

UN Women Ending Violence Against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance¹ (EVAW Programme)

End Term Programmatic Review

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Submitted by

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Acronyms

AP	Asia and the Pacific
APFSD	Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BPWN	Bangladesh Police Women Network
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease
CSO	Civil society organization
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
CwR	Connect with Respect
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESP	Essential Services Package
EU	European Union
EVAW	Ending violence against women
GBV	Gender-based violence
GRP	Gender-responsive policing
GRW	Global Rights for Women
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IAWP	International Association of Women Police
IEAS	UN Women Independent Evaluation and Audit Service
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IAWP	International Association of Women Police
KII	Key Informant Interview
LGBTQI+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex+
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
MPPP	Making Progress in Prevention Possible
NAP	National Action Plan
NAPVAW	National Action Plan to End Violence against Women (Cambodia)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSMWC	One-Stop Model for Women and Child Survivors of Violence (Viet Nam)
ROAP	UN Women Asia Pacific Regional Office
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SVRI	Sexual Violence Research Initiative
TFVAWG	Technology-facilitated Gender-based Violence
UN	United Nations
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGEI	United Nations Girls Education Initiative
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSDG	United Nations Sustainable Development Group
UNTF	United Nations Trust Fund to end violence against women and girls
VAC	Violence against children
VaV	Voices against violence

VAW	Violence against women
VAWG	Violence against women and girls
WAGGS	World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
WEE	Women's economic empowerment
WHO	World Health Organization
WRO	Women's Rights Organization

Executive Summary

This evaluation, commissioned by UN Women in agreement with the donor partner, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of Australia, provides the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the end-term programmatic review of the Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance (EVAW Programme), presented to DFAT after the end of the programme² in April 2026. The evaluation assesses the achievement of programme results in these two areas at the global, regional, and country levels, identifies lessons learned, and provides recommendations for how UN Women can advance its impact on eliminating violence against women and girls. The timing of this evaluation is especially pertinent, as the work of the EVAW Programme falls squarely within one of the four thematic impact areas identified in the new UN Women Strategic Plan, 2026-2029,³ and one of the ten Gender Equality Accelerators,⁴ the programmatic framework by which UN Women will implement its new Strategic Plan. The EVAW Programme is also aligned with the priorities of Australia's latest Gender Equality Strategy, which includes a focus on ending sexual and gender-based violence.⁵

Background and Context of the Evaluation

The 'Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance' programme (EVAW Programme), funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia (DFAT), was a five-year initiative that was designed to advance the work of previous EVAW initiatives also funded by DFAT. Between 2013-2015, UN Women, with UNFPA, UNODC, UNDP and WHO, launched the [Essential Services Package](#) (ESP) in 2015 as a standard guidance for providing survivor services in health, police and justice, and social services, and the coordination of these services. The [RESPECT Women framework to prevent violence against women](#) (VAW) was launched by the WHO and UN Women in 2019 and describes a set of action-oriented steps to enable policymakers and programme implementers to design, plan, implement, monitor and evaluate interventions and programmes to prevent VAW. The framework is endorsed by an initial 12 other UN agencies and bilateral partners, and builds on the [UN framework to underpin action to prevent violence against women](#), developed by UN Women in 2015. The ESP and RESPECT were the foundational frameworks for the two major areas of the EVAW Programme implemented from 2020-2025 that were assessed by this evaluation. The outcomes for both areas were:

Strengthening quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for VAWG survivors:

1. Countries have national guidelines, protocols and action plans for a coordinated set of essential services for VAWG survivors in health, justice and policing, and social services that are based on internationally agreed norms and standards and adapted to the national context, including for use during the COVID-19 crisis;
2. Coverage of and access to quality essential VAWG services, provided in line with quality standards and tools, and adapted for use during the COVID-19 crisis, has improved; and
3. Use of VAWG essential services, including during the COVID-19 crisis, provided in line with the global standards and tools by women and girls, has increased.

Addressing root causes and risk factors to prevent VAWG:

1. Increased global, regional and national frameworks, policies, guidelines, and implementation of evidence-based VAW prevention, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region;
2. Strengthened capacity of government ministries, NGOs and women's rights organizations to design and implement effective VAW prevention programming in development and humanitarian settings, in line with the RESPECT Framework; and
3. Strengthened advocacy, research capacity and networks on VAW prevention at global level and in the Asia and the Pacific region.

² The programme was granted a no-cost extension until 31 December 2025.

³ UN Women (2025), see: [UN Women Strategic Plan 2026-2029](#)

⁴ [Gender Equality Accelerators | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

⁵ [Australia's International Gender Equality Strategy: contributing to a safer, more prosperous Indo-Pacific and world](#)

Evaluation Methods

The evaluation used and triangulated two sources of data that provide evidence for the 11 key findings: 1) A review of over 140 documents and publications; 2) Qualitative data collected through 25 in-depth interviews with 30 different stakeholders from government, civil society and the United Nations, working in a variety of contexts; additionally, the analysis included 10 interviews conducted in April-June 2025 for the UN Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence, that were relevant to the current evaluation.

The research questions of the Review were:

1. To what extent did the ERAW programme interventions contribute to preventing and responding to violence against women and girls at the global, regional and country levels, including addressing newly emerging priorities of the field? (Effectiveness, Impact)
2. How well did the design and implementation of ERAW Programme strategies address identified priorities at the global, regional and country levels, including ensuring that no one was left behind? (Relevance)
3. How well did ERAW Programme efforts create synergies and complementary linkages with other ERAW initiatives supported by UN Women and others in the ERAW space? (Coherence, Efficiency)
4. How did the ERAW Programme ensure that its interventions would continue to strengthen and transform VAWG services and prevention? (Sustainability)

Key Conclusions:

One of the keystones of UN Women's programming success in the ERAW space is the collaborative and expansive way that partners are engaged, right from the get-go, in the design, implementation, and further advancement of programmatic efforts. The findings that support the conclusions described provide evidence for the diverse partnerships strengthened or formed under the ERAW Programme, and the pivotal role these partnerships played in the eventual success of multiple efforts. Partners were engaged as technical experts, as the voices of survivors, marginalized women, and communities, as government policy- and programme-decision makers, actors in global and regional bodies, and sister UN agencies, among others. UN Women supported many partners after recognizing their potential for innovation, which led to ground-breaking work in the field.

→ In multiple interviews, **external partners working at the global and country levels of the ERAW Programme expressed that working with UN Women lent the credibility to their work which enabled them to grow.**⁶

Conclusion 1: The ERAW Programme spearheaded transformative advances in preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, affirming UN Women's unique leadership and pivotal role in the ERAW space

UN Women's corporate strategy for ending violence against women and girls stems from its founding principles and triple mandate, and is shaped by a focus on influencing long term change.⁷ The effectiveness of implementing this strategy has been demonstrated by the impact of multiple global, regional and country initiatives that has clearly positioned UN Women as a technical leader with a critical role in the ERAW space.⁸ Under the ERAW Programme, this was reinforced by the design and implementation of highly effective activities that influenced significant change at all levels of programming.

⁶ Multiple external partner KIIs.

⁷ UN Women IEAS (2021). [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women.](#)

⁸ UN Women IEAS (2025). [Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts.](#) New York; UN Women IEAS (2021). [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women.](#)

- **EVAW Programme activities took place with a total of 83 countries, including 35 in the Asia-Pacific region.**⁹ This included direct activity implementation in countries or the inclusion of government and non-government stakeholders in capacity strengthening and other convenings.

One of the keystones of UN Women's programming success in the EVAW space is the collaborative and expansive way that partners are engaged in the design, implementation, and further advancement of programmatic efforts. These diverse partnerships played a pivotal role in the eventual success of the EVAW Programme's multiple efforts that resulted in, for example:

- **New or amended national laws, policies and standard protocols** and global and regional commitments that facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to VAWG;
- **Expanded access to coordinated, quality VAWG essential services in countries** by establishing new and strengthening existing service points, institutions, and organizations that deliver VAWG essential services, in line with international standards;
- **Establishing or strengthening national and local level multisectoral VAWG mechanisms or processes** to coordinate prevention and response programmatic efforts, including systems to coordinate survivor service delivery across sectors;
- **Creating a momentum of change towards gender responsive and equitable norms and practices** in government bodies, institutions, organizations, and communities.

Conclusion 2: Facilitating a shared understanding of the internationally agreed-on standards for VAWG prevention and response by developing, piloting and promoting technical guidance

One of UN Women's strongest contributions to the EVAW space was fostering a globally shared understanding of the internationally agreed-on standards and principles of VAWG prevention and response, through developing, disseminating and implementing technical guidance through a collaborative process that has come to characterize how the Entity works.

The work that UN Women and partners did around these new guidance documents and tools both kept the global standards relevant in this dynamic field and facilitated their implementation with practical tools. In this way, the EVAW Programme has left a lasting legacy for VAWG prevention and response. The eventual widespread uptake and use of these guidance documents stem from the participatory, inclusive, collaborative model employed by UN Women to develop these resources. Under the EVAW Programme, this process was used to develop additional guidance to fill identified gaps in the foundational Essential Services Package (ESP) and RESPECT Women: Preventing Violence against Women Framework, as well as address emerging priorities. This additional guidance will ensure that the use of the RESPECT- and ESP-based standards and principles will both continue and remain currently relevant to emerging patterns and trends in the field. Example documents that have been developed, disseminated and implemented in multiple regions (e.g., Asia-Pacific, Africa, Latin America) and countries (e.g., Bangladesh, Cambodia) include:

- [The Handbook on Gender Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls subject to Violence](#) (UN Women, UNODC and the International Association of Women Police)
- [Safe Consultations with Survivors of VAWG](#) (UN Women and Global Rights for Women)

⁹ Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kosovo, Lao PDR, Latvia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tanzania, Thailand, The Netherlands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United States, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

- [Together for Prevention: Handbook on multisectoral national action plans to prevent VAWG](#); (UN Women and The Equality Institute); and [Doing Prevention Well: Matching Aspirations with Funding Timeframes](#) (UN Women and The Prevention Collaborative).

Conclusion 3: Moving the needle on ensuring an enabling legislative and policy environment to facilitate strong prevention and response in countries

UN Women's strong collaborations with a diverse range of global, regional, and country partners (including government, civil society and women's rights organizations, and academic researchers) facilitated the success of combining targeted advocacy with programmatic support to influence changes to laws and policies; and this was most visible in relation to National Action Plans (NAPs) for VAWG prevention and response. To support the implementation of laws and policies on prevention and response, institutional capacities across sectors were strengthened to align service delivery, training and other programming with international standards. For example, multiple countries (e.g., **Pakistan, Philippines, Viet Nam**) were supported to develop national standard operating procedures for line ministries that provided VAWG survivor services, which were aligned with international standards, and when political context demanded, developed at the provincial or state levels.

- **UN Women supported the development of multiple National Action Plans (NAPs)** and strategies for preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, ensuring that the rights of all women and girls were included.
- In **Cambodia**, the successive iterations of its National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women convened stakeholders from line ministries, CSOs, UN agencies, representatives from the private sector, and organizations representing women facing intersectional discrimination.¹⁰
 - In 2024, **Viet Nam** adopted its first National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security, aligned with Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security (2000), underscoring the government's commitment to addressing GBV and ensuring the safety and security of women and girls, especially in emergency and humanitarian contexts.¹¹

Conclusion 4: Building bodies of knowledge and evidence for best practices on newly emerging priorities in the ERAW space

Building upon exchanges of knowledge and experience from existing Communities of Practice (COPs) on prevention and response, UN Women proactively identified emerging priorities in the ERAW space, advanced them as part of the global agenda, and shifted programmatic priorities to address them. This includes conducting research and documentation to define, measure, and describe emerging forms of violence and how to prevent and address them. Under the ERAW Programme, UN Women proactively identified critical gaps in knowledge and understanding that needed to be filled in the areas of technology-facilitated violence against women and girls (TFVAWG), the nexus of VAW and violence against children (VAC), climate change and VAWG, femicide, and exploring the potential of digital public infrastructure to improve the lives of women and girls, including those who have experienced violence.

