FOREWORD FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UN WOMEN
PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA

The year 2016 marks 20 years of grant giving by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund).

Built upon the generosity of UN Member States and a growing number of private sector partners, the UN Trust Fund is the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that supports national efforts to end violence against women and girls, and its role today is more crucial than ever. This Annual Report provides an opportunity to celebrate successes in combatting violence against women and girls around the world and to address remaining challenges. Despite the growing recognition that violence against women and girls is a human rights pandemic and a major obstacle to sustainable development, it continues to have an unjustifiably low priority in national planning, programming and budgeting. That is why now is the time to share examples of what works so we can turn talk into concrete action.

Last year, I had the opportunity to visit two of the organizations receiving support from the UN Trust Fund: the Grassroot Soccer programme in Cape Town, South Africa and the Mother Child Education Foundation (ACEV) in Istanbul, Turkey. Both of these grantees are demonstrating how innovative approaches can make a difference to the lives of women and girls.

Grassroot Soccer uses sports to foster girls’ empowerment, support their awareness of sexual and reproductive health and increase their access to medical, legal and psychosocial services. It reaches girls like 14-year-old Yamkela who has lived all her life in the Khayelitsha township amid systemic poverty, a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and limited social infrastructure. She told me: “When I am around the Grassroot Soccer centre, I am safe”.

In Istanbul, I joined a session of the Father Support Association, a ground-breaking fatherhood project run by ACEV to prevent domestic violence by engaging men. This comprehensive, community-based programme provides time and space for fathers to meet and discuss topics focused on achieving equality in the home, such as sharing domestic responsibilities, the impact of sexist language, and new ideas about masculinity. The results of the initial project, which ran from 2010 to 2013, were so encouraging that the programme has now been extended until 2018.

These programmes are part of 111 projects aimed at preventing and addressing violence against women and girls in 76 countries and territories in 2015. They include a programme with Nari Pragati Sangha in Bangladesh to create safe learning environments for girls in 80 schools; Guatemala’s Fundacio Sida i Societat which created a mechanism to register cases of violence against sex workers; and Egypt’s Al Shehab Institution for Comprehensive Development which has addressed the underlying causes and intersections between violence against women and HIV/AIDS with over 900 women in marginalized communities.

In 2015, governments from around the world made gender equality and empowering women and girls a central aim of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through the adoption of Goal 5 which features a dedicated target on ending violence against women and girls. This positive commitment must now be matched by ambitious funding, by prioritizing gender equality in Official Development Assistance (ODA), and by allocating sufficient resources in national budgets. The UN Trust Fund will pursue its catalysing role in calling for and budgeting. That is why now is the time to share examples of what works so we can turn talk into concrete action.

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The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) was created by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996 (resolution 50/166). It is administered by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on behalf of the United Nations system. The UN Trust Fund remains the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that is dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls. This report describes the impact and key achievements of the Fund in 2015 and highlights some of its key results over the past 20 years.

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—27-year-old beneficiary of the UN Trust Fund’s grant to Najoti kudakon in Tajikistan

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Thanks to the work of Equality for Growth (EFG), Christina Simon, pictured, who is a volunteer for EFG and market trader in Dar Es Salaam, the market in which she works is no longer a place of abuse and business has improved.

Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Gemma Wood

“Violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace. Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms. The long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms in the case of violence against women is a matter of concern to all States and should be addressed.”

—Beijing Platform for Action

Human rights are at the core of the work of the UN Trust Fund. Its mandate, vision and implementing strategies are rooted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international human rights treaties and instruments that followed it. The Beijing Platform for Action, the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women, was an important landmark in the drive to address discrimination against women and girls. It marked a recognition both of the strides made in the international standards arena – most notably the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1979 and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women in 1993 – and an acknowledgment that new mechanisms, impetus and commitment were needed to turn these promises into reality for women and girls around the world.

Violence against women was one of the 12 critical areas of concern identified by the Platform for Action. The challenge was to develop integrated strategies to prevent and end violence against women, to study the causes and consequences of this violence and identify

INTERNATIONAL LAW

United Nations Charter

“The United Nations shall promote… universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language, religion.”

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

“All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights...Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.” (Articles 1 and 2)
1 IN 3 WOMEN WORLDWIDE HAVE EXPERIENCED EITHER PHYSICAL AND/OR SEXUAL INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE OR NON-PARTNER SEXUAL VIOLENCE. 

ABOUT 7% OF WOMEN HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED BY SOMEONE OTHER THAN THEIR PARTNER.

MORE THAN 125 MILLION WOMEN & GIRLS ALIVE TODAY HAVE UNDERGONE SOME FORM OF FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION/CUTTING.

MORE THAN 700 MILLION WOMEN WORLDWIDE ALIVE TODAY WERE MARRIED BEFORE THEIR 18TH BIRTHDAYS.

ABOUT 250 MILLION WOMEN WORLDWIDE ALIVE TODAY ENTERED INTO UNION BEFORE THE AGE OF 15.

and support measures and programmes with a promise of delivering a change.

This was the vision at the core of the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996 - just a year after the Beijing Platform for Action - which established the UN Trust Fund. Resolution 50/186 sent out a strong message that violence against women and girls was a priority for the United Nations. It also set out a clear trajectory for the Fund’s future mission. It called on the UN Trust Fund to act as a catalyst and to support innovative activities that directly benefit and empower women. The scope was also set: the UN Trust Fund was to support initiatives at the national, community and international levels and to foster system-wide collaboration with other relevant UN bodies. Established as a system-wide mechanism, the UN Trust Fund was grounded in the notion of United Nations partnership and this remains central to the its values, strategies and implementation.

The UN Trust Fund operates as a pooled fund, with voluntary contributions from UN Member States and a growing number of private sector partners. With crucial institutional support from UN Women, its regional, multi-country and country offices, and the UN system as a whole, the UN Trust Fund has demonstrated the great potential for helping countries meet the implementation gap in preventing and ending violence against women.

In 1995, only a handful of countries had laws and policies to address violence against women and girls. Today, national governments are moving towards a more comprehensive response to this worldwide pandemic.
reflecting changes in the work on ending violence against women and girls at the normative, policy and implementation levels. At the international level, conventions and protocols have been complemented by the development of policy instruments. These provide detailed guidance on the steps that States and other stakeholders need to take to prevent and end violence against women and girls. Some have taken the form of declarations and resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies and documents emanating from United Nations conferences and summit meetings.

Today, there is incomparably greater awareness of the need for change than was the case 20 years ago. In countries all over the world, new legislation has criminalized many forms of violence against women and girls and national governments are moving towards a more comprehensive response to this worldwide pandemic. Global recognition that violence against women is a human rights violation is perhaps the most significant achievement of recent decades. This transformation of the landscape facing women and girls seeking to prevent or overcome violence is in large part thanks to the global movements for human rights and women’s empowerment that have grown in strength and confidence over the past 20 years. The UN Trust Fund places itself at the heart of these movements, performing a unique enabling role as the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that is dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls and creating change.

