2010), "El registro de feminicidio del Ministerio Público del Perú" en División de Asuntos de Género, Reunión internacional sobre buenas prácticas de políticas públicas para el Observatorio de igualdad de género de América Latina y el Caribe: Memoria", Serie Mujer y Desarrollo No 104, Santiago de Chile, Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (LC/L.3231-P), junio [online] <http://www.eclac.cl/publicaciones/xml/7/40097/Serie104.pdf>.

ECLAC's website provides access to non-comparable surveys on violence against women carried out in the region between 1990 and 2001 (Bolivia 1997/98; Chile 1993, 1996, 1997, 2001; Colombia 1995; Costa Rica 1994; Guatemala 1990; Haiti 1996; Mexico 1996, 1997, 1999; Nicaragua 1996, 1997, 1998; Paraguay 1995/96; Peru 1997, 2000; Uruguay 1997) (at: <http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/perfiles/beijing/BEIJING24.HTM>). This database is completed by a smaller set of comparable information for a wide array of indicators that have been processed from the Demographic Health Surveys of Bolivia 2003, 2008; Colombia 2000, 2005; Dominican Republic 2002, 2007; Haiti 2000, 2005-2006 and Peru 2004 - 2005<sup>4</sup>. Depending on the indicators, the online access to surveys on violence against women carried out in the region has been updated and now includes in addition to those reported previously:

- Bolivia: National survey of demography and health (ENDSA 2008) (MEASURE DHS+)
- Dominican Republic: Demographic Health Survey (ENDESA 2007). The complete set of indicators on violence against women includes:
  - Percentage of women whose husbands/partners have demonstrated specific conducts of control by 1) age group; 2) present civil status; 3) employment; 4) education level; and 5) economic quintile.
  - Percentage of women who have experience any type of physical violence, by 1) age group; 2) present civil status; 3) employment; 4) education level; and 5) economic quintile.
  - Percentage of women who have experience any type of sexual violence, by 1) age group; 2) present civil status; 3) education level; and 4) economic quintile.

Observatory of Gender Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: <http://www.cepal.org/oig/>

- Official statistical data corresponding to the indicator "Women's deaths at the hand of their intimate partner or former partner: Women aged over 15 who are killed by their partners or former partners: absolute number and rate per 100,000 inhabitants" for 10 countries (Spain, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Peru, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines).

- Online database on national legislation for all the countries of Latin America (in Spanish); the information for the Caribbean countries has been collected and is being processed to be posted shortly (in English).

## **Address/Websites**

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ECLAC  
Av. Dag Hammarskjold, 3477 Vitacura, Santiago, Chile  
[www.eclac.org/mujer](http://www.eclac.org/mujer)

A special banner on the Secretary General Campaign to end violence against women is available on the portal of the webpage of the Division for Gender Affairs both in English and Spanish. Another additional banner on violence against women gives access to the studies and gender indicators developed by ECLAC, international instruments and studies produced by the international community, detailed information on national legislation adopted by the countries of

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<sup>4</sup> See online

<http://www.cepal.org/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/mujer/noticias/paginas/3/29273/P29273.xml&xsl=/mujer/tpl/p18f-st.xsl&base=/mujer/tpl/top-bottom-estadistica.xsl>

Latin America and the Caribbean as well as documentation produced by civil society organizations.

ECLAC has also established a wiki knowledge platform which use is being promoted among the counterparts of the interregional project on violence. While its use is presently restricted to the knowledge communities being organized in the framework of the project, a public interface should be built at the end of the project (information available at <http://wiki.eclac.org>).

#### **iv. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)**

##### **Background**

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The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is the main economic and social development forum within the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region.

##### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above. In addition, ESCAP's mandate and policy framework in the area of violence against women derive from the Bangkok Declaration on Beijing +15 adopted by the Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its Regional and Global Outcomes (2009).

##### **Area(s) of focus**

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ESCAP focuses on the elimination of violence against women, trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. It undertakes advocacy and policy dialogue to facilitate policy formulation and implementation of commitments; engages in awareness-raising through information sharing and outreach within countries and internationally; builds and strengthens action networks; builds linkages and partnerships between governments, civil society and other stakeholders; and undertakes capacity-building and training activities.

##### **Resources**

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*Toolkit for implementing and monitoring the East Asia and Pacific Regional Commitment and Action Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)*, 2006, available at: [http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/2388\\_toolkit\\_csec.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/2388_toolkit_csec.pdf)

Recommendations adopted at Expert Group Meeting on the "Promotion and Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) with Particular Emphasis on Violence against Women and Trafficking in Women", 3-5 October, 2005, Thailand, available at: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/EGM%20adopted%20recommendations.pdf>

Discussion paper on *Trafficking and the Human Rights of Women: Using the CEDAW Convention and Committed to Strengthen National and International Responses to Trafficking in Women and Girls*, 2005, available at: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/Discussion%20Paper-EGM2005.pdf>

Report of the Expert Group Meeting on "Strategic Planning for the Intensification of Regional, Sub-regional and Inter-regional Cooperation to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children" 18-19 December 2003, Thailand, available at: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/index.asp>

*Combating Human Trafficking in Asia: A Resource Guide to International and Regional Legal Instruments, Political Commitments and Recommended Practices*, 2003, available at:

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/Trafficking-File1.pdf>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/Trafficking-File2.pdf>

Discussion Paper on *Elimination of Violence against Women in Partnership with Men*, 2003, available at:

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/DiscussionPapers/15/series15-main-text.pdf>

Discussion Paper on *Women and Violence, Human Rights and Armed Conflict*, 2000, available at:

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/DiscussionPapers/07/series7.pdf>

Discussion Paper on *Violence against women in South Asia - Subregional overview, Violence against women in Bangladesh*, 1999, available at:

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/DiscussionPapers/03/series3.pdf>

Report of the Regional Conference on *Trafficking in Women*, 3-4 November 1998

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#### **Address/Websites**

ESCAP

Gender and Development Section, Emerging Social Issues Division,  
United Nations Building, 6th Floor, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand

[www.unescap.org](http://www.unescap.org)

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Violence/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Humansecurity/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/CSEC/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Humanrights/index.asp>

## **v. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

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### **Background**

As the regional arm of the United Nations in Western Asia, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) promotes the economic and social development of its Member States through regional and sub-regional cooperation and integration. ESCWA has a general mandate to carry out regional reviews of progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of international conferences and summits. The ESCWA Centre for Women was established in 2003 to improve the status of women by empowering them economically, socially and politically. The Centre also services the Committee on Women, an inter-governmental body.

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### **Policy framework**

See main instruments listed above.

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### **Area(s) of focus**

ESCWA addresses issues related to violence against women at the regional level within the overall context of economic and social development, and their close links to peace and security. It aims to enhance inter-agency coordination and collaboration among United Nations entities working on women's issues, including on violence against women, in the Western Asia/Arab

region. ESCWA/Centre for Women is a member of the Steering Committee of the OXFAM-UNIFEM joint project on “Strategies and approaches of working with men and boys to promote gender equality project”. From 2009 – 2012, ESCWA in collaboration with the other Regional Commissions will implement a sixth Tranche Development Account Project to Enhance Capacities to Eradicate Violence against Women. The project seeks to strengthen national and regional capacity to take action, prevent sanction and eradicate physical and sexual violence against women. The strategy will rely on enhancing the production of statistical data and indicators of these forms of violence as well as knowledge sharing at the regional and inter-regional levels.

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### **Resources**

Arab regional ten-year review and appraisal of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, E/ESCWA/WOM/2004/IG.1/3 dated 1 July 2004

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### **Address/Websites**

ESCWA  
P.O. Box 11-8575, Riad El-Solh 1107 2812, Beirut, Lebanon  
[www.escwa.org.lb](http://www.escwa.org.lb)  
<http://www.escwa.org.lb/ecw/index.asp>

## **OFFICE OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT SERVICES (OIOS)**

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### **Background**

The Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) is the internal oversight body of the United Nations. Established in 1994 by the General Assembly, the Office assists the Secretary-General in fulfilling his oversight responsibilities in respect of the resources and staff of the Organization through the provision of audit, investigation, inspection, and evaluation services.

Internal Audit Division audits assess the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls for the purpose of improving the Organization’s risk management, control and governance processes. Inspection and Evaluation Division evaluations assess the relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness (including impact) of the Organization’s programmes in relation to their objectives and mandates. Investigations Division investigations establish facts related to reports of possible misconduct to guide the Secretary-General on jurisdictional or disciplinary action to be taken

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### **Policy framework**

General Assembly resolutions 48/218B, 54/244 and 59/272 on the establishment and the review of functions and reporting procedures of OIOS. According to the United Nations Financial Regulation 5.15, OIOS is responsible for conducting independent internal audits. These audits are carried out in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing.