- **UN Women's [Repository of UN Women's TFVAWG](#) includes a body of research**, guidance and tools on how to prevent and address this rapidly escalating form of violence. To complement this work, an initial regional dialogue on the intersection between VAW and VAC took place;¹² and multiple activities in the **Asia-**

¹⁰ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

¹¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹² UN Women ROAP (20 July 2025) LinkedIn post on '[Strengthening violence against women prevention efforts in the Philippines.](#)'

Pacific region advanced understanding and commitment to action on gender, climate, and justice, including the launch of a Community of Practice on Gender and Climate Action.¹³

Conclusion 5: UN Women has accelerated the shift towards gender-responsive, woman-centred policing services at global, regional, and national levels

The number and scale of UN Women's efforts targeting the police/justice sector, implemented through key collaborative partnerships, has influenced a pivotal shift towards gender-responsive norms and practices in policing, experienced at the global, regional, and country levels. The results of this work have placed gender-responsive policing and justice squarely on the global policy agenda and positioned UN Women as a leader in this area of the ERAW space. UN Women, together with partners, achieved these results by developing and rolling out global and regional technical guidance and tools aligned with the ESP, supporting countries¹⁴ to adapt them to a national context and implementing them; convening a global level network of Member States on gender-responsive policing¹⁵; integrating gender-responsive policing and justice issues into high-level event agendas; increasing technical and infrastructural capacity at the institutional level in countries; and integrating gender-responsive policing into pre-service training. These efforts have and are still contributing to expanding access to gender-responsive and women-centred justice and policing services in countries around the world.

Conclusion 6: Expanding access to quality, coordinated VAWG essential services

In addition to expanding access to justice, multiple activities expanded the availability and strengthened the provision of VAWG survivor services across sectors (including health, justice/policing, social services). The ESP was newly adopted by more countries, and its use expanded in countries (for example, in **Cambodia, Pakistan, and Viet Nam**) where it had been initially piloted in the region. UN Women continued to advance the coordination of services and prevention programmes across sectors (including education, youth and sport, media etc.) through supporting context-appropriate processes and mechanisms, including national and local coordination mechanisms, referral systems, and/or coordinated service models in a single locale, such as one-stop centers. All these strategies have increased survivor access to a comprehensive package of quality services spanning health, justice and policing, social services, and other sectors (e.g., social protection) in multiple countries.

- **The ESP has been used in over 100 countries** since its publication in 2015.¹⁶
- **Since its launch in 2022, [Lila.help](#) had grown from an initial 18 organizations in six countries to over 350 organizations in 124 countries by September 2024;** and, at the time of writing, the directory is available in 17 languages.¹⁷

Conclusion 7: Advancing prevention policy, strategies and initiatives, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region

UN Women's approach to prevention under the ERAW Programme targeted systemic change. At the most fundamental level, efforts succeeded in advancing a strong understanding of what VAWG prevention means, including the type of investments needed to effect change, and to leverage this understanding to reform policy and practice. This shared understanding paved the way for including prevention in NAPs and other policy frameworks. The focus was on the need for efforts targeting the root causes of violence, such as programmes that influence norms

¹³ Arrow with UNEP, UN Women, UNFPA, (October 2024). '[Solidifying Solidarity: Convening Meaningful Spaces Together: Gender equality and climate action.](#)' 29th Session of the Conference of Parties. Accessed September 2025.

¹⁴ These include, but are not limited to: Iceland, Pakistan, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Kosovo, Bangladesh, and Chile.

¹⁵ At the end of 2025, the High-Level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing consisted of 22 members: Albania, Austria, Brazil, Chile (Co-Chair), Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Latvia, The Netherlands (Co-Chair), Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal (Co-Chair), Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Uruguay.

¹⁶ Based on a 2024 mapping of UN Women's work in VAWG response (unpublished).

¹⁷ External partner KII, Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

and practices.¹⁸ Evidence syntheses and briefs promoted a five-step behaviour-change design process from behaviour identification to reinforcement and monitoring.¹⁹ Building on this foundation, UN Women supported multiple efforts focusing on the design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of prevention strategies and interventions.

- **UN Women, DFAT, UNFPA, and the Prevention Collaborative co-designed the [Southeast Asia GBV Prevention Platform](#)** that connects Governments, civil society, non-government organizations, regional bodies and international organizations to coordinate prevention investments, evidence, and policymaker engagement, including addressing emerging forms such as technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.²⁰

Conclusion 8: Shifting community norms and beliefs through media and school-based programmes

UN Women, in collaboration with its partners (e.g., [The Prevention Collaborative](#)) advanced the design and implementation of evidence-based prevention interventions, tailored to context, which showed promise in transforming community norms and practices. UN Women used story-telling and narrative animation to bring the lived reality of VAWG survivors to millions of people. Two evidence-based curricula, i.e., [Voices against Violence](#) (VaV) and [Connect with Respect](#) (CwR), were implemented to great effect, in **Thailand** and **Viet Nam**, respectively.

- **In Thailand, young people participating in VaV reported improved knowledge, attitudes, and preparedness to act;** one school integrated VaV into its regular school curriculum. Assessments showed a 9.3 percentage point increase in students reporting a strong understanding of gender equality (up to 73.2 per cent) and 77.5 per cent of students reported knowing how to respond to VAWG cases, up from an initial 61.3 per cent.²¹
- **The CwR was adapted for continuing and vocational education centres serving marginalized learners in three cities in Viet Nam,** resulting in stronger teacher and student knowledge and practice around GBV, increased equitable treatment, and higher rates of help-seeking and peer support. At the end of the pilot phase, 93 per cent of teachers reported feeling confident in carrying out tasks related to the toolkit, compared to 78.5 per cent at the baseline.²²

Conclusion 9: UN Women's deep understanding of how to advance VAWG prevention and response in all its contexts enabled swift adaptations to the COVID-19 pandemic

UN Women's effectiveness in addressing emerging needs and leveraging new opportunities was demonstrated in multiple examples, concurring with corporate evaluation findings.²³ COVID-19 lasted for two-plus years of EVAW Programme implementation. UN Women reacted swiftly, shifting both programmatic priorities to address new critical needs emerging from the conditions imposed by the pandemic, as well as programme implementation methods to continue driving impact through this time. UN Women played a critical role in focusing global attention on the effects of the "Shadow Pandemic," and the need for ensuring continued access to essential services from the

¹⁸ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025; UN Women multiple KIIs.

¹⁹ UN Women and the Prevention Collaborative (2021), see: '[Awareness Raising to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls.](#)' Practice Brief. UN Women and Prevention Collaborative; UN Women and the Prevention Collaborative (2021). '[Fostering Behaviour Change to Prevent Violence Against Women.](#)' Practice Brief.

²⁰ Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (2025). [Southeast Asia Gender-based Violence Prevention Platform](#); Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²¹ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

²² UN Women ROAP (May 2025) Preliminary report on Connect with Respect implementation in Viet Nam.

²³ UN Women IEAS (2021). [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women.](#)

outset of lockdowns. The Entity also continued to drive the momentum for prevention programming. Planned activities were adapted to take place within the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, such as moving a planned in-person launch to an online format.²⁴ There was also a programmatic stream of activities, including developing [guidance](#) for best practices, that directly addressed the intersection of VAWG and the pandemic.

- **UN Women conducted a rapid assessment of the gendered effects of COVID-19 in 11 countries in Asia-Pacific.**²⁵ Findings from the study informed policy decisions such as keeping shelters open as essential services and targeting relief and social protection towards women facing intersecting vulnerabilities.²⁶

Conclusion 10: Programme strategies reflected UN Women's commitment to ensure all women and girls were addressed in policies and included in processes and interventions

The inclusion of all women and girls, especially those most marginalized, has been a cross-cutting priority for UN Women, as demonstrated by the integration of the 'leave no one behind' (LNOB) principle into its strategic plans, the development of a corporate strategy specifically focused on the inclusion of women with disabilities,²⁷ and the key progress in this area noted by the most recent independent corporate evaluation on EVAW.²⁸ Many efforts under the EVAW Programme provided examples of how UN Women ensured that programmes and policies included and reached women and girls facing intersecting discrimination such as women with disabilities, migrant workers, LGBTQI+ individuals, indigenous and ethnic minorities, older women, among others. UN Women facilitated the meaningful participation of women in regional and national policies, processes and bodies, national interventions, as well as addressing their priorities and needs in technical guidance and targeted national programmes.

1 Background and Context

1.1 Context

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a fundamental violation of human rights that has a devastating effect on the immediate and the long-term health and well-being of millions of women and girls around the world. The new global, regional and country estimates reveal that an estimated 840 million or 1 in 3 women aged 15 years and older have been subjected to intimate partner violence (IPV), non-partner sexual violence (NPSV) or both at least once in their lifetime. This figure has remained largely unchanged in the last two decades and progress in reducing IPV has been very slow over the last two decades, with only a 0.2 per cent annual decline.²⁹ VAWG also has a ripple effect on families, communities, wider society. VAWG also impedes long-term economic growth in countries, including poverty reduction and other development efforts.³⁰

In this context, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), EVAW Section, launched the 'Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and

²⁴ External partner KII; also see: [Launch Event 'Making Progress in Prevention Possible' on 30 June 2021.](#)

²⁵ UN Women (2020). '[Unlocking the Lockdown: The gendered effects of covid-19 on achieving the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific.](#)' UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific: Bangkok.

²⁶ UN Women (2020). '[Standing Up to the Challenge: Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Asia and the Pacific.](#)' UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific: Bangkok.

²⁷ UN Women (2018). '[The empowerment of women and girls with disabilities: Towards full and effective participation and gender equality.](#)'

²⁸ UN Women IEAS (2025). [Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts.](#) New York.

²⁹ [Violence against women prevalence estimates, 2023: Global, regional and national prevalence estimates for intimate partner violence against women and non-partner sexual violence against women.](#) Geneva: World Health Organization; 2025. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

³⁰ Vyas, Seema, M. Meinhardt, K. Troy, H. Brumbaum, C. Poulton, and L. Stark. (2023). '[The economic cost of violence against women and girls in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review of the evidence](#)' Trauma, Violence, & Abuse 24(1): 44-55.

Guidance' programme (EVAW Programme) in July 2020, generously supported by the Government of Australia, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). The three interconnected areas of the EVAW Programme were: 1) supporting women's organizations through the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women's (UNTF) annual grant-giving to women's organizations for both prevention and response; 2) strengthening quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for survivors through the continued roll-out and adaptation of the [Essential Services Package for women and girls subject to violence](#) (ESP); and 3) addressing root causes and risk factors of VAWG through the roll-out of prevention frameworks and initiatives.³¹ At the time of writing, the EVAW programme had just completed its fifth and final year of implementation.

This evaluation, commissioned by UN Women in agreement with DFAT, covers the second two programmatic areas (increasing the quality and reach of essential services and addressing the root causes and risk factors of VAWG). The evaluation assesses the achievement of programme results in these two areas at the global, regional, and country levels, identifies lessons learned, and provides recommendations for how UN Women can advance its impact on eliminating violence against women and girls. The timing of this evaluation is especially pertinent, as the work of the EVAW Programme falls squarely within one of the four thematic impact areas identified in the new UN Women Strategic Plan, 2026-2029,³² and one of the ten Gender Equality Accelerators,³³ the programmatic framework by which UN Women will implement its new Strategic Plan.

1.2 Description of the EVAW Programme

The EVAW programme was built on the work of previous initiatives, such as the UN Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence (JP on ES). Between 2013-2015, the UN Women EVAW Section, in full consultation with UNFPA, UNODC, UNDP and WHO, developed the [Essential Services Package: Core Elements and Quality Guidelines](#) (ESP) as a standard global guidance on essential services to be provided by the health, police and justice, and social services sectors, including the coordination of these services, for VAWG survivors and women and girls who are at risk of experiencing violence. The ESP was launched in 2015 and subsequently piloted in 10 countries.³⁴ The [RESPECT Women framework](#) to prevent violence against women (VAW) was launched by UN Women and the WHO in 2019 and describes a set of action-oriented steps to enable policymakers and programme implementers to design, plan, implement, monitor and evaluate interventions and programmes to prevent VAW. The framework was endorsed by an initial 12 UN agencies and bilateral partners,³⁵ and builds on the [UN Framework to underpin action to prevent violence against women](#), developed by UN Women et al. in 2015.³⁶ The ESP and RESPECT Women were the foundational guidance tools on violence against women prevention and response for the rollout of the EVAW Programme from 2020-2025.

