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# Analysis of Gender-Based Violence Prevention Opportunities by Sector



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# Agriculture and Food



# AGRICULTURE & FOOD

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

- Sexual extortion: The physical safety of female agricultural employers and employees is affected by sexual exploitation and abuse of power. Women seeking payment for services rendered may experience withholding of earnings until sexual favors are granted. Women seeking to procure agricultural inputs may be coerced to trade sex for the input of extension services.
- Economic vulnerability: Without access to community support structures, women and their families experience heightened social and economic vulnerability. In response, women may engage in risky economic coping strategies that put them at greater physical and health risk. For example, women may engage in commercial sex work to generate income, exposing them to physical abuse and health risks such as HIV/AIDs or other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).
- Women's property ownership: Women's lack of property ownership can increase women's and children's vulnerability to socioeconomic violence and risky coping strategies such as transactional sex or withdrawing young girls and boys from school. Women property owners can increase women's power and status within their communities and have greater control within their relationships, leading to decreased VAWG incidence rates.

### KEY QUESTIONS:

- Do women have equal property rights?
- Can women's access to employment and earnings challenge existing gender norms and increase the risk of gender-based violence (GBV) in the community and households?
- What is the level of awareness of VAWG risks in agriculture-related institutions?
- Can the limited access to productive resources, employment or earnings lead women and other at-risk groups to

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Promote and raise awareness of women's land ownership rights, advocating for equitable land distribution, promoting the inclusion of women's names on property titles, and supporting improved enforcement of existing gender-sensitive legislative frameworks.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Require employers in the waged agricultural sector to adopt policies that prohibit discrimination, exploitation, harassment, and VAWG.

### COMMUNITY/BENEFICIARY/PROJECT-LEVEL

- Incorporate strategies to protect women's physical safety.
- Encourage farming collaboration within households to promote common livelihood strategies in which all household members participate and benefit (family farm approaches).
- Use the farmer field and life school approach as a platform to introduce social and legal issues in a participatory group-learning environment.
- Identify coping strategies for lean seasons.
- Build women farmers' capacity for bargaining and negotiation.
- Require the participation of women as leaders in producer associations who can advocate for the safety, rights, and equitable treatment of women.
- Create space for women's voices.
- Provide linkages and referrals to GBV prevention and response service providers.

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Percent increase in the number of women who own land
- Percent increase in the number of women's names listed on property titles

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Number of employers adopting GBV-sensitive employment policies
- The ratio of men/women in producer associations and cooperatives

### COMMUNITY LEVEL

- Changes in GBV attitudes and behaviors using knowledge, attitudes, and perception surveys
- Changes in GBV incidence and prevalence rates over time
- Ratio of men/women holding leadership positions in producer associations
- Number of women trained in bargaining and negotiation skills
- Number of women receiving payment through alternative mechanisms

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- USAID. 2015. [Toolkit For Integrating GBV Prevention and Response Into Economic Growth Projects](#).
- FAO. 2009. Guidance Note. [Gender-Based Violence and Livelihood Interventions](#).
- Krause-Vilmar, J. 2011. [Preventing Gender-Based Violence, Building Livelihoods: Guidance and tools for improved programming](#).
- Women's Refugee Commission. 2012. [Integrating Protection/GBV Mitigation into Livelihood Programs](#).

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Mozambique Sustainable Rural Economy Program](#) (2021-2026), which aims to improve the performance of targeted small agriculture producers and improve natural resources management practices applies a Gender Action Learning for Sustainability (GALS) methodology in selected communities of smallholder farmers to address intra household gender power relations that address harmful gender norms that lead to VAWG.

## Key Issues

adopt unsafe survival strategies such as exchanging sex for income/salary, jobs, or access to project resources?

— Do project activities require women and girls to travel to insecure or remote areas or to be in contexts where mobility is constrained (i.e., where women are not allowed by social norms and practice, or do not have the means to travel alone and/or in safe conditions and thus are exposed to GBV risk by doing so)?

— Would project activities require women to enter non-traditional worksites without security oversight? (i.e., employment and income-generating activities are often segregated based on gender, and in many communities women or girls entering nontraditional sectors such as construction or transport can challenge social norms and generate backlash from men in the same community who either feel entitled to abuse them because they are doing things a good woman should not be doing in places they should not be in, or just because social norms and impunity allow men to harass or abuse women in public places).

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

— Adjust training to prevent VAWG: wherever feasible, offer training in safe, well-lit spaces where women work.

— Adjust payment schemes: For example, agricultural buyers can set up direct deposit mechanisms rather than pay women in cash, which men can easily abscond with and which puts women at risk of sexual exploitation.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

# Citizen Security and Justice



# CITIZEN SECURITY AND JUSTICE

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

- Incomplete legal provisions for addressing VAWG.
- Ineffective application of legislation: This includes the absence of regulations and protocols to apply laws, a lack of training for justice system personnel, and dissonance among legislative instruments (federal/state laws, etc.).
- Laws are often not enforced due to a culture of patriarchy and corruption. The discriminatory attitudes of (predominantly male) police officers and justice officials can seriously deter for women seeking justice and support when they experience VAWG.
- Harmful traditional justice/redress mechanisms: For example, in some countries, perpetrators of rape can avoid criminal charges by agreeing to marry the survivor.
- Complicated and lengthy criminal procedures make conviction unlikely and place a heavy burden on the survivor to provide evidence and dedicate time, money, and other resources she may not have to pursue her case.
- Accessing justice can be an enormous challenge for survivors due to limited access to transportation and/or travel funds, social constraints and sanctions, victim-blaming on the part of service providers and poor-quality services.

### KEY QUESTIONS:

- What types of VAWG are codified as crimes? Are they aligned with international legal frameworks?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Support law and policy reforms. This includes specific legislation on VAWG, age of consent and age of marriage, and other laws that limit women's ability to obtain protection and redress (such as laws relating to divorce, custody of children, maintenance claims, property rights, inheritance, and sex work).
- Include the law enforcement/justice sectors in comprehensive, multi-sectoral national plans or strategies to combat VAWG.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Establish codes of conduct for security personnel, including staff from private military and security companies.
- Develop protocols/guidelines for the medical forensic examination of sexual assault survivors to enable medical evidence to be collected and used in possible prosecution, and to ensure that women receive adequate medical care.
- Establish protocols for filing police reports and pressing charges, as this process is an important entry point for survivors to access the justice system.
- Establish appropriate measures to protect women who are at higher risk of revictimization, especially murder (femicide).
- Develop policies that facilitate the arrest of VAWG offenders and require supervisory audits of domestic violence and VAWG calls, reports, and follow-ups by police.
- Systematize and strengthen data collection on VAWG-related crimes.
- Promote the use of agreed-upon indicators and a common registry for reporting and tracking these cases, such as the Gender-based violence Information Management Systems (GBVIMS) developed by UNFPA, UNHCR, WHO, the IRC, and UNICEF.

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Establishment/improvement of laws/ policies related to VAWG prevention and response

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Proportion of law enforcement units following a nationally established protocol for VAWG complaints
- Number of law enforcement professionals trained to respond to incidents of VAWG according to an established protocol
- Number of VAWG complaints reported to the police
- Proportion of VAWG cases that were investigated by the police
- Proportion of VAWG cases that were prosecuted by law
- Proportion of prosecuted VAWG cases that resulted in a conviction

### COMMUNITY LEVEL

- Number of legal aid service organizations for VAWG survivors
- Proportion of women who know of a local organization that provides legal aid to VAWG survivors

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- World Bank VAWG Guidance [Citizen Security, Law, And Justice Brief](#).
- USAID. 2014. Equal Rights, Equal Access: Toolkit for Addressing Gender-based Violence through Rule of Law Projects.

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- Peru [Justice Services Improvement Projects I](#) and [II](#) and [Improving Performance of Non-Criminal Justice Services Project](#) through ALEGRAS (legal aid centers that provide free legal, social, and psychological support to low-income populations), the project supported family courts to ensure domestic violence victims' access to legal support.



## Key Issues

- Do policies, plans, and programs on citizen security address VAWG?
- What is the prevalence of VAWG, disaggregated by age, ethnicity, geographic locations, etc.?
- What percentage of VAWG cases received by the criminal justice system (police and courts) result in conviction?
- Which procedures and protocols the justice system applies in VAWG cases for handling complaints, registry of cases, protection of victims, prosecution, etc.? Do they reduce revictimization of women?
- What specialized justice services are available for VAWG survivors (police units, courts, justice centers for women, hotlines, legal counseling etc.) and how effective are they in increasing women's access to quality services?
- What are the training programs on VAWG available for citizen security/justice system stakeholders?
- What are the existing coordination mechanisms among agencies in the citizen security/justice system sector?
- Are specific budget allocations made available by the government to address VAWG in this sector?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### **INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES AND CAPACITY:**

- Support the development of a more responsive and inclusive justice system.
- Support the recruitment of female police officers to provide survivors with the option of giving their statement to a woman. The increased comfort this provides has been shown to increase reporting.
- Encourage the participation of women as judges or arbiters, which can help make the process more gender-sensitive, especially where there is a predominance of customary laws that do not favor women's rights.
- Establish dedicated units or specialized police stations.
- Provide long-term support and on-going training to frontline workers, the police and justice system personnel with the objective of sensitizing them about VAWG issues and improving their response to survivors.

### **COORDINATED/MULTI-SECTORAL INITIATIVES**

- Improve inter-institutional coordination and responses to VAWG among actors of the justice sectors through collaboration agreements and joint interventions.
- Promote integrated services for VAWG survivors such as one-stop shops using multidisciplinary teams that include police, attorneys or public prosecutors, forensic experts, psychologists, and health care providers to provide quality services and reduce revictimization during criminal investigation.
- Carry out campaigns to promote citizen disarmament, control the circulation of firearms, and limit alcohol sales.

### **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)**

- Promote the use of technologies to increase awareness of VAWG and knowledge of available services.
- Adopt technology such as SMS and geocoding for monitoring and reporting VAWG incidents.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

**Key Issues****Possible Actions to Address VAWG  
Prevention and Response Gaps****COMMUNITY LEVEL**

- Foster dialogue among community actors, NGOs, and the justice sector: Discussions should include women's human rights and their participation within traditional or restorative justice systems.
- Work with partners to establish community policing initiatives or police-community partnerships that explicitly focus on VAWG.
- Support NGOs offering women legal literacy and human rights training to promote women's rights in the community.
- Support the establishment and training of community paralegals to assist and advise VAWG survivors on legal recourses.
- Increase available services for survivors of violence, such as safe houses and mobile legal aid clinics if they exist.
- Design and implement the information, awareness-raising, and capacity-building campaigns in the communities on the impacts of VAWG and how to prevent and respond to it.

**Examples of Indicators****Guidance Notes and  
Project Examples**

# Digital Development



## DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT

### Key Issues

#### KEY ISSUES:

- Information and communications technologies (ICTs) have brought new forms of violence in digital spaces, including cyber-bullying, cyber-violence, and online harassment. Given its nascence, technology-facilitated GBV—actions that harm others based on their sexual or gender identity or by enforcing harmful gender norms—has limited research. To address this challenge, the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), supported by the World Bank and its partner, the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI), is working to develop a draft set of quantitative measures related to this form of violence<sup>1</sup>.
- In the past few years, there have been burgeoning web-based interventions for VAWG prevention and response, including text messaging and behavior change apps, crowdsourced data collection with open-source mapping tools, digital storytelling, websites providing information on services for survivors of violence, safety assessment and planning tools, and relationship support intervention<sup>2</sup>. Some examples include [SafeCity](#), [Harassmap](#), [Justice for My Sister](#), [I-DECIDE](#).
- Ethical considerations must include research into the potential for harm with web-based technologies in violent relationships, in which possessive partners might search mobile phones. Browsing history showing the webpages that VAWG victims have accessed could trigger

### Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

#### EXAMPLES OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO VAWG INCLUDE:

- Develop helplines and hotlines: In rural areas around the world, phone technology is being used to provide national hotlines to provide counseling, support and advice to women and girls facing violence. In recent years, sophisticated computer systems linking phone networks have meant more efficient operations and more people assisted. In Palestine, the Women's Protection Helpline and Child Protection Helpline also gather data on the demographics of violence in the country. In Afghanistan, some cases handled by the first toll-free family support hotline, locally known as 6464, have resulted in legal action.
- Connect rural women: Traditional communication and information dissemination systems, such as radio broadcasts, are still widely used worldwide. However, women in rural areas are less likely to have the time and space to sit and listen to the radio because of their domestic workload. Innovative digital communication networks can help bring awareness and education to women and girls in remote areas where most are illiterate and may live without consistent access to electricity, which limits their connectivity to information technology. For example, US-based non-profit Media Matters for Women initiated a project in rural Sierra Leone that links special radio broadcasting programs with mobile phones to distribute critical news and information to women and girls about their rights and available support services.
- Hold governments accountable: Evidence of VAWG is frequently challenging to produce, meaning that women and girls are unable to file accurate reports, bring perpetrators to justice or even escape from violence. ICTs can help bridge this gap by enabling organizations to strengthen VAWG documentation, reporting and monitoring processes and using the evidence to pressure govern-

### Examples of Indicators

- Total effective calls made to the GBV hotline
- Number of calls handled by the GBV hotline
- Level of acceptability of violence

### Guidance Notes and Project Examples

#### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- Jahanath, S. [16 Ideas for Using Technology to Prevent and Stop Violence against Women](#).
- The World Bank supported a [Hackathon to end VAWG](#) in Peru that financed three [technological innovations](#) to prevent violence and femicide and strengthen GBV survivors' support networks.

#### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Peru Centralized Emergency Response System Project](#): works to improve the efficiency of the response of GBV Line 100, through the digital integration of the Line 100 system. To better respond to VAWG-related calls received through the 911 system, 911 operators are trained in VAWG issues.
- [Digital Federated States of Micronesia Project](#): Consultations and focus groups found high rates of community concerns regarding the digital circulation of sexually degrading images and videos, including of young girls, or examples of 'revenge porno-

<sup>1</sup> Hinson L, Mueller J, O'Brien-Milne L, Wandera N. 2018. [Technology-facilitated gender-based violence: What is it, and how do we measure it?](#) Washington D.C., International Center for Research on Women.

<sup>2</sup> Bramon B. 2017. [Transformative technology: harnessing the power of tech to address gender-based violence in Latin America and the Caribbean](#); Badawy SM, Kuhns L. [Texting and mobile phone app interventions for improving adherence to preventive behavior in adolescents: a systematic review](#). *JMIR Mhealth Uhealth* 2017; 5: e50. 4: e302–11.

## Key Issues

violence, and the extent and context of such risks need to be understood.

### KEY QUESTIONS:

- How can digital technologies be harnessed to prevent and respond to VAWG?
- How can the use of digital technologies to perpetuate VAWG (sexual violence, harassment and stalking, intimate partner violence - IPV) be mitigated?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

ments to deliver on commitments to combat and eliminate VAWG. The Women's Rights Program of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC) partnered with local organizations in Cambodia and the Democratic Republic of Congo to this end, using free and open-source software to post information on an online interactive map.

- Discourage the social acceptability of VAWG: In most places around the world, VAWG is not seen as a significant problem for several reasons. Street harassment, for example, is seen as 'harmless teasing' or 'something that always happens.' Women do not come forward to authorities because of fear and a lack of proper reporting avenues, making VAWG an invisible problem. Technology can go a long way to help bring VAWG into the spotlight, from social media campaigns to apps and other software that allow reporting and data collection. HarassMap is one such technology – once a month, trained volunteers forming Community Action Teams visit local communities to talk to leaders about what they can do to stop street harassment, using data collected from HarassMap to inform and assist in planning.

- Implement hackathons against VAWG: The tech community plays an essential role in developing tech tools to prevent and eventually end VAWG. Hackathons, where the community gets together to raise awareness and develop new technology, are great ways to do this. In the past, hackathons have resulted in innovative technologies that have helped fight VAWG. For example, in the World Health Organization's Hackathon against Domestic Violence, the winning team built an anonymous cyberspace forum for victims to learn from and share their experiences without having to give up their privacy. Other prototypes included a web- and SMS-based app to alert trusted friends and family in the case of teenage girls being taken abroad and an SMS- and web-integrated hotline that provides information on gender-related violence and how to report an incident.

- Design responsibly: There are several ways responsible design can help in the fight against VAWG: in the creative design of advertisements – educating the public about VAWG or ensuring ads, packaging and other commercial items do not contain sexist or misogynistic messages – and in the design of apps and other

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

graphy.' As a part of the interventions, the project allocated US\$ 1 million to support the integration of gender equality into a new law related to harmful digital communication. Progress towards closing this gap will be measured through the following indicator: Passage of a bill legislating against harmful digital communication (Y/N).