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### **Area(s) of focus**

OIOS assists the Organization in achieving better results by determining the factors affecting the efficient and effective implementation of programmes in accordance with, inter alia, the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. OIOS undertakes a number of activities to support the

commitment of the Organization to gender mainstreaming, including oversight of United Nations gender mainstreaming efforts.

#### **Address/Websites**

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OIOS  
380 Madison Ave.  
New York, NY 10017  
[www.un.org/Depts/oios/](http://www.un.org/Depts/oios/)

## **UNITED NATIONS FUNDS, PROGRAMMES, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

#### **Background**

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The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP works with countries to build their own solutions to global and national development challenges and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. UNDP helps developing countries attract and use aid effectively and encourages the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women in all its activities. UNDP chairs the UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

#### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above.

#### **Area(s) of focus**

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UNDP's role is to contribute strategically and catalytically to growing national ability to promote equality and capability of all citizens. All UNDP program personnel, working in every focus area, are obliged to mainstream GBV considerations into their work because it has major implications for the successful attainment of the MDGs, and is a component of the fight against gender discrimination, an endeavor which cuts across all UNDP activity. UNDP focuses on all types of violence against women, including vulnerabilities arising out of trafficking in women and children, HIV/AIDS, disaster, conflict and post-conflict situations.

#### **Resources**

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Webpage containing information on UNDP's Global Conference on Gender-based Violence, 2009: [http://www.pnud.org.ve/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=190](http://www.pnud.org.ve/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=190)

UNDP Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Issue 2 2009, focusing on sexual and gender-based violence: [http://www.undp.org/cpr/newsletters/2009\\_2\\_spring/index.html](http://www.undp.org/cpr/newsletters/2009_2_spring/index.html)

Venezuela's Global Retreat on Gender Based Violence  
<http://www.pnud.org.ve/content/view/190/174/>

Secretary-General's Campaign *UNiTE to End Violence against Women*. Latin America Regional component

[http://www.americalatinagenera.org/es/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=100:inicio&catid=52:25-de-noviembre-2009&Itemid=91](http://www.americalatinagenera.org/es/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=100:inicio&catid=52:25-de-noviembre-2009&Itemid=91)

The Eight Point Agenda: practical, Positive Outcomes fro Women and Girls in Crisis.  
[http://www.undp.org/cpr/how\\_we\\_do/8pa\\_2009.shtml/](http://www.undp.org/cpr/how_we_do/8pa_2009.shtml/)

Guidance Note on Gender Based Violence on Crisis and Post Crisis Settings.  
<http://teamworks.beta.undp.org/pg/groups/23488/gender-based-violence-gbv/>

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## Address/Websites

UNDP  
One United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017  
<http://www.undp.org/women/>  
<http://www.undp.org/rblac/gender/>

## I. Former United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), now part of UN Women

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### Background

Former United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies to foster women's empowerment and gender equality. Placing the advancement of women's human rights at the centre of all of its efforts, Former UNIFEM focuses its activities on four strategic areas: (1) reducing feminized poverty, (2) ending violence against women, (3) reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS among women and girls, and (4) achieving gender equality in democratic governance in times of peace as well as war. Former UNIFEM works on several fronts towards ending violence against women and girls. This includes tackling its main root: gender inequality. Efforts are multiplied through advocacy campaigns and partnerships with governments, civil society and the UN system. Initiatives range from working to establish legal frameworks and specific national actions, to supporting prevention at the grassroots level, including in conflict and post-conflict situations. Former UNIFEM has also supported data collection on violence against women, facilitating new learning on the issue. Former UNIFEM's work on violence against women is based within a human rights framework.

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### Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. General Assembly resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women, establishing the Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women and subsequent resolutions (A/RES/52/94, A/RES/54/136, A/RES/56/130, A/RES 60/137) also support former UNIFEM's work in this area.

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### Area(s) of focus

Under UNIFEM's 2004-2007 Multi-Year Funding Framework, programming to end violence against women was undertaken at the macro, meso and micro levels. Specific areas of focus for UNIFEM's programming varied according to regional context with, for example, heightened attention to sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict in sub-Saharan Africa, including Rwanda, Uganda and DRC, or trafficking in women in the South Asian region.

Building on its partnerships and programming experience under the multi-year funding framework 2004-2007, and seizing on the unprecedented momentum exemplified at international and national levels to end violence against women and girls, UNIFEM developed a new strategy, *A Life Free of Violence: Unleashing the Power of Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality*. The Strategy, in line with UNIFEM's strategic plan for 2008-2013, deepens UNIFEM's ongoing work in advocacy and awareness-raising, as well as policy and legal reform. It addresses the linkages between violence against women and HIV and AIDS, and provides for further developing capacity to increase access to services and justice for survivors. At the same time, UNIFEM has identified emerging areas for intensified future programming, such as incorporating violence against women and girls in leading policy and funding frameworks; aligning informal and formal justice systems with international human rights standards; addressing sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations; and developing targeted prevention approaches, especially with key groups such as men and adolescents.

Former UNIFEM plays a key role in inter-agency initiatives on violence against women. It is a founding and active member of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict, active member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee for humanitarian assistance Gender Sub-Working Group, Task Force on Violence against Women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, and Inter-Agency Task Force on Adolescent Girls, and one of the six UN entities on the High-Level Steering Committee of the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to End Violence Against Women", 2008-2015. Former UNIFEM also serves as a lead or partner agency in relation to several joint UN initiatives on violence against women, including the Spanish Government's MDG Achievement Fund sponsored programmes in Bangladesh, Colombia and Morocco; the Asia Pacific Regional Joint Programme "Partners for Prevention: Working with Boys and Men to Prevent Gender-based Violence"; and the One UN pilots in Albania, Rwanda and Uruguay, whose programmes include components to address violence against women.

Under the guidance of General Assembly resolution 50/166, former UNIFEM is the administrator of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (the Trust Fund), which identifies and supports innovative and catalytic projects around the world that aim to break new ground, create new models and mobilize constituencies to eliminate violence against women in all its manifestations. The Trust Fund generates lessons and good practices that inform larger programmes of former UNIFEM and its civil society, governmental and United Nations partners at the national, regional and global levels. In 2005, UNIFEM also launched a regional replication of the Trust Fund in the Arab region for a period of three years. (See also the entry on the Trust Fund in this inventory.)

## **Resources**

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*A Life Free of Violence Is Our Right! The UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women*. 10 Years of Investment 2007, United Nations Development Fund for Women, [http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=83](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=83)

*A Life Free of Violence Is Our Right! – Trust Fund Testimonies* (Video), 2007, United Nations Development Fund for Women

*Let's End Violence Against Women* (Public Service Announcement) 2007, Leo Burnett and United Nations Development Fund for Women: [http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=87](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=87)

*Creating Economic Opportunities for Women in Albania: A Strategy for the Prevention of Human Trafficking* 2006, Gender Alliance for Development Center with support from United Nations Development Fund for Women, <http://www.unifem.sk/uploads/doc/Albania%20report%20final.pdf>

*Uncounted and Discounted: A Secondary Data Research Project on Violence against Women in Afghanistan*, United Nations Development Fund for Women:

[http://afghanistan.unifem.org/PDF\\_Documents/Uncounted%20Discounted.pdf](http://afghanistan.unifem.org/PDF_Documents/Uncounted%20Discounted.pdf)

*Not a Minute More: Ending Violence Against Women* 2003, United Nations Development Fund for Women, [http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=7](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=7)

*War and Peace: The Independent Experts' Assessment on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Women's Role in Peace-building.* Elisabeth Rehn & Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Women, 2002, United Nations Development Fund for Women:  
[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=17](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=17)

*Picturing a Life Free of Violence: Media and Communications Strategies to End Violence Against Women* 2001, United Nations Development Fund for Women:  
[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=8](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=8)

*With an End in Sight: Strategies from the UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women*, 2000, United Nations Development Fund for Women:  
[http://www.unifem.org/resources/item\\_detail.php?ProductID=14](http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=14)

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### Address/Websites

Former UNIFEM now part of UN Women, 304 East 45th Street  
15th Floor  
New York, NY, 10017  
[www.unifem.org](http://www.unifem.org)

## II. United Nations Volunteers (UNV)

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### Background

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme was established by the UN General Assembly in 1970 and is administered by UNDP. Free will, commitment, engagement and solidarity are the foundation of volunteerism. Volunteerism serves the cause of peace and development by enhancing opportunities for participation by all, particularly women. Since the start of its operations, UNV has supported the UN system by mobilizing volunteers for peace and development all over the world. Almost 8,000 volunteer assignments were undertaken in 2008. In its resolution 63/153 of February 2009, the UN General Assembly reaffirmed the significance of volunteerism for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the importance of marking the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers (IYV +10) in 2011.