Area 1: Strengthening quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for VAWG survivors

Work took place in multiple areas to support and enhance essential services provision and coordination through rolling out the ESP at global, regional and country levels. UN Women's strength in establishing and coordinating partnerships globally, regionally, and in countries, both within and external to the UN system, ensured the continued adaptation and implementation of the ESP in multiple countries, including a follow-on focus in the **Asia-Pacific region** in three of the initial 10 countries where the ESP was initially piloted (**Cambodia, Pakistan, and Viet Nam**)

³¹ This evaluation covers only parts 2 and 3 as the UNTF has its own separate reporting and evaluation processes for its donor partners.

³² UN Women (2025), see: [UN Women Strategic Plan 2026-2029](#)

³³ [Gender Equality Accelerators | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

³⁴ Cambodia, Egypt, Guatemala, Kiribati, Mozambique, Pakistan, Peru, Solomon Islands, Tunisia and Viet Nam.

³⁵ Including: UNFPA, UNODC, UNDP, OHCHR, World Bank, and Governments of Australia, Canada, Netherlands, Sweden, The United Kingdom and the USA.

³⁶ UN Women (2015). '[A framework to underpin action to prevent violence against women](#).'

and other countries selected from the Indo-Pacific,³⁷ and other regions. Activities in this area are organized under its three outcomes:

1. Countries have national guidelines, protocols and action plans for a coordinated set of essential services for VAWG survivors in health, justice and policing, and social services that are based on internationally agreed norms and standards and adapted to the national context, including for use during the COVID-19 crisis;
2. Coverage of and access to quality essential VAWG services, provided in line with quality standards and tools, and adapted for use during the COVID-19 crisis, has improved; and
3. Use of VAWG essential services, including during the COVID-19 crisis, provided in line with the global standards and tools by women and girls, has increased.

Countries have national guidelines, protocols and action plans for a coordinated set of essential services for VAWG survivors in health, justice and policing, and social services that are based on internationally agreed norms and standards and adapted to the national context, including for use during the COVID-19 crisis

To establish an enabling environment for essential services provision in countries, UN Women provided technical and financial support for the development and review of a range of VAWG-related policies, protocols, guidance and tools, in line with the ESP. UN Women also developed and promoted technical guidance through inclusive and participatory processes, including: [a global guidance on survivor-centred approaches in ERAW programming, guidance on survivor-centred prosecutions \(Asia-Pacific region\)](#); a regional guidance on safe technologies and the provision of essential services ([Safe Technology for the Provision of Services to Women Migrant Workers at Risk of or Subject to Violence](#)); and establishing linkages between (i) intersectionality and essential and specialist support services provided by both state and CSOs/WRO service providers and (ii) social protection and essential services provision, also through particular 'leave no-one behind' (LNOB) lenses, e.g., disability.

Coverage of and access to quality essential VAWG services, provided in line with quality standards and tools, and adapted for use during the COVID-19 crisis, has improved.

Efforts in this area focused on the improvement and expansion of survivors' service provision in all contexts, including during the COVID-19 pandemic. This entailed strengthening, expanding and adapting coordinated multi-sectoral services considering the conditions imposed by the COVID-19 crisis (in the health, social and especially police and justice sectors and affecting CSOs/WROs) in selected countries, with a focus on the **Asia-Pacific region**. Work also focused on strengthening institutional and technical capacity for the provision of survivor-centred and trauma-informed responses for women and girls, through piloting, rolling out and disseminating key guidance and tools in selected countries, again with a focus on the **Asia-Pacific region**. Guidance and tools developed and rolled out in this area include the [Handbook on Gender-Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls subject to Violence](#), a [Global Costing Tool developed to estimate resource requirements for a minimum package of services](#) (ESP Module 7), and [Safe technologies and the provision of remote essential services](#). Work in this area also established partnerships with thought-leaders and practitioners for collective action on ending VAWG e.g., instituting a high-level network of decision-makers and influencers within Government and law enforcement on gender-responsive policing, including addressing VAWG. Furthermore, following the recommendation of a previous ERAW Programme initial assessment of the JP on ES, greater emphasis was placed on strengthening survivor-centred approaches in work on essential services, with the development of guidance on '**Survivor-Centered Group Counselling for**

³⁷ In addition to UN Women Headquarters, other countries in the Asia-Pacific region where prevention and response efforts were implemented include: Asia and the Pacific Regional Office; Cambodia, Pakistan, Viet Nam (pilot countries under the global programme of work on essential services); India, Nepal and Bangladesh; and updates from Kiribati and Solomon Islands (former pilot countries under Phase II of the UN Joint Global Programme on Essential Services). Although the Solomon Islands and Kiribati did not receive direct funding from the current ERAW programme, they had leveraged previous DFAT funding under the UN Joint Programme on Essential Services from other donor partners to continue their work on prevention, and in particular, essential services. As such, their work was monitored and included in this report, as it progressed and was more advanced, providing an opportunity for lessons learned.

Survivors of VAW' and a paper on '**Co-Creating Meaningful Survivor Leadership and Engagement**' (examining how can civil society organizations and agencies working to end violence against women engage survivors and survivor leaders in ever more meaningful and ethical ways).³⁸

Use of VAWG essential services, including during the COVID-19 crisis, provided in line with the global standards and tools by women and girls, has increased.

UN Women worked at the global, regional and country levels by advocating for, supporting or implementing efforts that increased service accessibility and use among survivors of VAWG. For example, the Global Network of Women's Shelters (GNWS) was supported to update and expand coverage of its global database ([Lila.help](#)) on vetted national helplines and other support services. Advocacy efforts showcased the need for and benefit of quality essential services using impact stories and key results from countries where the ESP is being used, demonstrating how the ESP can help address different forms of VAWG at national and local levels. In its convening role, UN Women brought together expertise and facilitated cross-fertilization of innovation, practice and learning through Expert Group Meetings, symposiums, and online webinars. For example, at the global level, UN Women, together with the University of Miami Law School Human Rights Programme, George Washington University Global Women's Institute, and the Lancet Commission on GBV and Maltreatment of Young People,³⁹ convened the symposium [Gender Justice and Human Rights: Holistic Approaches to Gender Violence](#) (21-22 April 2022), which resulted in academic publication on the outcomes of the symposium.⁴⁰ At the regional level, UN Women and UNFPA ROAP co-facilitated a series of online sessions with COs in countries piloting the ESP programme.⁴¹

Area 2: Addressing root causes and risk factors to prevent VAWG

Prevention activities covered a broad range of areas including advancing the roll-out of the RESPECT Framework and accompanying prevention implementation guidelines and handbooks (including media, sports, work and schools) through regional and country fora, as well as technical assistance to develop capacity to design, implement, monitor and evaluate evidence-based prevention strategies. Establishing and coordinating partnerships globally, regionally, and in countries, both within and external to the UN system, was also pivotal to advancing effective prevention efforts at all levels. Activities in this area are organized under its three outcomes:

1. Increased global, regional and national frameworks, policies, guidelines, and implementation of evidence-based VAW prevention, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region;
2. Strengthened capacity of government ministries, NGOs and women's rights organizations to design and implement effective VAW prevention programming in development and humanitarian settings, in line with the RESPECT Framework; and
3. Strengthened advocacy, research capacity and networks on VAW prevention at global level and in the Asia and the Pacific region.

Increased global, regional and national frameworks, policies, guidelines, and implementation of evidence-based VAW prevention, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region

UN Women's work in this area took place mainly at the regional and country levels, through a range of activities, including finalizing and launching the UN Women Regional Prevention Strategy in Asia and the Pacific (2022-2027).

³⁸ Both the guidance and the paper will be released in mid-2026.

³⁹ Other co-hosts for this symposium included the University of Miami International and Comparative Law Review, the University of Miami International Law Review, Human Rights Society, and the Institute for the Advanced Study of the Americas.

⁴⁰ ["Gender Justice And Human Rights Symposium: Holistic Approaches To Gend" by Denisse Córdova Montes, Tamar Ezer et al.](#)

⁴¹ UN Women Asia-Pacific (14 June 2024). [Launch of Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls Phase II: Advancing Our Mission to End Violence Against Women and Girls.](#)

At the national level, a monitoring framework to measure national VAW prevention strategies ('[Making Progress in Prevention Possible- A Monitoring framework for the prevention of violence against women and girls in the Asia-Pacific region](#)') was piloted in **Cambodia, Timor Leste, and Viet Nam**. Countries were also supported to use findings from the regional study on Violence against Women and Violence against Children, such as adapting, implementing and upscaling the Connect with Respect and Voices against Violence curricula. Activities also included prevention in crisis areas, through implementing a VAWG prevention component in UN Women's Strategy for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls in Complex Settings.

Strengthened capacity of government ministries, NGOs and women's rights organizations to design and implement effective VAW prevention programming in development and humanitarian settings in line with the RESPECT Framework

UN Women supported many efforts that continued to advance the roll-out of the RESPECT Framework and accompanying guidelines and handbooks. Country offices and partners received extensive technical support to design, develop and implement comprehensive prevention programmes, in collaboration with global experts.

Strengthened advocacy, research capacity and networks on VAW prevention at the global level and in the Asia-Pacific region

Working in this area focused on gathering and disseminating prevention-related knowledge and evidence to advocate for the need and benefit of effective, practice-based prevention strategies. Efforts included maintaining and updating global knowledge platforms on violence against women and documenting lessons learned relating to VAWG prevention programming to advance knowledge on what works to prevent VAWG. Networks were strengthened through multi-stakeholder platforms, such as the [Generation Equality Forum](#) and its Action Coalition on Gender-Based Violence, including, with a focus on the **Asia-Pacific region**.

2 Programmatic Review Approach and Methods

The end-term programmatic review design and process are guided by the principles set forth in the UN Women Evaluation policy,⁴² the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation,⁴³ the UNEG Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation,⁴⁴ and the UNEG Guidance on integrating gender equality and human rights in evaluations.⁴⁵ This review draws on recent evaluations conducted by the UN Women Independent Evaluation Service (IEAS), including the Corporate Evaluation of UN Women's UN System Coordination and Broader Convening Role In Ending Violence Against Women,⁴⁶ Evidence and lessons on types of UN Women support - A Meta-Synthesis of UN Women evaluations,⁴⁷ the Corporate evaluation of UN Women's Flagship Programme Initiatives (FPIs) the Thematic Priorities (TPs) of the Strategic Plan (SP) 2018–2021,⁴⁸ the UN Women-DFAT Strategic Partnership Framework (March 2021),⁴⁹ and the Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts.⁵⁰ The findings of the end-term programmatic review of the JP on ES (June 2025)⁵¹ also informed the current evaluation.

2.1 Purpose and objectives of the review

The overall purpose of the review is to understand how well the EVAW Programme achieved its aims of: 1) strengthening quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for VAWG survivors; and 2) addressing root causes and risk factors to prevent VAWG, at the global, regional, and country levels in general and in the Asia-Pacific region in particular. The review objectives are:

- 1) To assess the effectiveness of the EVAW Programme's approaches and strategies in the three outcome areas of both: a) expanding the reach and quality of services for survivors and; b) enhancing prevention of violence against women and girls;
- 2) To evaluate UN Women's organizational performance such as management systems, design of strategies and programmes, including Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), and their effectiveness in facilitating implementation of programme objectives; and
- 3) To identify lessons learned and make concrete recommendations on how UN Women can build on its work during the past five years, identifying successful strategies to scale-up, based on lessons learned.

⁴² UN Women. 2020. [Evaluation policy of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women](#), Second regular session 2020, Item 6 of the provisional agenda.

⁴³ UNEG. 2016. [Norms and Standards for Evaluation](#). New York: UNEG.

⁴⁴ UNEG. 2020. [Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation](#). New York: UNEG.

⁴⁵ UNEG. 2014. [Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations](#). New York: UNEG.

⁴⁶ UN Women Independent Evaluation and Audit Services. 2021. [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women](#).

⁴⁷ UN Women Independent Evaluation and Audit Service (IEAS). 2022 [Evidence and lessons on types of UN Women support: A meta-synthesis of un women evaluations](#).

⁴⁸ UN Women IEAS. 2020. [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's Flagship Programme Initiatives \(FPIs\) and the Thematic Priorities \(TPs\) of the Strategic Plan \(SP\) 2018–2021](#).

⁴⁹ Friedman, Judith and Jenny Geppert (2021) [UN Women- DFAT Strategic Partnership Framework](#). Review Report: Final Date: 16-03-2021.