The UN Trust Fund’s focus in the 2000s brought together several consistent areas of its work: a commitment to ever more effective and rigorous evaluation and capacity building in the area of monitoring and evaluation among grantees; addressing the intersection of VAW and HIV, creating partnerships with a wide range of organizations to secure funding for grant giving; and seeking to bring together the resources of the UN system to work collaboratively to end VAW.

In 2006, the UN published a report which was a milestone in efforts to focus on ending violence against women. One of the areas highlighted in the Secretary-General’s in-depth study on all forms of violence against women was the intersection between violence against women and HIV. It stated that women living with HIV are more likely to have experienced violence, and that women who have experienced violence are at higher risk of HIV infection.

The UN Trust Fund had already created a special thematic window on HIV/AIDS and VAW in 2006 with the support of Johnson & Johnson, one of the first private companies to provide consistent support to the UN Trust Fund, and grantees such as those in Egypt and Albania were already working in this area of programming.

In 2007, the UN Trust Fund, in collaboration with the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) convened an expert consultation on evaluating approaches to ending violence against women and the intersection with HIV/AIDS. This brought together leading evaluation experts, UN partners and grantees to highlight trends, approaches and challenges in evaluation methodologies. This was followed by an evaluation design workshop. The UN Trust Fund went on to provide technical and financial support over three years to ensure lessons learned were available to all future projects and were shared widely with key stakeholders.

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that prevents and/or ends this human rights violation. Since its creation the UN Trust Fund has sought to be at the heart of this change, supporting innovative projects, replicating effective methodologies, providing support through its grants, gathering together best practices and building the capacity of organizations that are driving forward efforts to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

The strategic focus of the UN Trust Fund has continued to evolve, influenced by long-standing partnerships and experience of supporting civil society organizations, governments and United Nations partners. Similarly, its vision and mission have also evolved since its inception in 1996. Initially, the Fund’s immediate aim was “to support national, regional and international actions, including those taken by governments and non-governmental organizations, to eliminate violence against women.” Over the years, the scope of the portfolio broadened and the group of grantees diversified. Funding increased considerably and special funding windows were launched (for example, violence against women and HIV/AIDS in conflict and post-conflict settings and the experience of adolescent girls).

Meeting with the Kankuamo indigenous community. The Integral assistance route provides information on how to access protection and legal assistance in Valledupar, Colombia.

Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Mildred Davila

OVER 1 MILLION PEOPLE BENEFITTED THROUGH UN TRUST FUND PROGRAMMES IN 2015, INCLUDING:

CLOSE TO 180,000 WOMEN & GIRLS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

INCLUDING SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE, INDIGENOUS WOMEN, WOMEN FROM ETHNIC MINORITIES, FEMALE MIGRANT WORKERS AND WOMEN & GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES

OVER 130,000 PEOPLE ENGAGED AS AGENTS OF CHANGE

INCLUDING MEN AND BOYS, EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS, COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL

ALMOST 700,000 PEOPLE REACHED

THROUGH AWARENESS RAISING, SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS, RADIO, TV, THEATRE AND OTHER FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT

1996

UN TRUST FUND
Creation of the UN Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women

Created through General Assembly resolution 60/186 to complement and further efforts to end violence against women and girls throughout the UN System.

1999

UN INITIATIVES
International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women Established

Designated as 25 November by the UN.

1999

UN TRUST FUND
Grantee Achievement in Nigeria

In Ibadan, Nigeria, UN Trust Fund grantee provides alternative livelihood opportunities, such as small loans to open market stalls, to adolescent sex workers.

2000

INTERNATIONAL LAW
Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security; Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children
“The UN Trust Fund is a relevant mechanism to address violence against women and girls: It addresses a gap that is seen as important by all stakeholders... and is seen as meeting the needs of both grantees and beneficiaries.”

—External Evaluation of the UN Trust Fund, 2009

In 2016 the UN Trust Fund celebrates its 20th anniversary. The projects to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls that it has supported over the years have extended to every corner of the world. Many have undertaken pioneering and imaginative initiatives that have helped shape our understanding of what works and why. This evidence has been documented in grantee reports, UN Trust Fund Annual Reports, grantee evaluations and a 2009 external evaluation, all of which contributed to the analysis underpinning the Fund’s current Strategic Plan (2015-2020).

UN Trust Fund grantees currently implement a wide range of local, national, regional and cross-regional projects, either as stand-alone interventions or as part of broader local or national efforts. From Tonga to Ecuador and from Belarus to India and Nigeria, the UN Trust Fund has supported projects that have delivered real and lasting benefits to women and girls and successfully engaged a number of stakeholders – including men, boys, young people and religious and traditional leaders – as an important part of delivering our common goal of preventing and ending violence against women. According to the 2009 external evaluation of the UN Trust Fund, the projects reviewed (that is, the 37 projects implemented in the period 2005-2007): “contributed to increased awareness among citizens of the gravity of violence against women and girls and [UN Trust Fund] projects responded to the needs of women affected by or survivors of violence and built capacity of duty bearers.”

Responding to the priorities identified, over the past 20 years the UN Trust Fund has provided support to critical and groundbreaking research; specific changes in laws, policies and practices; and innovative activism. It has
Some of the strategies and methodologies tested and implemented in the field of prevention and working with men and boys that were initially funded by the UN Trust Fund have subsequently been identified by external evaluators as examples of effective interventions to prevent violence against women and girls.

"Despite the limitations in the evidence base, overall this rapid review concludes that there is fair evidence to recommend: relationship-level interventions such as Stepping Stones; microfinance combined with gender-transformative approaches such as IMAGE; community mobilization interventions to change social norms; interventions that primarily target boys and men through group education combined with community mobilization; and parenting programmes."

In response to the recommendations of the 2009 Evaluation Report, the UN Trust Fund has invested in building both its own and grantees’ monitoring and evaluation capacity. It has introduced mandatory baseline studies and evaluations at the end of each project and developed mandatory training for all new grantees, with the aim of building their monitoring, evaluation and reporting capacity. And in 2014, the Fund launched its Grant Management System, an interactive tool that provides easy public access to detailed information about its global grant-making mechanism.
Every year since 1996, the UN Trust Fund has provided funding to civil society organizations, governments and, from 2008—2014, UN Country Teams. The process for awarding grants is competitive, open and transparent and ensures funding is targeted at those working in the UN Trust Fund’s priority areas. Transparency and consultation are paramount in ensuring that the Fund remains relevant and effective. Calls for proposals for grants are issued through an open and competitive selection process. Grant applications are reviewed by independent experts and an inter-agency Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) that draws on the expertise and experience of UN agencies, representatives of leading non-governmental organizations and other experts in the field.

The achievements of UN Trust Fund supported projects over the years make a compelling case for how much can be achieved by providing strategic and direct grants to programmes of high quality led by effective institutions. The impact of their work shows that – with sustained effort, strategies that increase engagement across all sectors of society and adequate resources – violence against women and girls can be reduced, prevented and ultimately eliminated.

For example, the link between projects initially funded by the UN Trust Fund and the creation or implementation of legislative norms has been evidenced on many occasions over the past 20 years. Laws send a powerful message that violence against women is a human rights violation that states have an obligation to prevent and address. For example, in 2000, heavy media attention generated as a result of initiatives supported by the UN Trust Fund between 1997 and 1998, resulted in the adoption by the Kenyan Parliament of the country’s first legislation on domestic violence, which was notable for its strong and decisive language.