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### Policy Framework

See main instruments listed above. UNV works within the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) framework for Empowerment and Equality (UNDP, 2008) which is based on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (as well as other human rights treaties) to promote equality, peace and development.

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### Area (s) of focus

In partnership with governments, civil society organizations and UN agencies, UNV contributes to gender equality by raising awareness as well as the prevention and elimination of violence against women through advocacy, integration and mobilization of volunteers.

## **UN WOMEN**

### **Background**

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In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

The creation of UN Women came about as part of the UN reform agenda, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact. It merges and builds on the important work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system, which focused exclusively on gender equality and women's empowerment:

- Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)
- International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)
- Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI)
- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

The main roles of UN Women are:

- To support inter-governmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women, in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms.
- To help Member States to implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it, and to forge effective partnerships with civil society.
- To hold the UN system accountable for its own commitments on gender equality, including regular monitoring of system-wide progress.

### **Policy framework**

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Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (2000) and four subsequently adopted resolutions on women, peace and security: 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), and 1960 (2010); Millenium Declaration and Millenium Development Goals (MDGs).

### **Area(s) of focus**

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UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. It stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women's leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women's economic empowerment; and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.

### **Resources**

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*Handbook for National Action Plans on Violence Against Women* (UN Women, 2011)  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/handbook-for-nap-on-vaw.htm>.

*Supplement to the Handbook for Legislation on Violence Against Women: "Harmful Practices" Against Women* (UN Women, 2011)  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/handbook/Supplement-to-Handbook-English.pdf>

*Annual Report* (UN Women 2010-2011)  
<http://www.unwomen.org/resources/annual-report/>

*"Progress of the World's Women: In Pursuit of Justice"* (UN Women, 2011)  
<http://progress.unwomen.org/>

*Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence Against Women and Girls*  
<http://www.endvawnow.org/>

*Secretary General's Database on Violence Against Women*  
<http://webapps01.un.org/vawdatabase/home.action>

*Say No – UNiTE to End Violence Against Women*  
<http://saynotoviolence.org/>

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#### **Address/websites**

UN Women  
220 East 42 Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
USA  
<http://www.unwomen.org/>

## **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

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### **Background**

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

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### **Policy framework**

See main instruments above.

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### **Area(s) of focus**

UNEP undertakes awareness-raising among staff members on the Secretary-General's Bulletins. It has circulated and encouraged discussions on these policies

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### **Future activities**

UNEP plans to hold yearly briefings on the Secretary-General's bulletins.

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### **Address/websites**

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UNEP  
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya  
[www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org)

## **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)**

### **Background**

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The Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is mandated to provide international protection to refugees and to promote durable solutions for them. UNHCR also works in partnership with other agencies to help internally displaced persons, stateless persons and others who are in a refugee-like situation as well as returnees. UNHCR defines protection as “all actions aimed at ensuring the equal access to and enjoyment of the rights of women, men, girls and boys of concern to UNHCR, in accordance with the relevant bodies of law (international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law)”, and as such views the prevention and response to sexual violence as an integral component of its mandate.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above. Furthermore, UNHCR’s Policy on Refugee Women (1989) highlights the organizational goal of providing protection appropriate to the specific needs of women, including the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). The 1997 UNHCR Policy on Harmful Traditional Practices also provides guidance on addressing SGBV. In 2001, UNHCR made five commitments to refugee women, one of which is to “[d]evelop integrated country-level strategies to address violence against refugee women”<sup>5</sup>. The “Guidelines on International Protection: Gender-Related Persecution within the content of Article 1 A(2) of the 1951 Convention and /or its 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees” 2002, also provide guidance in the context of determining refugee status under the 1951 Convention.

UNHCR’s policy framework is further elaborated in the Agenda for Protection (2004) and in several of the Conclusions of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner’s Programme. The most recent is Conclusion No. 105 (LVII) 2006 on Women and Girls at Risk which recommends specific actions for UNHCR, States and other relevant agencies and partners regarding the identification of women and girls at risk, prevention strategies and individual responses and solutions.

An internal memorandum on the implementation of an accountability framework on age, gender and diversity mainstreaming issued in 2007, has established clear responsibilities and commitments/activities for the mainstreaming of age, gender and diversity concerns into all UNHCR’s work and has a section addressing SGBV. To address the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse of people of concern, UNHCR’s Code of Conduct, drawn up in 2004, incorporated the Secretary-General’s Bulletin on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13). It provides a specific policy and framework to prevent, report and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian workers.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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UNHCR’s approach to SGBV is situated within a wider framework of mainstreaming gender equality, and women’s rights and empowerment. Within this framework, UNHCR aims to prevent

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<sup>5</sup> Report on the Dialogue with Refugee Women, Geneva, 20-22 June 2001.

and respond to all forms of sexual and gender-based violence affecting persons of concern during displacement and return. Its primary focus is on establishing a multi-sectoral inter-agency framework for prevention and response, in partnership with the communities of concern, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), other United Nations agencies and governments. The Office strives to achieve this by establishing standard operating procedures for the prevention of, and response to, SGBV in each country operation.

UNHCR works on refugee status determination during which procedures take into consideration gender-based persecution. In addition, in seeking durable solutions to the problems of refugees, specific attention is paid to the needs of survivors of SGBV and those at risk. Depending on the circumstances, one of the durable solutions available to them is resettlement to a third country.

## **Resources**

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*Respect Our Rights: Partnership for Equality, Dialogue with Refugee Women*, UNHCR, 2001.  
<http://www.unhcr.org/protect/3b83a48d4.html>

*UNHCR Policy on Refugee Women and Guidelines on Their Protection: An Assessment of Ten Years of Implementation*, UNHCR, 2002.

*Guidelines on International Protection: Gender-Related Persecution within the content of Article 1 A(2) of the 1951 Convention and /or its 1967 Protocol relating to the status of Refugees*, UNHCR, 2002.

*Introductory Training Manual: Building a Common Conceptual Understanding among Humanitarian and Development Workers on Gender, Women's Rights and Gender Based Violence (including Sexual Abuse and Exploitation)*, UNHCR, 2003.

*Gender Training Kit on Refugee Protection and Resource Handbook*, UNHCR 2003

*Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons. Guidelines for Prevention and Response*. UNHCR, 2003.  
<http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/3f696bcc4.pdf>

*Clinical Management of Rape Survivors* (Revised Edition), WHO/UNHCR, 2004  
<http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/403a0b7f4.pdf>

*Study on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Selected Locations in Sri Lanka*, UNHCR, 2004

*Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Women and Girls in West Africa*, UNHCR and Save the Children, UK, 2002

*Combating Human Trafficking: Overview of UNHCR's Anti-Trafficking Activities in Europe*. UNHCR 2005

*Refugee and Returnee Children in Southern Africa: Perceptions and Experiences of Violence: A qualitative study of refugee and returnee children in UNHCR operations in Angola, South Africa, and Zambia*. UNHCR June 2005

*UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls. Provisional Release for Consultation Purposes*. June 2006

## **Address/Websites**

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UNHCR  
Case Postale 2500 CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland

## **UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST (UNRWA)**

### **Background**

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The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was founded in the aftermath of the Arab-Israeli conflict of 1948 to support the needs of Palestine refugees. Today, it provides education, primary health, relief, social and microfinance services to a population of 4.3 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Agency also delivers emergency assistance at times of conflict, including the occupied Palestinian territory since 2000, and Lebanon during the conflict of summer, 2006.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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UNRWA's services in education, health and social services provide women and girls the basic elements for sound human development and social safety. UNRWA is working on developing a gender mainstreaming strategy to ensure that all programme activities undertaken fully incorporate the objective of gender equality, including combating gender-based violence. UNRWA has developed various initiatives in its fields of operations to end violence against women. Its' objective for 2010 is to consolidate a comprehensive framework including prevention of violence and services for victims.