⁵⁰ UN Women Independent Evaluation, Audit, and Investigation Services (2025). [Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts](#). New York.

⁵¹ Submitted to DFAT on 30 June 2025.

2.2 Evaluation criteria, ethical principles

To meet these three objectives in alignment with the UN Women and UNEG evaluation policy guidance, the review collected sound data to produce an evidence-based analysis of programme effectiveness, impact, relevance, coherence, efficiency, and sustainability related to:

1. **Strengthening quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for VAWG survivors** (a. establishing/strengthening guidelines, protocols and actions plans; b. expanding/strengthening VAWG survivors services; c. increasing the use of VAWG survivors' services); and
2. **Addressing root causes and risk factors to prevent VAWG** (a. increased guidelines, policies, protocols to prevent VAWG; b. strengthening capacity for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of prevention strategies; c. strengthened advocacy, research capacity and networks on VAW prevention).

2.3 Research questions guided by evaluation criteria

1. To what extent did the EVAW programme interventions contribute to preventing and responding to violence against women and girls at the global, regional and country levels, including addressing newly emerging priorities of the field? (Effectiveness, Impact)
2. How well did the design and implementation of EVAW Programme strategies address identify priorities at the global, regional and country levels, including ensuring that no one was left behind? (Relevance)
3. How well did EVAW Programme efforts create synergies and complementary linkages with other EVAW initiatives supported by UN Women and others in the EVAW space? (Coherence, Efficiency)
4. How did the EVAW Programme ensure that its interventions would continue to strengthen and transform VAWG services and prevention? (Sustainability)

2.4 Data and methods

Data Collection

The evaluation was based on two sources of data:

1. A desk review of over 140 documents, including those internal to UN Women, grey publications such as unpublished reports, web-based reports and resources, and related publications including peer-reviewed papers (see Annex 1);
2. Qualitative data collected through 25 key informant interviews (KIIs) with a total of 30 EVAW Programme stakeholders, conducted online with Zoom. Ten KIIs that took place under the programmatic review for the Joint Programme on Essential Services were also included as the information was relevant to the current exercise. KII participants selected by UN Women HQ and ROAP include the following groups of programme stakeholders (see Annex 2 for the list of KII participants):
 - a. UN Women HQ and ROAP;
 - b. Selected UNW COs;
 - c. UN Women Consultants;
 - d. External Partners, including the donor partner (DFAT).

Key Informant Interviews

A total of 25 interviews took place with 30 different individuals, including UN Women personnel at headquarters, regional and country offices, and external partners. Ten interviews that took place between April-June 2025 for the programmatic review of the UN Joint Programme on Essential Services were included, as the information provided was directly relevant to the current exercise, meaning that a total of 35 interviews provided data. Interviews elicited information on EVAW Programme work and contributions from the perspective of each participant's role. The content of the interviews reflected activity implementation from all years of programme implementation and, in many cases, described the foundational work that led to the outcome and impact-level results under the current

initiative. The interviews provided a rich context for programmatic results and detailed examples that demonstrated their effects.

Analyses

The two sources of data were analysed and triangulated together to answer the evaluation research questions using Atlas.ti v. 25.01 software. The data sources offered complementary information. The Desk Review was used to understand programme background, design, strategies, planning, and to capture activity results. The qualitative analyses used the perspectives offered by this diverse sample of programme stakeholders for insight into the context of these results. The data were coded using deductive and inductive methods and were analyzed to identify broader themes, which represented the findings and lessons learned, to form the basis for a set of recommendations for how UN Women can best expand its work and deepen its impact in the current ending violence against women ecosystem.

3 Programmatic Review Findings

The findings are backed by evidence demonstrating the extensive technical and operational achievements that resulted from programme strategies and activities. The examples given under each finding were selected from among these to show impact and outcome-level results across the breadth of the many areas of programmatic work.

3.1 Programme effectiveness and impact

1. To what extent did the ERAW programme interventions contribute to preventing and responding to violence against women and girls at the global, regional and country levels, including addressing newly emerging priorities of the field?

Finding 1: The ERAW Programme facilitated a shared understanding of the internationally agreed-on standards for VAWG prevention and response by developing, piloting and promoting technical guidance

One of UN Women's strongest contributions to the ERAW space was fostering a globally shared understanding of the internationally agreed standards and principles that should underpin the design and implementation of global, regional and country efforts to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. UN Women achieved this through developing and disseminating technical guidance based on these standards and principles, using a process that has become characteristic of how the Entity works. The recent independent evaluation of UN Women's approach to VAWG prevention and response noted UN Women's key role in the global uptake of the RESPECT Framework and the ESP during the previous phases of the DFAT-funded UN Women ERAW initiatives that formed the foundation for the current ERAW Programme.⁵² Both of these frameworks have been widely adopted and continue to be used to guide VAWG prevention and response efforts worldwide. For example, both RESPECT and ESP were the basis for the EU-funded Spotlight Initiative's programmatic theory of change on prevention and survivor services.⁵³

Across this five-year ERAW Programme, UN Women continued developing and rolling out a broad range of technical guidance and tools based on the standards reflected in RESPECT and the ESP, transforming how strategies and interventions are designed and implemented in global, regional, country, and local efforts to prevent and respond to VAWG. These additional products have addressed identified gaps and emerging priorities, and offered practical steps for implementation, ensuring that the use of these RESPECT- and ESP-based standards and principles will both continue and remain currently relevant to emerging patterns and trends in the field. The successful uptake and use of these guidance documents rests on UN Women's participatory, collaborative model to develop these resources.

Within the UN system, UN Women is uniquely positioned to coordinate and engage the broadest range of diverse partners relevant in each respective area on VAWG prevention and response, including UN agencies, civil society organizations, women's rights organizations, researchers, VAWG survivors, NGOs, and other area experts. Through the facilitation of successive consultations, these diverse stakeholder groups jointly came to agreement on guidelines for that area of VAWG prevention and response. All global and regional technical guidance and tools were developed with the understanding that they were to be adapted and tailored for local context, ranging from translation of the materials into local languages to ensuring appropriateness for the societal, social, and geo-political context.

⁵² UN Women IEAS (2025). [Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts](#). New York.

⁵³ UN Women IEAS (2021). [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women](#); Multiple stakeholder interviews; Annex to Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. UN Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review, Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: End term programmatic review.

UN Women's model for developing technical guidance that ensures widespread acceptance and adoption based on international standards and human rights principles:

1. *Responsive to emerging priorities and needs in the ERAW space as recognized at fora such as the Commission the Status of Women (CSW), UN Women acts to address technical guidance gaps as they are identified by initiating a participatory, inclusive process to ensure that the eventual guidance will reflect agreed international standards;*
2. *UN Women is uniquely positioned to engage and convene the widest representation of key stakeholders in VAWG prevention or response through its established partnerships and collaborations with a diverse set of actors and organizations at local, national, regional, and global levels. These partnerships include civil society, UN agencies and other multilaterals and bodies, government, and non-government organizations, and leading experts in the field in academic and other research organizations;*
3. *Stakeholders are convened through a variety of mechanisms, including in-person and online consultations, and discussions, drawing on any available evidence from countries;*
4. *Once the guidance is developed, UN Women supports its adaptation and initial roll-out in various country contexts with planned assessments and monitoring to collect evidence on how well the guidance performed;*
5. *The evidence gathered from the pilot rollouts is used to revise, add to, or develop additional guidance with a specific focus;*
6. *The guidance is revised and promoted (globally, regionally, or nationally as relevant) through advocacy at high level events, which raise awareness about that aspect of VAWG in general and the particular focus of the guidance (e.g., service provision, developing a prevention strategy etc.).*
7. *Further promotion of the guidance takes place at events convened at the global and regional levels to showcase the results in shared learning, enabling other countries/targeted audience (e.g., a CSO network) to understand how the guidance was successfully used in similar or other diverse contexts;*
8. *The guidance is then organically taken up by countries that were not directly supported, due to the established credibility and results of implementing the guidance.*

The Handbook on Gender Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence⁵⁴ **from development to rollout:** An illustrative example of UN Women's model for developing and disseminating technical guidance for expansive use:

Identifying the need: Module 3 of the ESP presents the agreed guidelines for justice and policing survivor services. During the pilot, users reported challenges to implementing this module in countries along with the urgency for needed reforms to the sector.⁵⁵ A 2020 report by UNODC, UN Women, and Interpol found women make up only 6-20 per cent of police forces in Southeast Asia.⁵⁶ Both users and experts expressed a need for a more expansive and detailed resource to help guide the design and implementation of interventions to align this sector with best practices in VAWG survivor service provision.

Investing in the opportunity: UN Women responded to this challenge under the framework of the UN Joint Programme on Essential Services. In full consultation with UNODC and the International Association of Women Police (IAWP), UN Women lead the process of developing a UN system-wide Handbook for law enforcement on investigation of crimes involving violence against women and girls.

The participatory process: An Advisory Group of technical experts was convened to support the work of drafting the Handbook. The first draft was based on reviewing existing VAWG investigation handbooks and training materials for law enforcement. An Expert Group Meeting was convened in New York in June 2019 to provide the opportunity

⁵⁴ UN Women and UNODC (2021). [Handbook on gender-responsive police services for women and girls subject to violence](#). New York: UN Women.

⁵⁵ 'Assessment of Pilot Countries' Implementation of the United Nations Joint Programme on Essential Services Guidance for Women and Girls Subject to Violence' (UN Women, 2018, unpublished).

⁵⁶ UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (29 September 2021). '[Setting an example for women in Southeast Asian law enforcement](#)'

for stakeholders (including civil society, women's and survivor's organizations, bi-lateral police forces, criminal justice institutes, leading rule of law UN entities such as UNODC, UNDP, and the UN Department of Peace Operations – Policing Division) to interact with each other, share feedback on the first draft, and come to agreement on its overall content and target audience. A further collaborative review process followed, with plenary and smaller group discussions on the proposed draft sections of the Police Handbook, resulting in feedback that informed the final draft of the Handbook.

Promoting the Handbook also advocated the need for a fundamental norm shift in the delivery of policing services: In 2021, UN Women and UNODC hosted an online side event at CSW 65, *Enhancing police and justice responses to gender-based violence against women: new tools and emerging challenges in times of the pandemic*⁵⁷ to promote the Handbook.⁵⁸ UN Women, in partnership with the IAWP and UNODC, convened a further global roundtable in May 2021 on the benefits of gender-responsive policing in the lead up to the [Gender Equality Forum](#). The online event included key global and regional decision-makers and influencers, including the UN Police Division, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police, Interpol and the European Network of Policewomen, among others. The discussion focused on how best to implement the recently launched Handbook, and shared good practices from the criminal justice system in responding to violence against women and girls.⁵⁹

Rolling out the Handbook: UN Women supported translations of the [Handbook](#) into at least 7 local languages, along with the training and capacity-building, and implementation in 22 countries.⁶⁰

UN Women's model for guidance development entails a lengthy process requiring sustained financial and technical investment to see it through to completion. UN Women's commitment to this model is based on the Entity's many successful experiences facilitating agreement among technical experts, feminist policymakers, etc. to bring forth technically sound, adaptable strategies to advance the elimination of violence against women and girls.

Examples of key results supporting this finding, by area of focus

Development of Multisectoral National Actions Plans to address VAWG

- [From Words to Action: National Action Plans to End VAWG](#) synthesizes global lessons learned on developing National Action Plans (NAPs), drawing on nearly 30 years' experience since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995. The resource notes the need for multisectoral governance, long-term financing and integrated accountability mechanisms to ensure sustained and systemic action to prevent and respond to VAWG.
- Drawing on experiences from **Australia, Cambodia, Fiji, Peru, and South Africa**, UN Women and the Equality Institute (EQI) co-produced [Together for Prevention: Handbook on multisectoral national action plans to prevent VAWG](#), which provides practical directions for governments to design coordinated, whole-of-government prevention strategies. In **Pakistan**, UN Women and the Prevention Collaborative used the

⁵⁷ CSW65 (2021). [Calendar of virtual side events](#).

⁵⁸ First Progress Report (2021) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2020 – 30 June 2021.

⁵⁹ UN Women (25 May 2021) [Strengthening police responses to gender-based violence crucial in lead up to Generation Equality Forum in Paris](#); UN Women (28 January 2021) [Why taking a survivor-centred approach to police services is important in a global pandemic](#).