## Key Issues

### Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

tools women can use to help them fight violence. One example of the former is the UN Women advertising campaign that used real Google searches to highlight the prevalence of sexism and VAWG. Responsible design is important to ensure that vulnerable groups are not at risk from using apps and other tools. For instance, the safety app [Circle of 6](#) is designed to look like a social app so that it can be used in the presence of the perpetrator without alerting him.

— Challenge stereotypes, 21st-century style: Software development and programming are among the largest industries today, so it is no wonder that education in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) is increasingly popular. These are traditionally seen as ‘masculine’ subjects and dominated by males in the workforce, but an increasing number of girls and women are challenging these stereotypes and breaking down barriers. Organizations such as Girls Who Code bring education and awareness to the public about why it is essential to provide equal opportunities in these areas for girls and to provide avenues for that education. The global non-profit Girls In Tech focuses on girls and women who are passionate about technology and provides support and training for female entrepreneurs in technology startups.

— Facilitate access to healthcare: VAWG is a burden on health care worldwide, but at the same time, women who suffer from violence generally have little access to health care either because they live in remote or rural areas or they are prevented from seeking health care. Mobile health care technology has made access easier for some of these women, and governments are now starting to train health care professionals to use mobile health tech to detect domestic abuse. For example, India’s Mobilise! program trains nurses to identify women at risk of violence and encourage them to disclose their experiences. In Indonesia, the government mobilized 100,000 midwives by providing them with up-to-date health care practices through an SMS program called Bidan.

— Crowdsource data: One of the most important tools in the fight to end VAWG is accurate and comprehensive data about VAWG. Data are essential to understand VAWG and for education and policy making. There are initiatives and programs around the world that enable women (and men) to contribute data in the form

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

of testimonials on VAWG. These data can be used to shape policy and efficient implementation and develop innovative strategies to build safe and inclusive public spaces. For example, HarrassMap in Egypt collects stories on street harassment, gang abuse, women being assaulted during the Arab Spring demonstrations, and more, and also maps where these incidences occur. The global initiative Hollaback also gathers testimonials and maps of where they occur.

- Educate and train via digital libraries: According to the United Nations, 31 million girls of primary school age are not in school; 17 million are expected never to enter school. There are 34 million female adolescents out of school. Lack of education keeps women in poverty and makes them even more vulnerable to GBV including domestic violence, child marriage, and forced marriage. A first step to break down some socioeconomic and gender barriers that challenge women is to equip community centers with digital resources for self-learning and where locals can work together through peer learning.

- Educate through gaming. Video games can promote misogyny and violence. However, a growing number of Facebook, computer and mobile games were created to educate players about VAWG, simulate the experience of VAWG, or just start the conversation about VAWG. These games include the interactive Angry Brides, created by the matrimonial website Shaadi.com, which raises awareness about the dowry tradition and the impact it has on women in India, and Hannah, where the gamer uses tools to assist Hannah, a victim of domestic violence.

- Create wearable technology that helps women stay safe. ROAR For Good's wearable fashion accessory Athena is also a high-tech rape whistle linked to a mobile app that activates when a button is pressed for three seconds. The user can activate a loud alarm and flashing lights and trigger Athena to alert local authorities and chosen contacts. The Safelet, which looks like a bracelet, has two buttons, that when pressed, send a message to a contact, along with an alert that allows the contact to call an emergency number automatically.

- Empower SMS services: Not everyone with access to a mobile phone has a smartphone or Internet access, which is why having SMS services that help women stay safe is important. According

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

to the World Bank, if a mobile phone exists in a household, then all members could theoretically use it. This extended access means better dissemination of information. Technologies that connect apps to SMS exist for those who do not always have Internet access. For example, users can ask Kitestring via SMS to check up on them at a set time, after which Kitesting sends the user a text. If she does not reply, it will send a message the user created to her emergency contact.

- Promote social media awareness: Social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter have been used for years to spread awareness, tell women's stories and engage the public. Ongoing campaigns such as #RedMyLips, #YesAllWomen and #Everyday-Sexism reach millions of people, attract the attention of mainstream media and get people talking. Users can share their stories, experiences, and thoughts on VAWG and feminism via these and several other campaigns on social media, including #WhyIStayed, #MasculinitySoFragile, #NotBuyingIt, and #RapeCulturesWhen.

- Stay safe with apps: There are numerous safety apps for women and apps that educate users about VAWG and what they can do to prevent it. For example, [MyPlanapp](#), [Watch Over Me](#), Circle of 6, and [Safetipin](#) are good safety apps that allow users to quickly contact trusted friends or emergency numbers or instruct the app to contact them in certain situations. The Love is Not Abuse app seeks to educate teenagers about dating violence.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples



# Disaster Risk / Resilience



# DISASTER RISK / RESILIENCE

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

— Ample studies have shown that natural disasters, including tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes, and floods, disproportionately affect women and girls, who are at greater risk of violence and exploitation than men and boys in the face of uprooted housing and traditional support structures, disrupted access to services, and both structural and social obstacles to accessing food, relief, supplies, and latrines.

— Women and girls who were directly exposed to an incident of armed conflict or were displaced are more likely to experience IPV and VAWG due to a number of factors: (1) at the household level: increased stresses on the household, men's perception of their lack of ability to fulfil traditional roles; (2) at the institutional level: Armed actors use of rape as a weapon of war, forced enlistment and use of girls as soldiers or in other roles associated with armed groups, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by private and public sector entities, exclusion of female representation in security forces, armies, peace negotiations, lack of response services for survivors, suppressed independent civil society, VAWG not addressed in peace agreements, state-building processes exclude governance mechanisms for addressing gender inequality and VAWG; (3) at the community level: ongoing intra- and inter-communal violence, explicit targeting of women and girls for rape and killing to reduce reproductive capacity or de-humanize opposition groups, normalization of violence and continued acts of rape, increase in female-headed households.

— Displacement has been reported to increase stress and poverty, while populations living toge-

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL (Prior to the Emergency – Preparedness and Mitigation)

— Address VAWG in legislation, policies, and plans on disaster risk management (DRM) and emergency situations. Ensure budget allocations for their implementation.

— Promote the participation of various sectors, stakeholders, and community members from diverse backgrounds (e.g. ethnicity, gender, disability status) in developing of preparedness plans that include a focus on VAWG prevention and response.

— Create or strengthen existing protocols/guidelines to integrate actions to respond to VAWG during the emergency and the recovery phase.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL (Prior to the Emergency – Preparedness and Mitigation)

— Build the capacity of disaster response actors at the regional and national levels to identify and integrate VAWG issues into existing risk reduction and emergency response training and manuals.

— Ensure preparedness plans consider that women and girls are at higher risk of experiencing physical and sexual violence in emergency settings.

— Map VAWG services and develop dissemination materials outlining the availability of services.

— Ensure medico-legal and health care services (such as the collection of forensic material and treatment of injuries) are provided whenever possible at the same time, same location, and ideally by the same person to avoid burdening the survivor of physical or sexual violence with multiple visits and points of contact.

— Strengthen confidential referral mechanisms among and between sectors working on VAWG prevention and response.

— Ensure that medical, reproductive health, and safety supplies are ready to be deployed in the case of an emergency.

— Systematically include VAWG in disaster research, evaluations,

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

— VAWG prevention and response measures are integrated throughout disaster risk response policies and frameworks

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

— Percent of female representatives on camp committees

— Number of staff trained/workshops held on VAWG awareness to DRM/camp officials

— Increase in GBV services offered and used by GBV survivors

### COMMUNITY / BENEFICIARY LEVEL

— Women and girls report feeling safer since the onset of the program

— Reported VAWG incidence (increased or decreased) since the onset of the program

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

— World Bank VAWG Guidance [DRM Sector Brief](#).

— Inter-Agency Standing Committee. 2015. [Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery.](#)

— Erman, Alvina; De Vries Robbe, Sophie Anne; Thies, Stephan Fabian; Kabir, Kayenat; Maruo, Mirai. 2021. [Gender Dimensions of Disaster Risk and Resilience: Existing Evidence.](#)

— OXFAM. 2011. [Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction: A training pack.](#)

— Annan et al. [What works to prevent violence against women and girls in conflict and humanitarian crisis: Synthesis Brief.](#)

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

— In Haiti, [Strengthening DRM and Climate Resilience Project - \(P165870\)](#) ensured that shelter designs met international standards that consider women's and girls' physical safety and needs, such as separate toilets, toilets with wheelchair access, ramps for easy access, medical rooms, and dedicated storage space for the assets of women merchants, etc.

## Key Issues

ther from different cultural backgrounds was also reported as a factor contributing to increases in VAWG.

### KEY QUESTIONS (Before the emergency - Preparedness and mitigation)

- Does the existing training on DRM include how to address VAWG in the different stages of the process?
- What services will be needed to respond to VAWG during the emergency and the recovery, and which organizations will be responsible for providing them?
- Do the established protocols for DRM (preparedness, emergency response, recovery) include actions on how to address and mitigate the risk of VAWG?
- Is there any coordination among the institutions that work on DRM and those that work on VAWG prevention and response?

### KEY QUESTIONS (During and after the emergency - Emergency response and recovery)

- What is the proportion of women (as a percentage of the affected population) accessing humanitarian assistance or VAWG service providers within a referral system?
- Have there been reports of sexual assault and/or other forms of VAWG (e.g., trafficking, IPV, forced marriage) perpetrated in the immediate aftermath of the crisis?
- What are the main types of VAWG being perpetrated? Who is the most vulnerable to each type of violence, why, and where?
- Who are the main perpetrators of violence?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

training, and advocacy/awareness campaigns.

### COMMUNITY LEVEL (Prior to the Emergency – Preparedness and Mitigation)

- Establish confidential entry points where survivors and other community members can seek assistance after an incident of sexual violence and/or make an incident report.
- Carry out community educational programs on how to be prepared for disasters, emphasizing the right to a life free of violence before, during, and after disasters and the adverse effects violence can have on the entire population's recovery.

### POLICY LEVEL (During and After the Emergency – Response and Recovery)

- Form inter-organizational, multi-sectoral VAWG working groups at the national, regional and local levels, comprised of VAWG service providers and other key actors from the community, government, UN, international and local NGOs, donors, etc.
- Ensure that the coordinating agencies operate with clear terms of reference that are agreed upon by all working group members and aligned with Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines.
- Develop an interagency VAWG Action Plan, together with the government and key stakeholders.
- Delineate objectives, roles and responsibilities, and indicators for meeting objectives. The plan should be informed by data obtained in the situation analysis and with the active participation of women from the community. The Handbook for Coordinating GBV in Humanitarian Settings provides detailed guidance on developing an action plan.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL (During and After the Emergency – Response and Recovery)

- Integrate VAWG expertise into agencies' disaster response and recovery teams to help ensure the comprehensive design and implementation of interventions that address VAWG.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

Each shelter built/rehabilitated by the project had its own operating procedures for activation and closure to ensure safety, including for women. Each shelter was managed by a dedicated shelter management committee, which is a subset of the Municipal Civil Protection Committees (CCPC) and comprises community members. The project also encouraged at least 50 percent of women's involvement in the shelter management committees, where women's participation is generally low; and at least 50 percent women's leadership in shelter management committees.

## Key Issues

- What factors are likely to increase the risk of violence within the affected communities?
- What operating support systems and services are available, trusted, and accessible for VAWG survivors? Are existing service agencies adequately staffed and resourced to respond to VAWG?
- What services are available to help affected families to recover from the crisis? Do they specifically address IPV/domestic violence and associated factors, such as substance abuse?
- What security measures (police, UN, private, community, etc.) are in place to help prevent and respond to VAWG?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Encourage VAWG advisors to facilitate multi-sectoral coordination at the national and local levels and help build the capacity of locally based actors during and after the crisis.
- Involve governmental and civil society groups already working to address VAWG in the affected regions in disaster-related coordination committees and decision-making bodies.
- Ensure that the IASC Codes of Conduct on Protection from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Humanitarian Crises are enforced for all humanitarian aid workers, as well as for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction staff.
- Promote the standardization of VAWG data collection, analysis, and incident recording by all key stakeholders and partners.
- Provide health and social services that consider women's and girls' safety and the provision of confidential VAWG information and survivor services.
- Develop projects that leverage women's strengths and capabilities, particularly in income-generating activities, to reduce women's need to resort to risky measures such as sex work or transactional sex.

### **COMMUNITY LEVEL (During and After the Emergency – Response and Recovery) SECURITY**

- Design sites and shelters that meet internationally agreed-upon standards and that consider women's and girls' physical safety.
- Ensure that female protection or police officers are available, and that female workers are included in food distribution, registration, and other services set up to respond to the emergency.
- Establish an early warning system for VAWG, so that individuals are able to report threatening behaviors before incidents occur, thus triggering appropriate preventive measures. Ensure that on-the-ground reporting mechanisms are private and confidential.
- Distribute safety equipment with basic emergency supply kits, such as whistles, flashlights, etc. to help women and girls protect themselves.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

## Key Issues

### Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Set up latrines, washing facilities and water points in accessible, secure locations, and have locks to ensure safety and privacy while the latrine or washing facility is being used.
- Patrol firewood collection routes or provide direct transportation to firewood collection sites.
- Identify vulnerable individuals, and after consulting them, provide them with special arrangements, such as housing for unaccompanied children and for female-headed households.

#### **COMMUNITY LEVEL (During and After the Emergency – Response and Recovery) OUTREACH/PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT**

- Implement outreach activities focusing on women and girls in camps/settlements to raise awareness of risks of increased violence, how to protect themselves, and where to go for assistance.
- Ensure the displaced population is informed of the availability and location of services for survivors of different forms of violence.
- Provide culturally appropriate psychosocial support for families in crisis to help reduce the risk of IPV and provide direct support to VAWG survivors (during and after the crisis).
- Offer a standard medical response to sexual violence survivors, including the option of emergency contraception, preventive treatment for STIs, post-exposure prophylaxis for prevention of transmission of HIV, and tetanus and hepatitis B vaccinations and wound care as appropriate.
- Allow for the presence of a same-sex, same-language health worker or chaperone and, if the survivor so desires, a friend or family member during any medical examination.
- Put in place measures to protect the physical safety of the survivor immediately following an incident of sexual violence, such as safe housing.
- Identify and document locations where incidents of sexual violence have occurred and establish relevant preventive measures.
- Ensure the availability of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) to respond to the reproductive health needs of a population in a refugee or post-disaster situation.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

**Key Issues****Possible Actions to Address VAWG  
Prevention and Response Gaps****BENEFICIARY LEVEL** (During and After the Emergency – Response and Recovery)

- Develop cash transfer programs to provide life-saving basic needs for women and girls.
- Implement adolescent girl-focused life skills and safe spaces programs.
- Implement livelihood programs for women complemented by training for women and male partners on gender relations, communication and joint problem solving.

**Examples of Indicators****Guidance Notes and  
Project Examples**

# Education



# EDUCATION

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

— Experiencing violence in schools can negatively impact girls' enrollment as well as the quality of the education they receive. Evidence suggests that sexual harassment is widespread in educational settings in many parts of the world. Parental concerns about girls' safety in school and while traveling to and from school appear to reduce female school enrollment. Few ministries of education around the world have explicit policies on sexual violence and harassment as unacceptable, and few have developed guidelines on the definition of harassment and how educational institutions should respond.

### KEY QUESTIONS

- Do national and local education sector policies discriminate against girls and other at-risk groups or hinder their safe access to educational opportunities (e.g., are adolescent girls who become pregnant excluded from continuing their education)?
- Do national and local education sector policies and plans integrate GBV-related risk-reduction strategies? Are GBV prevention and mitigation strategies incorporated into the policies, standards, and guidelines of education programs?
- What is the educational status of boys and girls, i.e., enrollment, pass, and completion rates? What type of cultural and social constraints do girls face that might limit their educational attainment?
- What is the prevalence of VAWG in schools (if data are not available, what mechanisms are

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

— Change gender stereotypes and increase VAWG awareness-raising in school curricula. Promote curricular reform to update textbooks with content that promotes gender-equitable norms and nonviolence among students and educators.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Work with the media to address social norms through awareness-raising campaigns.
- Develop and carry out a training curriculum for teachers and school staff to build their capabilities to promote gender-equitable norms as well as to detect and prevent sexual abuse. The curriculum should include the entire teaching and administrative staff and involve parents as well as the wider community.
- Foster the integration of the prevention of VAWG, including school-based harassment, in sexual and reproductive health and/or life-skills curricula for students.
- Promote curricular reform to update textbooks with content that promotes gender-equitable norms and nonviolence among students and educators.
- Expand school-based counseling and referral services by putting in place at least one counselor or teacher who can be the first point of contact for students experiencing VAWG.
- Ensure the counselor or teacher is aware of ethical and safety guidelines, has access to referral services (including social services), and has access to space where student confidentiality and privacy can be respected.
- Carry out sexual assault prevention programs.
- Improve girls' safety at school.
- Empower teachers as change agents.
- Adapt and implement a whole school approach that has worked in other countries to reduce school-related violence, such

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

— Broad-based curricula reform that promotes gender-equitable norms

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Sexual harassment policy reviewed, established, and/or strengthened
- Number of school personnel that participated in technical training on VAWG prevention/response (disaggregated by gender)
- Percent of schools that have procedures to act on reported cases of sexual abuse
- Teacher training programs that include sexual and physical VAWG in their curriculum
- Teachers with the knowledge to prevent GBV and harmful stereotypes toward girls
- Percent of schools that train their staff on sexual and physical VAWG issues
- Changes (specify) in environmental design of schools to increase girls' safety

### COMMUNITY /BENEFICIARY LEVEL

- Proportion of girls reporting that male teachers have no right to demand sex from schoolchildren
- Proportion of girls who say they would be willing to report any experien-

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- World Bank VAWG Guidance [Education Sector Brief](#).
- World Bank. 2016. [Addressing violence against women within the education sector](#).
- UN Women. Global Guidance School-Related.
- Rubiano-Matulevich, Eliana. 2020. [Preventing, Reporting and Responding to Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in Tertiary Education Institutions](#).
- Khadijah Fancy and Erika McAslan Fraser. 2014. [Addressing Violence against Women and Girls in Education Programming](#).
- IASC. 2015. [Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery](#).