However, over time, success in the legislative fields led to a shift of focus towards implementation of the norms put in place. In 2004, the UN Trust Fund supported Semillas (Sociedad Mexicana Pro Derechos de la Mujer) and the Mexican Commission for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights (Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos) in addressing concerns over impunity with regard to femicides in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. This brought together, for the first time, organizations representing the families of victims and human rights non-governmental organizations in a common effort to underline the need for urgent and appropriate action. The Mexican Government responded, providing funding to affected communities most affected by incidents of femicide in order to start crèches, offer counselling and support microenterprises.

In 2008, grants for projects in such countries as Bulgaria and Rwanda generated new policy and budgetary commitments, which were a critical part of strengthening frameworks for the implementation of laws. For example, the Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation made the case that State responsibility needed to include regular budgetary allocations, especially at the local level, where most services are provided. As a result the law was revised to provide for annual funding allocations for protection and support services. In Rwanda, a grant to the governmental administration of Ngoma district resulted in the development by local leaders of a three-year strategic plan that integrates all local action to end violence against women. The issue was put on the agenda at monthly district security meetings and local vigilance committees in several villages to routinely monitor individual cases and report on them to the police.

In 2009, Oxfam Great Britain, supported by the UN Trust Fund, partnered with women’s organizations in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen to carry out a catalytic regional initiative across the Arab States to devise methodologies for involving men and boys in prevention activities. After only one year of implementation, prominent elected officials and public figures joined forces to demand the adoption of a law criminalizing violence in the family in Lebanon.

The Secretary-General’s Global Campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women Launched

Local Women NGOs Network in Baganuur shows the MOU with funding allocation for trainings to end violence against women.

Photo: UN Women/Nuntana Tangwinit

Beneficiaries participating in a Women’s Justice Initiative training activity in Guatemala.

Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Mildred Garcia
Critical obstacles remain, most notably: the recurring failure to implement new laws and policies effectively; chronic underfunding for initiatives to address and end violence against women; and the pervasive gender discrimination and inequality.

These factors hamper progress at every step. The UN Trust Fund is leveraging its unique position to address these barriers. It continues to support initiatives to improve data gathering, to train officials in the justice system, to support prevention strategies and public awareness efforts, as well as programmes to enhance women’s economic and political empowerment and men’s involvement in efforts to prevent and end violence against women.

The UN Trust Fund enters its third decade of grant giving buoyed by a unique body of knowledge and experience in developing effective funding strategies to counter violence against women and girls and an ever-broader base of partners and supporters and with an undiminished ambition to increase support for the essential and ground-breaking initiatives taken forward by grantees large and small addressing violence against women and girls.

The Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015 includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. For the first time, these include a target explicitly addressing violence against women and girls.

Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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Goal 5 on gender equality and the empowerment of women specifically sets the target of eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls, including harmful traditional practices. This goal is situated in the context of implementing reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, and strengthening policies and enforceable legislation that promote gender equality.

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The UN Trust Fund’s upcoming Evidence Hub will be based on the knowledge gained though the funding of over 400 projects in the past 20 years and will be a central tool for harvesting, analysing and disseminating useful lessons from this unique body of knowledge to inform policies, programmes and funding strategies to prevent and end violence against women and girls in the future.
Based on the number of beneficiaries reached by UN Trust Fund supported projects in 2015, it is estimated that every US$12 raised and given in grants reaches an additional beneficiary.

Investing in preventing and addressing violence against women and girls is central to the achievement of the sustainable development that UN member states have signed up to. Every dollar raised by the UN Trust Fund is a step forward in that direction. Increasing the overall funds available for the grant giving even by a modest amount each year will have a cumulative impact allowing the UN Trust Fund to support projects that help many thousands of women and girls to transform their lives.

Consistent with its founding principles, the UN Trust Fund has set a strategic course for the next five years that focuses on advocating for and financing results-oriented approaches, catalysing learning from global evidence collected from its grantees, and leveraging its unique mandate and convening power to foster sustainable financing to prevent and end violence against women and girls.

The UN Trust Fund’s work over the next five years will be underpinned by a new vision of sustainable development. Building on its understanding of future challenges and opportunities, the Fund will shift its primary focus away from trying to close the gap between the funds available and demand on the ground, and towards targeted funding of sustainable initiatives on the basis of their potential to bring about specific results at the local and/or national level. In practice this means that in pursuit of results-based, sustainable and replicable initiatives, the UN Trust Fund will strive to assist governments, the United Nations system, policymakers and law changers to be both pro-active and responsive in advancing the realization of women’s human rights, working in partnership with civil society organizations. In this way, it will aim to leverage its role in order to support the broadest possible expansion of choice and opportunity for all women and girls.

With strong core values and 20 years’ solid experience to draw on, the UN Trust Fund is able to analyse and adapt its funding methodologies and strategies and build on lessons learned from funded projects to respond to evolving challenges. The Fund places increased emphasis on preventing violence against women and girls through community-based interventions that challenge the discrimination against women and girls underpinning violence against women. It focuses on building the capacity of small women’s and youth-led organizations and supporting underserved groups, including women and girls living in poverty or in rural areas; women and girls with disabilities; those who are stateless, internally displaced or refugees; tribal or Indigenous women; members of religious or ethnic minorities; and, most recently, providing support to organizations addressing the issue of violence against women in humanitarian contexts.

The UN Trust Fund particularly focuses its attention on initiatives that aim to deliver sustainable change and have the potential to be institutionalized into broader national government responses in preventing and ending violence against women and girls. The strategic focus of the Fund aims to change the funding model relationship from a “donor dependent” model towards creating a sustainable programme of work that can be embedded into broader State institutional responses (for example, national action plans, services and policies) and is consequently funded from the national budget.

Around two thirds of applications received every year by the UN Trust Fund propose employing various strategies to strengthen state institutional responses to violence against women and girls, with an emphasis on effective implementation of the laws against violence against women. International human rights instruments, decisions and dedicated advocates have advanced the understanding of violence against women and girls as a human rights violation that governments have a responsibility to address and the standard of “due diligence” has emerged as a means of assessing States’ responses to violence against women and girls. The key challenge is to use this standard to hold governments to account and ensure that they fulfill their obligations to enforce laws and implement fully national action plans and policies to prevent and address violence against women.

With more resources, the UN Trust Fund will reach significantly more women, girls, men and boys around the world.

INCREASING UNTF FUNDING BY $12 CAN REACH AN ADDITIONAL 1 BENEFICIARY

INCREASING UNTF FUNDING BY $1 MILLION CAN REACH AN ADDITIONAL 160,000 BENEFICIARIES

INCREASING UNTF FUNDING TO $20 MILLION CAN REACH AN ADDITIONAL 3.7 MILLION INDIVIDUALS
UN TRUST FUND GRANTEE AWARDS

1999 | UN TRUST FUND

Right from the start, the UN Trust Fund was recognized as a centre for learning and sharing good practice on ending violence against women. In one of many firsts, an inter-agency video conference entitled, “A World Free of Violence against Women” was held on International Women’s Day in 1999 to present the best examples of strategies to end violence against women worldwide. The conference featured survivors and advocates. It was broadcast in 20 countries and watched by hundreds of thousands and dealt with issues including family-related violence, female genital mutilation/cutting and economic violence, including trafficking.