### **Addresses/Websites**

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UNRWA HQ Gaza  
c/o P.O. Box 140157, Amman 11814, Jordan  
[www.un.org/unrwa/](http://www.un.org/unrwa/)

## **UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)**

### **Background**

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The United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) is mandated to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and strives to establish children's rights as enduring ethical principles and international standards of behaviour towards children.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above. UNICEF is also guided by the Mid-Term Strategic Plan 2006-2009, extended until the end of 2011, which prioritizes promotion of gender equality and programming to protect children from violence.

## **Area(s) of focus**

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UNICEF works on different manifestations of gender-based violence, depending on the particular country or context. These include: female genital mutilation/cutting, early marriage, trafficking, sexual exploitation, sexual violence, domestic violence, and violence in schools. UNICEF has been particularly focused on violence against women and girls in armed conflict. UNICEF engages in capacity building and development of holistic strategies to end gender-based violence, as well as the training of staff and partners. UNICEF's strategy to end gender-based violence includes continuous support to the strengthening of law enforcement on violence, sexual exploitation and trafficking of children; work with judicial systems to prevent re-victimization of children and adolescents victims; strengthening of child protection systems at national and local levels to prevent, protect and care for children victims of violence, abuse and exploitation and work with education and health sectors to raise awareness on how to detect and report violence, exploitation and abuse of children.

## **Resources**

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*The Dynamics of Social Change. Towards the Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in Five African Countries*, UNICEF Innocenti Insight, 2010

UNICEF and Religious for Peace, "*From Commitment to Action: What Religious Communities Can Do to Eliminate Violence against Children*", UNICEF 2010.

The Body Shop and UNICEF, *Behind Closed Doors: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children*, 2006

Hayward, Ruth Finney. *Linkages between Violence against Women and Girls and UNICEF's Medium Term Strategic Plan, 2002-2005 Priorities*, Working paper, 2003

Hayward, Ruth Finney. *Addressing Gender-Based Violence and UNICEF's Five MTSP Priorities: Some Elements for Planning and Action*, Working paper, 2004

Kaufman, Michael. *The Aim Framework - Addressing and Involving Men and Boys: To Promote Gender Equality and End Gender Discrimination and Violence*, Working paper, 2003

*Domestic Violence Against Women And Girls*, Innocenti Digest No 6, UNICEF, June 2000

*Early Marriage: Child Spouses*, Innocenti Digest No 7, UNICEF, March 2001

*Changing A Harmful Social Convention: Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting*, Innocenti Digest No 12, UNICEF 2005

*Early Marriage: A Harmful Traditional Practice*, UNICEF, 2005

*The Impact of Conflict on Women and Girls in West and Central Africa and the UNICEF response*, UNICEF, 2000

## **Address/Websites**

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UNICEF  
UNICEF House, 3 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York 10017  
[www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

## UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)

### Background

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The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is mandated to promote the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA extends assistance to countries at their request to ensure that reproductive health needs are met; population issues are addressed; and awareness of these issues is enhanced in all countries.

### Policy framework

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See main instruments listed above. In addition, UNFPA is guided by and promotes the principles of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), which also calls for the elimination of violence against women as cornerstones for population and development policies.

### Area(s) of focus

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In recent years, UNFPA has institutionalized the implementation of violence against women (VAW) and gender-based violence (GBV) programming initiatives. The agency's work on gender-based violence and violence against women is now shaped by the *UNFPA Strategy and Framework of Action for Addressing Gender-Based Violence: 2008-2011*. UNFPA co-chairs the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) Task Force on violence against women, with DAW. It is the lead programming agency for the Task Force's joint programming pilot initiative and funds the work of the Task Force coordinator. UNFPA is a founding member of the inter-agency initiative - UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict; is an active member of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security at the global level; is a member of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse; is a Project Advisory Committee Member of the UN Trust Fund to End VAW; and, co-chairs (with WHO) the IASC's Gender and Humanitarian Action Sub-Working Group. UNFPA is also an active member of the Inter-agency Task Force on Adolescent Girls and the Inter-agency Working Group of the Secretary-General's Campaign "UNiTE to end violence against women". In all its interventions, UNFPA strives to involve men and boys in the development of reproductive health information and services. UNFPA is working in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders to address gender-based violence, including health, legal and other support services for survivors. The Fund is a member of the Steering Committee of the Men Engage Alliance and is a UN core partner in the men and boys regional violence prevention programme in the Asia-Pacific.

UNFPA focuses on the following forms of violence against women throughout different life cycle phases:

- 1) Prenatal: Prenatal sex selection, battering during pregnancy, coerced pregnancy (rape during war)
- 2) Infancy: Female infanticide, emotional and physical abuse, differential access to food and medical care
- 3) Childhood: Genital cutting/mutilation, incest and sexual abuse, differential access to food, medical care, and education, child prostitution
- 4) Adolescence: Dating and courtship violence, early marriage, economically coerced sex, sexual abuse in the workplace, rape, sexual harassment, forced prostitution
- 5) Reproductive: Abuse of women by intimate partners, marital rape, dowry abuse and murders, partner homicide, psychological abuse, sexual abuse in the workplace, sexual harassment, rape, abuse of women with disabilities
- 6) Old age: Abuse of widows, elder abuse (which affects mostly women).

## Resources

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Programming to address violence against women, 10 case studies, UNFPA 2006

State of World Population 2005, The Promise of Equality: Gender Equity, Reproductive Health & MDGs, UNFPA, 2005

Beijing at Ten: UNFPA's Commitment to the Platform of Action, UNFPA, 2005

Training Workshop on Leadership, Media & Conflict Management for Women in Afghanistan, UNFPA, 2004

[Addressing Violence against Women: Piloting and Programming](#), UNFPA/AIDOS, 2003

*The Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Girls*, UNFPA, 2002

[A Practical Approach to Gender-Based Violence: A programme Guide for Health Care Providers and Managers](#), UNFPA, 2001 (translated into seven languages)

## Address/Websites

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United Nations Population Fund, 220 East 42nd St. New York, NY 10017

[www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org)

<http://www.unfpa.org/gender/violence.htm>

## UNITED NATIONS WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)

### Background

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The World Food Programme (WFP) provides food aid to meet emergency needs and support economic and social development, and provides the necessary logistical support. WFP also works to put hunger at the centre of the international agenda, promoting policies, strategies and operations that directly benefit the poor and hungry.

### Policy framework

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See main instruments above. In addition, WFP's Executive Director issued three Circulars (ED2003/005; ED2004/001; ED2005/004) for the implementation of the Secretary-General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13) that cover specific responsibilities for staff at both national and local level.

### Area(s) of focus

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WFP's main focus is on violence that occurs in the context of food distribution and in key phases of its programme cycle (i.e. registration, distribution, collection and transportation of food). WFP contributes to preventing and responding to all forms and manifestations of violence against women, such as FGM/C and sexual violence, exploitation and abuse, including in conflict and post-conflict situations, and rape, wherever there is a capacity to do so. In February 2009, the WFP Executive Board approved the new WFP Gender Policy "Promoting Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Addressing Food and Nutrition Challenges". It includes specific measures to address gender protection challenges in accordance with Secretary Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on Women and Peace and Security. Within the framework of the new policy, WFP will involve men and boys in activities to protect women and children from violence.

## Resources

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*WFP Gender Policy “Promoting Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Addressing Food and Nutrition Challenges”* WFP, 2009:

<http://home.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/resources/wfp195024.pdf>

*Protection and Gender Issues in Conflicts and Post-Conflicts Situations*, WFP, November 2005.

*Women’s Control of Food in Relief. Good Practices Case Study Project*, WFP, December 2004.

*Enhanced Commitments to Women 2004 Baseline Survey. Global Report*, WFP, December 2005.

## Address/Websites

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WFP

Via C.G.Viola 68, Parco dei Medici, 00148, Rome, Italy

[www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org)

## UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME (UN-HABITAT)

### Background

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The mission of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. Its activities contribute to the overall objective of the United Nations system to reduce urban poverty and promote sustainable development within the context of the Millennium Development Goals and the challenges of a rapidly urbanizing world.

### Policy framework

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See main instruments above. In addition, UN-Habitat’s work is guided by the Habitat Agenda, which also addresses women’s safety (article 123).

### Area(s) of focus

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The key focus of UN-Habitat’s work in the area of violence against women is on the role and rationale for local government interventions and policy. UN-Habitat’s work on violence against women is conducted within the framework of its Safer Cities Programme, which aims to build capacities at city level to adequately address urban insecurity and thereby to contribute to the establishment of a culture of prevention.

