The international community has recognized both the important role of women in conflict prevention, resolution and post-conflict reconstruction, as well as the increased risk of gender-based violence they face in conflict and emergency settings (Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 2122 (2013)).

Studies on the extent of gender-based violence in conflict settings vary in their findings, however, all attest to its prevalence. Access to justice and support services remains beyond the reach of many women and girl survivors of conflict-related violence, who often face multiple social and institutional barriers that prevent them from exercising their human rights. UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) grantees’ vital work contributes to improved access multisectoral services and justice in conflict and post-conflict settings.

UKRAINE

MORE THAN 300 SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REFERRED

The conflict in Ukraine has fuelled increased instability and violence and heightened the risk of HIV transmission as social structures are put under intense pressure or undermined and people are displaced. The Ukrainian Foundation for Public Health is implementing a project, “Violence Free: Empowering Disadvantaged Women and Girls”, that aims 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.
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC) AND KENYA

High rates of sexual violence persist in both Kenya and the DRC. Both countries have laws on sexual violence, but comprehensive enforcement and robust prosecutions are lacking and gaps in medical-legal processes remain. Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) is working to address impunity for sexual violence by developing a medico-legal system for collecting and processing forensic evidence in rape cases. The programme has trained more than 850 health-care, legal and law enforcement representatives who have so far been able to support more than 17,000 survivors of sexual violence. PHR is now up-scaling this successful strategy by deepening and broadening the capacity of local partners to assume full ownership of training on forensic methods and documentation.

CAMBODIA

In Cambodia, an initiative by the Victims Support Section of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia has strengthened the ability of these Courts to deal with cases of gender-based violence under the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s and helped remove some of the barriers to justice faced by survivors. It has provided training to court officials and other stakeholders, improved women’s legal literacy and expanded access to quality psychosocial services, reaching 185 women. An external evaluation of the project found evidence that the project was effective in increasing the Cambodian public’s awareness of gender-based violence under the Khmer Rouge and of women’s human rights today.

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

AMOUNT AWARDED TO DATE SINCE 1996

$116M TOTAL GRANT VALUE

426 GRANTS

136 COUNTRIES & TERRITORIES