2001 | NICARAGUA

In 2001, the UN Trust Fund issued a special call for proposals focusing on the use of the media and communications strategies. The power of the media in terms of raising public awareness and changing attitudes was highlighted by work of a grantee on a Nicaraguan soap opera, one of the most popular programmes in the country, especially among teenagers. Surveys showed that this was translating into growing awareness of women’s human rights.

2010 | NEPAL

In 2010, Equal Access Nepal won the Special Award at the One World Media Awards for outstanding media coverage from the developing world [see http://www.oneworldmedia.org.uk/awards-2010]. The Equal Access weekly radio show, Samajhdari (Mutual understanding) received the award for educating 1 million listeners about the interconnection between violence against women and HIV/AIDS.

2013 | CROSS-REGIONAL: AFRICA

In 2013, Physicians for Human Rights won first prize in the USAID-Humanity United Tech Challenge for Atrocity Prevention. They pioneered the mobile app “Medicap” that equips health-care providers with the tools to collect, document and preserve court admissible forensic evidence of torture and sexual violence and enables them to transmit this data securely to the authorities.

2013 | INDIA

In 2013, The Karnataka Health Promotion Trust in India, which supports and implements initiatives related to HIV/AIDS and reproductive health, received the World Health Organization Award for Excellence in Primary Healthcare in the category “Innovations for improving access and ensuring continuity of care”.

2009 | INDIA

Grantee Breakthrough has pioneered innovative and award-winning campaigns on violence against women in India. In 2009, a pro bono agreement with the advertising giant Ogilvy and Mather helped Breakthrough produce the “Bell Bajao” (“Ring the Bell”) campaign, which won a gold Abby Award at IDAIFEST for “best integrated campaign”. Thanks to a partnership with the Ministry of Women and Child Development which allowed Breakthrough to broadcast on national television stations, the “Bell Bajao” campaign reached more than 124 million people in just four months with messages on women’s legal rights. In 2016 Breakthrough’s #askingforit campaign was one of six winners of the Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship. The Skoll Awards honour innovations that have had a significant impact on some of the world’s most pressing problems and are poised to create even greater impact. The Award will help Breakthrough use its cutting-edge methodology to catalyse one million people to take action to end violence against women and girls.

2013 | SERBIA

Foundation B92’s Dobra Basta (“Good Garden”), a programme to further women’s economic empowerment in Serbia, won two awards at the Smart Academy pitching forum organized within the Regional Forum of Social Innovations in April 2016. It was awarded RSD 445,000 (around US$4,100). While selecting the best social-enterprise initiatives to be granted the funds, the jury took into account: sustainability, effectiveness and innovation (uniqueness compared to all existing initiatives). This award helps ensure the sustainability of results of the work funded by UN Trust Fund grantees.

2015 | INTERNATIONAL LAW

Resolution 2242 to improve implementation of the women, peace and security agenda through integration of women, peace and security concerns across all country-specific situations on its agenda is adopted by the UN Security Council.

2015 | UN INITIATIVES

Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Agenda adopted by the General Assembly.

THROUGH THE YEARS

UN TRUST FUND GRANTEE AWARDS

2013 | UN TRUST FUND Grantee Achievement in Samoa

UN Trust Fund grantees The Samoa Victim Support Group plays a central role in the development of landmark legislation to address gender-based violence which is adopted in April 2013.

2014 | UN TRUST FUND Grantee Achievement in Uganda

Following years of advocacy by the women’s movement, including UN Trust Fund grantee Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice, Parliament adopts a landmark resolution calling for reparations for war-affected women and other victims of the Lord’s Resistance Army.

2015 | INTERNATIONAL LAW Resolution 2242

Resolution 2242 to improve implementation of the women, peace and security agenda through integration of women, peace and security concerns across all country-specific situations on its agenda is adopted by the UN Security Council.

2016 | UN INITIATIVES

Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Agenda adopted by the General Assembly.
“For 20 years, the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women has supported inspiring initiatives to end violence against women around the world. Its mission is a cause very dear to me,” says Nicole Kidman.

Since 2014, the UN Trust Fund has forged new alliances and partnerships with the private sector to increase funds and awareness using the power of the colour orange. Many of these partnerships not only raise funds for the UN Trust Fund, but also provide sustainable and ethical economic opportunities for women around the world to promote economic empowerment and end the cycle of violence.

SEE ME

In marking its 20th Anniversary, the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women has partnered with the fair trade jewelry organization SeeMe that worked with survivors of violence in Tunisia to create a unique Orange Heart necklace as the symbol of the 20th Anniversary by using local, traditional techniques. Half of the proceeds from sales of the necklace will benefit UN Trust Fund supported projects, while the aim of the partnership is to provide survivors of violence with an income by developing jewelry making as a business.

THANKFUL

Thankful, a global social movement that supports programmes to empower people to improve their quality of life, partnered with the UN Trust Fund to raise funds and to create awareness to end violence against women and girls worldwide. Thankful is partnering with companies to produce several “Thankful” products, such as cosmetics, and has designated a portion of every sale to UN Trust Fund programming to end violence against women and girls.

VOZ

VOZ meaning “voice”, an ethical fashion enterprise that works with Chilean women artisans to design and ethically produce garments that honour their culture, created a new manta (poncho) to help combat violence against women and girls. A fifth of the proceeds from sales will go to projects supported by the UN Trust Fund.

The UN Trust Fund would like to thank all its donors past and present for their part in enabling the UN Trust Fund to support projects seeking to bridge the gap between governments’ binding commitments, laws and policies and the lived experiences of the women and girls.

DONORS IN 2015

The Governments of:
- Australia
- Austria
- France
- Germany
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Israel
- Kazakhstan
- Liechtenstein
- The Netherlands
- Switzerland
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland

The UN Women National Committees of:
- Finland
- Germany
- Iceland
- Japan

Swedish Postcode Lottery Foundation
UN Women for Peace Association
Soko
Yuwei Designs

Special thanks to We Are {The Collective} for their in kind support.

Special thank you to Mrs. Ban Soon-taek, Patron of UN Women for Peace Association, for her ongoing support to the UN Trust Fund.
In 2015, the UN Trust Fund supported 111 projects aimed at preventing and addressing violence against women and girls in 76 countries and territories. During the year it awarded 33 new grants in 29 countries and territories, including 30 civil society organizations and three governments. By the end of 2018, the impact of these new grants is expected to reach more than 1.7 million primary beneficiaries.

In order to validate the effectiveness of grantees’ programmes, the UN Trust Fund undertook extensive monitoring missions throughout 2015 and visited nine countries in four regions. The Fund visited seven grantees from Eastern Europe and Central Asia, in Serbia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kosovo (under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/1999); one grantee from Asia, in Myanmar; two grantees from Africa, in Morocco and South Africa; and two grantees from Latin America and the Caribbean, in Antigua and Barbuda and El Salvador. During these missions, the UN Trust Fund visited key project sites and met grantee organizations, partner organizations, primary and secondary beneficiaries and key stakeholders.

