Women and girls in Africa are the target of a range of different forms of violence. Harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation, affect the lives of millions of women and girls, and in many countries early and child marriage persist. The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) is currently supporting projects in 10 countries in Africa addressing a range of issues from sexual harassment in secondary schools to the links between violence against women and HIV/AIDS.

SOUTH AFRICA

There have been some notable successes in South Africa in introducing policies and legislative frameworks to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. However, for many women and girls these positive measures have yet to translate into meaningful change; in a recent survey, 42 per cent of girls reported experiencing intimate partner violence. Grassroot Soccer’s project, SKILLZ Street, engages girls aged between 13 and 16 in an age-appropriate educational programme that combines soccer with sexual and reproductive health knowledge, life skills, HIV counselling and testing, and access to community services. In 2015, more than 1,100 girls in eight schools participated in UN Trust Fund supported educational sessions that use the language of soccer to engage participants about gender-equitable relationships and inspire action to prevent and address violence.
**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)**

The health infrastructure of the DRC has been devastated by more than 15 years of conflict. The Panzi Foundation is creating one-stop centers in two districts providing comprehensive, integrated, human rights-based medical, psychosocial, legal and socio-economic services and support. It is also training members of local communities as paralegals and community peace activists. In 2015, over 163 new cases of sexual violence were reported and processed through Panzi Foundation’s centers.

“We are awakened to discuss problems faced by our communities and find possible ways out without the help of an outside facilitator and found it possible.”

—Participant in the Panzi project

**MALAWI**

Concern Worldwide is working to promote equal access to quality primary education for girls in Nsanje district, Malawi where school-related gender-based violence remains high and less than half of girls continue their education beyond primary school. Some 72 per cent of girls in the participating schools said that they felt safer than they had at the start of the project; this was reflected in increased school attendance rates. A new law raising the legal age for marriage to 18 was a major breakthrough; Concern Worldwide was one of the groups advocating for this reform. Through local training and discussion sessions, chiefs have been made aware of the new law and some 25 have now passed local by-laws enforcing it within their communities.

**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.


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The **UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women**

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund), created in 1996 by the United Nations General Assembly, remains the only global, multilateral, grant-making body dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls.

**CURRENT PORTFOLIO**

- **$57M** total grant value
- **111** grants
- **76** countries & territories

**PROJECTS IN AFRICA**

- **Over US$11 million** currently being invested in grants for projects in Africa

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