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Good Schools Toolkit](#). Methodology created to help educators and students explore what makes a healthy, vibrant, and positive school and guide them through a process.
- [Right to play](#). Methodology to keep children in school and out of work implemented in Uganda. It teaches children how to prevent



## Key Issues

required to support data collection)?

- Who are the main perpetrators of VAWG in schools? (These might include other students, teachers/staff, or others.)
- Are there any traditional practices, norms, or dynamics that may increase girls' vulnerability to violence in the school context?
- Are there institutional codes of conduct for teachers/administrative staff? Do these provide definitions of violence and harassment and specify sanctions for these behaviors?
- What are the current protocols and norms regarding the identification and care of violence survivors, particularly students?
- Are there training programs on VAWG response for education sector personnel?
- What initiatives are being implemented in schools to prevent VAWG?
- Are there VAWG awareness-raising and violence prevention activities for students? For Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs)?
- Do community members, and girls in particular, view schools as safe environments? Are the routes to school safe?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

as the Good School Toolkit, which was created to help educators and students explore what makes a healthy, vibrant, and positive school and guide them through a process to create their vision.

- Offer a "Harmonious family relationships" course to teach assertive communication along with increased ability to manage family conflicts and develop sustainable relationships.
- Work with parent-teacher associations to address the risk of violence children face when they travel alone for long distances (Safer School Programs).
- Support changes to the drivers of GBV, and attitudes towards this type of violence with a curriculum to encourage discussion to promote the transformation of deeply entrenched norms that not only disadvantage girls but are also harmful to boys.
- Implement VAWG prevention and response protocols as part of safe and inclusive schools.
- Develop a strong anti-sexual harassment policy and code of conduct for teachers and administrative enforcement mechanisms that prohibit sexual harassment, sexual contact with students, or other abuses of students.
- Establish a fair, accessible, and transparent complaints mechanism that ensures confidentiality and security while reporting an incident and establish remediation measures that define consequences tailored to the nature of the offense.
- Educate and raise awareness among students and staff at all levels on how to recognize, prevent, and respond to sexual harassment.
- Expand school-based counseling and referral services.
- Address cyberbullying, a growing form of violence to which girls are particularly susceptible.
- Improve girls' safety in schools through the hiring of more female staff and increasing female participation among students in tertiary education institutions with high percentages of male staff, and/or provide in-service gender sensitivity training to teachers, staff, and students.

## Examples of Indicators

ce of unwanted sexual activity

- Proportion of girls who believe that girls are not to blame for sexual harassment by a male teacher or student
- Percent of girls capable of self-care measures and with knowledge on VAWG prevention
- Level of acceptability of VAWG in schools

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

life-threatening diseases like HIV and malaria and keep them safe from SEA. It gives girls the power to say no to unwanted sex and to make healthy decisions about their bodies and their futures.

- [Strengthening of State Universities in Chile](#)/ Supports development of gender action plans that include policies on preventing sexual harassment across all state universities.
- [Improving Results in Secondary Education \(IRISE\) in Liberia](#). Provides financial incentives and support packages to girls at the senior secondary level to improve their transition and completion rates. Female guidance counselors offering life skills and socio-emotional orientation are a school-level intervention that can enable young women to be supported as they navigate their secondary education experience and foster empowerment and agency.
- [Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement Operation](#) in India. Improves the attractiveness of industrial training facilities by employing more female teachers, enhancing sanitary facilities, introducing women-targeted counseling and employment promotion programs, and creating a safe campus.

**Key Issues****Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps**

— Improve school infrastructure/environmental design to increase girls' safety: (1) map hotspots and unsafe areas in institutions; (2) ensure greater visibility by maximizing the number of windows and doors in classrooms, offices and other spaces; (3) provide separate and adequate sanitary facilities to prevent sexual assault in these areas; (4) improve lighting in and around the institutional grounds and remove bushes; (5) use perimeter and access point fencing and monitoring; and (6) place phones to immediately alert security in hotspots and unsafe areas or consider a CCTV system.

**COMMUNITY LEVEL:**

— Implement community mobilization to promote positive norms and values.

**Examples of Indicators****Guidance Notes and Project Examples**

# Energy and Extractives



# ENERGY AND EXTRACTIVES

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

- Men and women experience the benefits and burdens of large-scale investments in energy and extractives differently. Dynamics such as increased income (or decreased, in the case of investment leaving a community), women's entry into the labor force, the entry of migrant populations into host communities, and others, can increase the risk of violence and trafficking. Sex work and increased use of drugs and alcohol are often unintended consequences of such projects and further exacerbate the risk of GBV.
- Sexual harassment is particularly pervasive in workplaces dominated by men, such as energy utilities and extractive industries. Women are increasingly filling roles in construction projects, which may lead to increased economic empowerment and participation in decision-making roles. However, women stepping into traditionally male-dominated roles can initially experience tension and even violence from some male colleagues. Sexual harassment often does not get reported, so decision-makers do not make it a point of concern or redress. But there are systemic reasons for the lack of reporting sexual harassment cases: In many cultures, talking about sexual harassment is considered so sensitive and shameful that it becomes taboo. In others, sexual harassment is so pervasive that it gets normalized and, therefore, not addressed. Women may also not want to stand out in a field in which they already feel so isolated, or there simply are not adequate reporting mechanisms in place.
- Design of infrastructure of public utilities may create an unsafe environment for women.

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Develop an industry-specific code of conduct for how the industry can commit to addressing GBV.
- Develop workplace policies in ministries that include prevention measures and reporting mechanisms for sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH).

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Address sexual harassment in the energy utility company/workplace: Codes of conducts for all employees related to harassment, including sexual harassment. Establish anti-sexual harassment policies for protecting employees, as well as safe and fair procedures for reporting and responding to sexual harassment. Provide training on sexual harassment to all employees.
- Map risk factors and drivers of GBV.
- Provide safe transportation and field-site accommodations for women operators.
- Ensure gender-inclusive environmental design in utility facilities.
- Provide financial support to legal empowerment initiatives that support legal literacy as well as legal aid to mining communities, women's rights organizations, and women and men in the mining sector.
- Establish funding mechanisms for civil society oversight, including specific funding for women's rights organizations in areas where mining/extractive industries are present.
- Ensure that all law enforcement and regional, municipal and local government officials where mining/extractive industries are present complete comprehensive GBV training and that completion of the training is tied to recruitment and promotion practices.

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Gender/VAWG prevention and response informed energy or extractives policy established

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Perception on gender-friendly work environment by gender (percent of satisfied, by gender)
- Policies on preventing sexual harassment in place
- Number of harassment complaints by women and their resolution
- All staff and partner staff have signed a code of conduct that includes clauses on SEA/SH of beneficiaries (Y/N)
- Number of staff and partners trained on the organization's gender, equity and inclusion, and adult and child protection policies, on the content of the organization's code of conduct and its confidential complaints
- Decrease in the acceptability of GBV in companies

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves 2016. Report: [Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Settings: Cookstoves and Fuels](#).
- GIZ. 2020. [Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in the Mining Sector in Africa](#). Evidence and reflections from the DRC, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda.
- Schomer, I. Puerto, M. Orlando, M. Arango, D. Fort, L. 2017. [What can we do about gender-based violence and violence against children in infrastructure projects?](#)
- USAID. 2015. [Building a Safer World: Integrating Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response into Energy and Infrastructure Projects](#).

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Financial Instruments for Brazil, Energy Efficient Cities](#). Improved quality of street lighting in areas with high levels of women's victimization and high perception of insecurity.
- [PNG Women in Mining Initiative](#). Led formative research to better understand the connection between GBV and the oil, gas, and mining sectors in PNG, and based on those findings supported

## Key Issues

### KEY QUESTIONS

- Are there sufficient numbers of sanitary facilities for women?
- What types of infrastructure are around the public utilities? Are bars or other male-dominated spaces near the proposed infrastructure? How will that affect the perceived safety of the female population?
- Are there provisions for menstrual waste in the women's toilet blocks?
- Do the complexes ensure privacy for women?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Promote interventions to reduce the level of tolerance to GBV and VAWG through community mobilization around project sites, including through partnerships with NGOs, national and local authorities and other leaders.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

targeted community outreach and raising GBV awareness. At the local level, this included working with the National Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee (National FSVAC) to strengthen local FSVACs in select areas, to build capacity and coordination among service providers, including health service providers, police, the judiciary, and representatives from extractives companies.

- Mitigating and Responding to GBV in the Ethiopian Energy Sector. Conducted research on GBV in the Ethiopian energy sector, trained employees on GBV prevention and implemented communication campaigns to mitigate and respond to GBV.

# Environment and Natural Resources



# ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

- Resource scarcity, conflicts and displacement caused by environmental degradation deepen existing inequalities. In such cases, GBV is often used as a means of reinforcing privileges and control over resources. Climate change worsens these effects. During prolonged drought, for example, families use child marriage as a strategy to cope with the scarcity of food and income. In the aftermath of environmental disasters, IPV can rise – as it did in Vanuatu following two tropical cyclones (UN Women Fiji, 2014), in Zimbabwe after cyclone Idai (Chatiga, 2019), and in Bangladesh following cyclone Roanu (Rezwan and Pain, 2020).
- Overcrowded and unsafe conditions in disaster shelters and climate refugee camps can also expose women, girls and gender minorities to violence, while medical and legal services are overwhelmed, making it harder to get help.
- Environmental crime increases GBV. Weak rule of law enables conditions in which violence flourishes, as documented in numerous case studies of sex trafficking, sexual abuse and child labor in illegal mining, fishing and logging operations around the world. For example, in Peru, illegal mining operations traffic girls as young as 12 years old (GI-TOC, 2016). In illegal fishing operations in South Asia, men and boys are subjected to sexual abuse and slave labor (IOM et al., 2016). In parts of Africa, the illegal logging and charcoal trade leads to extensive human rights abuses, including sexual exploitation (Dranginis, 2016).

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Advance better legal protections. Promote land titling and asset ownership for women.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Conduct gender analyses throughout project cycles to identify GBV and develop preventative and responsive measures, such as working directly with men to reduce potential tension and violence.
- Establish gender committees in a value chain sector to increase in job security, for example, permanent contracts, and to increase the number of women in supervisory and management positions.
- Support female cooperatives and include components towards engaging men and changing attitudes.
- Require that commercial actors within the chain maintain and implement policies that prohibit all forms of GBV.
- Identify and promote alternative payment mechanisms so that women maintain control of the income they earn.
- Require employers within the value chain to maintain safe workplace environments free of harassment, exploitation, and violence.
- Facilitate access to technology and finance to improve the productivity and bargaining position of women in the value chain.

### COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Engage men to champion for gender equality in relation to the access, use, management and control of land and natural resources to change behaviors and prevent violent responses to changes in traditional norms and the status quo.
- Provide training to women on negotiating and bargaining within the value chain market.
- Identify coping strategies for lean seasons.

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Strengthened legal frameworks to help women access land rights

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Ratio of men/women in producer associations and cooperatives
- Ratio of men/women holding leadership positions in producer associations
- Number of employers adopting GBV-sensitive employment policies
- Codes of conduct

### COMMUNITY /BENEFICIARY LEVEL

- Changes in GBV attitudes and behaviors using knowledge, attitudes, and perception surveys
- Changes in GBV incidence and prevalence rates over time
- Percent increase in the number of women who obtained land ownership
- Percent increase in the number of women's names listed on property titles
- Number of farmers who have diversified agricultural production
- Number of women trained in bargaining and negotiation skills

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- IUCN 2020. [Gender-based Violence and Environment Linkages: The Violence of Inequality.](#)
- USAID. 2014. [Toolkit for Integrating Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response into Economic Growth Projects.](#)
- WRC. 2011. [Preventing Gender-based Violence. Building Livelihoods Guidance and Tools for Improved Programming.](#)
- Alam et al., 2015. [Women and climate change: Impacts and agency in human rights, security, and economic development.](#)

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Fisheries project in Solomon Islands.](#) As part of an analysis to identify gaps in available data on socioeconomic opportunities and constraints for women in two fisheries supply chains, tuna and coastal fisheries, GBV was raised as an important gender equality and business case issue contributing to increased absenteeism and low productivity. A unit was created within the company's security department to address violence with counseling support. SolTuna also supported SafeNet, a multi-stakeholder

## Key Issues

### KEY QUESTIONS

- How does VAWG occur and how does it sustain gender inequality and power imbalance concerning natural resource access and control (related to land, forests, water, and fisheries)?
- How do pressures and threats to land and resources exacerbate VAWG?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

initiative that aims to reduce IPV in Noro by providing training on how to reduce domestic violence. Besides allowing 20 staff members to participate on paid staff time, the company also supported a plan to establish a women's refuge in Noro.



# Finance and Enterprise Development



# FINANCE AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

— Microcredit programs have often been promoted on the assumption that providing opportunities for women's economic participation, particularly outside the home, will translate into greater control over resources and decision-making. However, the evidence remains mixed. Many of these programs give resources to women beneficiaries, but this is no guarantee that women will maintain control over these resources or even necessarily be involved in decisions about them. Because men react differently to female partners' participation in such programs, some microcredit programs have been associated with increased violence, at least in the short term. Others have found that increasing women's contributions to household income decreases stress for the family and may result in a reduced risk of violence. Limited testing of programs engaging men as both business partners and intimate partners in Rwanda suggests that this can contribute to reduced risk of violence and increase the income gains as male partners collaborate in the repayment of credit.

### KEY QUESTIONS

- Do project activities require women to travel to insecure and/or remote areas or contexts where their mobility is culturally constrained?
- How might women's increased access to employment and resources (earnings, loans, land, grants, etc.) challenge existing gender dynamics, thus increasing the likelihood of VAWG at the community level and within households?
- Is the project encouraging women to enter nontraditional markets or value chains, which

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Work to ensure that gender issues, and especially violence against women, are considered in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs.
- Support legal reforms and the transformation of customs to strengthen the recognition of women's economic rights, including property, inheritance, and marital rights.
- Encourage innovative initiatives and incentives to promote the private sector to lead by example in VAWG prevention efforts. In Peru, for example, the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations developed a "Safe Business" seal of approval awarded to businesses that implemented VAWG prevention and awareness-raising activities with their employees and the community.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Ensure women's networks and associations are represented within institutions, such as the chamber of commerce and business/industry associations.
- Incorporate social norms/empowerment interventions that seek to address the acceptability of VAWG within microfinance/enterprise development/income generation projects in the country. Include modules on VAWG prevention, conflict resolution strategies, negotiation skills, empowerment training, etc., within activities such as financial literacy, business development services, and other economic empowerment projects.
- Support the creation of a "women's window" where financial and entrepreneurship services are provided. Train staff to provide women with advice and information on financial and entrepreneurship services, as well as referral information for women in situations of violence. The training should cover a basic overview of VAWG prevention and response, ethical and safety issues, and available referral services in the area. If pamphlets containing VAWG-related resources are available, ensure that staff check with women to confirm that it is safe for them to receive these resources before distributing them. If possible, ensure that at least some

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Number of inter-sectoral (GBV and economic growth) coordination meetings held annually
- Legal changes to strengthen women's economic rights (property, inheritance, and marital rights)

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Number of bank tellers/ loan officers receiving GBV informational training
- Percent of workers who have attended training on the prevention of harassment in the workplace
- Number of enterprises that have a formalized protocol to report GBV in the workplace
- Number of businesses adopting a "harassment-free" workplace policy
- Change in business community's attitudes about GBV
- Number of input suppliers with written policies that prohibit GBV
- Number of workers who have attended training on prevention of harassment in the workplace
- Number of enterprises that have a formalized protocol to report GBV in the workplace
- Number of employers with policies restricting any form of harassment,

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

- DFID. 2015. [Addressing Violence against Women and Girls through DFID's Economic Development and Women's Economic Empowerment Programs](#).
- IDB. 2020. [Gender-based Violence and Harassment Prevention: The Role of the Private Sector](#).
- IFC/EBRD. 2020. [Addressing Gender-Based Violence and Harassment: Emerging Good Practice for the Private Sector and sector briefs](#).
- USAID. 2014. [Toolkit for Integrating Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response into Economic Growth Projects](#).
- Women's Refugee Commission. (2011). [Preventing Gender-based Violence. Building Livelihoods. Guidance and Tools for Improved Programming](#).
- World Bank VAWG Guidance [Finance and Enterprise Development Sector Brief](#)

## Key Issues

could, in turn, increase their risk of violence?