This section describes some of the achievements of the UN Trust Fund’s grantees in 2015 that were recorded on those missions, as well as in mandatory progress reports provided by grantees during the year.

“Thanks to the project, I’ve been able to fulfill my dream of opening my own restaurant. I now have a stable source of income that provides me with enough to pay for my everyday needs as regards food, medicine, clothes, to support my son and pay my rent... I’ve also been able to create two part-time jobs for other women.”

—Nora Draou, beneficiary of the project, Initiatives pour la protection des droits des femmes, funded by the UN Trust Fund in Morocco
In *Gambia*, a project implemented by GAMCOTRAP to end female genital mutilation (FGM) has reached out to the heads of villages in 58 communities, organizing trainings for community leaders led by their chiefs. During the first year, over 300 women participated in a series of training workshops to empower them to claim their rights and take an active role in protecting other women, and especially girls, from FGM. In testimonies and interviews with young mothers in two districts, 64 per cent said they did not intend to subject their daughters to FGM in the future. Community elders are discussing among themselves how to protect girls and communities. In December 2015, Gambia passed legislation to criminalize and prohibit FGM, which represents a major achievement of GAMCOTRAP’s long-term advocacy.

In *Kyrgyzstan* the NGO NFFCK, supported by a small grant from the UN Trust Fund, is piloting a school-based education programme in three villages which more than 600 young people have completed. An expert team has developed an educational package – Empowering Girls through Education, Art and Media – the first of its kind in the Kyrgyz language.

During a recent visit, the UN Trust Fund team engaged in an intergenerational dialogue around bride kidnapping and girl’s rights in families, inspired by school debates organized through the project. The conversations between a mother and daughter and a grandmother and granddaughter illustrate the mindset shift occurring in rural communities of Kyrgyzstan riding on the wave of discussions initiated by the new school programme.

Transforming attitudes is key to sustainable change and NFFCK works to build leadership skills and teach girls how to prevent and respond to threats of violence at the grassroots level.

“I will no longer subject my granddaughter to female genital mutilation... It is people who decide on cultural practices. People can agree on an issue and reach consensus to end any practices that are no longer beneficial to them.”

—A beneficiary of GAMCOTRAP
Albania

The Alliance against LGBT Discrimination has published nationwide research providing the first ever basis for informed policy making to prevent discrimination and protect LBT women from violence in Albania. The project has also trained contact points in six cities to ensure that the specific needs of LBT women in these communities are better understood and addressed and it has provided a safe space for LBT women to report violence and receive basic services from local NGOs.

Colombia

The Colombian National Organization of Indigenous Peoples (Organización Nacional de Indígenas de Colombia, ONIC) is working to research and document violence against Indigenous women, raise awareness among community and relevant authorities, train Indigenous women as rights advocates and provide psycho-cultural, social, legal and psychological support to survivors of violence and their families. So far, 150 cases have been registered, of which 48 per cent have received support services.

Zimbabwe

The Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe Trust is implementing a project to provide specialized services in 10 districts in Zimbabwe for women and girls with disabilities who have experienced violence. The project has reached nearly 500 women and girls with disabilities, provided 93 survivors of violence with practical help and helped train police and court officials in sign language and on the impact of various impairments on reporting gender-based violence.

“I could see that girls and women were not equal to men in my everyday life, so I got interested in different laws. Men and women should be equal to one another. That’s why I believe it’s very important that we all know about our rights.”

—Aiturgan, a 15 year old beneficiary in NFCCK’s school-based education programme in Kyrgyzstan
Al Shehab Institution for Comprehensive Development is working to address the underlying causes and intersections between VAW and HIV/AIDS in marginalized communities in Cairo, Egypt. In its first year, the project reached over 900 women in the target groups (women and girl survivors of violence, women domestic workers, women sex workers and women living with HIV). More than 550 women visited the drop-in centre and took advantage of the comprehensive legal and psycho-social support services available, as well as vocational training to help them gain employment. Almost 1,000 men, and over 800 women, took part in awareness-raising activities and the project’s monitoring system showed a 65 per cent improvement in knowledge about women’s rights, HIV and violence against women, and the link between the three.

Working with Guatemalan government officials, Fundacio Sida i Societat created a mechanism to register cases of violence against sex workers – who are mostly young, Indigenous migrant women and at high risk of sexual violence and HIV. This has served as the basis for a referral system involving the National Police, the National Hospital of Escuintla, the Health Directorate and the government’s Justice Office on Femicide to increase access to health, legal and social services for survivors of violence.

Jamaica AIDS Support for Life is implementing a project to mobilize community-based and faith-based organizations and to empower women living with HIV/AIDS, LGBTI people; women living with disabilities; and sex workers by providing training in life skills and legal literacy. Support for Life is the only NGO providing clinical services to people living with HIV and other key populations in the country and has consistently been part of the best practices submission to the Global AIDS Response Report. The perspective of more than 90 per cent of all clients who access Jamaica AIDS Support for Life services is that they are enjoying better health.

“When I first came to Al-Shehab’s volunteering unit, I was a bit of an introvert. I wasn’t very ambitious or opinionated, and I was afraid of mixing with boys because of what I have always heard about sexual harassment and also because of the harassment I face in the streets... Today, I have much more self-confidence, and I’m not afraid of interacting with anybody or voicing my opinion...”

— Sarah Fawzy (19) beneficiary of Al-Shehab’s project implemented in Ezbet El-Haggana, one of the largest informal areas in Greater Cairo.

The UN Trust Fund is currently investing US$2.7 million on projects to address the link between HIV/AIDS and violence against women and girls.
**Society Without Violence** is implementing an initiative in **Armenia** to promote the integration of issues around gender and gender-based violence into state education policy. In 2015, the Ministry of Education and Science adopted a Module on Gender and Gender-Based Violence, which is now part of the National Institute of Education’s mandatory training for teachers in public schools; 5,165 teachers have already been trained and from 2016 onwards, 8,000 teachers a year will receive this training. In collaboration with the Open Society Institute, the initiative will also monitor progress in integrating gender-based violence into school curriculums.

**Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha**, a local women’s organization, is working with 80 secondary schools across four districts in Bangladesh to create safe learning environments for girls. The project has trained 236 teachers on how to address the issue of violence against women in the classroom. It has also helped them acquire counselling skills. A total of 1,136 lessons by project-trained teachers reached 16,000 students (boys and girls). Students received on average three lessons on issues related to women’s rights and violence against women and girls. Three quarters of teachers reported feeling more motivated to support students and create a safer environment after their training.

**South Africa**. **Grassroot Soccer** is upscaling its innovative Skillz Street Plus sports-based intervention to encourage girls’ empowerment, awareness of sexual and reproductive health and access to medical, legal and psychosocial services. In 2014-2015, the project reached some 1,233 girls in eight schools.

“Opportunities don’t just land in your hands. You have to search for them and grab them by both hands when you find them. I remember one quote that says if there isn’t a door of opportunity, then build a door so that the opportunity will be able to knock. **Grassroot Soccer** provides this path for us to find and grasp those opportunities...”

