

Indicator name
Extent to which local counterparts (security and justice institutions among others) act to prevent and combat sexual and gender-based violence
Thematic area of engagement
Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence
Aggregable indicator
No
Indicator type (quantitative/qualitative)
Qualitative
Related objective in the Gender Action Plan III
Overall thematic objective: Women, men, girls and boys are free from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private spheres, in the work place and online. Specific thematic objective 6: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, are better protected from sexual and gender-based violence in fragile and humanitarian crisis situations.
Technical Definition
This indicator intends to measure the capacity of local counterparts, such as security and justice institutions, social care and healthcare institutions among others, to take measures to prevent and combat sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). The following definitions apply: - <u>Sexual violence</u> refers to any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic a person's sexuality, using coercion, threats of harm or physical force, by any person regardless of relationship to the victim.¹ Sexual violence can take many forms, including rape, sexual slavery and/or trafficking, forced pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and/or abuse, and forced abortion.² - <u>Gender-Based Violence (GBV)</u> is a violation of human rights and refers to violence directed against a person because of that person's gender, gender identity or gender expression, or violence that affects persons of a particular gender disproportionately.³ GBV includes violence against women (VAW) and domestic violence against women, men or children living in the same domestic unit. VAW refers to all acts that result in, or are likely to result in, physical harm, sexual harm, psychological, political or economic harm or suffering to women.⁴ - <u>Local counterparts</u> refer to institutions such as security and justice institutions that have the responsibility to enforce the law, and to social care and healthcare institutions, among others. - <u>Prevent GBV</u> refers to the promotion of changes in the social and cultural norms and patterns of behaviour of women and men with a view to eradicating prejudices,

¹ WHO (2002): [World report on violence and health](#)

² IASC Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance (2005): [Guidelines Gender-Based Violence interventions in humanitarian assistance – Focusing on prevention of and response to sexual violence in emergencies](#)

³ EIGE Glossary and Thesaurus: [Gender-based violence](#).

⁴ European Commission: [What is Gender-based violence?](#)

customs, traditions and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority of women or on stereotyped roles for women and men.⁵ Combating GBV refers to enacting laws and policies, providing financial support for and implementing protection, referral, reparation, redress, lobbying, advocacy, awareness-raising, information and communication initiatives.

Rationale

In many contexts, victims/survivors⁶ of GBV face a lack of essential and comprehensive services or difficulty in gaining access to them. Often, local counterparts suffer shortage of funding and governments have difficulties in ensuring an integrated approach between services and measures, which in turn increases the risk of exposing victims/survivors to further harm.⁷ In addition, it is necessary to take into account that during fragile contexts and humanitarian crisis situations, institutions and services, like police and justice or legal, health, education and social services for physical and social protection, are often disrupted as they may be weakened or destroyed.

To prevent and combat GBV, local counterparts may carry out measures such as:

- improving women's access to justice by establishing specialised courts and procedures; providing free legal assistance to victims/survivors; offering training for the judiciary and law enforcement officers; designing guidelines and protocols for courts and law enforcement institutions; fostering strategies to improve the efficiency of court trials⁸ or providing specialist mobile courts to improve access in rural and remote areas; establishing specialised women's police stations or women's units at police stations;
- providing comprehensive services for victims/survivors, including telephone hotlines, case management, referral and counselling services; training for government bodies and service providers; housing support for victims/survivors, including shelters; health services for victims/survivors.

In fragile contexts and humanitarian crisis situations:

- GBV prevention measures should be part of the emergency intersectoral response and include setting-up of specialised systems encompassing coordination mechanism (e.g., SGBV working group), case management, information management system and information-sharing protocol, standard operating procedures (SOPs), monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements (MARA).⁹
- GBV response measures should include provision of high-quality service provision (including health services, psycho-social support, legal assistance, shelter and

⁵ [Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence](#) (2011), Art. 12.

⁶ Survivor refers to a person who has experienced gender-based violence. Often, the terms "victim" and "survivor" can be used interchangeably. "Victim" is a term commonly used in the legal and medical sectors, while "survivor" is the term generally preferred in the psychological and social support sectors because it implies resilience. *Source: Idem 3.*

⁷ Extracted from [Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences \(A/HRC/35/30\)](#).