⁶⁰ These countries include: Senegal, Tanzania, Namibia, South Africa, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Bangladesh (Cox's Bazaar), Cambodia, Pakistan, Viet Nam, Tunisia, Palestine, Morocco, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Nepal, Myanmar, Kosovo, Guatemala, Kiribati and Kyrgyzstan.

Handbook to convene a national stock-taking and donor roundtable to inform the forthcoming National Strategy to End Violence against Women.⁶¹

- UN Women also partnered with the Global Rights for Women to develop the global guidance, [Safe Consultations with Survivors of VAWG](#). Launched in 2022, the guidance provides practical steps, measures, and actions in line with international safety and ethical standards, that government agencies, civil society organizations, and UN agencies can use to incorporate survivors' voices into systemic reform efforts, including NAPs.⁶²

Improving the quality of VAWG survivor services and their coordination

- The **ESP** was developed using the same model under the JP on ES.⁶³ The ESP was translated into Arabic, Chinese, French, Macedonian, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Vietnamese, and local languages in **Cambodia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Timor-Leste, and Nepal**. Under the EVAW Programme, the ESP implementation was further supported in former pilot countries and expanded to other countries in the region in the **Asia-Pacific region** and beyond; the ESP has been used by UN Women in over 100 countries.⁶⁴
 - UN Women further **adapted the ESP for emergency preparedness and response in Pakistan** along with developing context-specific guidelines and training modules with the National Disaster Management Authority to integrate GBV response into disaster management systems.⁶⁵
- Recognizing the need for institutional and systems change that goes beyond building the capacity of individuals, UN Women and partners (DFAT, Global Rights for Women, Praxis International, Domestic Abuse Intervention Programmes) developed a resource entitled, [Beyond Training: Changing the Institutional Response to VAWG](#) which was designed to complement the ESP. The resource offers a practical, action-oriented framework grounded in the 'Eight Methods approach to building Coordinated Community Response systems,' the Duluth (Minnesota, USA) model.⁶⁶ The 2025 regional launch involved 73 government, CSO, UN, and development stakeholders from across the **Asia-Pacific region**.⁶⁷
- In partnership with UNFPA and UNICEF, UN Women contributed to the development and rollout of the [ASEAN Regional Guidance on 'Empowering Women and Children: Delivering Quality Social Work Services for Those at Risk of or Affected by Violence.'](#) This was the first guidance of its kind on the intersection of VAW and violence against children (VAC). The guidance set service standards, encouraged investment, and promoted best practices, and signaled ASEAN's commitment to this area. The guidance was launched at end of 2023 and again in March 2024 at the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting in **Viet Nam**.⁶⁸

⁶¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

⁶² UN Women (2023). Third Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2023. UN Women Internal document.

⁶³ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

⁶⁴ Based on a 2024 mapping of UN Women's work in VAWG response (unpublished).

⁶⁵ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

⁶⁶ Miller, Scott. [Organizing a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence Using the Duluth Model](#).

⁶⁷ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

⁶⁸ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

Ensuring Gender-Responsive Police Services

- [The Handbook on Gender Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence](#) was a major off-shoot document from the ESP, expanding the focus on police services for survivors.
- The Handbook formed the basis for several other justice-policing sector tools, such as the **Training Package for Prosecutors Responding to VAWG in Asia and the Pacific**,⁶⁹ jointly developed with Global Rights for Women (GRW), which established standards for trauma-informed prosecution.⁷⁰ UN Women translated the training package for prosecutors into Thai to use it in a training on the guidance for mid-level Thai prosecutors, in collaboration with the Thailand Institute of Justice and the Office of the Attorney General.⁷¹ This guidance paved the way for the development of guidance addressing new emerging areas of EAW focus, such as the forthcoming tools on police response to technology-facilitated violence against women and girls⁷² and a supplement to the Handbook for legislation on violence against women and girls on the same topic.⁷³
- Under the ESP implementation, UN Women piloted innovative approaches to improving survivor-centred responses by supporting the production of country-specific guidance. For example, in **Pakistan, a study capturing the Journeys of GBV survivors through the justice system of the Punjab** was based on a mapping exercise tracing the experiences of 15 different survivors as they moved through the police, health, and court systems. The findings of this study revealed positive practices and persistent barriers to registering cases and accessing justice,⁷⁴ and informed revisions to national ESP guidance, such as SOPs for police to simplify police processes.

VAWG Prevention

- The **RESPECT** Framework was translated into multiple local languages including Sinhala, Tamil, Hindi, Khmer, and Vietnamese by 2023.⁷⁵
 - The French translation of RESPECT enabled the francophone Training-of-Trainers (ToT) in Saly, **Senegal**, co-delivered with the Prevention Collaborative, which will produce a regional cohort of trainers in competencies in prevention throughout **West and Central Africa**, where the RESPECT rollout is being supported in 12 countries.⁷⁶
 - In 2023, UN Women and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) adapted the RESPECT Framework to the **Americas and the Caribbean region**, using examples of prevention policy

⁶⁹ Wilson, Laura, Melissa Petrangelo Scaia, Laura Williams (2021). [Training Package for Prosecutors Responding to Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific: Criminal Prosecution of Violence against Women and Girls Training Curriculum](#). UN Women ROAP with Global Rights for Women. NY: UN Women.

⁷⁰ UN Women (2021). [Stepping Up Solutions to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific](#). UN Women, New York.

⁷¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

⁷² This guide, developed by UN Women, in partnership with UNODC and UNDP, will be released in mid-2026. The following brief, '[Guidance for police on addressing technology-facilitated violence against women and girls](#)', which outlines guidance for an effective police response was released by UN Women on 25 November 2025.

⁷³ This guide, developed by UN Women, in partnership with UNFPA, the Association for Progressive Communications (APC) and Derechos Digitales, will be released in mid-2026. The following brief, '[Model framework for legislation on technology-facilitated violence against women and girls](#)', was released by UN Women on 25 November 2025.

⁷⁴ UN Women (2022). [A study capturing the Journeys of GBV survivors through the justice system of the Punjab](#). UN Women, NY.

⁷⁵ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

⁷⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

- implementation from the region to include in the Spanish version. This resource will be used to support capacity strengthening activities for policymakers, service providers, civil society activists, members of academia, and other interested parties from at least 60 institutions in both **Chile** and **Bolivia**.⁷⁷
- UN Women also worked closely with the WHO to update the evidence of what works for prevention in RESPECT 2.0.
 - In the **Asia-Pacific region**, the RESPECT rollout and contextualization has been supported in **Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Viet Nam**.⁷⁸
- UN Women advanced global technical guidance to help governments and partners understand effective VAWG prevention (i.e., beyond awareness campaigns) and design evidence-based prevention strategies.
- Partnering with the Prevention Collaborative, [Doing Prevention Well: Matching Aspirations with Funding Timeframes](#) is a first-of-its-kind practice brief that provides realistic benchmarks for what a prevention programme can expect to achieve within one, two, three, four, or five+ years. This tool ensures that programme stakeholders, including donors, maintain feasible aims and objectives.⁷⁹
 - In 2023, UN Women also developed [Innovation and prevention of violence against women](#), a practice brief aiming to inspire and encourage policymakers, activists, practitioners and researchers to review how innovation may better fit into and strengthen VAWG prevention work. This brief describes promising innovative approaches through examples, making the case for further advancement, without compromising on ethical and safety standards or the generation of evidence.⁸⁰
 - The [Violence Against Women Prevention Programming Guide](#), also developed with the Prevention Collaborative, provides technical guidance for managers and practitioners across all cycles of prevention programming, from planning and design to implementation and measurement. The Guide is a valuable resource for other regional prevention initiatives funded by DFAT, including the United Nations Joint Programme on GBV Prevention in Southeast Asia and the Southeast Asia Gender-Based Violence Prevention Platform.⁸¹
 - The [Connect with Respect](#) (CwR) curriculum is a tool to increase knowledge and awareness among teachers on gender equality, social cohesion, and respectful relationships among young people, to prevent VAWG. The CwR was developed with UNESCO and the University of Melbourne, was implemented and evaluated across several countries in Asia and Africa (**Eswatini, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam, and Zambia**).⁸²
 - The [Voices against Violence](#) (VaV), a non-formal educational curriculum for children and youth, was adapted for implementation in **Thailand, the Philippines, and Nepal** in agreement with the World Association for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).⁸³
 - [From Words to Action: Preventing VAWG](#) explores the structural and institutional conditions required to scale prevention efforts globally and how prevention can be institutionalized within national systems.⁸⁴

⁷⁷ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

⁷⁸ UN Women ROAP.

⁷⁹ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

⁸⁰ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

⁸¹ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

⁸² Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

⁸³ Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

⁸⁴ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

Monitoring and Evaluation of VAWG prevention and response

- Guidance on monitoring and evaluation for programmes addressing response to violence against women and girls⁸⁵ was developed to accompany the ESP to guide the M&E of the establishment and provision of VAWG survivors' services and their coordination.
- UN Women and EQI also co-produced the regional M&E guidance for prevention, [Making Progress in Prevention Possible: A Monitoring Framework for the Prevention of Violence Against Women and Girls in the AP Region \(MPPP\)](#). This guidance was informed by the Australian Counting on Change model,⁸⁶ and was designed to support countries to establish monitoring systems for national prevention, aligned with the RESPECT Framework.⁸⁷ The MPPP framework was supported by a technical accompaniment to support its use, and is now used by governments to track prevention progress through intersectional indicators that align with SDG monitoring.⁸⁸
- The [ASEAN Regional Guidelines on Violence against Women and Girls Data Collection and Use](#) were promoted and translated (Bahasa Indonesia, Thai, Vietnamese) to help Member States generate reliable data for evidence-based advocacy, budgeting, policy-making, programme monitoring, and SDG reporting; the Guidelines synthesize best practices for collecting and managing administrative, prevalence, and costing data.⁸⁹

Technology Facilitated Violence against Women and Girls (TFVAWG)

- UN Women has produced a suite of guidance documents on technology facilitated violence against Women and Girls (TFVAWG) that are available in a dedicated online repository of its global work on TFVAWG.⁹⁰ The repository serves as a hub for TFVAWG-related resources, toolkits and knowledge products. In the **Asia-Pacific region**, UN Women's efforts have moved the field forward through a combination of research, advocacy, youth engagement and intergovernmental coordination activities.
 - Foundational work began in 2020 with the [UN Women multi-country study on online violence against women in Asia](#) and continued with a [regional study of online opposition to gender equality](#). The combined findings guided the development of practical tools.
 - For example, in partnership with the 30 for 2030 youth network⁹¹ of diverse youth advocates, including LGBTQI+ persons, people with disabilities and migrants, UN Women co-developed two editions (2022 and 2023) of the [Youth Guide to End Online Gender-Based Violence](#). Shaped through youth consultations and survivor voices, these resources are used widely to raise awareness and inspire youth-led actions across the region. The 2023 edition integrates perspectives on disability-inclusive and LGBTQI+ rights, ensuring that the guidance reflects a broader understanding of intersectional risk and resilience in digital spaces. Most recently, the Youth Guide has been translated and disseminated in the Nepali language.⁹²

⁸⁵ To be published in 2026.

⁸⁶ Australia's National Research Organization for Women's Safety (2017). '[Counting on Change: A guide to prevention monitoring](#).' Our Watch.

⁸⁷ UN Women (2021). '[Stepping Up Solutions to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific](#).' UN Women, New York.

⁸⁸ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

⁸⁹ UN Women (2021). [Stepping Up Solutions to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific](#). UN Women, New York.

⁹⁰ UN Women (2025) [Repository of UN Women's work on technology-facilitated violence against women and girls](#) (March 2025).

⁹¹ UN Women Asia and the Pacific. [30 for 2030: A youth network of gender equality champions driving dialogue, action and positive change](#).