- Are there institutional, legal, and cultural barriers that women face to freely engage in labor markets and enterprise development? For example, are women legally able to open bank accounts and obtain loans, sign documentation without their partners' permission, inherit land and property, or create a will?
- Are the staff providing financial and enterprise development services trained on VAWG prevention and response and capable of referring women in situations of violence?
- Are there policies, protocols, and training to increase awareness of VAWG and the appropriate services needed to address it?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

of the staff working at the "women's window" are women.

- Provide training and technical support on legal constraints affecting women entrepreneurs to key personnel offering financial and entrepreneurship services to women. Include information on strategies to decrease these constraints. Potential audiences for this training might include customs and border officials, loan officers, local tax collectors, market authorities, extension workers, and microfinance and/or bank personnel.
- Conduct a gendered market assessment and value chain analysis. In addition to identifying bottlenecks, constraints, and market opportunities (as regular market assessments do), this step is especially important for assessing the risk of harm or violence faced by women entering nontraditional markets or value chains, as well as different social constraints encountered by women entrepreneurs.
- Ensure that a key component of any economic empowerment project includes a registration process that accurately identifies project beneficiaries and formalizes women's participation.
- Ensure that women have individual identity cards (even if extra steps are needed to facilitate the attainment of a card), because they enable them to open bank accounts, own and register property, access police stations in the case of violence, initiate judicial processes, and register their children in schools. When possible, work with women to open bank accounts that will give them the choice to receive payments through direct bank deposits. This could prevent them from having their earnings or loans stolen due to crime or taken away by their partners.
- Provide gender-sensitive training to all loan officers and consider hiring and training women loan officers to serve and encourage potential women clients, especially those in rural and remote areas.
- Provide financial and entrepreneurial service personnel with a protocol and training on how to respond to VAWG reports. The protocol should guide staff to refer cases immediately to VAWG service providers. This includes referrals to police, social workers, shelters, nurses trained in sexual assault examinations, and other relevant services.

## Examples of Indicators

discrimination, or violence

### COMMUNITY /BENEFICIARY LEVEL

- Number of GBV victims who have participated in economic empowerment projects
- Number of women's or other vulnerable populations' business associations created
- Number of partnerships created to provide financial literacy training to vulnerable groups
- Percent of partners participating in financial literacy classes
- Change in GBV incidence and prevalence rates
- Number of women receiving payment through alternative mechanisms
- Number of training sessions provided to women on negotiation, leadership, confidence-building skills

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Create safe spaces for female entrepreneurs. In instances where the lack of public safety hampers women's mobility, especially in urban areas, simple solutions can greatly help to minimize risks to women's economic participation. Examples include the provision of transportation, increased police protection, existence of female-only sanitary facilities, and appropriate lighting.

### COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Explain the program to community leaders and key community members (both men and women) to garner their support and increase their awareness of cultural norms to avoid negative repercussions of women's employment and training. In certain traditional societies where women require permission from husbands or fathers, this will likely improve their participation by removing cultural constraints.
- Work with existing community groups as entry points to achieve both financial and VAWG protection goals. Encourage the creation of safe spaces where both men and women can discuss values, practices, and behaviors, ensuring that these discussions are grounded in human rights discourse.
- Include activities on communication strengthening, conflict resolution, and VAWG sensitization up front in economic empowerment initiatives.
- Include a social norms/behavioral change component to reduce the acceptability of VAWG in economic empowerment interventions.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

# Health, Nutrition and Population



# HEALTH, NUTRITION AND POPULATION

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

While most VAWG survivors never seek help, the health sector is often the first point of contact for those who do seek care and support services. The health sector can contribute to the prevention of and response to VAWG at various stages of the cycle of violence:

- Primary prevention refers to efforts to prevent violence from occurring in the first place, for example, by increasing community awareness of VAWG risk factors, promoting healthy conflict resolution, challenging harmful gender norms, etc.
- Secondary prevention focuses on early identification of survivors (via screenings in emergency departments and reproductive, maternal and child services, for example), responding to their physical, mental, and reproductive health care needs, and referring them to appropriate services.
- Tertiary prevention serves to mitigate the negative impacts of violence that has already occurred, for example, long-term counseling, HIV post-exposure prophylaxis, and emergency contraception for rape victims.
- Referral to social, economic, and legal support services, given that women experiencing physical violence will likely seek health care services at some point and health care providers are favorably positioned to refer survivors to other services to address their immediate needs and prevent potential incidents of violence.

### KEY QUESTIONS

What obligations do health service providers

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Enable a space for dialogue on VAWG prevention and response.
- Develop clear policy guidelines and protocols to identify and respond to the physical and mental health needs of survivors of physical and sexual violence.
- Work with government partners and key stakeholders to reform education curricula for health care providers and include VAWG awareness and response training.

### INSTITUTIONAL / SECTORAL LEVEL:

- Work with government partners and key stakeholders to include data on physical and sexual violence disaggregated by sex and age group in the routine data collection of the national health information system.
- Ensure that health care providers receive pre- and in-service training and mentoring in VAWG response protocols.
- Support the provision of trained on-site counselors, social workers, or nurses to provide individual counseling and/or group psychosocial support to identified VAWG survivors.
- Design and implement a support system for health care staff involved in the provision of services to survivors.
- Invest in linkages among the health sector and law enforcement and other survivor services, such as shelters and safe housing, as well as in research to build the evidence base about how best to integrate VAWG in health services.
- Support the development of a victim advocate program to collaborate with health services.
- Allow health care providers—if victim advocates are unavailable—to accompany women to the various services included in the referral pathway.
- Ensure that health facility infrastructure projects include safe, private spaces for health care providers to confidentially

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Decision-makers include VAWG as a health issue in political and policy debates
- National policies, action plans or contextualized standard operating procedures are in place, which reflects international commitments to VAWG, including specific commitments for the health sector.
- Laws and policies regulating health care providers' obligations to VAWG survivors are implemented
- VAWG indicators are integrated into national data collection systems and monitoring and evaluation systems and relevant data are collected
- Inclusion of GBV prevention and mitigation strategies in nutrition policies, guidelines, or standards

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Proportion of health units that have documented and adopted a protocol for the clinical management of VAWG survivors
- Proportion of health units that have done a readiness assessment for the delivery of VAWG services
- Proportion of health units that have health commodities for the clinical management of VAWG
- Minimum standards/ protocols for

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- Bell, E., Butcher, K. (2015). [DFID Guidance Note on Addressing Violence Against Women and Girls \(VAWG\) in Health Programs: Part A and Part B](#)
- Bott, S., Guedes, A., Clara-munt, M., Guegmes, A. (2010). [Improving the Health Sector Response to Gender-Based Violence: A Resource Manual for Health Care Professionals in Developing Countries.](#)
- Evanson, T. A. (2006). Addressing domestic violence through maternal-child health home visiting: what we do and do not know. *Journal of Community Health Nursing* 23(2), 95-111.
- Guedes, A. (2004). [Addressing GBV from the Reproductive Health/HIV Sector: A Literature Review and Analysis.](#) Washington, DC:
- IGWG of USAID. (2006). [Addressing Gender-based Violence through USAID's Health Programs: A Guide for Health Sector Program Officers.](#)
- IRC. (2008). [Clinical Care for Sexual Assault Survivors: A Multi-Media Training Tool.](#)
- Kataoka, Y., Yaju, Y., Eto, H., Matsumoto, N., and Horiuchi, S. (2004). [Screening of domestic](#)

## Key Issues

have with regards to identifying and responding to VAWG?

- Does the health sector have any responsibilities for collecting forensic evidence in cases of sexual and physical violence?
- What protocols and norms exist regarding identification of and care service provision for survivors of violence?
- Does the health sector have a system of referrals and counter-referrals to provide comprehensive care to survivors?
- What programs exist for training and sensitizing health sector personnel on addressing VAWG?
- What are the inter-institutional coordination mechanisms for addressing VAWG in which the health sector is participating?
- Do health service providers have Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits and emergency contraception available for GBV survivors?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

ask patients about violence and provide other services, including counseling, as needed.

- Support key partners and stakeholders in the development of a comprehensive package of emergency services for survivors of sexual violence that includes the provision of or referral for the following: treatment of physical injuries, preservation of forensic evidence, emergency contraception, safe abortion (where legal and available), post-abortion care, testing and counseling for HIV/AIDS, and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prophylaxis and treatment.
- Support awareness-raising campaigns related to VAWG and placement of information related to services available for survivors in health care centers.
- Support the adoption of protocols for the clinical management of VAWG survivors in the health units
- Coordinate with protection actors to ensure safe access to nutrition programs, focusing on addressing the safety needs of women, adolescent girls and other at-risk groups traveling to and from nutrition services.

### COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Identify existing programs and services for survivors.
- Disseminate information on available services.
- Carry out educational/behavioral change interventions.
- Work with local partners and stakeholders to help survivors make the best use of existing services and resources, including those offered within health care settings.
- Raise community awareness of VAWG, challenging harmful gender norms, and creating spaces for community dialogue, which may increase health-seeking behavior and challenge the acceptability of violence.
- Establish strong partnerships and low-cost strategies to improve response to survivors and strengthen referral pathways.
- Build alliances among the health sector, NGOs, and local/community partners to identify existing programs and services for

## Examples of Indicators

screening for VAWG in health settings

- Proportion of health services conducting consultation with VAWG-affected population on access and quality of care during a visit to a health unit
- Proportion of VAWG survivors who received appropriate care disaggregated by age, ethnicity, and disability
- Proportion of rape survivors who received comprehensive care disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity, and disability
- Number of service providers trained to identify, refer, and care for VAWG survivors
- Number of health care providers trained in Female Genital Cutting (FG-C/M) management and counseling
- Proportion of women who received or were referred for psychosocial counseling or other services
- Proportion of health units with at least one service provider trained to care for and refer VAWG survivors
- Consultations with the affected population on GBV risk factors in accessing nutrition services
- Percentage of municipalities with an intersectoral mechanism in place to respond to GBV

### BENEFICIARY LEVEL

- Qualitative perspectives of women generally/survivors about the quality of the services received, the benefits, and

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

[violence against women in the perinatal setting: a systematic review.](#)

- Khan, A. (2011). [Gender-Based Violence and HIV: A Program Guide for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response in PEPFAR Programs](#). Arlington, VA: USAID's AIDS Support and Technical Assistance Resources, AIDSTAR-One, Task Order 1.
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Resources [IASC. \(2007\). IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings.](#)
- Ramsay, J., Rivas, C., and Feder, G. (2005). [Interventions to reduce violence and promote the physical and psychosocial wellbeing of women who experience partner abuse: A systematic review.](#)
- UNFPA. (2010). [Addressing Violence against Women and Girls in Sexual and Reproductive Health Services: A Review of Knowledge Assets.](#)
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). (2006). [Addressing Gender-based Violence through USAID's Health Programs: A Guide for Health Sector Program Officers.](#)
- Velzeboer, M., Ellsberg, M., Arcas, C. C., and García-Moreno, C. (2003). [Violence against women:](#)

## Key Issues

### Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

survivors, (ii) carry out educational/behavior change interventions, and (iii) disseminate information on available services.

#### FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE/ABUSE:

- Support key partners and stakeholders in the development of a comprehensive package of emergency services for survivors of sexual violence that includes the provision or referral for the following: treatment for physical injuries, preservation of forensic evidence, emergency contraception, safe abortion (where legal and available), post-abortion care, testing and counseling for HIV/AIDS, and STI prophylaxis and treatment.
- Ensure that trained or specialized staff are available to provide crisis counseling and/or psychosocial support. Provide survivors with non-judgmental, emotional support, which is as vital for their recovery as is treatment of physical injuries.
- Request that emergency contraception kits and STI and HIV prophylaxis be included in the country's national list of essential medicines and work towards guaranteeing free access to this medicine as women may not have access to funds to purchase them.
- Ensure the availability of forensic nurses or health personnel trained in the medical forensic care of survivors of physical and sexual assault or abuse (and the collection of medical evidence for prosecution, if requested by the survivor) in each major health care setting.

### Examples of Indicators

the risks of those services (gathered through focus groups/in-depth interviews, respectively)

- Proportion of women who were asked about physical and sexual violence during a visit to a health unit
- Proportion of VAWG survivors who received appropriate care
- Proportion of rape survivors who received comprehensive care

### Guidance Notes and Project Examples

[the health sector response.](#)

- World Bank. [VAWG Guidance Health Sector Brief](#)
- World Health Organization (WHO). (2003) [Guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence.](#)
- World Health Organization (WHO). (2005). [Integrating Poverty and Gender into Health Programmes: A Sourcebook for Health Professionals: Module on Gender-Based Violence.](#)

#### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Improving Quality of Health Care Services and Efficiency in Colombia.](#) Implemented the inter-sectoral mechanism to respond to VAWG.
- [Nicaragua Integrated Public Provision of Health Care Services Project.](#) Implemented the National Intersectoral Adolescent Health Strategy for the Prevention or Delay of Adolescent Parenthood, with an emphasis on the concepts of agency and VAWG prevention, awareness-raising, and education sessions with health personnel, parents, adolescents, and young adults (girls and boys) on violence prevention and best practices in working with adolescents.
- [Health and Gender Support Project for Cox's Bazar district in Bangladesh.](#) Supported the access



<b>Key Issues</b>	<b>Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps</b>	<b>Examples of Indicators</b>	<b>Guidance Notes and Project Examples</b>
			<p>to and utilization of GBV response services among the host and the displaced population (strengthened health services, improved referrals and implemented the GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS)).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— <a href="#">Strengthening Pre-Service Education System for Health Professionals Project in Cambodia</a>. Introduced training requirements on GBV into curricula for health care professionals.</li></ul>

# Land



# LAND

## Key Issues

### Key issues:

- Intimate partner violence. Property ownership can serve to protect, deter or increase IPV but may also lead to increased violence because it is perceived as subverting or upending traditional power relations.
- Land disputes in the context of HIV/AIDS are a common underlying cause of violence against widows.
- Women face sexual extortion in which individuals in positions of power demand sexual favors as bribes to gain access to agricultural land or a property title.

### Key questions

- Do women have equal rights to land?
- How are decisions about the use of land and other property typically made in the community?
- What is the legal framework around women's ownership and inheritance of land?
- Are the proposed activities perceived as harming men or their natal families? Are the proposed activities perceived as providing women with an undeserved or "windfall" benefit?
- What are inheritance practices for widows and daughters?
- Is there an association between harmful discriminatory patriarchal practices such as dowry, bride price, women's inheritance, child marriage, polygamy, etc. and access to land?
- Are institutions associated with land familiar with issues of women's rights and access to land (such as land registries, courts, conflict resolu-

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Reform laws, addressing the legal gaps in women's rights to property.
- Make the joint titling of land for married/cohabiting couples mandatory.
- Support data collection on gender-disaggregated land/property ownership.
- Launch national mass media campaigns to raise awareness of women's rights to inherit and own property and to help change gender norms.
- Increase identification/documentation (the World Bank's Id4D Initiative).
- Revise anti-corruption and/or GBV laws to include sexual extortion.
- Support gender-sensitive law enforcement and access to justice.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Make land administration gender-sensitive to increasing women's access to property titles.
- Combine information campaigns on land rights with information on rights to live a life free of violence.
- Raise awareness and implement public education programs and training on SEA/SH and extortion.
- Develop brochures to inform people on where to file complaints, simplify complaint procedures, and improve record keeping.
- Establish codes of conduct in land administration agencies and establish SEA/SH policies with clear accountability structures.
- Establish effective grievance procedures.
- Have more female officers overseeing land administration/registration process.