## Resources

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*Violence against Women in Urban Areas*, UMP Working Paper 17, April 2000, by Soraya Smaoun, co-sponsored by SC and UMP (English and French)

*Crime in Dar es Salaam: Results of a City Victim Survey*, ISS and UN-Habitat, January 2001

*Survivors speak, a snapshot survey on violence against women in Nairobi*. UN-Habitat, Safer Cities Series 3, April 2002

*Preventing Gender-based violence in the Horn, East and Southern Africa, A regional Dialogue*, Raising Voices and UN-Habitat, 2004

*Rethinking Domestic Violence, A training process for community activists, Raising Voices, Dipak Naker and Lori Michau, 2004*

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**Address/Websites**

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UN-Habitat  
P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi, Kenya  
[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)  
[www.unhabitat.org/safercities](http://www.unhabitat.org/safercities)

## **UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY (UNU)**

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**Background**

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United Nations University's (UNU) mission is to contribute, through research and capacity building, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations, its peoples and Member States. The UNU acts as an international community of scholars; a bridge between the United Nations and the international academic community; a think-tank for the United Nations system; and a builder of capacities, particularly in developing countries

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**Policy framework**

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See main instruments above.

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**Areas of focus**

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Violence against women has been addressed in projects under UNU's Peace and Governance Programme, including studies on women and children in post-conflict peace-building and on trafficking.

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**Address/Websites**

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UNU  
5-53-70 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925  
[www.unu.edu](http://www.unu.edu)

## **UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (UNITAR)**

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**Background**

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The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) provides training to assist countries in meeting economic and social challenges; conducts research to explore effective training and capacity building approaches; and forms partnerships with other United Nations agencies, governments and non-governmental organizations for the development and implementation of training and capacity building programmes to meet the needs and requests of Member States, particularly developing countries and countries in transition.

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**Policy framework**

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See the main instruments above.

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**Area(s) of focus**

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UNITAR addresses violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Address/Websites

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**UNITAR**

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Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

[www.unitar.org](http://www.unitar.org)

<http://www.unitar.org/wcc/>

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**FORMER UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (UN-INSTRAW), now part of UN Women**

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**Background**

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The former United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW) now part of UN Women carries out and promotes research and training programmes to contribute to the empowerment of women and the achievement of gender equality worldwide. By stimulating and assisting the efforts of inter-governmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations, UN-INSTRAW plays a critical role in advancing the global agenda of gender equality, development and peace.

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**Policy framework**

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See main instruments listed above.

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**Area(s) of focus**

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Former INSTRAW's Gender, Peace and Security Programme promotes gender equality and women's full and equal participation in the realms of peacekeeping, peace processes, post-conflict reconstruction and the reform of security institutions. INSTRAW's research and capacity-building initiatives focus specifically on security sector reform, violence against women and the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

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**Main activities**

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Working with other UN bodies, international and regional organizations, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia and the media, former INSTRAW prioritizes initiatives that ensure the right to peace and security for women, men, girls and boys in three main areas:

- Promoting gendered security sector reform – former INSTRAW has developed a conceptual framework and concrete tools on gender and security sector reform (SSR) that aim to guide an analysis of security institutions, policies and processes (including the military, the police, border guards, private security firms, civil society and other actors), facilitate effective mainstreaming of women's issues, and ensure an effective and appropriate response to gendered insecurities, including violence against women. In 2006, INSTRAW, in collaboration with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), established the Gender and Security Sector Reform Working Group, which brings together key groups and individuals working on gender and reform

- of security institutions, and serves as an initiator, resource and facilitator for efforts to mainstream gender issues into SSR initiatives, policies and tools.
- Contributing to the eradication of violence against women - In 2001, INSTRAW commissioned 6 working papers on ending men's violence against women, which explore different partnerships for ending violence against women, and men's roles and responsibilities within these partnerships. In 2003, the Institute launched a collaborative research programme and online seminar/discussion to encourage a more holistic and collective response to violence against women by focusing on masculinities and male roles. In collaboration with UNDP's Sub-Regional Resource Facility for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC-SURF), INSTRAW developed a manual and training tool for improving the response to violence against women provided by public security institutions, including government, the police, the judiciary and other relevant actors. The tool aims to help users assess the existing response to violence against women, and design, implement and monitor more effective and appropriate policies and programmes. The tool also generated a training module that has been implemented with security-sector actors in El Salvador and the Dominican Republic.
  - Supporting the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) – INSTRAW has produced *Securing equality, engendering peace: A guide to policy and planning on women, peace and security (SCR1325)*. This guide concentrates on the creation of action plans on women, peace and security in order to ensure the full, effective and sustainable implementation of Security Council resolution 1325. The purpose of this guide is to help facilitate the development of realistic action plans on women, peace and security through the provision of good practices, specific recommendations and a six-step model process. The guide is designed as a resource for governments, United Nations and regional organizations as well as non-governmental organizations. Based on a review of existing action plans in countries such as Canada, Norway, and the United Kingdom, among others, the manual provides concrete guidelines and processes for reaching agreement at the national and institutional levels.

## Resources

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*Partners in Change: Working with Men to End Gender-Based Violence* (INSTRAW/Ser.B/57). Santo Domingo: United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, 2003. (ISBN 92-1-127058-8)

Grieg, Alan. *Political Connections: Men, Gender and Violence*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.1), 2001.

Rashid, Maria. *Giving Men Choices: A Rozan project with the Police Force in Pakistan*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.2), INSTRAW, 2001.

Hautzinger, Sarah. *The Crowing of the Rooster: Violence and Changing Masculinity in Northeast Brazil*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.3), 2001.

Tonkin, Bernard. *Men Reinventing Themselves - Recovery from the Hegemonic Masculinity*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.4), INSTRAW, 2001.

Moffett, Helen. *Entering the Labyrinth: Coming to Grips with Gender War Zones - The Case of South Africa*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.5), INSTRAW, 2001.

Funk, Rus Ervin. *A Coordinated Collaborative Approach to Address and Combat Teen Dating Abuse*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.6), INSTRAW, 2001.

INSTRAW. *Herramienta para la programación de una respuesta eficaz y apropiada ante la violencia contra las mujeres*. In Manual para la Reforma del Sector de la Seguridad en América Latina. Panama: Sub-Regional Resource Facility, United Nations Development Programme, 2005.

Valasek, K. and K. Nelson. *Securing Equality, Engendering Peace: A guide to policy and planning on women, peace and security*. Santo Domingo: UN-INSTRAW, 2006.

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### **Address/Websites**

Former INSTRAW now part of UN Women  
Calle César Nicolás Penson 102-A, Santo Domingo  
Dominican Republic  
<http://www.un-instraw.org>

## **UNITED NATIONS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (UNRISD)**

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### **Background**

UNRISD engages in multidisciplinary research on the social dimensions of contemporary problems affecting development. UNRISD stimulates dialogue and contributes to policy debates on key issues of social development within and outside the United Nations system.

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### **Policy framework**

See main instruments above.

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### **Area(s) of focus**

In the 2000-2004 Research Programme, violence against women was addressed in the Social Policy and Development and Democracy, Governance and Human Rights research programmes. In the new research programme for 2005-2009, violence against women is being addressed under the Gender and Development Programme.

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### **Resources**

*Gender Equality: Striving for Justice in an Unequal World, part four*. UNRISD, 2005

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### **Address/Websites**

UNRISD  
Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
[www.unrisd.org](http://www.unrisd.org)  
<http://www.unrisd.org/research/gender/report>  
Contains links to all research, commissioned papers and contacts related to UNRISD's work on gender equality

# UNITED NATIONS INTERREGIONAL CRIME AND JUSTICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (UNICRI)

## Background

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The mandate of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) is to contribute, through research, training, field activities and the collection, exchange and dissemination of information, to the formulation and implementation of improved policies in the field of crime prevention and control, due regard being paid to the integration of such policies within the broader policies for socio-economic change and development, and the protection of human rights.

## Policy framework

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See main instruments above.