⁹² Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

VAWG and Climate Change

- Building upon negotiations during CSW 66, UN Women, in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, developed the guidance note, [CSW66 Agreed Conclusions and Ways Forward for Addressing VAWG and Climate Change Linkages in Policies, Decision-Making and Programming](#). This note highlights how the intersection of VAWG and climate change was integrated into the CSW 66 agreed conclusions, highlights promising practices, makes recommendations, including adaptable resources needed for implementation.⁹³

Ensuring the safe participation of women and girls in sport

- [Tackling violence against women and girls in sport: A handbook for policy makers and sports practitioners](#) was developed in partnership with UNESCO and the Spotlight Initiative. The Handbook supports policymakers and sport practitioners working to address VAWG in sport. The resource highlights the nature of the problem, provides recommendations and actions for key stakeholders to advance VAWG prevention and response, and proposes entry points for sports actors and sport forums to change harmful social norms.⁹⁴

Digital Public Infrastructure and Digital Public Goods

- UN Women developed the following publication, '[Making Digital Public Infrastructure Work for Women and Girls: Exemplar Stories](#).' Launched during CSW 70, this publication highlights efforts to develop gender-inclusive DPI that can be replicated and scaled up. For DPI to enable society-wide capabilities and access to essential services, it must respond to everyone's needs, including those of women and girls. The report contains three recommendations to achieve this, such as designing and building DPI with and by women and girls from the outset, and including their perspectives throughout the cycle of design, development, deployment, reflection, and review, as well as collecting gender-disaggregated data on the impact of DPI, including outcomes related to awareness, access, and use.⁹⁵

Ensuring VAWG prevention and response during the COVID-19 pandemic

- UN Women moved rapidly to respond to COVID-19, producing several guidance and informational briefs and reports on the nature of the 'shadow pandemic' and on preventing and responding to VAWG in the context of the pandemic, including:
 - [COVID-19 and essential services provision for survivors of violence against women and girls](#);
 - [On the front lines of COVID-19, women's organizations provide vital services as first responders as violence against women spike](#);
 - [Justice for Women amidst COVID-19](#);
 - [Standing up to the Challenge: Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Asia and the Pacific](#);
 - [Unlocking the Lockdown: The gendered effects of covid-19 on achieving the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific](#)

⁹³ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

⁹⁴ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

⁹⁵ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review; and Sumner, Cate (2026) [Making digital public infrastructure work for women and girls: Exemplar stories](#).

Finding 2: UN Women's focus on structural change led to the reform of laws, policies, and institutional practices, which advanced the enabling environment to support VAWG prevention and response

The EVAW Programme advanced VAWG prevention and response through structural-level changes that shifted the norms and practices of international and regional bodies, national governments, and institutions in countries. UN Women's strong collaboration with a diverse range of global, regional, and country partners (including government, civil society and women's rights organizations, academic researchers) facilitated the success of combining targeted advocacy with programmatic support to influence legal and policy change. As part of its commitment to systemic change, UN Women focused on strengthening institutional capacity across sectors to align service delivery, training and other programming with international standards for VAWG prevention and response. The success of these efforts is demonstrated by the many newly developed or reformed laws, policies and protocols at the global, regional, national and institutional levels, as outlined below, that are now aligned with the RESPECT Framework and the ESP.

Examples of Key Results supporting this Finding

Global Advocacy

UN Women used global platforms such as the [Generation Equality Action Coalition on Gender-Based Violence](#) and the [ACT to End Violence against Women Programme](#) to position prevention and responses in the heart of multi-stakeholders platforms and women's movements and elevate prevention and survivor-centered responses. This work resulted in increased awareness of global and regional guidelines and tools and increased capacity to implement these. Key learnings from these programmes also informed the development of the forthcoming UN Women Prevention Strategy.

- UN Women proposed a single '**Gender Equality Accelerator**' on Prevention of and Response to VAWG as **one of the key flagship programming frameworks** prioritized globally in 2023, in partnership with movements, UN agencies, research and private sector, civil society and women's rights organizations, and platforms such as the Generation Equality Gender-Based Violence Action Coalition.⁹⁶
- The 2022 High-Level Political Forum side-event, "**Justice for Survivors of Gender-based Violence in Complex Situations**," was co-hosted with IDLO and GWI and supported by the Governments of the **Netherlands** and the **Philippines**. The findings of the research presented by IDLO was released in December 2022.⁹⁷ UN Women presented its *Safe Consultations with Survivors of VAWG* guidance at this meeting, linking the integration of survivor voices to justice reform in complex settings.⁹⁸
- UN Women assumed the Secretariat role for the new **High-Level Member State Network on Gender-Responsive Policing** and partnered with academia (e.g., University of Nebraska) on women's advancement in policing.⁹⁹
- Through the UNiTE to End Violence against Women Campaign in 2024, UN Women and the Office of the President of the UN General Assembly convened a high-level meeting **marking the 25th anniversary of designating November 25th as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**, engaging 75 Member States to accelerate commitments ahead of Beijing+30. Survivor-centered justice was promoted at a side event featuring youth poet laureate Stephanie Pacheco to underscore intergenerational

⁹⁶ UN Women (2023). Third Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2023. UN Women Internal document.

⁹⁷ [Survivor-Centred Justice for Gender-Based Violence in Complex Situations | IDLO - International Development Law Organization](#)

⁹⁸ External partner KII; IDLO (7 July 2022) '[Justice for survivors of gender-based violence in complex situations: delivering on the 2030 agenda for women and girls.](#)'

⁹⁹ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024 and [Recruiting, retaining, and advancing women in policing: Lessons learned from the IAWP Gender-Responsive Policing Summit](#)

impacts of violence. UN Women positioned prevention at the center of the 16 Days of Activism against GBV, mobilizing support from UN entities and Member States for long-term, evidence-based approaches.¹⁰⁰

- **At the SVRI Forum 2024**,¹⁰¹ UN Women launched the ASEAN-developed regional guidance on integrated social work services with UNICEF/UNFPA and shared lessons learned from implementing the ESP across Africa and Asia.¹⁰²

Regional Advocacy

UN Women ROAP advanced the understanding of and commitment to prevention efforts by leveraging regional fora and convenings.

- In 2025, UN Women ROAP in partnership with UNFPA and UNICEF, co-facilitated the **first regional dialogue on the intersection between VAW and VAC**, with support from the ASEAN Secretariat. The dialogue resulted in an agreement to develop a common chapter on VAW and VAC, with support from UN Women and UNICEF and inputs from UNFPA.¹⁰³
- In 2024, at the **Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+30 Review**, UN Women ROAP and ESCAP co-organized the roundtable, 'Sustainable Strategies to Respond to and Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls in an Era of Uncertainty,' drawing 300+ delegates including from governments, ASEAN's ACWC, Australia's Ambassador for Gender Equality, a CEDAW Committee member and UNFPA.¹⁰⁴
- UN Women supported **the Reframe: A Pan-Asian Summit (Breakthrough India)** to develop a regional advocacy agenda for prevention and services, define high-level policy priorities, and agree on an action plan aligned with regional/global mechanisms.¹⁰⁵ Targeted support enabled CSO participation in cross-sector dialogues - e.g., 10 leaders received support to engage in a 109-person regional dialogue on gender and climate action to ensure diverse women's voices shape policy.¹⁰⁶
- UN Women ROAP **supported ASEAN to embed prevention and response into its policy frameworks**.
 - The ACW/ACWC completed the end-term review of the [ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on EVAW](#) (RPA) and developed the framework for the next 10-year Plan, emphasizing coordinated, evidence-informed prevention and better support for diverse survivors.¹⁰⁷
 - In 2024, the ASEAN Guidelines for Developing National Standard Operating Procedures for a Coordinated Response to Violence against Women and Girls was produced to support policymakers and practitioners with guidance for developing national SOPs with a focus on coordination of sector services, ensuring that responses to VAWG are both gender-sensitive and survivor-centered.¹⁰⁸
- The Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) serves as a regional platform to inform, empower, and support countries in the AP region in realizing the SDGs. UN Women co-organized a side

¹⁰⁰ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁰¹ SVRI (2024). SVRI Forum '24: [Connect-share-learn](#). Cape Town, South Africa, 21-25 October 2024.

¹⁰² UN Women ROAP (1 November 2024). UN Women ROAP [Champions Evidence-Based Solutions at SVRI Forum 2024](#).

¹⁰³ UN Women ROAP (20 July 2025) LinkedIn post on [Strengthening violence against women prevention efforts in the Philippines](#).

¹⁰⁴ UN Women ROAP (2025). 12th AP Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) 25-28 February 2025. "Preventing Violence against Women: Evidence-Based Solutions and Promising Practices from the Asia and the Pacific Region" side event report.

¹⁰⁵ Breakthrough (2022) The Reframe: A pan Asian summit. Envisioning a world without GBV. Report; UN Women ROAP (25 November 2024). Take five: "[Only in a discrimination- and violence-free world will young girls and women in all their diversity have the opportunity to dream and fulfil their aspirations.](#)"

¹⁰⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁰⁷ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁰⁸ ASEAN (2024) ASEAN Guidelines for [Developing National Standard Operating Procedures for a Coordinated Response to Violence against Women and Girls](#).

event on VAW prevention, and supported the organization of the SDG 5 Roundtable, during which it co-organized a breakout session on GBV and harmful practices.¹⁰⁹

- At the APFSD 2025, UN Women ROAP, with UNFPA and UNICEF, facilitated a GBV/harmful practices breakout session for 30 stakeholders, producing recommendations on prevention through education and engaging men/boys, funding/protecting women's rights organizations, improving data collection, and community collaboration for evidence-based policy.¹¹⁰
- A side event held by UN Women and UNFPA drew 55 stakeholders, including one ASEAN Representative and one CEDAW Committee Member, to discuss evidence-based prevention, cross-sectoral collaboration, and sustained investment.¹¹¹

Legal Reform

Developing, revising and passing new laws involves many complex processes that can take more than a decade to yield results. The examples below demonstrate what can take place with long-term, sustained investment. The legal changes below were enacted within the period of the current EAW Programme; however, much of the foundational work that led to this legislation occurred under the earlier DFAT funding structures (which were separate for prevention and response).

- In 2023, the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) in **Cambodia**, coordinated the Ministries of Interior and Justice and the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia to produce a **Roadmap for reforming the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence and Protection of Victims** to align it with international standards, based on a review of the law.¹¹² The Roadmap included guidance on defining, prohibiting, and criminalizing all forms of GBV, including domestic violence and marital rape, a clear process for granting protection orders, providing access to justice, and ensuring perpetrator accountability.¹¹³
- In **Viet Nam**, the ESP was used in long-standing efforts to advocate for the provision of integrated and coordinated services for survivors of domestic violence, resulting in an amended **Article 9 of Law on Domestic Prevention and Control 2022**, which entitles survivors of domestic violence to a comprehensive set of services, such as legal support, health and other services.¹¹⁴

National Action Plans

Another area in which the EAW programme influenced long term change was through its support to key partners at the regional and country levels to influence the development or revision of policies and guidelines in line with both RESPECT and the ESP standards on prevention and response. This was most visible in the area of National Action Plans for VAWG prevention and response. The progress and success in this area rested on UN Women's savvy understanding of the particular sensitivities of country context in shaping these support efforts to ensure country ownership.¹¹⁵

¹⁰⁹ UN Women Regional Office Asia Pacific (ROAP) (2025). ¹²th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) 25-28 February 2025. SDG 5 Round table concept note. UN Women KII.

¹¹⁰ UN Women ROAP (2025). ¹²th AP Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) 25-28 February 2025. "Preventing Violence against Women: Evidence-Based Solutions and Promising Practices from the Asia and the Pacific Region" side event report.

¹¹¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹¹² Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

¹¹³ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

¹¹⁴ Interview with UN Women Viet Nam CO; UN Women; EAW Section: Survey on UN Women's contributions to violence against women response efforts in regions and countries, April 2024.

¹¹⁵ UN Women KII.

How long-term support in Cambodia has transformed the national approach to prevention and response:

Over the years, under the JP on ES and the current ERAW Programme, UN Women used the ESP to support the drafting, evaluation and roll-out of successive versions of the National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women (NAPVAW) in **Cambodia**. The process steadily increased ownership of the NAPVAW among ministries and departments in Cambodia that are essential to implementing prevention and response efforts. The NAPVAW III (2019-2023) was officially launched in 2021 and the NAPVAW IV (2024-2030) was recently completed. The development processes for NAPVAW IV explicitly prioritized prevention, as well as a focus on women facing intersectional discrimination: migrant workers, LGBTQI+ persons, ethnic minority women, women with disabilities and older women. The process convened stakeholders from key line ministries, CSOs, UN agencies, representatives from the private sector, and organizations representing women facing intersectional discrimination. Interview participants described the years of work as an extended learning process for country stakeholders about the VAWG-related experiences, priorities and needs of these women, which influenced a notable shift from simply listing priority groups in NAPVAW III to integrating concrete, specific actions that were informed by qualitative data collection from these women. The NAPVAW IV also addresses emerging issues, such as GBV within the context of crisis and climate change, and TFWAWG.