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Establish/improve laws that strengthen women's land rights
- Percentage/number of women surveyed whose attitude of acceptance of VAWG or IPV associated with the exercise of land or property rights changes
- Percentage of women who believe their status has increased within the household and community because of obtaining and exercising land and property rights
- Percentage of women who reported an incident of IPV associated with obtaining or exercising land and property rights that received a referral to appropriate service providers

- Proportion of men and boys who agree that women should have the same legal rights to land and property ownership as men

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Percentage/number of women receiving training in access to land justice
- Percentage/number of female members of land dispute resolution institutions and mechanisms, including local watchdog groups
- Percentage/number of women and men receiving legal support in land cases in the formal justice system

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

- World Bank VAWG Guidance [Land Sector Brief](#).
- Boudreaux, 2018. [Intimate Partner Violence and Land Tenure: What Do We Know and What Can We Do?](#)

## Key Issues

tion institutions, and local land administration agencies)?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Conduct VAWG risk assessment as part of a social assessment to identify risks and opportunities in the project context.
- Work with traditional authorities to advance women's land rights under customary land systems.
- Implement village-level outreach programs to sensitize men and communities on women's land rights.
- Support structured dialogues with men to prevent IPV. Include sessions on non-violent conflict resolution, healthy parenting, and healthy relationships.
- Conduct impact evaluations to assess the impact of women's land ownership on VAWG.
- Support the provision of legal advice by female staff to women for claiming land and guidance on redress mechanisms.
- Implement communications and sensitization campaigns at the community level about SEA and sexual extortion.
- Hire female staff to advise survivors of sexual extortion in a non-threatening, supportive way and refer them to the appropriate service providers (such as those providing post-exposure HIV prophylaxis).
- Map women's organizations and other service providers that offer affordable, good-quality support services to VAWG survivors and establish contact with them for future referrals.

## Examples of Indicators

- Percentage/number of women in central /district /local / customary land institutions and other land-related local institutions
- Number of land officials receiving gender sensitization and training, including on VAWG
- Existence of codes of conduct in land administration agencies with clear accountability frameworks

### COMMUNITY /BENEFICIARY LEVEL

- Number of gender and VAWG sensitization and awareness-raising initiatives focusing on land
- Number of gender and VAWG sensitization advocacy and legal literacy training sessions focusing on land
- Percentage of women receiving VAWG sensitization advocacy and legal literacy training focusing on land
- Number of communication and media tools used to promote gender equitable land tenure governance, combined with information on rights to live a life free of violence
- Percentage/number of women and men reached by the messages
- Percentage of women with increased skills to negotiate safe and mutually respectful decision-making related to land and property
- Proportion of women who demonstrate knowledge of available VAWG support services

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

<b>Key Issues</b>	<b>Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps</b>	<b>Examples of Indicators</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Number of programs implemented that include examining norms related to gender equitable land rights and VAWG</li><li>— Proportion of men and boys who agree that women should have the same legal rights to land and property ownership as men</li></ul>	<b>Guidance Notes and Project Examples</b>
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# Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment



# MACROECONOMICS, TRADE AND INVESTMENT

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

Although the available research and data on linkages between macro-level trade policies and VAWG are limited, trade policy changes can have unintended consequences. For example, development of sectors such as tourism brings with it unintended consequences, including sex tourism, which can contribute to human trafficking and child prostitution (ILO 2013). On the other hand, when trade policies in Bangladesh were liberalized in the 1980s, the garment sector expanded, factories employed more women, and the number of early and child marriages declined. Access to paid factory work enabled women to be more economically independent decreasing the economic incentive for early marriage (ICRW 2009).

- Cross-border trade projects are in a unique situation to directly address two types of GBV frequently found in border areas: sexual harassment and violence experienced by female cross-border traders and cross-border sex trafficking.

- In Liberia, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, studies have found that a sizable percentage of female cross-border traders had experienced GBV at border crossings, including being raped or forced to have sex in exchange for favors (Higgins, 2012, Brenton, Gamberoni, and Sear, 2013).

- Cross-border traders have reported increased IPV because of their trading activities. For example, female Eru (non-timber forest product) traders on the Nigeria/Cameroon border reported verbal and physical abuse from their husbands, who perceive

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Work with legislators and justice systems to reform laws to address VAWG prevention and response (through equal property rights to increase women's assets and protection, and through access to justice to improve the legal response to GBV).

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Include VAWG considerations in environmental and labor impact assessments. In environmental impact assessments, GBV-related issues to consider may include the following: changes in land ownership that may affect levels of VAWG; degradation of natural resources that can pose an increased risk of VAWG (e.g., women having to go farther from their villages to collect firewood), or the influx of male workers on a new infrastructure project that may limit the mobility of local women due to the increased risk of violence. In labor impact assessments, potential entry points for VAWG analysis may include harassment in the workplace or how collective job losses for men resulting from new trade agreements can lead to increased IPV.

- Develop and implement private-sector fair trade certifications and standard performance indicators to implement VAWG prevention and response. Certification requirements can involve assessing and addressing VAWG issues in hiring, wages, non-discrimination, worker training, and human resource management. Certification can also require a confidential complaints mechanism as part of standard operating procedure for workers to report workplace GBV issues.

- Train border patrol agents on sexual harassment, identifying human traffickers, etc.

- Set up referral, social, and legal services for victims of trafficking identified at the border.

- Build cyber-networks for female cross-border traders with limited mobility.

- Recruit and retain female border officers.

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Extent to which legislation and/or policy prohibiting/addressing VAWG has been developed, strengthened and/or implemented

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Number of businesses adopting a "harassment-free" workplace policy

- Implementation of mandatory private-sector fair trade certifications that assess and address VAWG issues in hiring and wages

- Number of border agents trained on VAWG/SEA/SH, disaggregated by sex

- Number of harassment incidents reported by female cross-border traders

- Number of female border agents employed

- Number of new security cameras installed

- Female cross-border traders' level of satisfaction with their border-crossing experience (pre- and post-intervention survey)

### COMMUNITY /BENEFICIARY LEVEL

- Change in business community's attitudes about GBV

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- USAID. 2014. [Toolkit for Integrating Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response into Economic Growth Projects.](#)

- Higgins, Kate. 2012. [Gender Dimensions of Trade Facilitation and Logistics: A Guidance Note.](#)

- WTO. [Gender Based Violence in Cross Border Trade Training Manual.](#)

- WOW Helpdesk. 2019. [Violence against Women Traders at Border Crossings.](#)

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Great Lakes Trade Facilitation Project.](#) In each target country, the project supports the establishment of national toll-free phone line systems to allow traders, and especially women, to anonymously report abuses suffered at the border, both via SMS and voice calls, using basic Global System for Mobiles (GSM) handsets with no access to the Internet. Reports are then automatically stored in and processed by a cloud-based, open-source platform and subsequently visualized on a website available in two versions: one open to the public, providing details and updates on the status of each issue, which can be used for monito-

## Key Issues

them as spending more time on their exporting and intermediary business activities than on their household responsibilities. For many women, this means having to give up their trading activities and getting their colleagues to sell their merchandise for them (Brenton, Gamberoni and Sear 2013).

- Trafficking for sex and forced marriage have been documented at various borders around the world (UNODC, 2012).

### KEY QUESTIONS

- What is the impact of trade policy on women's economic empowerment and wellbeing and in turn VAWG?
- Do female cross-border traders experience VAWG as a result of their trading activities?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Improve infrastructure to create safe border crossings, such as building separate sanitary facilities for women, safe search areas staffed with female agents, and installation of lights and surveillance cameras to reduce risks of sexual harassment and rape.
- Train female cross-border traders on their rights and redress mechanisms.
- Create avenues for redress, for example, by creating a mechanism headed by the border patrol to allow victims to report incidences of violence and to punish offenders (e.g., by suspending them from work without pay, terminating their employment, or involving the police). Use ICTs as a confidential reporting tool.
- Empower female cross-border traders through workshops where they can learn about their rights as cross-border traders, as well as about mechanisms for redressing sexual harassment.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

ring and advocacy purposes; and a second, private one accessible only through log-in credentials, which offers selected stakeholders, (border agencies, traders' associations and civil society) the opportunity to review and take action on the various issues reported by traders. To preserve privacy and minimize the risk of retaliation, the system is also designed so that all submissions and reviews are anonymous.



# Social Sustainability and Inclusion<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The Social Sustainability and Inclusion Global Practice has four areas of work: (1) increase opportunities for all marginalized people (indigenous, LGBTI, vulnerable women) to participate fully in markets, services, technologies, and society, (2) empower communities to be architects of their own solutions for growth and poverty reduction through community-driven development programs that improve community services and basic infrastructure, (3) strengthen resilience in the most fragile and difficult environments by building social cohesion in countries that are tackling conflict and violence, and (4) provide design safeguards to projects through the implementation of the Environment and Social Framework.

# SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND INCLUSION

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

- Social norms regulate individual behavior in a society through prescriptions and expectations based on beliefs about which behaviors are appropriate in particular circumstances. Social norms and beliefs related to gender and family privacy contribute to physical and sexual violence.

### KEY QUESTIONS

- What is the situation of VAWG in vulnerable groups?
- How does displacement exacerbate VAWG risks?
- How can community service systems respond to family VAWG?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Implement communications campaigns to change harmful gender norms that lead to VAWG.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Integrate women's and girls' needs and perspectives in the design of infrastructure subprojects in community-driven development projects, including an environmental design that increases women's and girls' safety.
- Strengthen links between citizens and their governments and promote accountable government structures and women's voices in the process.

### COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Provide training in soft skills as part of women's economic empowerment/livelihood programs to foster women's agency and increase understanding of VAWG risks and consequences, engaging men and boys.
- Manage social risks related to gender inequality. These risks include GBV but also exacerbation of women's unpaid work, depletion of women's assets (through resettlement), anti-discrimination, etc.
- Support programs that provide spaces for women to come together to develop their self-confidence, awareness, and leadership skills, and build supportive relationships with other women.
- Raise women's collective awareness about violence, which is a prerequisite for addressing violence in their own lives.
- Build up women's social assets to increase their agency and enable them to better respond to safety threats and feel safer in their communities.
- Engage with the whole community, including men, boys, and traditional leaders, who can be influential allies. Violence must be seen as a community issue that needs solving at the community

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Community infrastructure design is informed by gender considerations, which increases security of women and girls
- VAWG broad advocacy campaign designed and launched

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Local safety assessments completed
- Number of integrated safety strategies and action plans adopted and implemented
- Local coalitions/partnership structures established and launched to support the implementation of the integrated safety strategies and action plans
- Number of officials/ staff from implementing unit/municipalities/ministerial staff trained on VAWG awareness
- Establishment of codes of conduct signed by all workers of an infrastructure project, and training of the project management unit on the identification and management of SEA risks

### COMMUNITY LEVEL

- Number of young men/young women trained on VAWG awareness/positive masculinities, etc.
- Changes in GBV attitudes and

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- DFID. [A Practical Guide on Community Programming on Violence against Women and Girls](#).

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- Bangladesh [Emergency Multi-Sector Rohingya Crisis Response Project](#). Builds social resilience in the displaced Rohingya population through strategies to prevent negative coping behavior and supports a network of community volunteers who encourage participation in sessions to understand violence in the community and how to protect themselves. It also finances dedicated spaces for women and children and establishes a referral system for GBV and trauma victims.
- [Emergency Post-Conflict Assistance Project](#) in Côte d'Ivoire (P110728). Implements a communications campaign with local radio stations to produce sketches to disseminate information related to VAWG and its prevention.

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

level rather than a private matter or a 'women's issue.'

- Strengthen informal community support networks by building the capacities of women leaders and women's grassroots organizations to develop support and referral networks for GBV victims.
- Build women's resources, assets, and agency through interventions to increase women's education and skills, build their leadership and voice, and increase their access to decent jobs and control over economic assets.
- Build girls' and women's social assets and safety nets, for example, through the provision of girl- and woman-only safe spaces that provide social support and skills training, raise self-esteem, and help cope with crises.
- Launch community communications campaigns (through local radio and street theater) that help to shift public opinion on VAWG.
- Develop community-education approaches targeting young men to promote gender-equitable attitudes and action among young men.

## Examples of Indicators

behaviors using knowledge, attitudes, and perception surveys

- Changes in GBV incidence and prevalence rates over time
- Local-to-local dialogues conducted between municipalities and community members (children, youth, and women)

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

# Social Protection<sup>4</sup>



<sup>4</sup> Social protection projects include a) social assistance (social safety nets): cash transfers, school meals, and targeted food assistance; b) social insurance: old-age and disability pensions and unemployment insurance; c) labor market programs: skills building programs, job-search and matching programs, and improved labor regulations; and d) early childhood development.

# SOCIAL PROTECTION

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

— Women traditionally have more limited access to resources like land, finance, and training opportunities than men. Social norms often restrict women's mobility and decision-making, as well as their access to education, employment, and means of livelihood. These limitations increase women's vulnerability and create greater barriers to social protection benefits. This cycle of deprivation exacerbates women's risk of IPV and can also hinder their ability to access available services for survivors of violence.

— Due to intersecting forms of discrimination and disadvantage, certain groups of women (ethnic/racial minorities, for example) are even less likely to benefit from social protection programs if these programs fail to consider specific needs/circumstances. Similarly, it is difficult for women to access social services, support systems, and other benefits even though they are more likely to require them.

— There is increasing evidence that cash transfer programs decrease IPV; however, some studies indicate adverse impacts. Drawing on these studies, as well as related bodies of evidence, Bullett et al. (2018) developed a program theory proposing three pathways through which cash transfer programs could impact IPV: 1) Economic security and emotional wellbeing, 2) intra-household conflict, and 3) women's empowerment. The economic security and wellbeing pathway hypothesizes decreases in IPV, while the other two pathways have ambiguous effects depending on program design features and behavioral responses to program components.

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

— Include universal pensions, recognition of informal work, such as domestic work, in the pension system.

— Make social security contributions mandatory, an important step toward labor equality for domestic workers

— Facilitate registration and national identification cards. For survivors of VAWG, the need for such cards is especially critical, as they can determine whether a woman has access to crucial services, such as shelters and health care.

### SECTORAL / INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

— Include VAWG prevention activities within conditional cash transfer programs: Include community-level activities such as "community conversations" on early marriage and reproductive health, social mobilization of girls led by female mentors, provision of school supplies, and livelihood skills for girls not in school.

— Include modules on VAWG prevention and conflict resolution strategies in labor market activities, such as skills-building workshops and employment training projects. Raise women's awareness about their rights, including the right to a life free of violence.

— Provide VAWG training and sensitization to key project staff and volunteers, particularly those who directly contact project beneficiaries. Establish codes of conduct for project personnel that include prevention of all forms of VAWG in the workplace and within the project.

— Integrate VAWG prevention initiatives into early childhood development programs.

— Explore secure methods of transferring cash to women. Options to ensure security include asking women whether they prefer in-kind or food transfers, or direct deposits into their personal bank accounts.

— Create safe spaces/ adolescent development clubs to provide safe places for positive social interactions along with vocational

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

— Establishment of social protection schemes

— Percentage of eligible people who have been issued a national ID card, disaggregated by gender

### SECTORAL / INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

— Social protection programs contain X activities/actions to prevent and respond to IPV

— Number of staff in implementing units trained on SEA/SH mitigation/response

### COMMUNITY LEVEL

— Number of community behavioral change and awareness-raising activities designed and implemented

— Changes in attitudes regarding VAWG using knowledge, attitudes, and perception surveys

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

— World Bank VAWG Guidance [Social Protection Brief](#)

— Women's Refugee Commission. 2011. [Preventing Gender-based Violence, Building Livelihoods, Guidance and Tools for Improved Programming](#).

— World Bank. 2019. [Evidence Brief Cash Transfers And Intimate Partner Violence: Findings From A Review Of Quantitative And Qualitative Studies In Low- And Middle-Income Countries](#).

— World Bank 2021. [Safety First: How to Leverage Social Safety Nets to Prevent Gender Based Violence](#).

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

— [Cameroon Social Safety Nets](#). Includes two actions to address VAWG: (1) delivery of healthy relationships training to couples in social safety net beneficiary households; (2) a community-level social norm changes communications intervention to reduce the possibility that increases in women's empowerment because of the social safety net program will result in a violent backlash from men; and 3) development of a digital payment system.

## Key Issues

### KEY QUESTIONS

- How do women's restricted access to assets and resources lead to VAWG?
- What strategies can be employed to mitigate the effects of cash transfers to women on VAWG?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

and life skills training for adolescent girls.

### COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Work with existing community groups as entry points to achieve both social protection and VAWG prevention goals.
- Engage with men to garner community support for programs targeting women.
- Integrate community behavioral change and awareness-raising activities into social protection/assistance projects whenever possible.

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

# Transport



# TRANSPORT

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES (URBAN TRANSPORT)

- Safety is a major concern for women choosing between public and private transport options. Women are at greater risk of violence, sexual harassment, and sexual assault from strangers on public transportation and walking to and from transportation. High levels of harassment and other abuse in public transportation limit women's willingness to travel, reducing their earning options and their access to education, health, and other services.
- There are minimal to no legal consequences for perpetrators of VAWG on public transport.
- In some cultures, behavior such as "catcalling" or whistling at a woman or girl is regarded as normal, making it unlikely that women will report these incidents or that reporting will have any legal consequences.
- Few countries penalize sexual harassment in public, so most women do not file complaints, leaving aggressors unpunished.
- Many transport projects lack planning that consistently recognizes the need for and incorporates initiatives to prevent and address VAWG in public transport and public spaces.