—Annelisa, a 20-year-old SKILLZ Street coach and beneficiary of **Grassroot Soccer**, **South Africa**

**THE UN TRUST FUND IS CURRENTLY INVESTING**

**OVER US$12 MILLION TO SUPPORT PROGRAMMES ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST YOUNG AND ADOLESCENT GIRLS**

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**Armenia**

**Bangladesh**

**South Africa**
The Women’s Initiative for Gender Justice (WIGJ), the only international women’s organization granted amicus curiae status by the International Criminal Court (ICC), worked to strengthen local capacity to gather credible data on gender-based crimes in armed conflict. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, more than 1,000 survivors of gender-based violence who would otherwise not have had access to medical support have so far been referred through a project-supported Transit House in North Kivu. In Sudan, sustained and strategic advocacy by WIGJ and partner organizations contributed to reform of the law on rape in 2015; previously, if a married woman was raped but was unable to prove it, she would be accused of adultery, punishable by 100 lashes.

The Story Kitchen in Nepal is implementing the “SAHAS (Courage) for Justice” project in 10 districts. The project held a three-day residential story workshop involving women survivors of conflict. The women interviewed said they felt more comfortable about sharing their stories with each other as the workshop progressed. In addition, guidelines were developed for journalists on how to report on violence against women in conflict-related settings in a more sensitive and accountable way and a national consultation meeting was organized to develop ethical reporting guidelines.

A programme implemented by the Associacian Chega Ba Ita (ACBIT) in Timor Leste is working with survivors of conflict-related gender-based violence in 13 districts. In the first six months of project implementation, ACBIT created a pilot-phase database of victims; finalized a baseline study; conducted training for 23 facilitators on participatory research methodology; and delivered community education on the impact on survivors of conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence through radio programmes and a mobile exhibition.

"I had forgotten to smile after seeing fifteen people killed in front of my eyes, after coming to this workshop and meeting with other sisters the smile has returned back."

—A beneficiary of a Story Workshop conducted by The Story Kitchen, Nepal
THE UN TRUST FUND IS CURRENTLY INVESTING

OVER US$11 MILLION ON PROJECTS IN AFRICA

Cape Verde

The Institute of Cape Verde for the Advancement of Gender Equality has reached 1,981 women through its support centres (Centros de Apoyo a Victorias). The project also trained teachers, journalists, police officers, health professionals and legal officers in Cape Verde.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Panzi Foundation is providing integrated human rights-based psychosocial, legal and socio-economic support in one-stop centres in the Democratic Republic of the Congo which have supported 25 survivors of violence and given information to 199 others.

Liberia

In Liberia, thanks to efforts by Episcopal Relief & Development, 18 priests and five imams took part in the 16 Days of Activism, reaching 410 congregants.

“Our efforts cannot stop at the end of the 16 Days though. We need to speak out in our churches, mosques and community all year long. The more the message is preached, I am quite certain change will come.”

—Father Michael Sie on the role of faith leaders in preventing and responding to gender-based violence

Malawi

Concern Worldwide worked to create a safe learning environment in 17 schools and to counter gender-based violence in Malawi. The project has reached nearly 40,000 women and girl survivors – almost eight times the number expected at the outset of the project – and a similar number in the community at large. More than 70 per cent of girls who participated in the project said they felt safer.

Tanzania

Equality for Growth is creating a safe environment for women market traders in two districts of Dar-es-Salam in Tanzania. The project has helped train 25 paralegals in violence against women, women’s rights and how to support survivors and reached 2,508 market traders. Fifty-four cases of gender-based violence have been referred to police.

Togo

Alofo is working in Togo to eradicate harmful widowhood practices and imprisonment that increase the risk of HIV infection. A 2012 law grants widows the right to refuse a widowhood purification ceremony that involves forcing the widow to have sexual relations with strangers in order to “cut the link” with her deceased husband. However, most communities are not aware of this and the practice remains widespread, especially in rural areas. Alofo, a small, young and committed organization is working to engage government representatives, village chiefs and community-based associations to eradicate this harmful practice.

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GRANTEE ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE ARAB STATES AND NORTH AFRICA

THE UN TRUST FUND IS CURRENTLY INVESTING

OVER US$3 MILLION ON PROJECTS IN THE ARAB STATES AND NORTH AFRICA

Mauritania

In Mauritania, SOS Esclaves is delivering capacity development workshops to strengthen advocacy and case response skills. It also supports a survivors’ network in two areas and assists in the release of those subjected to slavery; so far, 26 women and children subjected to slavery have been identified and liberated. Survivors are supported by former slaves, trained by SOS Esclaves, to reintegrate into society and earn a living. The organization also provides emergency funds for former slaves and support if they wish to start a legal process against slave owners. More than 1,260 people took part in awareness-raising sessions and 60 police officers involved in liberation initiatives, seven legal officers and 11 parliamentarians were trained.

State of Palestine

The Community Media Center in Gaza, State of Palestine, is working to raise awareness of the pervasiveness of violence against women by training young women media students on how to report gender-based violence in the media from a human rights perspective. So far, 30 students have completed the 85-hour course and helped create, among other things, this website http://www.ywjournalists.org/index.html. Using the media as its main tool, the Center is focusing on increasing knowledge and skills among journalists and women media graduates, as well as among community-based organizations and women.

The Psycho Social Counseling Center for Women and its implementing partners are working to eliminate the gender-related killing of women due to so-called “family honour” in the State of Palestine. The project is also seeking to mainstream the rights of women with disabilities within the women’s rights agenda by increasing the capacity of relevant ministries, legislators and policy-makers and improving the performance of the Women’s Protection Units of the Police.

Morocco

Initiatives pour la protection des droits des femmes has provided psychosocial counselling and legal assistance to 600 survivors of violence in Morocco and is supporting them in rebuilding their lives through a multifunctional centre in the city of Fez. In fact there have been four times more users of the centre than originally foresseen.

GRANTEE ACHIEVEMENTS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

THE UN TRUST FUND IS CURRENTLY INVESTING

OVER US$17 MILLION ON PROJECTS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Cambodia

CARE Cambodia trained 148 new peer educators, reaching an additional 1,132 women in the hospitality and entertainment industries as part of the project to create safe workplaces for women. The project also managed to make progress in the karaoke sector, reaching 321 karaoke workers. CARE worked with six committed garment factory human resources managers to develop a sexual harassment policy and 40 garment factory human resources personnel were trained in 28 factories. Approximately 11,500 garment factory workers were reached during the year.

Indonesia

The Association of Positive Women Indonesia (Ikatan Perempuan Positif Indonesia, IPPI) developed Memoranda of Understanding with a number of service providers and trained 34 peer educators and 28 counsellors on the integration of responses to violence against women and HIV/AIDS. Among IPPI’s highly successful creative and strategic initiatives to raise awareness of gender-based violence among women living with HIV, were a blog competition and broadcasting interactive interviews on national radio. In addition, IPPI set up a very useful mechanism on their website for reporting violence against women living with HIV.