⁸ For instance, implementation of electronic monitoring systems or testifying via videoconference.

⁹ UNHCR [Emergency Handbook Sexual and gender-based violence \(SGBV\) prevention and response](#)

housing).

These measures and services should be victim-centred, focused on human rights, victims/survivors' safety and empowerment, and designed to avoid secondary victimisation.¹⁰

Data source and calculation

Reporting covers cooperation and development initiatives, humanitarian (if applicable) and investment frameworks funded by the EC (INTPA, NEAR, FPI, ECHO) and EEAS.

EUMS may provide information related to their interventions through their contributions to GAP III reports or through the EUDs, e.g., in cases of joint dialogue (i.e., as part of joint programming or TEI).

Data sources:

The intervention's monitoring and reporting systems, e.g., inception, interim and final reports from implementing organisations (including governments, international organisations, national and international civil society organisations and humanitarian organisations, etc.), ROM reviews and evaluations.

Surveys/interviews, baseline and endline studies conducted and budgeted within the EU intervention using the same data collection methodology. These studies should specify the relevant local counterparts, their specialisms and the challenges/constraints they face. The studies can be conducted as part of the gender country profile and / or gender sector analysis, or be based on existing official reports and published data.

Calculation:

- Change in knowledge, skills, attitudes, job performance within the local counterparts.
- SGBV services and facilities availability (functioning and in sufficient quantities), accessibility (non-discrimination, physically and economically accessible, information accessibility), acceptability (culturally acceptable, sensitivity to marginalised/vulnerable groups) and quality (safe, technically approved and sustainable).
- Application and effectiveness of laws, policies and procedures by local counterparts.

Any measure supported by the EU intervention that increased or strengthened the response of the local counterparts to preventing and combating GBV (e.g., training, capacity building, support for the establishment of services, etc.) is counted once.

The effectiveness of each measure is assessed and evaluated by specialised personnel/monitors.

Worked examples

In country A, the EU intervention supports the capacity of local authorities and actors to respond to and prevent SGBV. The intervention resulted in a directory of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Responders and Service Providers in the country, distributed and made available in government institutions, Local Government offices, private offices, police stations, community centres, schools and other relevant places, as well as online. At end of the intervention, service providers reported an increase of 18% of victims/survivors

¹⁰ *Idem* 6.

accessing the services.

In country B, the EU supported local authorities, governmental actors, judicial officials and lawyers and CSOs in setting-up remote mobile courts in rural towns, where victims of conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence lacked access to justice. Officials and lawyers received specialised training. In one year, the mobile courts heard 154 cases, 98 of which were sexual violence cases. Senior officers and soldiers found guilty were sentenced.

Baseline

Data from official counterparts (including data from statistics offices, line ministries, gender equality observatories and women's national machineries, among others), international organisations, humanitarian organisations (if applicable), women's rights and civil society organisations as well as other independent non-state actors.

If the above data are lacking, a mapping can be done at the start of the intervention using surveys/ interviews conducted and budgeted by the intervention.

The baseline can be 0 when the indicator is achieved with the EU funded intervention.

Disaggregation

N/A

Availability and Timeliness

Information should become available annually, depending on the duration of the intervention.

Related DAC Code/CRS

151 - Government & Civil Society-general / 15180 - Ending violence against women and girls

Associated SDGs

SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Target 5.2: Indicators 5.2.1 (see [Metadata](#)) and 5.2.2 (see [Metadata](#))

Target 5.3: Indicators 5.3.1 (see [Metadata](#)) and 5.3.2 (see [Metadata](#))

Other issues

The gender country profile and / or gender sector analysis can be relevant sources of information for establishing baselines.

If there is no gender analysis available at the EUD, it is recommended to look at the analysis undertaken by EU Member States or other trusted partners (UN, World Bank, human rights national and regional mechanisms, etc.) as well as the [national-level reviews](#) carried out in 2019 by UN Women and the partner countries to assess progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Special attention should be paid to following up on partner country institutions reached with EU support.