



**United Nations Trust Fund
for Human Security**

Egypt

Protecting and Empowering Women in the Digital Space: Advocacy for the Human Security Approach

Background information

In Egypt, digitalization has created new opportunities for women in education, healthcare, and economic development. However, it has also introduced new risks, particularly the rise of Technology-Facilitated Violence Against Women and Girls (TFVAWG). Enabled by information and communication technologies (ICT) and digital media, this form of violence affects women and girls of all ages and backgrounds, leading to health, safety, and socio-economic consequences. With more than half of women in Egypt using the internet, many report concerns about online harassment and safety. Yet, the lack of comprehensive national data on TFVAWG highlights the urgent need for data-driven multi-stakeholder strategies. Developing integrated, evidence-based solutions is essential to not only safeguard women and girls online but also to foster a digital landscape that is safe and empowering.

Goals and objectives

The programme seeks to address, prevent, protect, and empower women and girls against technology-facilitated violence through the human security approach. Specifically, it aims to: (i) generate evidence-based knowledge to inform effective policymaking and methodologies to combat TFVAWG; (ii) strengthen the capacities of key stakeholders, including law enforcement, tech companies, service providers, and women's groups; and (iii) raise awareness about the opportunities offered by technology, the risks and threats of TFVAWG, and the importance of robust protection mechanisms.



DURATION
March 2025 — August 2026



UN IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES
UN Women, UNODC, ITU



OTHER KEY PARTNERS
National Council for Women



BENEFICIARIES
2,000,000



TOTAL BUDGET
US\$ 366,000

POOLING OF RESOURCES



Beneficiaries

The programme aims to benefit vulnerable populations and key stakeholders across various societal groups in Egypt. These include over 2,000,000 citizens with a particular focus on women and girls, tech companies and service providers, law enforcement representatives, and civil society groups dedicated to ending violence against women and girls. Indirectly, policymakers focused on digitalization also benefit, alongside the public, through advocacy for human security and increased awareness about TFVAWG.

Applying the Human Security approach

Applying the human security approach is essential for addressing the multidimensional challenges of TFVAWG in Egypt. Building on the success of two previous UNTFHS programmes in Egypt (2013–2023), this programme tackles the root causes of TFVAWG in a manner that both protects and empowers women and girls, thereby creating solutions that enhance opportunities to leverage digital technology moving forward. Digital technologies can bridge the gender divide and stimulate women's participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, ultimately fostering economic empowerment that benefits communities and society more broadly.

To ensure a people-centered and inclusive response, the programme will employ participatory methods during research development. Activities such as community dialogues and participatory mapping will involve affected individuals in identifying the prevalence and impacts of TFVAWG. Engaging community members and stakeholders will ensure that findings reflect local realities and inform evidence-based policymaking. This participatory process underscores the programme's commitment to addressing insecurities comprehensively – spanning physical safety, social stability, and access to justice – while creating actionable strategies tailored to Egypt's context.

Moreover, the programme prioritizes collaboration across diverse stakeholders. By consulting survivors of TFVAWG and organizations supporting vulnerable women, the programme integrates their experiences into the development of practical toolkits and training modules. These modules will cater to policymakers, law enforcement, tech companies, service providers, and women themselves. For instance, training for ICT companies will highlight how to design safe digital platforms, while women and girls will learn to navigate digital spaces confidently and securely. By strengthening the capacities of these stakeholders, the programme establishes a coordinated, multi-layered response to TFVAWG.

Lastly, the human security approach ensures that preventive measures are embedded in broader systems of governance and societal engagement. Collaborating with tech companies, the programme will advocate for pro bono awareness campaigns to educate the public about TFVAWG. Additionally, training sessions for law enforcement, judiciary officials, and service providers will enhance their ability to recognize, prevent, and address incidents effectively. This holistic, multi-stakeholder approach not only mitigates risks but also fosters resilience, empowering women and girls to thrive in a safer digital environment.



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