Fiji

In Fiji, Medical Services in the Pacific (MSP) implemented a successful clinical outreach model designed to bring integrated services and information to women in their workplaces. By operating mobile clinics staffed with skilled practitioners in seven rural market locations, the project provided improved access to sexual and reproductive health care, sexual assault counselling and referral services. A total of 6,854 people (4,938 women and 1,916 men) benefited directly from the project either by accessing one of MSP’s clinical services or taking part in an awareness raising session on gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health or child protection. MSP’s One Stop Shop clinic has provided post-rape care to 186 women and girls under its agreement with the Fiji Police Force. MSP has received formal endorsement from the Ministry of Education to provide awareness programmes in primary and secondary schools in Fiji with a focus on child protection. MSP is now also part of stakeholder meetings on ending violence against women and girls and various other consultation meetings/workshops with the Health Ministry.

In the State of Palestine, 28 factories. Approximately 11,500 garment factory workers were reached during the year.
India

Breakthrough is implementing an initiative in India to address violence against tribal women. The project aims to bring about attitudinal change to address violence against women at the structural level in tribal society, addressing deep-rooted gender norms. The project is being piloted in select tribal districts and will be disseminated to national level stakeholders and all tribal dominated districts.

A project by the Karnataka Health Promotion Trust in India worked to empower sex workers through building awareness of the violence they suffer as a human rights violation. The project succeeded in reaching more than the target number of 30,000 women in sex work and provided training for an additional 12,000 beneficiaries. The project contributed to a reduction in police violence against women sex workers, an increase in reporting of non-police violence, and an increase of positive media coverage of sex workers.

Mongolia

The Mongolian Women’s Fund and the local Network of Women’s NGOs have equipped 20 local trainers to pilot training on gender-based violence and prevention techniques in four selected schools for 313 students. The training of trainers was held in Ulaanbaatar city and involved six members of the Network of Women’s NGOs, three school managers, four school social workers, six civic education teachers and a representatives from the local Children and Family Development Department.

Papua New Guinea

Voice for Change is one of the very few local NGOs addressing women’s human rights issues in Papua New Guinea. The increasing number of survivors of violence accessing services reflects the work of the project in raising awareness about impacts of violence and the need for communities to take action in ending it. Human right defenders have been trained and supported to be agents of change in communities and to provide referral support. The grantees also facilitated community consultations and training on gender equality and human rights with different groups, including the village court systems.

Marshall Islands

The grant awarded to the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Marshall Islands is supporting implementation of the 2011 Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act, a comprehensive approach towards preventing domestic violence and improving support for women and children at risk. In its first months of operation, the project organized a Domestic Violence First Responders Training course for the Marshall Islands Police Department. As a result of the project, the Marshall Islands took part in the 16 Days of Activism and collaborated with the media as a means to continue raising awareness of the issue of domestic violence as well as raising public awareness of the project itself.

Solomon Islands

In the Solomon Islands, a project led by the UN Country Team (UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA) had helped ensure that five out of 11 key government agencies now have work plans or programmes/activities on ending violence against women and the 2014 Family Protection Act. As part of the gender sensitization agenda, 110 people from the public and private sector have been trained and 27 service providers (20 in Haniara and seven from Isabel Province) have been trained in delivering essential services to survivors of violence in a more coordinated way. In addition, 20 prosecutors and defence lawyers have been trained in understanding myths surrounding forensic medical evidence in cases of sexual assault and rape.

“This was the first time I had attended training around monitoring and evaluation and I was able to learn so much. I feel confident that I can contribute much more to the project after the training, plus I got to meet some really amazing and committed women and men... The UN-Government of Solomon Islands partnership is a great one and this project is just the start.”

—Julianne Wickham, Ministry of Women Children and Family Affairs, Policy Coordinator

The Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand is empowering communities in four provinces to address issues of human rights, violence, stigma and discrimination. The programme’s training enabled lesbian and transgender women to take leadership roles in discussing these issues with other stakeholders. The data collected by the project was presented to the government and is being used to discuss policy development.

Viet Nam

Plan Viet Nam is piloting a research-based model of gender-responsive schools in 20 schools across Hanoi. Between December 2014 and May 2015, 4,912 class sessions were delivered by 498 head-teachers in the 20 project schools to equip 16,138 adolescent girls and boys on knowledge of school-related gender-based violence, the cycle of violence and sexual abuse and skills on how to seek support and manage emotions. More than 70 per cent of surveyed students rated the class-sessions as “necessary” and “very necessary”. Twenty school counselling offices have reached 1,111 adolescent girls and boys (614 girls and 497 boys). A survey of randomly selected students in the 20 schools revealed that 93 per cent found the counselling sessions effective and 91 per cent would recommend the service to their friends.

Ninth graders in Mongolia participate in a training on prevention of and protection from gender-based violence.

Photo: Odmaa B.
Central Asia

The UN Trust Fund is currently investing

Over US$7 million on projects in Europe and Central Asia

Albania

In Albania, Refleksione, in collaboration with UNDP, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministries of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities has built on the success of a UN Trust Fund supported programme that produced a model referral system for survivors of violence in five municipalities.

Armenia

The Women’s Resource Center, the first organization to address sexual violence against women in Armenia, is implementing a project to promote the government’s responsibility to implement the 2011-2015 Strategic Action Plan to Combat Gender-Based Violence. The project is working to pioneer a referral system for survivors based on sustained cooperation between government and non-governmental organizations.

Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/1999)

The European Centre for Minority Issues is implementing a project in Kosovo [under UNSCR 1244/1999] that focuses on reducing the risk of domestic violence and early and forced marriage in minority communities. The project primarily targets women and girls from Serbian, Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. In a ground-breaking initiative, eight women from these minority groups have been trained as paralegals.

Serbia

Foundation B92 is piloting a new project for economic empowerment in a safe house in the city of Sombor in Serbia for women survivors of violence. This project addresses an important gap in service provision by offering training for current and former users of the Sombor safe house, as well as opportunities to network with representatives from the private sector, to enhance their prospects of economic independence. More than 40 women have been trained so far on how to set up and run a micro business. The centre, will be used to fund future safe house economic empowerment training after the project ends.

“Women who participated in the training are very satisfied, including me... I am very happy that this workshop can offer these young women real options for self-employment.”

—Jelena Karanjankovic, President of the women’s organization Panonske Dobre Vile (Panonija’s Good Fairies), Serbia

The Association of Women Sandglass is working to strengthen prevention and response services in Rasina, one of the most marginalized and underdeveloped districts in Serbia. During the first year of project implementation, Sandglass doubled the number of women survivors reaching out for support and assistance through its SOS helpline service to 83. Sandglass has supported three women groups in Rasina district to establish specialist support services for women survivors of violence, especially for Roma and women with disabilities. During 2015 Sandglass realized 19 street actions dedicated to women’s rights and security, which contributed to keeping the issue as a priority on the local level political agenda.

In Serbia, the UN Country Team is piloting working with perpetrators at four Centres for Social Welfare in order to assess the possibility of standardizing this intervention as part of the country’s social protection services.

Tajikistan

In Tajikistan, the NGO Najoti kudakon has created six women support groups where women support others with similar experiences of domestic violence. During the first year of implementation, a total of 51 survivors were referred from the project coverage areas. 38 had experienced domestic violence (three were girls and young women living with disabilities). The suicide rate has decreased in the project coverage areas: in 2014, 13 cases were registered, falling to seven confirmed cases in 2015.

The director of Najoti kudakon, Kurbangul Kosimova, shows where they are located as they are the only shelter for survivors of violence in Tajikistan.