## Area(s) of focus

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UNICRI's activities are developed in accordance with the priorities indicated by the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Recently, UNICRI has devoted specific attention to the issue of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, for the purpose of sexual exploitation. In the past, UNICRI has also carried out activities in the field of domestic violence prevention and control. UNICRI regularly updates the following databases:

- Human Trafficking Bibliography database:  
<http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/bibliography/index.php>
- International Legal Repository on Human Trafficking:  
[http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/legal\\_framework/index.php](http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/legal_framework/index.php)
- International Repository of Institutions against Sexual Exploitation of Minors (IRISEM):  
<http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/irisem/index.php>

## Resources

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International Legal Repository

[http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/legal\\_framework/index.php](http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/legal_framework/index.php)

International Repository of Institutions against Sexual Exploitation of Minors

<http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/irisem/index.php>

Bibliography on Trafficking in Human Beings

<http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/bibliography/index.php>

*Trafficking in Human Beings and Peace-Support Operations*. Pre-deployment in-service Training Programme for International Law Enforcement Personnel Training Manual. UNICRI Publications, 2006

*Trafficking of Nigerian girls to Italy*. UNICRI Publications, 2004

*Anti-THB to and within peace support operation area: Building up knowledge and strategies for awareness and training*. UNICRI Publications, 2004

UNICRI, *Trafficking in women: The Czech Republic perspective*. ICSP Publications, 2004

## **Address/Websites**

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UNICRI  
Viale Maestri del Lavoro, 10, 10127 Turin, Italy  
[www.unicri.it](http://www.unicri.it)  
Information on counter-trafficking activities

## **JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)**

### **Background**

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The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) is the main advocate for accelerated, comprehensive and coordinated global action on the epidemic. UNAIDS aims to lead, strengthen and support an expanded response to HIV and AIDS that includes preventing transmission of HIV, providing care and support to those already living with the virus, reducing the vulnerability of individuals and communities to HIV and alleviating the impact of the epidemic. The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS is a partnership between United Nations agencies and civil society organizations seeking to call attention and spur action to address the increasing HIV infection rates among women and girls.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above. In addition, UNAIDS policy position paper: Practical guidelines for intensifying HIV prevention (2007) draws specific attention to the fact that strategies to reduce violence against women are essential to a comprehensive HIV prevention strategy for women.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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UNAIDS pays particular attention to the intersections between violence against women and the threat of violence, and HIV prevention, treatment and care for women and girls. The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS strategy covers policy development, research and awareness-raising. UNAIDS co-sponsors also take a lead on violence against women, particularly WHO, UNFPA, and UNICEF. In May 2009, UNAIDS issued a policy document -- Joint Action for Results: the UNAIDS Outcome Framework 2009-2011 -- which outlines priority action areas in the AIDS response and opportunities to link the AIDS agenda to broader development goals and the MDGs. One of the priority areas identified for concerted action by UNAIDS and cosponsors is reducing violence against women. The document commits UNAIDS to use its convening role, advocacy and programming resources to reduce sexual and intimate partner violence through appropriate entry points in the AIDS response. UNAIDS is an active partner in the inter-agency initiative UN Action against sexual violence in conflict.

### **Resources**

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*Joint Action for Results: the UNAIDS Outcome Framework 2009-2011:*  
[http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2009/jc1713\\_joint\\_action\\_en.pdf](http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2009/jc1713_joint_action_en.pdf)

*Gender Guidance for National AIDS responses:*  
[http://data.unaids.org/pub/InformationNote/2008/20080308\\_item\\_2\\_gender\\_guidance\\_and\\_costed\\_action\\_plan\\_fi\\_en.pdf](http://data.unaids.org/pub/InformationNote/2008/20080308_item_2_gender_guidance_and_costed_action_plan_fi_en.pdf)

*Facing the Future Together: Report of the Secretary-General's Task Force on Women and Girls*  
<http://womenandaids.unaids.org/regional/default.html#1>

*Global Coalition on Women and AIDS – Violence against women and AIDS: Issue Brief #2*

<http://womenandaids.unaids.org/themes/docs/UNAIDS%20VAW%20Brief.pdf>

### **Address/Websites**

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UNAIDS  
20, avenue Appia, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland  
[www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org)  
[http://womenandaids.unaids.org/themes/theme\\_2.html](http://womenandaids.unaids.org/themes/theme_2.html)

## **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)**

### **Background**

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The International Labour Organization (ILO) formulates and monitors implementation of international labour standards in the form of policies, conventions and recommendations, and provides technical assistance.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above. In addition, ILO's work on violence against women is guided by the 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Rights and Principles at Work; Convention 111 on Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) of 1958; Convention 29 on Forced Labour of 1930; and Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour of 1999; Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97); Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143); Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169); and the Domestic Workers Convention (No. 189) and Recommendation (No. 201). The International Labour Conference Resolution and Conclusions concerning gender equality at the heart of decent work, adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 2009, address violence against women in several places, including stating that gender-based violence in the workplace should be prohibited; policies, programmes, legislation, and other measures, as appropriate, should be implemented to prevent it; and Governments should develop gender equality indicators which could include violence against women in the workplace. In November 2009, the ILO Governing Body discussed follow-up to the Resolution and Conclusions concerning gender equality at the heart of decent work. The Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No.183) and Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No.156), include specific provisions to tackle discrimination on the grounds of maternity as well as discrimination against workers with family responsibilities.

The ILO's supervisory system ensures regular monitoring of the application of these Conventions in law and in practice, through the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, made up of independent experts, as well as in the context of the tripartite Committee on the Application of Standards.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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The ILO addresses the issue of violence against migrant workers, pregnant workers and working parents, domestic workers, many of whom are women, as well as indigenous and tribal women. ILO works on violence against women at work including sexual harassment, all forms of gender-related discrimination at work, forced labour and trafficking, and child labour. It undertakes policy development, supervision of the application in law and practice of the relevant international labour, research, operational activities and awareness-raising activities. ILO's approach to violence against pregnant workers and working parents, female domestic workers and migrant women is based on a strategy of preventing discrimination based on gender, exploitation and

abuse through promoting gender-sensitive regulated and managed migration policies, bi-lateral and multilateral agreements and promotion of labour standards for migrant workers as well as on maternity protection and workers with family responsibilities within a Decent Work framework.

## Resources

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- The Mekong Challenge - Cambodia's 'Beer Promotion Girls' – their recruitment, working conditions and vulnerabilities
- The Mekong Challenge - Cambodia's Hotel and Guesthouse Workers – their recruitment, working conditions and vulnerabilities into account and steps taken to avoid abuses
- The Mekong Challenge - Destination Thailand: A cross-border labour migration survey in Banteay Meanchey Province, Cambodia
- Tools for Prevention - Participatory Monitoring: Guidelines for practitioners in the fight against human trafficking
- First Hand Knowledge - Voices Across the Mekong: Community action against trafficking of children and women
- Employment and Protection of Migrant Workers in Thailand: National Laws Practices versus International Labour Standards?
- The Mekong Challenge - Human Trafficking: Redefining Demand
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- Sri Lanka: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmsri.pdf>
- Italy: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmita.pdf>
- Japan: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmjap.pdf>
- Nicaragua: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmnic.pdf>
- Nigeria: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmnig.pdf>
- Philippines: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmphi.pdf>
- Costa Rica: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmcos.pdf>
- Bolivia: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/download/swmbol.pdf>
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## Address/Websites

ILO  
4 Route des Morillons, CH-1211 Geneva 22 Switzerland  
[www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org)

ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Programme  
[http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.INDEXPAGE?var\\_language=EN](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.INDEXPAGE?var_language=EN)

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<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/migrant/projects/gender/index.htm>

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[www.ilo.org/condtrav/harassment](http://www.ilo.org/condtrav/harassment)

ILO Sectoral Activities Programme (SECTOR) pages on workplace violence in services sectors  
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/sector/themes/violence.htm>

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<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/violence/>

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<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/whpwb/solve/index.htm>

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[http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_protect/@protrav/@safework/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms\\_107705.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_protect/@protrav/@safework/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_107705.pdf)

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[http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/magazines-and-journals/world-of-work-magazine/articles/WCMS\\_167867/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/magazines-and-journals/world-of-work-magazine/articles/WCMS_167867/lang--en/index.htm)

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<http://labordoc.ilo.org/search?n=en&p=violence&f=&c=ILO+publications>

## **FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)**

### **Background**

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The mandate of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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FAO seeks to promote gender equality and reduce discrimination against women through various activities which also support the elimination of violence against women. Activities focus on the reinforcement of food security and the economic rights of women, mainly by promoting their access to and management of economic resources, the reduction of women's workload, access to healthcare, education, training and information, and the promotion of women's participation in decision-making processes.

### **Address/Websites**

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FAO  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy  
[www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

## **UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)**

### **Background**

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The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) functions as a [laboratory of ideas and a standard-setter](#) to forge universal agreements on emerging ethical issues. The Organization also serves as a [clearinghouse](#) – for the dissemination and sharing of information and knowledge – while [helping Member States to build their human and institutional capacities](#) in diverse fields. UNESCO is working to create the conditions for genuine dialogue based upon respect for shared values and the dignity of each civilization and culture.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above.