### KEY ISSUES (RURAL TRANSPORT PROJECTS)

- There are also associated safety concerns for girls and women living around construction sites or working at the sites, which, if ignored, can result in serious consequences such as physical and sexual violence, exploitative sex, and increased HIV transmission.

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL (URBAN TRANSPORT)

- Establish/improve laws against sexual harassment on transport and in urban spaces.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL (URBAN TRANSPORT)

- Establish response and reporting protocols on urban transport.
- Develop technological approaches and panic buttons to report sexual harassment.
- Launch communication campaigns to decrease VAWG on urban transport.
- Implement bystanders' interventions.
- Segregate public transport by sex.
- Place police officers in stations.
- Raise awareness of transport sector officials/staff about VAWG on urban transport.
- Use transport infrastructure facilities to raise awareness of VAWG, advertising support services for survivors of violence (such as hotlines and reporting facilities, and information on types of violence and women's rights, and on referral provision) and displaying messages to change norms and attitudes that perpetuate VAWG.
- Establish feedback and grievance mechanisms for transport users.
- Encourage community members to report cases of violence they witness in public spaces, including the transport system.

### COMMUNITY / BENEFICIARY LEVEL (URBAN TRANSPORT)

- Invest in ICT to make communities and cities safer by providing information on areas in which women may be at increased risk (safety audits). Collect information on street harassment, bullying, or poorly lit streets (etc.) from users and professionally trained auditors and make this information available to the public (e.g., Safetipin).

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Sexual harassment response protocol for city buses implemented (baseline No, target Yes)

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- A system for reporting and mapping gender-based harassment and violence is developed and has started to receive data
- Number of workers that have signed the code of conduct and attended the code of conduct training for the public works
- Number of implementing staff/workers trained on VAWG/SEA/SH, disaggregated by sex
- Anti-harassment campaigns/bystander interventions designed & implemented
- Implementation of changes in environmental design/transport infrastructure to increase women's safety
- A system for mapping gender harassment of public transport passengers is developed for the Bus Rapid Transit system and has started to receive data
- Percentage of people who called the transport system GBV hotline and are satisfied with the service received
- Total effective calls made to the GBV transport system hotline

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- World Bank VAWG Guidance [Transport Brief](#).
- World Bank, 2020. [Good Practice Note on Addressing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment in Investment Project Financing involving Major Civil Works](#).

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- In Bolivia, the [National Roads and Airport Infrastructure Project](#) (2011-18), the [Road Sector Capacity Development Project](#) (2015-22), and [Santa Cruz Road Corridor Project](#) (2017-2021) include a code of conduct for construction companies and their employees and periodic training for workers and managers on misconduct.
- [Dares Salaam Urban Transport Improvement Project](#). Implements a mobile phone-based sexual harassment reporting system and mapping of the incident of harassment or violence to enable authorities take appropriate action.
- In Ecuador, the [Quito Metro Line One Project](#) implements a communications campaign to promote non-violent behavior and establishes a mechanism to prevent and facilitate ease of reporting.



## Key Issues

### KEY QUESTIONS

- Are transport data indicators sex-disaggregated to show the different patterns of women's and men's use of public transport?
- Do women and men use transport at similar rates and at similar times of day? Why or why not?
- Do cultural norms and attitudes increase women's and girls' vulnerability to violence on public transport?
- Is the transport infrastructure adequate to address women's and men's needs and safety concerns (e.g., size of corridors, lighting in transport stations and their vicinities, safety conditions, mechanisms to report cases of harassment on transport)?
- Do women avoid roads or other transportation choices because of safety concerns? Does this happen during specific times of the day?
- Does the proposed program or project has the potential to increase these concerns or the risk of violence women and girls are facing on transport and in other public spaces?
- Which institutions are dealing with VAWG on public transport?
- Are there laws or regulations to protect the safety of individuals on public transport? Does the law clearly address and characterize harassment and other unwanted physical and emotional actions as GBV?
- Do national and local transport policies and plans reflect a gender perspective?
- Are transport police, operators, and transport system management able to respond to VAWG on public transport?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Ensure an urban design that prevents violence and remodel public spaces.
- Engage communities in campaigns to prevent VAWG in public spaces.

### RURAL TRANSPORT PROJECTS

- Include construction staff and contractors in training sessions and awareness campaigns to ensure they are aware of women's concerns, including issues of sexual harassment at the construction site and the underlying gender inequality and social norms that perpetuate the acceptability of violence.
- Establish codes of conduct for employees and project staff on construction sites and transport system staff. Have staff sign and agree to uphold codes of conduct, which can be an effective strategy in a broad range of sectors.
- Create guidelines for developing and implementing sustainable and gender-sensitive transport plans.
- Improve infrastructure to reduce and prevent VAWG.

## Examples of Indicators

- Calls transferred and handled by the GBV transport system hotline
- Awareness raising campaign on the proper use of the GBV transport system hotline

### COMMUNITY /BENEFICIARY LEVEL

- Changes in attitudes regarding sexual harassment in public spaces and behaviors using knowledge, attitudes, and perception surveys

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

ting of harassment. This includes a mobile application for reporting cases of sexual harassment in a timely, easy way. Transport operators receive training in appropriate response to sexual harassment.

- In Mexico, the [Urban Transport Transformation Program](#) pilot intervention included 'Hazme el Paro,' which entailed (1) a marketing campaign that created a precedent for strong, united opposition to sexual harassment of women and provided transport passengers with strategies to intervene without putting themselves at risk, (2) a smartphone application to facilitate reporting, and (3) awareness training for vehicle operators, police, and civil society groups on non-confrontational ways of stopping harassment in public transport.

— [Mozambique Integrated Feeder Road Development Project](#). Established a code of conduct and supported survivors in case SEA were to occur within the context of the project – establishing a "survivor-centered approach" that created multiple entry points for anyone experiencing SEA to seek the help they need. The project developed these activities in close coordination with local community organizations, and an international NGO.

- In Brazil, the Via Lilas Program

## Key Issues

- During the design of new transport systems and infrastructure, are participatory processes conducted to identify women's and men's differing transport needs, including those related to safety?
- Is evidence available on the incidence of VAWG on public transport in the country?
- Are there similar countries or examples where gender-responsive transport programs with a VAWG prevention component exist and have been evaluated?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

supported by the [Brazil Enhancing Public Management for Service Delivery in Rio de Janeiro DPO](#). As part of a broader effort to develop a regional master plan for the metropolitan transport system, the Rio de Janeiro government plans to use trains and cable cars that connect many hillside shantytowns to increase access to job opportunities. With a loan from the World Bank, the government integrated gender-responsive legal, social, and economic services within this system. The program will support the establishment of Women Reference and Service Centers—one-stop shops that will provide services, referrals, and information for survivors of violence. Electronic public information is used to promote the national law against domestic violence. Sustainable transport links to the Brazilian Women's House—a federal program that offers several public services for women—will also be established as part of the effort. A women's police station, a women's clinic, and a childcare center also were established. The project also financed dissemination of information on improved security for women riders. Finally, the program implemented pilot vocational education and training for women who are at risk of violence.

- In Peru, the [Lima Metropolitan BRT North Extension](#) contribu-

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

## Examples of Indicators

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

tes to efforts to improve women's access to effective, safe urban transport, while increasing female labor participation in the transport sector. Road safety, personal security, gender and universal accessibility will be considered in the design of travel lanes, stations, bridges, and a bus terminal to include disadvantaged groups and people with disabilities. To further increase women's personal security and contribute to preventing, mitigating, and responding to sexual harassment, the project will also finance the implementation of a Gender Action Plan with concrete actions. Indicators that assess the effectiveness of the interventions include monitoring the percentage of women passengers shifting from informal transport to the Metropolitan BRT North Extension and the use of Harmonized Response Protocol to address cases of sexual harassment on the Metropolitan BRT by Protransporte.

— In Colombia, the project [Enhancing Waterway Connectivity and Water Service Provision in Colombia's Plan Pazcífico](#) will ensure that GBV is incorporated into the project's environmental design. Factors such as lighting, visibility, security, walking paths, transport, and diversity will be considered. This will be accompanied by training for transport operators on violence prevention.

# Urban



# URBAN

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

- Urban areas often provide fertile ground for various types of violence, especially when high rates of growth overwhelm government capacity to provide basic services, including security, to residents. Most urban projects with a violence prevention component have focused broadly on situational prevention by using design measures that reduce opportunities for crime (e.g., street lighting, public telephones, safer public spaces). Sexual violence has been found to be facilitated by narrow paths, vacant fields and buildings, distant latrines, and poor street lighting. There is some evidence that situational prevention can reduce certain types of crime. For example, improved street lighting is associated with reduced vehicle theft and property crime, and to a lesser extent, violent crime.
- As rapid urbanization outpaces planning in cities of the global South, many residents — especially the poor — live in sprawling informal settlements, with poor transportation links and gaps in basic services such as water and sanitation. Millions, especially women, live with a deep sense of insecurity and experience violence in a multitude of forms each day.
- Access to basic sanitation remains a major global health issue, but for women and girls, the challenge of accessing clean water and safe toilets comes with the added risk of sexual predation. In societies where women are responsible for all domestic chores, they bear the brunt of family frustrations over chronic water shortages or sewage overflows.
- Women are particularly vulnerable to

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Develop urban environmental design/planning that increases security.
- Establish laws to address sexual harassment in public spaces.
- Conduct an extensive education/awareness raising campaign on VAWG and the importance of women's safety for local women and men and promote positive norms and attitudes.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Strengthen the capacities of local and national governments and other actors in mainstreaming the safe and friendly cities approach into urban planning, management and governance frameworks.
- Invest in domestic violence prevention and shelters for victims.
- Involve women and adolescent girls as active participants in the identification of priority safety issues, unsafe public spaces, contributing factors, and possible solutions to improve safety.
- Promote the use of a women's safety audit tool as an integral part of the regular planning process and conduct a survey or focus group discussions on women's safety.
- Ensure that the needs of more vulnerable groups of women/girls are considered.
- Develop gender-sensitive safety criteria for inclusion in urban planning and design standards, and/or guidelines for creating safe and women-friendly cities/neighborhoods.
- Create or review local government/municipal policies, programs, and services to address identified priority safety issues and to prevent VAWG.
- Institutionalize data collection and analysis on women's safety and VAWG as part of the collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated data and gender-related information.
- Adopt gender-responsive physical design features for public sanitary facilities.

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Number of cities with priority area development plans reflecting inclusive urban design principles with a focus on enhancing women's safety in public spaces and universal accessibility

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Capacities of local authorities reinforced, and perception of violence and actual crime rates reduced
- Comprehensive safety strategies and action plans adopted and implemented
- Local coalitions/ partnership structures established and launched to support the implementation of comprehensive safety strategies and action plans
- Local safety assessments completed
- Training curricula developed on participatory planning, governance and leadership for improved urban safety
- Safety audits conducted
- Local-to-local dialogues conducted between municipalities and community members (youth, children and women)
- Tool package and accompanying training modules implemented
- Global web-based communications tool for capturing information on urban safety in cities developed

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- UN Habitat. 2008. [The Global Assessment on Women's Safety.](#)
- UN Women. [Safe and Friendly Cities for All.](#)
- Urbanet. Making Cities Safer for Women and Girls.x

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Indonesia National Urban Development Project.](#) Supports crime prevention through an environmental design that encourages passive surveillance of public spaces and streets, creating more "eyes on the street" and that can be incorporated in local-level urban design guidelines and development plans.
- [Metropolitan Buenos Aires Urban Transformation Project Additional Financing.](#) Addresses VAWG and women's safety concerns by the local government.

## Key Issues

eviction and abuse by corrupt officials as their names are rarely recorded on leases or deeds.

- Men enjoy freedom of movement in public spaces, while women are relegated to the domestic sphere. Mobile phones and the Internet may be slowly breaking down barriers, but gender norms still shape the choices that most men, women, and sexual minorities have for work, education, and recreation. Poverty and social exclusion compound the dilemma.

### KEY QUESTIONS

- What types of GBV do women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex people (LGBTI), and vulnerable groups encounter in urban infrastructure?
- Where do women, LGBTI, and vulnerable groups feel the safest? Most unsafe?
- What types of GBV are most prevalent in the community? How can this be mitigated in the design? During construction?
- How does the community currently deal with GBV incidents? What is the local disciplinary action and civil law?
- How should GBV be reported in a culturally appropriate manner?
- Where do women typically report incidents of GBV? What are the implications in their home and social life if they report GBV? How will this structure the project's GBV reporting mechanism?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Install emergency phones in public spaces.
- Invest in beautifying and cleaning up cities or neighborhoods to reduce the perception of abandonment and fear that often leads to violence.
- Increase visible police presence and invest in increased security through community policing, regular patrols, and recruitment of more security personnel.
- Create women-only police stations in unsafe neighborhoods or women/children's units within local stations.
- Set up specific local police programs to prevent VAWG, including self-defense courses.
- Develop or review mechanisms for reporting incidents of VAWG via ICT tools such as SMS, websites, apps, or social media.
- Provide legal, financial, social, and psychological support services for VAWG victims.
- Consider the need to establish one-stop crisis centers, especially in densely populated cities.
- Develop a module/review training curriculum for urban planners, designers and architects that includes women's and girls' safety issues.
- Build the capacity of urban planners and designers in gender analysis for the use of public spaces.
- Train police officers on handling of VAWG cases in a gender-sensitive manner.

### COMMUNITY / HOUSEHOLD / INDIVIDUAL LEVEL:

- Counsel and mentor young men to encourage them to express their manhood in non-violent ways.
- Offer education and employment programs that give youth positive alternatives to crime.
- Provide legal support and advocacy to help women exercise their housing and other rights.
- Educate women and girls in the community about their rights.
- Promote bystander interventions.

## Examples of Indicators

- Decrease in sexual harassment cases reported, community/household/individual level
- Number of young men/young women trained on VAWG awareness/positive masculinities, etc.

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

# Water



# WATER

## Key Issues

### KEY ISSUES:

- Vulnerability to violence can have a significant impact on people's access to adequate water, sanitation, and hygiene and vice versa. In both urban and rural contexts, girls and women frequently face harassment when defecating in the open. They may delay drinking and eating until nightfall to relieve themselves because of feelings of shame and risks to their dignity. Given taboos around defecation and menstruation and the frequent lack of privacy at water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities in internally displaced or refugee camps, women and girls may decide to use the toilet or bathing units under cover of darkness.
- Walking to remote locations to collect water for drinking, cooking or laundry or using WASH facilities after dark, puts women and girls at risk of harassment, sexual assault, and rape.
- Lack of access to water may also contribute to tensions between intimate partners, particularly in water-scarce or drought-affected areas, which can lead to violence.
- Low-income households are more likely to burden women/young girls with the responsibility of fetching water, for which they often need to walk long distances and/or access remote areas, putting them at risk of GBV.
- Staff within WASH organizations may also be the perpetrators or victims of violence because of their gender. In some contexts, female professionals training for or working in the WASH sector may need to fend off sexual advances that carry the promise of better jobs or a promotion. Where gender power differences are

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

### POLICY LEVEL:

- Improve VAWG protection and response policies in WASH.
- Address violence related to WASH in broader advocacy campaigns.

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Develop protection policies and codes of conduct that emphasize good practices for institutions that train WASH professionals, including prevention of SEA among trainees.
- Establish well-defined channels for staff feedback and complaints for those who experience violence or suspect abuse that will not put the whistle-blower at risk.
- Train WASH staff on VAWG/SEA/SH prevention.
- Conduct regular monitoring, including the collection of disaggregated data on participation in programs (ensure inclusion of women and men who are vulnerable, marginalized or in special circumstances); incidents of violence that may have occurred; and perceptions of safety when using facilities.
- Build the capacity of staff and partners to understand the problem of violence related to WASH and their responsibilities concerning to this issue.
- Address sexual harassment in WASH company/workplace: develop codes of conducts for all employees related to harassment, including sexual harassment, establish anti-sexual harassment policies for protecting employees, and establish safe and fair procedures for reporting and responding to sexual harassment. Conduct training on sexual harassment for all employees.
- Provide safe transportation and field-site accommodations for women operators.
- Upgrade communal bathrooms to avert violence in public spaces. Improve local infrastructure, considering women's and girls' special needs, including improvements in access to sanitation services to maximize safety, privacy, and dignity when using

## Examples of Indicators

### POLICY LEVEL:

- VAWG protection and response policies in WASH developed and implementedx

### INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL:

- Gender/VAWG prevention- and response-informed WASH policy established
- Perception on gender-friendly work environment by gender
- Policies on preventing sexual harassment in place
- Number of harassment complaints by women and their resolution
- All staff and partner staff have signed a code of conduct that includes clauses on SEA
- Establishment of code of conduct and grievance complaints
- Percent increase of women and girls using communal bathrooms
- Percent increase of women and girls who feel safe accessing WASH services at any time of the day

### COMMUNITY / PROJECT LEVEL

- Satisfaction rate of female users with project WASH services and facilities and users' perception of responsiveness of the project to their needs and preferences

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### GUIDANCE NOTES:

- House, Sarah, Suzanne Ferron, Marni Sommer and Sue Cavill. 2014. [Violence, Gender and WASH: A Practitioner's Toolkit](#).
- Safelinks [Gender-Based Violence Risk Assessment Tool by Countries](#).

### PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- [Haiti Sustainable Rural and Small-Town Water Supply and Sanitation](#). Improved WASH facilities in public markets and schools, considering women's and men's preferences. Engagement of women in 'security committees' to ensure their voice in the management of market services including security, and in positioning water kiosks and public toilets in safe locations.



## Key Issues

particularly stark, women may have to deal with their views not being respected, being ignored or actively undermined, or if a male colleague compliments their work, women may be accused of having a sexual relationship with him. At the other end of the spectrum, staff members who control the distribution of non-food items and the use of WASH facilities may abuse their power by demanding sexual favors from vulnerable individuals.

- Sexual harassment is particularly pervasive in workplaces dominated by men, such as energy utilities. Women are increasingly filling positions in construction projects, which may lead to increased economic empowerment and participation in decision-making roles. However, women stepping into traditionally male-dominated roles may initially experience tension and even violence from some male colleagues. Sexual harassment often goes unreported, for which reason decision-makers do not make it a point of concern or redress. There are systemic reasons for the lack of reporting of incidents of sexual harassment: in many cultures, talking about sexual harassment is considered taboo. In others, sexual harassment is so pervasive that it gets normalized and, consequently, is not addressed. Women may also not want to stand out in a field in which they already feel isolated, or there simply are no adequate reporting mechanisms in place.

### KEY QUESTIONS

- What possible vulnerabilities do women linked to WASH face?
- How does poor access to WASH facilities lead to VAWG?
- How can WASH facilities be designed, constructed, and managed to reduce vulnerability to VAWG?

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

communal facilities.

- Raise awareness on gender inequality, GBV risk and protective factors, sexual harassment in public spaces and access to survivors' services through sensitization activities for the community and project staff.

### COMMUNITY / PROJECT LEVEL:

- Ensure that WASH facilities are designed, constructed, and managed in ways that reduce vulnerabilities to violence, for example:
  - Reflect preferences of men and women regarding location of water supply and sanitation facilities
  - Where public or shared facilities are necessary, clearly labeled sex-segregated facilities are provided
  - Facilities are accessible for people with limited mobility
  - Staff, operators, and caretakers are trained in acceptable conduct and the importance of reducing opportunities for harassment
  - Lighting for facilities is provided
  - Units are installed with solid doors and compulsory locks on the inside
  - Latrine facilities allow for effective menstrual hygiene management
- Assign female and male staff to decision-making posts and work at the community level to address local concerns, perspectives, and priorities.
- Raise awareness about sexual violence and its impact on the community, monitor WASH facilities and pathways to water points, and assign police, community leaders, local authorities etc. as first points of contact for sexual violence reporting, medical and psychological help.
- Hold training/discussion sessions with women and adolescent girls on how they can travel and return home during daylight hours, and how they can still perform their household and other respon-

## Examples of Indicators

- Community member awareness of safety linked to WASH compared to baseline

## Guidance Notes and Project Examples

### Key Issues

— What is the sexual harassment situation of women working in the WASH sector?

### Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

sibilities without added vulnerabilities if they are taking part in the WASH program.

- Establish collaboration with protection and GBV professionals to develop strategies to guide WASH staff on responding appropriately to incidences of violence (including the 'dos and don'ts' when communicating with people who have experienced violence).
- Provide information to community members on safety linked to WASH and build community feedback processes into programs.

### Examples of Indicators

### Guidance Notes and Project Examples

# VAWG Prevention / Response in COVID Response



## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE \_ GENDER

Key Issues	Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps	Examples <sup>5</sup>	Guidance Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Gender-based violence increased significantly during the pandemic. Women and girls are at higher risk of victimization confined at home with perpetrators in a context of heightened socioeconomic stress and limited access to support services.</li> <li>— The international literature has highlighted three contextual risks arising from the pandemic. The first is related to the stigmatization of and violence against health workers; the second refers to the differential impacts of pandemics and outbreaks on women and men, ranging from risk of exposure and biological susceptibility to infection to the social and economic implications; the third refers to already-documented increases in VAWG (domestic violence, child abuse and IPV) due to quarantine measures and lockdowns, reduced access to referral services and protective support networks, and stressors such as economic uncertainty and job losses.</li> <li>— The precarious socioeconomic situation exposes refugee women and girls to increased risks of sexual exploitation by community members as well as humanitarian workers. In parallel, access to regular GBV services is likely to become challenging for survivors.</li> <li>— Women and girls and vulnerable groups are at increased risk of GBV during epidemics due to limited involvement and control in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Ensure GBV services within health care systems are designated as “essential.”</li> <li>— Train health care staff to identify GBV cases, appropriately handle disclosures, and refer patients for additional services.</li> <li>— Include post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and emergency contraception (ECP) in the list of essential medicines related to the COVID-19 emergency and supply chain systems for response.</li> <li>— Obtain an updated list of GBV service providers (psycho-social support, case management, shelter, legal, police/security) to enable accurate referrals.</li> <li>— Where feasible, base government/NGO social workers/caseworkers in health care centers to respond to both COVID-19 and GBV.</li> <li>— Include GBV messaging in all forms of community health outreach in all phases of the emergency response.</li> <li>— Engage a GBV specialist to ensure quality messaging.</li> <li>— Incorporate essential training modules on identifying, treating and referring GBV survivors to medical professionals (using the <a href="#">WHO training manual</a>) into existing COVID-19 or other health care training.</li> <li>— Invite WHO/UNFPA to provide experts to deliver the training</li> <li>— Ensure that funding for essential services like mental health and sexual and reproductive health are prioritized and not diverted.</li> </ul>	<p><b>GBV HEALTH CARE SERVICES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— In Ghana, the <a href="#">COVID-19 Emergency Preparedness And Response Project</a>, provides medical and social support to the vulnerable, including GBV victims, especially IPV survivors and persons with disabilities and comorbidities. Specifically, it supports the Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Support Unit of the Ghana Police Service, the Department of Social Welfare, the International Federation of Women Lawyers and the Legal Aid Board to assist and protect GBV victims, especially IPV survivors, through the provision of temporary shelter. The project focuses on the needs of persons with disabilities and supports several Ghanaian organizations of the disabled. The project also increases capacity through training of frontline health care workers to recognize and manage early signs of GBV, and particularly IPV. This capacity building also includes determining when and where to refer cases and guarantees privacy and safety.</li> <li>— In the Central African Republic, the <a href="#">Health System Support and Strengthening Project</a> aims to establish GBV-integrated district hospitals where survivors will receive free health care treatment, including post-exposure testing, treatment, and counseling on HIV/AIDS and STIs, as well as fistula surgery.</li> <li>— In Bangladesh, the <a href="#">Health and Gender</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— World Bank. 2020. <a href="#">Gender In HNP Covid-19 Response Projects</a>.</li> <li>— CGDEV. 2020. <a href="#">Pandemics and Violence Against Women and Children</a>.</li> <li>— World Bank. 2020. <a href="#">Entry Points for Gender Design in SSN COVID Response Operations</a>.</li> <li>— IRC. 2020. <a href="#">Guidelines for Mobile and Remote Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Service Delivery</a>.</li> <li>— UNICEF, 2020. <a href="#">Not just hotlines and mobile phones: GBV Service provision during COVID-19</a>.</li> <li>— IFRC, 2020. <a href="#">Innovations in COVID Series – Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)</a>.</li> <li>— IASC, 2020. <a href="#">Identifying and mitigating gender-based violence risks within the COVID-19 response</a>.</li> <li>— UN Women and WHO, 2020. <a href="#">Violence against women and girl's data collection during COVID-19</a>.</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> The UN Women Global Covid-19 Gender Response Tracker monitors policy measures taken by governments worldwide to tackle the COVID-19 crisis, and highlights responses that have integrated a gender lens. It includes national measures to directly address women's economic and social security, such as unpaid care work, the labor market and violence against women. The tracker is coordinated by UNDP with substantive leadership and technical contributions from UN Women. It was co-created by the two entities and is based on publicly available information, including media coverage, official documents, and other COVID-19 policy trackers.

## Key Issues

decision-making concerning a household's response, and shifts in social safety nets, mobility and access to information/services. School closures and quarantines further exacerbate these risks.

— Experiences have demonstrated that where women are primarily responsible for procuring and cooking food for the family, increasing food insecurity as a result of the crises may place them at heightened risk, for example, of intimate partner and other forms of domestic violence due to heightened tensions in the household.

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Include possibilities for remote service provision of essential health services (e.g., phone calls and texts).
- Fund actions and equipment to ensure the safety and well-being of women frontline health care workers. This may include risk reduction measures, e.g. safe transport and safe housing for women staff, mobile phones and credit, adequate PPE; a counselor available for remote support; dissemination of resources and exercises for self-care; and creating opportunities for women frontline health staff to raise their concerns freely.

## Examples

[Support Project for Cox's Bazar District](#) supports GBV response services in all tiers of health care and in the DRP camps among the host and the displaced Rohingya population.

### HOTLINES

— In Peru, the [Centralized Emergency Response System Project](#) contributes to improving the quality of public services provided by First Response Units and Line 100 in the Lima Metropolitan area and Callao by reducing wait times for call response and ensuring more accurate, coordinated, and efficient responses. Specific awareness-raising campaigns to promote Line 100 services will be designed and implemented. The project promotes the use of public services to fight GBV, potentially benefiting more than 10.04 million IPV survivors.

— In Nepal, the [Integrated Platform for Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response in Nepal](#) aims to raise awareness about, and improve response to, GBV in the country. The projects support capacity-building activities that facilitate support to GBV victims, including those from indigenous groups and other vulnerable communities. This will be achieved by improving the quality and reach of services for GBV survivors through a helpline, promoting greater awareness among key stakeholders and strengthening the capacity of the National Women's Commission.

— In Argentina, a [solidarity campaign](#) was launched together with the Argentine Pharmaceutical Confederation to include pharmacies in the spaces where GBV victims can

## Guidance Notes

- USAID 2020. [Guide for adopting remote monitoring approaches during COVID-19](#)

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

## Examples

request assistance and directly contact Line 144. Through the “Red Barbijos” initiative, an action guide with guidelines and criteria was distributed to pharmacists to enable them to assist GBV victims who are in quarantine with their aggressors.

— In Chile, the government has established [several channels for the communication](#) and safe reporting of cases of violence by women: (a) Chat Web 1455, (b) WhatsApp Woman +56997007000, (c) Helpline 1455, which works 24/7, together with measures that involve society in prevention and reporting. The government has established the “Mask 19” keyword system in which the victim can go to the nearest pharmacy and say the keyword to staff, who will immediately know that the woman is in a situation of violence. Personnel will ask for personal information and then call Phone 1455 for Guidance on Violence against Women or call the police in more serious cases.

### **PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE (Continued provision of psychological support)**

— El Salvador: An [emergency psychological support center](#) was established and staffed by medical professionals and psychologists to support the mental health of women, in particular those who are victims of violence in the context of confinement.

— In Honduras, the National Women’s Institute, with the support of volunteers from the Municipal Offices for Women and universities, formed [response teams](#) that provide psychological and social care, and legal advice services to women victims and survivors of violence virtually.

## Guidance Notes

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

## Examples

- In Panama, the National Institute of Mental Health has several [hotlines to provide psychosocial support](#).
- In Suriname, the Social Workers' Association in Suriname, the Surinamese Association of Psychologists and Special Education and the United Nations Children's Fund have implemented an initiative to establish a [psychosocial support helpline](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic, with access to social workers and if necessary, referrals to specialists including psychologists. The support was previously only available to children and young people but can now be used by adults, including GBV survivors.
- In Uruguay, Inmujeres and the Ministry of Health developed and implemented a [protocol](#) to enable public and private health care teams to identify domestic violence situations.

### SHELTERS

- In Colombia, the [Presidential Council for Women](#) supported the adaptation of 65 buildings as shelters for women at high risk of violence.

### DEDICATED POLICE RESOURCES

- In India, [police in the state of Odisha](#) called women who had earlier reported domestic violence to inquire about their condition during the lockdown.
- In Lithuania, the police worked with the [Lithuanian Women's Rights Association](#) to provide information line contact details on the specialized assistance centers in victims' places of residence. The association also

## Guidance Notes

Key Issues	Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps	Examples	Guidance Notes
		<p>maintains connections with previous victims of domestic violence living in remote rural areas, giving them information on protective measures.</p>	



## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE \_ ECONOMIC RECOVERY

### Key Issues

- Increases in economic insecurity and poverty-related stress are known triggers of violence in abusive relationships. Severe economic distress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and women in lockdown in violent relationships may contribute to increased GBV. Research shows that economic stress is also likely to increase the frequency and severity of violence.
- Women are disproportionately affected by widespread economic distress, leaving them vulnerable to SEA, more dependent on their partners, and without options to leave a violent relationship. Women often work in caregiving or other roles within the informal economy that lack the full range of benefits and protections of more formalized sectors. Therefore, women largely lack access to social safety nets such as unemployment insurance, health care, and paid sick leave, which exacerbates the economic shock they experience and leaves them vulnerable to SEA and largely dependent on their partners to meet their financial needs.
- Adolescent girls are particularly vulnerable to SEA, including transactional sex and unwanted pregnancy. School dropouts due to early /child marriage have also been observed in past infectious disease outbreaks.
- Women's lack of financial independence prevents them from leaving violent relationships. It also perpetuates the imbalance of power that is the root cause of GBV.

### Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Consider cash assistance, which shows promise towards preventing GBV when combined with other training that helps balance power in the home, such as healthy relationships, joint decision-making over household finances or nutrition and parenting. Communication or training in economic empowerment programming that offers cash transfers is an opportunity to impact norms and attitudes that underlie the use of violence against women. Investing in longer-term economic empowerment models for women such as village savings and loans associations is also important as the crisis evolves.
- Invest in reducing household financial stress to help women feel safer in their own homes. For example, create emergency relief funds to compensate households for loss of income. Make sure funds are available to women as well as men that have lost income. Ensure safety in the selection and registration of beneficiaries and distribution of funds.
- Invest in increasing and expanding access to social safety nets for vulnerable women and guarantee continuity of services.
- Consult with women's organizations on how to assess and mitigate the safety and security risks around the distribution of funds.
- Make cash transfers safe and available for women. Ensure that domestic workers, women in the informal economy, and unpaid female caregivers are eligible and targeted for support.
- Create urgent action funds for GBV survivors administered by a trusted GBV service agency or women's group.
- Include as part of economic strengthening activities communication campaigns in local and accessible language for men and women on topics such as consent, reproductive health, and healthy relationships.
- Fund sex-disaggregated attendance and dropout data collection activities in educational settings. Data collection can serve as an early warning system for COVID 19-related school dropout of girls, triggered by forced early marriage or sexual assault.

### Examples

- Togo has introduced an [unconditional cash transfer scheme](#), with larger benefits for women, delivered through mobile money.
- Argentina introduced [paid leave](#) for all workers who have dependent children and care needs due to the pandemic.

### Guidance Notes

- World Bank. GBV and Economic Recovery Operations: Actions in the COVID-19 Response.
- Gentilini, Ugo, Mohamed Almenfi, and Pamela Dale 2020. Social Protection and Jobs [Responses to COVID-19: A Real-Time Review of Country Measures](#).
- Gender Innovation Lab. 2020. [Supporting Women Throughout the Coronavirus Emergency Response and Economic Recovery](#).

## Key Issues

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- Prioritize the protection of at-risk girls.
- Create urgent action funds for GBV survivors and at-risk adolescent girls administered by a trusted GBV service agency or women's group. Funds can be used to safely transport women to work or services, emergency livelihood support, to access temporary shelter, etc.
- Support girls who do not attend school by creating safe spaces and linking them to mentors. Offer vocational and life skills training in a virtual format.
- Continue education during the pandemic through distance learning initiatives delivered through radio, television, or the Internet.
- Accelerate girls' return to school.
- Build long-term economic resilience of women: (a) provide women and youth a package of grants, housing and food vouchers, training, self-employment opportunities and linkages to markets to build long-term resilience, and b) Provide grants, tax relief, rent waivers, vouchers and training to female-owned micro- and small businesses.
- Incorporate positive messages about non-violent stress management, women's rights, and joint economic decision-making into programs via text, social media, or other means.
- Include communication on joint decision-making and economic power in the household in existing opportunities for recipients of social protection.
- Provide immediate support through grants and community-based financing to women's economic associations, savings groups, cooperatives, and self-help groups, to help these entities withstand the shock of the current crisis and enable them to continue to supply the demand for support.