- UN Women supported the development of several National Action Plans and strategies for preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, ensuring that the rights of all women and girls were included. The support used low-key, targeted technical inputs to strengthen national plans that were later reflected in approved NAPs.
 - In **Indonesia**, UN Women provided technical support to revise two national strategies and followed up on earlier RESPECT introduction to align government and civil society partners with evidence-based prevention.¹¹⁶
 - The adoption of the National Action Plan to Prevent Violence against all Women and Girls 2023-2028 by the Government of **Fiji** positioned Fiji as an ERAWG leader in the Pacific region. UN Women in Fiji played a key role as a technical partner, working closely with the Government of Fiji to ensure that the NAP was comprehensive, evidence-based and highly consultative. UN Women ROAP provided complementary technical support, including providing inputs to the monitoring and evaluation framework and planning baseline data collection across 13 key societal settings as outlined in the NAP.¹¹⁷

Institutional Change**Standard operating procedures**

At the national level, SOPs are developed with key line ministries that provide VAWG survivor services. These SOPs provide guidance on the principles, responsibilities, and required actions for how organizations work within their respective sectors. Multisectoral-action SOPs are developed jointly, include national level institutions from all sectors and require agreements of how institutions in one sector will work with those in others. SOPs at the service-delivery point level - e.g., police stations, hospitals, are practical adaptations of national SOPs that map and describe the step-by-step actions that must be taken, and by whom, from the first contact with a survivor until the end, including any follow up, such as referral onto another service organization. It is therefore critical that national SOPs be aligned with international standards. UN Women supported multiple countries to develop national SOPs, aligned with international standards, and when the political context demanded, these were developed at the provincial or state levels. Some examples include:

- In **Pakistan**, the SOPs for two types of shelters (Women's Crisis Centres, one run by the Women Development Department, and the other by the Social Welfare Department) in one province (Balochistan) were merged, and aligned with the ESP,¹¹⁸ which was important, because the Social Welfare shelters were

¹¹⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹¹⁷ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹¹⁸ First Progress Report (2021) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2020 – 30 June 2021.

restrictive and left women feeling re-victimized. Under the ERAW Programme, the work expanded to all other provinces. Building on this work, UN Women used the ESP to support the development and establishment of SOPs for the newly established anti-rape crisis cells in 2023 that integrated medical, psychosocial, and legal support services.¹¹⁹

- SAFENET is the national referral network of organisations that provide survivor services in both **Kiribati** and in **Solomon Islands**. In **Kiribati**, SOPs were developed for the SAFENET system for personnel working in health and the police that were endorsed by their respective line ministries, in 2020.¹²⁰
- In **Viet Nam**, UN Women provided technical support to develop ESP-aligned SOPs to address the needs of women and girl survivors of violence facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.¹²¹
- A South-South learning activity reinforced system change in **Viet Nam** after a delegation visited the **Philippines** to observe policies, coordination and integrated services. As a direct result of this exchange, three new hospital-based one-stop models for women and children (OSM4WCs) were approved for Ho Chi Minh City in Feb 2025.¹²²

Integrating prevention into school curricula

- The [Voices against Violence curriculum](#) was implemented in **Thailand** as part of the Stop the Violence Project, using a train-the-trainer (ToT) approach - participants were trained, and delivered the curriculum in their own schools. The findings of an assessment noted that the curriculum had positive impacts on the knowledge, understanding, and behavioral changes among students, and was reflected in school policies and lesson plans in some schools.¹²³
- In **Thailand**, universities made institutional commitments in 2020 after the [HeForShe University Tour](#) in 2019. For example, Thammasat University adopted the country's first dedicated campus policy on preventing and responding to sexual harassment/violence. The policy was informed by a guidance note on this issue.¹²⁴

Supporting administrative data systems to strengthen institutions

Administrative data is critical for informing policy and programming decisions related to survivor essential services. On the institutional level, the availability and use of quality VAWG administrative data to inform day-to-day and long-range operational decisions improves service delivery and, in turn, outcomes for VAWG survivors. Establishing and improving these systems is a long-term activity. Examples of how UN Women strengthened VAWG administrative data systems include:

- In the **Solomon Islands**, the SAFENET network institutionalized routine administrative data reporting with a national MoU. The system and data-management protocols were revised to standardize and improve quality, align with a confidentiality and information-sharing protocol, and enable de-identified, statistical data exchange to strengthen inter-agency coordination, prevention/response programming, advocacy,

¹¹⁹ UN Women Pakistan KII; Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

¹²⁰ Interview with the UN Women Fiji MCO.

¹²¹ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

¹²² Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹²³ UN Women and World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. (WAGGS) (2023). A review report of the voices against violence curriculum roll-out during January – December 2022.

¹²⁴ UN Women (2021). [Stepping Up Solutions to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific](#). UN Women, New York.

resource mobilization, and monitoring.¹²⁵ Once the reporting system is fully operational in Honiara, it will be rolled out to the provinces.¹²⁶ With the availability of this administrative data, UN Women has been able to track access to services, which has increased steadily, through SAFENET.¹²⁷

- In **Kiribati**, UN Women supported the safe and ethical collection and storage of VAWG administrative data by the Kiribati Police Service and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Crisis Centre.¹²⁸
- **UN Women strengthened its own institutional capacity** on VAWG administrative data in the **Asia-Pacific region** by convening a regional workshop for UN Women COs to strengthen their capacity to collect, analyze and use administrative data, including for assessing country progress.¹²⁹
- In **Pakistan**, UN Women supported the integration of a dashboard on gender crimes into police systems and the National Gender Data Portal,¹³⁰ upgraded the comprehensive sexual-harassment database, and supported compilation and trend analysis to identify hotspots; this evidence base is designed to inform targeted policy, training, compliance with workplace-harassment protections, and improved case monitoring and follow-up.¹³¹
- UN Women supported the strengthening of sub-national administrative data capacities in **Cambodia** to enable providers to better document service provision and interpret patterns and trends.¹³²

Finding 3: UN Women-led efforts established bodies of knowledge and best practices on newly emerging priorities in the ERAW space

For the past few decades, research on violence against women and girls has been defining, measuring and describing different forms of violence against women and girls. As noted above, building upon exchanges of knowledge and experience from existing Communities of Practice (COPs) on prevention and response, UN Women proactively identified emerging priorities in the ERAW space under the ERAW Programme, advanced these as part of the global agenda, and shifted programmatic priorities to address them. The evidence for this finding includes efforts to address technology-facilitated violence against women and girls (TFVAWG), the nexus of violence against women and children, climate change and VAWG, femicide, and exploring the potential of digital public infrastructure to improve the lives of women and girls.

Example of key results supporting this finding

TFVAWG

UN Women led a multi-level TFVAWG agenda that included research, advocacy, and the production of technical guidance and briefs, as noted in Finding 1.

- At the policy level, UN Women provided substantial technical support to the drafting and Member State negotiations on the agreed conclusions from CSW 67 on innovation and technological change. UN Women also convened the International Conference on Addressing TFVAWG in Seoul (2024) with Government of

¹²⁵ First Progress Report (2021) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2020 – 30 June 2021.

¹²⁶ UN Women Solomon Islands KII.

¹²⁷ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹²⁸ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

¹²⁹ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

¹³⁰ UN Women Asia and the Pacific (AP) (2022). [Reflections: Piloting the Essential Services Package \(ESP\) for Women and Girls Subject to Violence in Asia & the Pacific](#).

¹³¹ First Progress Report (2021) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2020 – 30 June 2021.

¹³² UN Women Cambodia KII.

Korea partners, synthesizing challenges and best practices where there are continued gaps in law, policy, data standards and comparable measurement.¹³³

- In 2020, the results of the 2019 multi-country study in the Asia-Pacific region showed that the risk factors and experiences of offline violence are replicated online. The study concluded that preventing TFVAWG requires reaching out to all digital media users, including boys and men, to address negative aspects of online behaviour and internet culture.¹³⁴
- In 2022, qualitative research on online opposition to gender equality in **India, Bangladesh** and the **Philippines** mapped narratives and tactics used by men's groups to attack feminists and rights defenders, with programmatic and policy implications.¹³⁵
- In **Sri Lanka**, UN Women is generating disaggregated TFVAWG data (focused on diverse gender, sexual and ethnic minorities) to inform THRIVE programme policy and practice, while strengthening over 30 WROs/CSOs on social norms and behavior change.
- A forthcoming **global police guidance on addressing TFVAWG** will increase law-enforcement response capacities.¹³⁶

The Violence against Women-Violence against Children (VAW-VAC) nexus:

Most of the results in this area were related to advocacy and described in Finding 2.

- UN Women ROAP, with UNFPA and UNICEF, provided technical support to strengthen the ASEAN social welfare workforce to improve collaboration between VAW and VAC specialists, aligning with ASEAN's Regional Guidance, [Empowering Women and Children](#).¹³⁷
- UNICEF-UNFPA-UN Women commissioned a multi-country study (**Cambodia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Viet Nam**) and a regional initiative on integrated VAW-VAC approaches in spaces of trust (e.g., families, relationships, schools) to explore related knowledge gaps, coordinated national and multisectoral actions by governments and civil society, legal, policy and institutional frameworks, services for children, adolescents and women who have experienced violence, and community-based prevention.¹³⁸
- UN Women in **Indonesia**, supported the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection and line ministries to revise two national strategies on violence against women and children, based on RESPECT and aligning government and CSO partners on prevention priorities.¹³⁹

Climate change and VAWG

- Across the Asia-Pacific region, UN Women **strengthened CSO and WRO capacity** to articulate key messages for policymakers on climate-related GBV.¹⁴⁰
- With UNEP and the IUCN, **UN Women convened CSOs across Asia-Pacific in a Regional Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Gender and Climate Action** in 2024 that produced cross-sector recommendations to

¹³³ UN Women (2024) [In brief: International conference on addressing technology-facilitated violence against women](#). 1-2 July 2024, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

¹³⁴ UN Women and Ministry of Gender, Korea (2020). [Online violence against women in Asia: A multi-country study](#).

¹³⁵ UN Women (2022). [Online opposition to gender equality. Understanding opposition to gender equality and feminism in the virtual space](#).

¹³⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. See the UN Women Brief, see: [Guidance for police on addressing technology-facilitated violence against women and girls | Publications | UN Women – Headquarters](#) (25 November 2025).

¹³⁷ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

¹³⁸ UNICEF, UNFPA, and UN Women (2021). [Ending Violence against Women and Children in Asia and the Pacific: Opportunities and Challenges for Collaborative and Integrative Approaches](#). Bangkok: UNICEF, UNFPA and UN Women.

¹³⁹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁴⁰ UN Women ROAP (28 November 2023). [Civil society organizations from the Asia-Pacific explore ways to address gender-based violence fueled by climate change](#).

mainstream gender and GBV in climate frameworks, in addition to launching a Community of Practice on Gender and Climate Action, facilitated by ARROW, UNEP and UN Women. The Community of Practice brings together CSOs representing women and girls in all their diversity to collaboratively advance inclusive, gender-responsive climate solutions and advocacy.¹⁴¹

- UN Women designed an **annual learning programme for CSOs on climate justice**. Advocates reported stronger skills in policy engagement, mainstreaming GBV in climate action and digital safety, and leveraging a partnership with Australia's e-Safety Commissioner.¹⁴²
- UN Women's prevention portfolio explicitly **expanded into climate linkages and institutional spaces** (e.g., sports, media, schools) to embed VAWG prevention in a whole-of-government approach. Interviews from the region echoed institutional demand to be 'ready for disasters' and climate-related crises as a growing prevention and response priority.¹⁴³

Femicide, or the gender-related killing of women and girls

The implementation of the Statistical Framework for measuring the gender-related killing of women and girls in 2023 presented challenges, particularly in relation to the lack of recognition of the term 'femicide' in various regions. Femicide, or the gender-related killings of women and girls, has not been as visible on the policy agenda of countries in Asia and the Pacific, as compared with other regions. UN Women increased awareness and understanding in the region, encouraging countries to approach homicide data with a gender lens and to pursue research and evidence on femicide, paving the way for better understanding and targeted interventions.