In its new Medium-Term Strategy for 2008-2013, UNESCO accords priority to gender equality in all its fields of competence supported by a dual approach, gender specific programming and gender mainstreaming, in Member States and within the Organization. UNESCO is fully engaged in pursuing this commitment through concrete, substantive programmes and initiatives in all its fields of competence (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001499/149999e.pdf>) as captured in an organization-wide "Priority Gender Equality Action Plan for 2008-2013".

### **Area(s) of focus**

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UNESCO primarily addresses the following types of violence against women: inter-personal violence in and out of schools; trafficking in women; women in conflict and post-conflict situations (including the use of rape as a weapon of war). Activities cover various fields of education; the natural sciences; the social and human sciences; culture; and communications and information.

UNESCO has a two-pronged approach to violence against women:

- A behavioural approach. Through education and with the help of ICTs, UNESCO seeks to build commitment to peace and non-violence in the minds of men and women. This includes the promotion of gender-sensitive human rights education and non-violent conflict resolution approaches. UNESCO's Human Rights Education programme seeks to bring about a profound reform of education in order to transform attitudes and behaviours that condone violence. It touches upon curriculum development, in-service and pre-service training, textbooks, methodology, classroom management, and the organization of the education system at all levels.
- A structural approach. Notably through its Social and Human Sciences and Culture Sector programmes, UNESCO looks at the structural causes of violence against women and seeks to encourage holistic and culturally appropriate policy responses towards their elimination.

## Resources

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*Searching for Best Practices to Counter Human Trafficking in Africa: A Focus on Women and Children*, Thanh-Dam Truong and Maria Belen Angeles, UNESCO 2005

*Mixed Marriage, Law of Succession and International Conventions in the Countries of the Maghreb and in Egypt*. Forthcoming on-line as part of the SHS/GED Occasional Paper Series at <http://www.unesco.org/shs/gender>

Research papers prepared on "Women in the Conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo", (2004/2005); <http://www.unesco.org/shs/gender>

*Family Law in the Islamic Republic of Iran*. Forthcoming on-line as part of the SHS/GED Occasional Paper Series at <http://www.unesco.org/shs/gender>

*Corporal punishment in schools*, January 2005

"Femicides" in Chile, 2004

*Male roles, masculinities and violence*, 2004

*Women's rights and bioethics*, 2000 (includes a chapter on violence against women)

*Education for a Culture of Peace in a Gender Perspective*. Training manual, 2001 (English) and 2003 (French).

*Trafficking of women/Surveillance, tracking and analysis of the trade in girls and women from the Upper Mekong region into Thailand*

*Fighting human trafficking in Mozambique: policy recommendations* (English and Portuguese)

*Fighting human trafficking in Nigeria: policy recommendations*, February, 2006

*Fighting human trafficking in Benin: policy recommendations*, May 2007 (English and French)

*Fighting human trafficking in Togo: policy recommendations*, May 2007 (English and French)

Policy papers currently under preparation:

*Fighting human trafficking in Lesotho: policy recommendations, July, 2007*  
*Fighting human trafficking in South Africa: policy recommendations, July, 2007*

## **Address/Websites**

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UNESCO

7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France

1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15 France

[www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)

[www.unesco.org/women](http://www.unesco.org/women)

UNESCO project to fight human trafficking in Africa

[http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4011&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL\\_ID=4011&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4011&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

Non-violence education

[http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1261&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL\\_ID=1261&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1261&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

Focusing resources on effective school health (FRESH)

[http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=36790&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL\\_ID=36790&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=36790&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

Education in situations of armed conflict and crisis – Women and Girls Education

[http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=23014&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL\\_ID=23014&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=23014&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

## **WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)**

### **Background**

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The World Health Organization (WHO) supports the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above. In addition, WHO's work on violence against women is based on several resolutions by its governing bodies: World Health Assembly Resolution WHA49.25, Prevention of violence: a public health priority (1996); World Health Assembly Resolution WHA50.19, Prevention of Violence(1997); World Health Assembly Resolution WHA56.24, Implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health (2003); African Regional Committee Resolution AFR/RC54/R6, Child sexual abuse: a silent health emergency (2004); and the European Regional Committee Resolution EUR/RC55/10, Prevention of injuries in the WHO European Region. In May 2008 the World Health Assembly, adopted a resolution against FGM, which urges all Member States to, among others, enact and enforce legislation, support and enhance community-based efforts, and develop and promote guidelines for care of victims.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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WHO supports and undertakes research, the formulation of policy, programmatic guidance and engages in advocacy on various forms of violence against women. Its efforts on violence against women are focused on addressing intimate partner violence, sexual violence and female genital mutilation (FGM), although it also undertakes work on child abuse and maltreatment, and violence against health workers, and collaborates with IOM on the health of trafficked people, including responding to violence. This work is being undertaken across a number of areas of work in WHO and by the different levels in WHO: at Headquarters, regional and country level. WHO participates in many UN inter-agency activities, processes, and partnerships, including UN Action, the Task Force on violence against women, the Inter-agency Standing Committee, the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on reproductive health in humanitarian settings, UNAIDS Outcome Framework.

## Resources

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Violence against Women webpage :

<http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/violence/en/index.html>

Prevention of Violence webpage:

[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/en/)

*Preventing intimate partner and sexual violence: taking action and generating evidence, 2010*

*Addressing violence against women and HIV/AIDS: what works? , 2010*

Preventing injuries and violence. A guide for ministries of health. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2007.

Garcia-Moreno C., Jansen H., Ellsberg M., Heise L., and Watts C., *WHO Multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women*. Initial results on prevalence, health outcomes and women's responses. World Health Organization, 2005. A summary report and country fact sheets are available in English, French and Spanish and can be accessed on [http://www.who.int/gender/violence/who\\_multicountry\\_study](http://www.who.int/gender/violence/who_multicountry_study).

Addressing violence against women and achieving the Millennium Development Goals. World Health Organization, 2005.

Ellsberg, MC. and Heise, L., *Researching violence against women: a practical guide for researchers and activists*. World Health Organization and PATH, Washington DC, 2005.

Krug EG et al., eds. *World report on violence and health*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2002. (In particular see: Heise L and Garcia-Moreno C, *Violence by intimate partners* (chapter 4) and Jewkes R, Sen P and Garcia-Moreno C, *Sexual violence* (chapter 6)). [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/world\\_report/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/world_report/en/index.html)

Clinical management of survivors of rape: a guide to the development of protocols for use in refugee and internally displaced person situations. World Health Organization/ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2nd edition, 2005 (WHO/RHR/02.08;[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2002/WHO\\_RHR\\_02.08.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2002/WHO_RHR_02.08.pdf)).

Guidelines for medico-legal care of victims of sexual violence. World Health Organization, 2003 (<http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/924154628X.pdf>).

Violence against women and HIV/AIDS: Critical intersections information bulletin series.

No. 1 Intimate partner violence and HIV/AIDS. World Health Organization, 2004

No. 2 HIV and Sexual violence in conflict settings. World Health Organization, 2004

No. 3 Violence against sex workers and HIV prevention. World Health Organization, 2006

Preventing violence: a guide to implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health. World Health Organization, 2004  
<http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241592079.pdf>

Sethi D et al. Handbook for the documentation of interpersonal violence prevention programmes. \ World Health Organization, 2004 <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241546395.pdf>

Ethical and safety guidelines for interviewing women who have been trafficked. World Health Organization, 2003. (Available also in Armenian, Bosnian, Croatian, Japanese, Serbian, Russian, and Romanian)

Putting women first: ethical and safety guidelines for research on domestic violence against women. World Health Organization, 2001 (WHO/FCH/GWH/01.1) (Available also in French and Spanish)

Violence against women and HIV/AIDS: setting the research agenda. World Health Organization, 2001 (WHO/FCH/GWH/01.08).

Waters H et al. The economic dimensions of interpersonal violence. World Health Organization, 2004 <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241591609.pdf>

Schopper D, Lormand JD, Waxweiler R (eds). Developing policies to prevent injuries and violence: guidelines for policy-makers and planners. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2006. [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/publications/39919\\_oms\\_br\\_2.pdf](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/39919_oms_br_2.pdf)

#### **Address/Websites**

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WHO, Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland  
[www.who.int](http://www.who.int)  
<http://www.who.int/gender/violence>  
[http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/)

## **THE WORLD BANK**

### **Background**

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The World Bank concentrates on building a climate for investment, jobs and sustainable growth so that economies will grow. It invests in and empowers poor people to participate in development in order to alleviate poverty. The Bank's gender and development policy is to assist Member Countries to reduce poverty and enhance economic growth, human well-being, and development effectiveness by addressing the gender issues that create barriers to development.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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The social and economic costs of violence against women; components in financed projects that address the immediate needs of battered women and their children, social and legal services to help women with issues such as domestic violence, sexual violence against children, and child support.