Photo: UN Women/UN Trust Fund: Theressa Thylin

The Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health implemented a project, to improve access to care and support for women and girls living with HIV and street-involved women and girls. The project successfully managed to put in place an intersectoral response system and build the capacity of service providers. More than 300 survivors of violence against women have been referred and 176 survivors of gender-based violence, including HIV-positive and/or street-involved women and girls, have engaged in the empowerment training programme.

The Ukrainian Women’s Fund provided training to 25 girl leaders from nine regions on leadership and violence against women and girls. Following the training, the girls created a strategy of joint actions to be implemented during the second stage of the project in which awareness-raising and outreach activities were coordinated and peer-to-peer support groups established to provide girls at high risk of violence with referrals to services.

Ukraine
Attendees participate in an elderly association meeting of the Ayacuyo Community in Peru.

Peru

Estudio para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer (DEMUS) is working to end impunity for sexual violence through improved application of the new Peruvian Code of Criminal Procedure. More than 60 magistrates took part in awareness raising on the importance of reforming justice processes in order to implement the new Code effectively. The city of Junin has approved a Protocol on the Constitution of a Unified Declaration Procedure for Victims of Sexual Violence which was drafted by DEMUS.

Uruguay

In Uruguay, the UN Country Team implemented a project consolidating an existing and strong partnership between seven UN agencies, 12 government entities and a network of more than 30 civil society organizations to streamline coordination of government and civil society efforts to end violence, and gather evidence to ensure accountability and effectiveness.

Antigua and Barbuda

The Directorate of Gender Affairs in Antigua and Barbuda is working to implement the 2013-2017 National Strategic Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence. Key activities include the establishment of an effective referral network and a national electronic database of gender-based violence cases.

Belize

In Belize, the Women’s Department led implementation of The National Plan on Action on Gender-Based Violence of Belize (2010-2013), the first such plan in the Caribbean to be adopted as official government policy. Guided by its multisectoral approach, the Department worked closely with the Gender Focal Points in various ministries who are responsible for monitoring implementation of the Action Plan.

El Salvador

Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz is implementing a project to improve institutional response and coordination of relevant stakeholders in El Salvador at national and municipal levels and contribute to installing capacities among local women’s and youth organizations as a means to increase their oversight and advocacy skills.

Grenada

The Ministry of Social Development in Grenada led a multisectoral initiative to increase outreach to survivors, improve the quality of health and justice services, and coordinate systematic data collection to ensure accountability. In order to address impunity, the project created a special victims unit in several of the key state agencies, including the police force.

Mexico

Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir in Mexico led implementation of relevant laws and recommendations made to the Mexican government by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in its rulings regarding the violence. The project worked to standardize protocols for criminal investigation, consolidate data-collection to ensure accountability, and generate procedures for effective knowledge-sharing and targeted police interventions.

The UN Trust Fund is currently investing over US$11 million on projects in Latin America and the Caribbean.
GRANTEE ACHIEVEMENTS IN CROSS REGIONAL PROJECTS

THE UN TRUST FUND IS CURRENTLY INVESTING

ALMOST US$5 MILLION ON CROSS REGIONAL PROJECTS

Afghanistan and Tajikistan

In Afghanistan and Tajikistan, the Danish Refugee Council has established five legal clinics (three in Afghanistan and two in Tajikistan) specifically focusing on the needs of refugees and displaced people. In the target regions in Afghanistan, 45 men and 45 women have participated in awareness-raising training sessions lasting two months and covering issues on the protection threats faced by internationally displaced people, especially women. In Tajikistan, 28 men and 45 women in the target areas have received training sessions on improving their awareness of women’s rights and sexual and gender-based violence.

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Egypt, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and Viet Nam

An Oxfam Novib project worked to change the entrenched notion that violence against women is “normal” and inevitable in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Egypt, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and Viet Nam. The countries targeted have particularly high levels of violence against women and a prevailing discourse that normalizes abuse. Oxfam Novib worked with Soul City Institute (South Africa), Breakthrough (India), and Puntos de Encuentro (Nicaragua)—all former grantees of the UN Trust Fund with experience in the field of Edutainment—on main vehicle for change. Edutainment [Education Entertainment]. The fourth co-implementing partner, Communications Initiative (Canada) focused on knowledge sharing and networking between the groups to build capacity and improve results.

Among the initiatives, is a 20-episode radio series called Worth 100 Men, which was broadcast in Egypt with local listening groups. The use of drama and talk shows to educate communities on the consequences of early marriage in South Sudan. A radio pilot is also under way in Rwanda, with listening groups representing all provinces and including groups of men, women, mixed groups and students. In Pakistan, the partners initiated a project on early marriage specifically targeting boys and girls and their parents to change attitudes and behaviours. In Mali, partners have developed and implemented edutainment strategies to reduce violence in the school environment.

Brazil and Democratic Republic of the Congo

In Brazil and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Promundo is implementing a project to prevent violence against girls in context of high urban violence (Brazil) and in conflict-affected settings (DRC). This intervention aims to work directly with adolescent girls and boys who have experienced or witnessed violence. Work has started on testing two Youth Living Peace Manuals, which share with girls and boys new gender-transformative positive skills to cope with exposure to and normalization of violence, including sexual violence, in their societies. Promundo has also established Technical Advisory Groups and formed strategic relationships with school and government partners in both the DRC and Brazil.

IN 2015, THE FUND SUPPORTED

111 PROJECTS IN 76 COUNTRIES & TERRITORIES

DURING THE YEAR IT AWARDED GRANTS TO

33 NEW GRANTEES IN 29 COUNTRIES & TERRITORIES

INCLUDING 30 CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND 3 GOVERNMENTS

THE IMPACT OF THESE NEW GRANTS IS EXPECTED TO REACH MORE THAN 1.7 MILLION PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES BY THE END OF 2018

SINCE ITS CREATION, THE UN TRUST FUND HAS PROVIDED SUPPORT TO

426 ORGANIZATIONS IN 136 COUNTRIES & TERRITORIES WITH GRANTS OF OVER US$116 MILLION
ENDNOTES


iii UNICEF global databases, 2014, based on Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) and other nationally representative surveys, 2004–2013.


v In 2015, the UN Trust Fund convened eight inter-agency regional and global PAC meetings. In those meetings, 46 people from 15 UN agencies, funds and programmes as well as staff participated in the review and grantee selection process related to the UN Trust Fund’s 19th grant-making cycle. In 2015, agencies participating in the PAC included: the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific; the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (UN Women); UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict; the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR); the International Organization for Migration (IOM); Regional Commissions (New York); the World Bank; the World Health Organization; the United Nations Capital Development Fund; and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. Intergovernmental organizations and other experts at the global and field levels – including representatives from the Centre for Women’s Global Leadership and Equality Now – were also actively involved in the grant-making process.


NOTE: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the maps in this report do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
“DIJANA [A PARALEGAL] SAVED ME. I DON’T KNOW WHETHER I WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MOVE ON WITH MY LIFE IF I HADN’T MET HER.”

—A survivor of gender-based violence commenting on the European Centre for Minority Issues in Kosovo [under UNSCR 1244/1999]