## Examples

## Guidance Notes

## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE \_ EDUCATION

Key Issues	Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps	Examples	Guidance Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Girls have a high risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and early pregnancy due to lockdown measures, which in turn negatively affect their ability to access education and learn.</li> <li>— Spending more time online during school closures can leave children vulnerable to online sexual exploitation as predators look to exploit the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>— A lack of face-to-face contact with friends and romantic partners may lead to heightened risk-taking, such as sending sexualized images, while increased and unstructured time online may expose children to potentially harmful and violent content, as well as greater risk of cyber-bullying.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Prioritize girls' safety and protection: Girls face a number of protections risks, especially during the prolonged school closures and home confinements.</li> <li>— Target campaigns to encourage communities to support girls' return to school.</li> <li>— Provide information and channels for girls to access services for violence or abuse.</li> <li>— Strengthen life skills programming for adolescent girls and boys specific to COVID-19 impacts (confinement, stress due to lost school year for older adolescents, etc.).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— <a href="#">Pakistan: Actions to Strengthen Performance for Inclusive and Responsive Education Program (P173399)</a>. Incorporates sensitization campaigns for education and mental health wellbeing.</li> <li>— In Bolivia, the <a href="#">Youth Empowerment Program</a> focuses on reducing the prevalence of violence against girls during the COVID-19 lockdown. The program offers soft skills and technical skills training, sex education, mentoring, and job-placement assistance.</li> <li>— In the Philippines, UNICEF leads a multi-agency <a href="#">campaign to increase public awareness</a> to prevent girls' and boys' online sexual exploitation.</li> <li>— In Vietnam, UNICEF collaborates with UNFPA and UN Women to support the development and delivery of <a href="#">training programs for teachers</a>, school managers and other school staff on prevention of GBV in schools and on psychosocial support and mental health needs of girls.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— XUNICEF. 2020. <a href="#">Education COVID-19 Response Issue Brief: in East Asia and Pacific</a>.</li> </ul>

## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE \_ ENVIRONMENT

### Key Issues

- Women and girls are disproportionately responsible for household duties, including water, food, and fuel collection; food preparation; and taking care of children as well as elderly and ill relatives. Home quarantines, market impacts and food shortages can increase household tensions and result in domestic violence.
- Increased household responsibilities to collect and manage natural resources can potentially increase exposure to COVID-19, which in turn can further increase stigmatization, isolation and GBV.
- Employment and livelihood losses can increase pressure on common resources, which can often result in men overtaking subsistence and income-generating activities that are typically performed by women (doing so not only limits women's access to resources, but further diminishes women's role in the home, reinforcing or increasing vulnerability). Furthermore, scarcity can contribute to an increase in exploitative transactional survival sex.
- In some countries, nationwide lockdowns have led to mass exoduses of migrant workers from cities to their villages, where both the possibility of transmission and domestic violence can increase. These often more remote areas are typically already burdened with strained health care systems and irregular access to clean water or reliable energy services.
- Disproportionate caregiving and household duties are limiting women's ability to do paid work, as well as volunteer work, which threatens to reverse previous women's empowerment and gender equality gains – trends with potentially long-term impacts on science and environmental programming.

### Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

#### ADDRESSING GBV IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMING

- Ensure the participation of diverse women and women's groups and organizations in decision-making. Given the socio-cultural and gender-differentiated impact of pandemics such as COVID-19, meetings on environmental responses to COVID-19 should include the voices of diverse women and gender and GBV experts to improve gender-responsiveness, including to contribute to GBV prevention and response.
- Coordinate with women's, gender and GBV coordination bodies and agencies to address and document GBV in environmental contexts and programming. The environmental sector has a significant role in, and impact on, many local communities' livelihoods that are under pressure as COVID-19 impacts environment-related jobs. Reach out to local and national gender and GBV coordination bodies and agencies to identify and address possible risks of increased GBV and gaps in the environmental sector. Finding areas for collaboration is key.
- View men as partners and adopt male engagement strategies. Promising practices worldwide show the powerful impact of engaging men as partners to end VAWG. Therefore, it is important to engage men to identify environmental pressures and to address toxic masculinity to avoid increases in domestic and other forms of violence during COVID-19. Gender-responsive communication tools, outreach, and campaigns, for example, can promote stress management using positive masculinity, encouraging sharing household work and parenting, sharing information on support services, and condemning GBV as destructive for all.
- Integrate activities to prevent and respond to GBV within environmental projects permanently. Medium- and longer-term plans must be adopted to prevent GBV throughout environmental programming and to ensure that protocols and processes are in place to respond to it. As identified in International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) research, GBV is present in environmental settings and is further exacerbated by environmental degradation and resource scarcity – not least but also not solely

### Examples

- In Fiji, the [UN Women's Markets for Change Program](#) has been working with the Ministry for Agriculture to provide seeds to the market vendor farmers, the majority of whom are women, for food security and continued livelihood, in addition to providing technical and financial support for GBV programs.

### Guidance Notes

- IUCN (2020). [IUCN Information Note on Gender-Based Violence and Environment Linkages During COVID-19](#).
- Men Engage Alliance, 2020. [Men, masculinities, and COVID-19: Actions, resources, and connecting online](#).
- Men Care Switzerland, 2020. [6 steps for men to prevent domestic violence](#).
- Men Engage Alliance, 2020. [Corona crisis: Survival kit for men under pressure](#).
- MADRE et al., 2020. [From global coordination to local strategies: A practical approach to prevent, address and document domestic violence under COVID-19](#).

## Key Issues

- The role of women and girls in collecting and managing natural resources is particularly critical in refugee camps and temporary shelters, which are often overcrowded and where people may face greater scarcity of food and hygiene resources and services.
- Increased resource insecurity due to the pandemic may lead to a rise in child marriage to obtain the bride's wealth or lessen food needs within a family.
- As is often the case in weather-related disaster contexts, SEA may increase in relation to accessing and controlling pandemic response services and resources to cover basic needs – such as those related to water, fuel, agricultural inputs or food for households and/or livestock care – particularly as disaster profiteering and prices may increase.
- Threat of SEA by authority figures.
- Increased economic violence and violence against female environmental human rights defenders.
- Indigenous communities' heightened vulnerabilities to COVID-19 and its impacts may have far-reaching effects, including resulting in opportunistic land grabs. It is well documented across contexts that GBV is employed to facilitate land grabs.
- Quarantine poses a risk for female environmental human rights defenders, who can be targeted more easily by those seeking to curtail their work and may face greater difficulties to access protection services.

## Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps

- during crises. These critical times demand opening discussions with partners and donors, for example, on investing in strengthened people-centered, rights-based and gender-responsive interventions for the long term.
- Ensure that business continuity and COVID-19 recovery plans and projects do not exacerbate GBV – and discuss impacts with donors. As project priorities are adjusted to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential to include GBV in any risk assessment of COVID-19 impacts and ensure that GBV risk mitigation activities are included in programming.
  - Support resilience and food security to help prevent GBV, as stress over food and resource scarcity and job losses can trigger survival sex and increased domestic violence. These activities can ease local communities' increased pressure over biodiversity for survival because of pandemic-driven food insecurity.

## Examples

## Guidance Notes

## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE \_ JUSTICE

Key Issues	Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps	Examples	Guidance Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly exacerbated IPV. A recent report on <a href="#">Justice for Women Amidst COVID-19</a> found that restrictions imposed to curb the COVID-19 pandemic have curtailed the ability to respond to VAWG cases and hold perpetrators accountable. Law enforcement and health professionals – who are generally categorized as first responders – are overburdened with the demands posed by the pandemic, leading to a de-prioritization of VAWG complaints and support services.</li> <li>— Court systems across countries are struggling to manage proceedings, with significant delays in issuing restraining orders and adjudicating divorce and child custody proceedings. Of particular concern are judicial systems that do not have the infrastructure to utilize telecommunication tools and operate remotely, consequentially delaying matters that could lead to severe harm for VAWG survivors. For many women, this inability to access justice is further compounded by many layers of disadvantages – such as poverty, ethnicity, disability, and migrant status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Recalibrate justice delivery to ensure that justice institutions are fully responsive to the rights and needs of all population groups during this crisis period. The emphasis is on preparation, response, and recovery, through actions such as business continuity and establishing criteria for prioritization of cases, while addressing the gender justice gap by mainstreaming gender and designing targeted interventions for women.</li> <li>— Protect rights holders and duty bearers with safe spaces, hotlines and urgent judicial proceedings using technology.</li> <li>— Substitute full trials with interim orders to ensure the immediate safety and wellbeing of women and children.</li> <li>— Protect women deprived of their liberty by releasing the more vulnerable on a case-by-case basis, providing effective economic recovery and social welfare services.</li> <li>— Keep the repeal of discriminatory laws on track by continuing parliamentary business using appropriate technology and social distancing methods.</li> <li>— Include women as decision-makers, ensuring their effective participation in decisions that impact structural changes to the justice sector during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.</li> <li>— Partner with customary and informal justice systems to ensure alignment of these systems with national COVID-19 guidelines and gender equality norms and standards.</li> <li>— Address the digital divide and explore alternatives to ensure access to justice for those who are digitally excluded.</li> <li>— Sharpen the leave-no-one-behind agenda through targeted legal empowerment policies and programs and invest in a strong role for women's organizations.</li> <li>— Invest in data and monitoring and evidence-based policies that address the social, economic and legal impacts of the pandemic on women and girls, especially at the national and subnational levels.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Mongolia is developing <a href="#">handbooks on legal advice and assistance for survivors of domestic violence</a> to improve the capacity of legal aid providers to process the increasing number of requests during the pandemic and holding a series of live stream sessions to provide advice to survivors of domestic violence.</li> <li>— In Serbia, the High Court Council <a href="#">classified cases of domestic violence</a> (including protective measures for the survivors of violence) among those that the courts continued to deal with even during the state of emergency, specifying that such cases will continue being prosecuted before courts of law without delay.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— UN Women and World Bank. 2020. <a href="#">Justice for Women Amidst Covid-19</a>.</li> <li>— The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 2020. <a href="#">Guidance Note on CEDAW and COVID-19</a>.</li> <li>— UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers <a href="#">"Coronavirus Emergency: Challenges for the Justice System"</a>.</li> <li>— International Development Law Organization. 2020. <a href="#">The Shadow Pandemic: Addressing Gender-Based Violence During Covid-19</a>.</li> <li>— IRC. 2020. <a href="#">Guidelines for Mobile and Remote Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Service Delivery</a>.</li> </ul>

**Key Issues****Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps**

- Increase access to women's shelters or protection centers to avoid overcrowding as more women are fleeing extreme physical violence and seeking refuge from their own homes.
- Strengthen the quality of legal aid to handle GBV cases within the justice system by offering learning interventions online, as part of its work to build the capacity of justice sector institutions to implement continuing professional development, including their ability to monitor and address GBV cases.
- Implement a public legal awareness campaign to promote healthy family relationships during stressful times by running short videos on buses, in public squares and on television.

**Examples****Guidance Notes**

## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE\_ LAND / AGRICULTURE / CROSSBORDER TRADE

Key Issues	Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps	Examples	Guidance Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The pandemic can amplify gender differences in land rights. Women who become widowed due to COVID-19 risk disinheritance as women's property rights are often conditional on marriage. Migrant workers unable to find jobs in urban centers may return to rural areas, creating greater competition over land.</li> <li>— Women also comprise the majority of informal cross-border food traders in Africa, which in many countries outstrips official trade flows. Increased border chaos, shutdowns of transport networks, closure of markets and congestion can exacerbate challenges that women traders experience at border crossings, such as disproportionately higher levels of economic stress, and GBV by border officials and police.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— <a href="#">Encourage</a> men to jointly title their property with their spouse in the context of land formalization and registration programs (within social distancing protocols). Reform other discriminatory laws such as head of household laws.</li> <li>— <a href="#">Implement digital campaigns</a> on the benefits of stronger land rights for women.</li> <li>— Train women cross-border traders and border officials to prevent GBV. Train and deploy more women border officials while providing them with a safe and sanitary work environment.</li> <li>— Institute grievance redress mechanisms at borders that can serve both women traders and officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— In Malta, eligibility to the government's 'Private Rent Housing Benefit Scheme,' which provides a rent benefit paid on applicants' ordinary residences to make rent more affordable, has been extended to domestic violence victims during the Covid-19 pandemic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— World Bank. 2020 <a href="#">Entry Points for Gender Design in Agriculture and Food COVID-19 Response Operations.</a></li> </ul>



## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE \_ SOCIAL PROTECTION

Key Issues	Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps	Examples	Guidance Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Mobility restrictions and stress could increase GBV. According to police reports from Europe, the US and client countries where data are available, domestic violence has increased since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak. Violence against girls and women is likely to increase due to reduced access to/availability of support services and increased (poverty-related) stress.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Expand and reinforce social safety nets: Proposals for rapid expansion of social safety nets, including paid sick leave, unemployment insurance, direct cash, or food voucher payments and/or tax relief are all immediate options — with emphasis on pro-poor or universal schemes of sufficient monetary value.</li> <li>— From a VAWG perspective, there are at least four important considerations: 1) Encourage efforts to maintain both household as well as individual-level benefits; 2) Delivery mechanisms will affect the ability of some individuals to access benefits; consider automatic benefits over those entailing administrative hurdles or conditionalities; 3) Consider if targeted economic benefits can be directed to survivors of VAW/C to address financial needs related to accessing health, legal or psychosocial services; 4) Financial support, including food subsidies and/or cash transfers, should be directed at vulnerable households who may absorb additional caregiving responsibilities, to ensure an adequate level of care to all children as well as mitigate risks of violence out of resentment or stigma towards orphaned children.</li> <li>— Invest in violence prevention campaigns, including practical advice on stress management/ mental health/ healthy conflict resolution targeting men and women, girls and boys, making use of various channels (radio, TV, social media) and relevant influencers, celebrities and faith leaders.</li> <li>— Expand coverage and ensure predictability of safety-net transfers to provide adequate consumption of basic goods and services and to reduce uncertainty around the timing and level of income.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— In Ecuador, the <a href="#">Territorial Economic Empowerment for the Indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorians and Montubian Peoples and Nationalities (TEEIPAM)</a> finances the implementation of evidence-based, gender-transformative interventions to reduce GBV and increase women's income and training. Interventions include participatory and active learning spaces to discuss gender equality, healthy relationships, effective communication, and livelihood strengthening, among others. The training program includes role-playing and role-modeling approaches for both men and women aimed at addressing underlying expectations about male and female roles and behavior through a process of critical reflection, discussion, and practice. The project also trains community health workers in clear protocols to protect women and children against harassment/violence as part of COVID-19 response efforts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Manell, T., Radice, HW., Moncada, A., and C. Vargas. 2019. <a href="#">Utilizing Cash and Voucher Assistance within Gender-based Violence Case Management to Support Crisis-Affected Populations in Ecuador.</a></li> <li>— CGDEV. 2020. <a href="#">Pandemics and Violence Against Women and Children.</a></li> </ul>

## VAWG PREVENTION / RESPONSE IN COVID RESPONSE \_ WATER / ENERGY (UTILITIES)

Key Issues	Possible Actions to Address VAWG Prevention and Response Gaps	Examples	Guidance Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— More women are at home due to COVID-19, and data overwhelmingly confirm an increase in domestic violence during times of humanitarian crisis. The stress of increased unemployment and food insecurity, combined with stay-at-home orders, increases risks of increased violence against women. At the same time, health, psychosocial and other support resources for GBV victims have been diverted to responding to the pandemic.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Share information with employees on where to report and seek help for domestic violence, including national and local hotlines and services with trained responders.</li> <li>— Develop a text system for female staff experiencing domestic violence to inform supervisors using a discreet “cue” word to activate support services and provide leave for staff affected by domestic violence. . See: <a href="#">Training: Practical Gender Actions to Improve Utility Resilience to COVID-19</a> (recording).</li> <li>— Prepare an audiovisual campaign to raise awareness on the issue and provide guidance on how to obtain help for GBV survivors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— In Argentina, in line with government initiatives, Agua y Saneamientos Argentinos (AySA) has adopted <a href="#">an action protocol to address workplace violence</a> and domestic violence. Female staff subject to domestic violence can send a text to their supervisors using a discreet “cue” word to activate a network that either connects the staff to a national response line or requests police assistance. The utility also provides domestic violence work leave and has started an audiovisual campaign to raise awareness on the issue and provide guidance on how to obtain help for GBV survivors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— World Bank. 2020 <a href="#">The Water Sector and COVID-19: Leave No One Behind - Critical Interventions for an Inclusive Pandemic Response</a>.</li> <li>— IFC. 2020. <a href="#">COVID-19 and gender based violence: workplace risks and responses</a>.</li> <li>— <a href="#">World Bank. Training: Practical Gender Actions to Improve Utility Resilience to COVID-19</a>.</li> </ul>



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