## Resources

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Barker, Gary and Christine Ricardo. 2005. [Young Men and the Construction of Masculinity in Sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for HIV/AIDS, Conflict, and Violence](#). CPR Social Development Papers, No. 26, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Blackden, Mark. 2006. *Good Governance begins at home: Gender, Violence and HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa. Briefing note on critical gender issues in Sub-Saharan Africa, 2006-1*. Gender Team, Africa Region, World Bank, Washington D.C.

Bott, Sarah, Andrew Morrison and Mary Ellsberg. 2005. [Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence in Middle and Low-Income Countries: A Global Review and Analysis](#). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. 3618, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Bouta, Tsjeard, Frerks, Georg and Bannon, Ian. 2005. "Gender-Based and Sexual Violence: A Multidimensional Approach", chapter 3 in *Gender, Conflict and Development*. World Bank, Washington D.C. Available at:  
<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCPR/Resources/30494GenderConflictandDevelopment.pdf>

Mansuri, Ghazala and Jacoby, Hanan G. 2007. *Watta satta: bride exchange and women's welfare in rural Pakistan*, World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. WPS 4126, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Morrison, Andrew, and Orlando, Maria Beatriz. 2004. *The Costs and Impacts of Gender-Based Violence in Developing Countries: Methodological Considerations and New Evidence* (unpublished)

Morrison, Andrew, Ellsberg, Mary, and Bott, Sarah. 2004. [Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Critical Review of Interventions](#). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No.3438, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Rachel, Linde. 2006. *Guidelines for Impact or Outcome Evaluation for Projects Funded by the UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence against Women*. Gender and Development Group, PREM, World Bank. April 2006.

Shrader, Elizabeth. 2001. [Methodologies to Measure the Gender Dimensions of Crime And Violence](#), World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. 2648, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

World Bank. 2007. *Crime, violence, and development : trends, costs, and policy options in the Caribbean*. Joint Report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Latin America and the Caribbean Region of the World Bank, Report No. 37820, March 2007, Washington D.C.

World Bank. 2005. [Report on the Outcomes of the Workshop "The Development Implications of Gender-Based Violence"](#). Washington, D.C.

World Bank/UNFPA.2004.\_*Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in Somalia*. November 2004. Available at:  
<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCPR/882726-1120215891552/20627308/WBSomaliafgm.pdf>

## Address/Websites

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The World Bank  
1818 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20433 USA  
[www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

[www.worldbank.org/gender](http://www.worldbank.org/gender)

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGENDER/Resources/UNIFEMEvaluationGuidelinesFinal.pdf>

## **INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD)**

### **Background**

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Dedicated to eradicating rural poverty in developing countries, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was established to finance agricultural development projects primarily for food production. IFAD focuses on country-specific solutions to increase rural poor people's access to financial services, markets, technology, land and other natural resources.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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IFAD undertakes efforts to combat trafficking, address migration issues, women's empowerment in the marketplace and ensure that legal support is available to rural women.

### **Address/Websites**

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IFAD

Via del Serafico, 107 00142 Rome, Italy

[www.ifad.org](http://www.ifad.org)

<http://www.ifad.org/gender/index.htm>

## **INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)**

### **Background**

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The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. While not part of the United Nations system, IOM maintains close working relations with United Nations bodies and operational agencies, as well as with a wide range of international and non-governmental organizations. In addition, IOM is the designated cluster leader for camp management in humanitarian settings for natural disasters. Through its gender mainstreaming policy adopted in 1995, IOM is committed to ensuring that the particular needs of all migrant women are identified, taken into consideration and addressed by IOM projects and services.

### **Policy framework**

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See main instruments above.

### **Area(s) of focus**

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IOM's main focus, with respect to violence against women, is on counter-trafficking, violence against women migrants, including women migrant workers and reduction of HIV vulnerabilities. It also addresses traditional practices such as female genital mutilation. The Organization is

particularly attentive to violence against women in the context of complex emergencies and natural disasters, where women and children are disproportionately targets of abuse.

In this regard, it undertakes prevention activities; provides assistance to those affected by violence and/or trafficking; and provides assistance to trafficked victims for their voluntary return to countries of origin and their reintegration. IOM also facilitates access to voluntary counselling and testing of HIV and referral for treatment where needed for rape victims and for migrants to ensure universal access to HIV prevention, AIDS treatment, care and support.

## **Resources**

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[\*The World in Motion: Short Essays on Migration and Gender\*](#), IOM's Working Group on Gender Issues. 2004. Contains chapters on specific issues such as female genital mutilation/cutting, facing rape in war, and trafficking.

*Female migrants: Bridging the Gaps Throughout the Life Cycle*, Selected papers of the UNFPA-IOM Expert Group Meeting, New York, 2-3 May 2006. 2006

*A Psychosocial Needs Assessment of Communities in 14 Conflict-Affected Districts in Aceh* (forthcoming publication). The final report includes a section dedicated to gendered trauma and sexual violence.

*Gender and Labour Migration in Asia*, 2009.

*Working to Prevent and Address Violence against Migrant Women Workers*, 2009.

### Publications on trafficking:

*Condiciones de vulnerabilidad a la Trata de Personas en Colombia* (forthcoming), Spanish only

*Exploratory Assessment on Trafficking in Persons in the Caribbean: The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, the Netherlands Antilles, St. Lucia, Suriname* (June 2005); Trinidad and Tobago (December 2006)

*Legal Review on Trafficking in Persons in the Caribbean: The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, the Netherlands Antilles, St. Lucia, Suriname* (June 2005); Trinidad and Tobago (December 2006).

"Stakeholder Analysis of Human Trafficking in Pakistan", March 2006

"Trafficking of Persons in Tajikistan" July, 2006

*Who is the next victim? Vulnerability of young Romanian women to trafficking in human beings.* IOM, 2004

*Trafficking in Unaccompanied Minors in Ireland.* IOM, 2004

*Revisiting the Human Trafficking Paradigm: The Bangladesh Experience* (Part I: Trafficking of Adults). IOM, 2004

*Changing Patterns and Trends of Trafficking in Persons in the Balkan Region – Assessment.* IOM, July 2004

*Is Trafficking in Human Beings Demand Driven? A Multi-Country Pilot Study.* IOM, 2003

*Counter-trafficking in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.* IOM, 2003

*First Annual Report on Victims of Trafficking in South Eastern Europe Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings (SPTF)*. IOM and International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), 2003

*Irregular Migration and Trafficking in Women: The Case of Turkey*. IOM, 2003

*Protection Schemes for Victims of Trafficking in Selected EU Member Countries, Candidate and Third Countries*. IOM, 2003

*The Trafficking of Women and Children in the Southern African Region*. IOM, 2003

*Trafficking in Persons; An Analysis of Afghanistan*. IOM, 2003

Publications on HIV/AIDS prevention:

[Sexual health of mobile and migrant populations](#). Sexual Health Exchange/2, 2003

[Migration and HIV/AIDS in Europe](#). 2000

International Migration Quarterly Review, 36/4. Special issue: *Migration and HIV/AIDS*. 1998

[IOM Position paper on HIV/AIDS and Migration](#). 2002

[Population Mobility and HIV/AIDS \(IOM Programme Brochure\)](#). July 2004

[Mobility and HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa: A field study in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique](#). Care International and IOM, 2003

[HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care among Mobile Groups in the Balkans](#). 2001

[Overview of HIV/AIDS in South Eastern Europe](#). 2002

(Available in English, Albanian, Macedonian, Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian.)

*Salud sexual y reproductiva, enfermedades de transmisión sexual y VIH/Sida en jóvenes de 10 a 24 años de una ciudad receptora de población desplazada*. Montería, Colombia, 2003. 2004

#### **Address/Websites**

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IOM

17 Route des Morillons CH-1211 Geneva 19 Switzerland

[www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

[http://www.iom.int/en/who/main\\_service\\_areas\\_migration.shtml#chap11](http://www.iom.int/en/who/main_service_areas_migration.shtml#chap11)

[www.iom.org.za/HIVAIDSPublications.html](http://www.iom.org.za/HIVAIDSPublications.html)