- In 2023, UN Women HQ and ROAP, together with UNODC's **Korea Centre of Excellence**, and the UN Women Centre of Excellence held the **International Conference on Ending Gender-based Killings of Women and Girls** in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The 61 participants who attended included representatives from 20 governments, police organizations from six countries, and experts from Latin America, Europe and Asia-Pacific to share promising practices in disaggregating data, developing and implementing risk assessment and institutional capacity-building.¹⁴⁴
 - The conference facilitated the rollout of **the Statistical Framework which is being piloted** by the Governments of **Fiji** and **Mongolia**; experts in **Indonesia** and **Pakistan** have committed to applying gender analysis to homicide data.¹⁴⁵
- In preparation for hosting the International Conference on Ending Gender-based Killings of Women and Girls, the UN Women ROAP conducted extensive research on femicide and organized meetings with UN Women HQ, COs and women's CSOs. The UN Women ROAP also engaged professional staff and experts from the Latin America region who had already piloted the Statistical Framework learning to share their wealth of experience in addressing femicide.¹⁴⁶

Digital Public Infrastructure

- UN Women embarked on a new project in the area of Digital Public Infrastructure, undertaking an analysis of what is needed to make digital public infrastructure work for women and girls, including those who have experienced violence. This research ultimately aims to provide innovative solutions to protect women and

¹⁴¹ Arrow with UNEP, UN Women, UNFPA, (October 2024). '[Solidifying Solidarity: Convening Meaningful Spaces Together: Gender equality and climate action.;29th Session of the Conference of Parties.](#)

¹⁴² Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025

¹⁴³ Multiple KIs.

¹⁴⁴ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

¹⁴⁵ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁴⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025

girls from different forms of violence by connecting survivors and their support teams with legal and paralegal services, social protection and other educational and employment opportunities, as well as the formal justice system. Designing and building digital public infrastructure from the start, and including their perspectives throughout the cycle of design, development and review, and can help vulnerable women and children access these services through digital means. This work is part of UN Women's and other key stakeholders' commitments to strengthening access to justice for women and girls who have experienced violence. Key results in the development of this work included:

- UN Women joining the Digital Public Goods Alliance in November 2024;
- Development of a 'roadmap of activities' and inclusion in the 2024 Annual Report of the Digital Public Goods Alliance.¹⁴⁷
- UN Women organized a side event during CSW 69 on making Digital Infrastructure Work for Women and Girls: A Life Cycle Approach. The event explored how Digital Public Infrastructure and Digital Public Goods can support all women and girls and address critical issues in ending VAWG and included speakers from UN Women, the UN Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies (ODET), the Digital Public Goods Alliance, and Member States.
- Insights from expert consultations highlighted that early DPI investments rarely centered gender inclusion. At the time of writing this evaluation, UN Women had produced a knowledge product on this topic, with exemplar stories highlighting how DPI design flaws that can disproportionately affect women and girls and making three concrete recommendations on how to address these.¹⁴⁸ UN Women is uniquely placed to implement these recommendations, especially Recommendation 3 of the report on collection of disaggregated data.
- **Viet Nam's E-PeaceHouse**¹⁴⁹ illustrates a service example based on a DPG — in this instance, a cloud-to-community digital coordination model with a national hub, regional zones and safe local access points. The E-PeaceHouse will include risk screening, remote consultations, referrals, emergency protection and AI chat for information.¹⁴⁹

Finding 4: Under the EVAW Programme, UN Women has created a shift towards gender-responsive, woman-centred policing services at global, regional, and national levels

The number and scale of UN Women's efforts targeting the police/justice sector, implemented through key collaborative partnerships, has influenced a pivotal shift towards gender-responsive norms and practices in policing. The results of this work have placed gender-responsive policing and justice squarely on the global policy agenda and positioned UN Women as a leader in this area of the EVAW space.¹⁵⁰ A survivor's experience when accessing justice and police services can range from helpful to traumatic. Initial contact with the police can determine how a survivor subsequently navigates the rest of the justice system. UN Women, in collaboration with the same diverse range of partners as already described, achieved these results by developing and rolling out global and regional technical guidance and tools aligned with the ESP; supporting countries to adapt them to national context and implement them; convening global and regional level networks through a series of roundtable discussions; integrating gender-responsive policing and justice into high-level event agendas; and increasing technical and infrastructural capacity at the institutional level in countries, as well as establishing a High-level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing. The evidence in this area clearly shows that these efforts have and are still contributing to expanding access to gender-responsive and women-centred justice and policing services in an increasing number of countries around the world.

¹⁴⁷ [UN Women Member Profile](#)

¹⁴⁸ External partner KII. And Sumner, Cate (2026). [Making digital public infrastructure work for women and girls: Exemplar stories | Publications | UN Women – Headquarters](#)

¹⁴⁹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁵⁰ Multiple KIIs.

Example of key results supporting this finding

Global Impact

- UN Women has advanced its work on transforming policing norms and practices to be more gender-responsive and woman-centred through its joint commitments under the **Generation Equality GBV Action Coalition**, co-led by the Government of Iceland.
 - In 2021, UN Women, UNODC, IDLO and OHCHR joined a **collective commitment on gender-responsive policing** to work with other partners in at least 30 countries to prevent and respond to violence against women, including gender-related killings and increasing access to gender-responsive justice that includes all women and girls, as well as ensuring perpetrator accountability.¹⁵¹
 - UN Women partnered with the International and Nebraska Associations of Women Police (IAWP) to **convene a Gender-Responsive Policing Summit** in 2023 to share successful efforts to improve recruitment, retention, promotion, and wellness of women in policing. A peer-reviewed publication resulted: [Recruiting, Retaining, and Advancing Women in Policing: Lessons learned from the IAWP Gender Responsive Policing Summit](#).¹⁵²
 - In 2023, at UN City in Copenhagen, UN Women co-organized a **high-level panel discussion, "Reimagining Safety: Advancing Gender-Responsive Policing to Strengthen Responses to Gender-Based Violence"** with the Nordic Council of Ministers for Gender Equality and LGBTI, DANNER and Dialog Mod Vold, to introduce decision-makers and influencers within law enforcement/policing, other key line ministries, and stakeholders to important aspects of a gender-responsive approach and relevant tools such as the Handbook on Gender-Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence.¹⁵³
- The **High-level Inter-Ministerial Network on Gender-Responsive Policing**, introduced by France and Mexico at the 2021 Generation Equality Forum, was formally launched by UN Women and partners on 26 June 2024 through a side event at the Fourth United Nations Chiefs of Police Summit, and is now co-chaired by **Chile, the Netherlands and Senegal**.¹⁵⁴ The Network is a commitment at the highest level to affirm that VAWG is a crime that will be fully investigated by police and perpetrators will be held accountable. As per its Terms of Reference, the Network functions to strengthen commitments among law enforcement associations; promote the benefits of gender-responsive policing; support the creation of gender-responsive law enforcement institutions, in line with Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security.¹⁵⁵ Through its capacity as Secretariat to the Network, UN Women will continue providing technical support as the Network develops its first work plan, along with advocacy to increase its membership, help shape and strengthen commitments, and build widespread commitment among law enforcement associations to promote the benefits of gender-responsive policing and support for the creation of gender-responsive law enforcement institutions.¹⁵⁶

¹⁵¹ UN Women (2021). First Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance. Reporting Period: 1 August 2020 – 30 June 2021, UN Women Internal document.

¹⁵² Huff, J. et al. (2024) Recruiting, Retaining, and Advancing Women in Policing: Lessons learned from the IAWP Gender Responsive Policing Summit. Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice, see: [Recruiting, retaining, and advancing women in policing: Lessons learned from the IAWP Gender-Responsive Policing Summit | Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice | Oxford Academic](#)

¹⁵³ UN Women (2024). UN Women Donor Report Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024. Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade UN Women internal document.

¹⁵⁴ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

¹⁵⁵ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

¹⁵⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025 with Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

- Partnering with the University of Miami Law School Human Rights Clinic and George Washington University in 2022, UN Women co-hosted the “**Gender Justice and Human Rights Symposium: Holistic Approaches to Gender Violence**”¹⁵⁷ to bridge local, national, regional, and global perspectives on ending GBV, drawing on innovative work from around the world. Sessions focused on four dimensions critical for addressing GBV, including prevention, systemic accountability, access to justice, and protection of survivors, as well as examining lessons and opportunities for practical implementation. UN Women introduced the newly published Handbook on Gender-Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence in a presentation on GRP principles and progress of the rollout of the guidance, to a new audience of academics, researchers, and CSOs. UN Women was also instrumental in developing the conceptual framing of the symposium.¹⁵⁸

Institutional change in justice and policing in countries

- A 2022–2025, [MoU](#) between UN Women and **Chile’s** Ministry of Interior and Public Security (MISP) formalized UN Women’s technical assistance to mainstream gender into the two national police institutions in Chile, Carabineros de Chile and Policía de Investigaciones as a strategic component of broader police reform and included a plan for institutional assessments that was approved by both organisations.¹⁵⁹ Preliminary action plans were drafted based on the assessment findings, marking the first such gender mainstreaming proposals for Chile’s police, that will influence systematic institutional change. This work also facilitated high-level State commitment on gender-responsive policing signaled by **Chile, once it** formally assumed the Co-Chair of the above-mentioned Network on Gender-Responsive Policing in 2024.¹⁶⁰
- In **Viet Nam**, UN Women partnered with the Ministry of Public Security to adapt the above-mentioned Handbook to the national policing context, to be used for training the police to provide gender-responsive services to VAWG survivors. The work of this partnership changed the traditionally conservative police sector, and now there is openness accompanied by behavioural change with a rising demand for these trainings nationwide. Trainings have been conducted with frontline police officers as leaders across the country, who then return to their post and train additional staff.¹⁶¹
- In **Iceland**, UN Women’s partnership with the IAWP resulted in institutionalizing gender-responsive policing practices in the National Police. This initiative illustrated how even in high-ranking gender-index countries, patriarchal norms can pose barriers to interventions. Women were not eligible to serve as officers in the ‘Viking’ special operations unit (violent crime response). The response to domestic violence cases falls under the purview of the Viking unit, meaning all the officers arriving at a domestic violence scene were men. This policy was based on an entrenched belief that it was not possible for a woman to perform the functions required by the unit, and this could only be changed if relevant stakeholders in the National Police understood that women not only served in similar units in other countries, but their presence also strengthened the unit’s ability to respond to VAWG. A study visit to London’s Counter Terrorism Unit provided the opportunity to analyze and see women’s leadership in an equivalent unit, opening the pathway to change.¹⁶²

¹⁵⁷ Denisse Córdova Montes, Tamar Ezer, Reem Ali, Kayla Bokzam, Renu Sara Nargund, Megan Norris, and Maxwell Zoberman, (2022) [Gender Justice And Human Rights Symposium: Holistic Approaches To Gender Violence](#), 30 U. MIA Int’l & Comp. L. Rev. 217.

¹⁵⁸ External partner KII; Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

¹⁵⁹ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

¹⁶⁰ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025 with Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

¹⁶¹ UN Women Viet Nam KII.

¹⁶² External Partner KII; Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

- In **Greece**, UN Women partnered with Bia-STOP NGO based in Kavala, northern Greece, to support the development of 'The Hellenic Risk Assessment Tool', guided by the principles on risk assessment set out in the ESP. The Tool is mandated by law for use by all frontline workers in Greece, across the health, social services, police and justice sectors among others. The tool defines roles, protocols, and accountability structures, embedding coordination into governance systems to ensure sustainability and long-term effectiveness. It is designed to measure both threat to life and the threat to re-offend.¹⁶³ The tool was also designed to assess the potential for violence could be detected for the diverse groups at risk there, such as older women, migrants, LGBTQI+, Roma people, and women with disabilities. The tool will be operational in 2025.¹⁶⁴
- UN Women's work **influenced institutional change to policing institutions in other countries**, including: **Morocco**, where restructuring of the police ensured that separate units, with personnel trained specifically to provide services to VAWG survivors aligned with international standards, were established in every provincial station. Police in **Kosovo** reported that the UN Women-IAWP hosted training changed how the police force deals with survivors, with particular reference to eliminating stigma and other attitudes. In **Cox's Bazar**, the lack of female presence in the police was identified as a barrier to accessing justice, as female Muslim refugees were reluctant to speak with male police officers. In response, female officers were deployed as part of the police force there.¹⁶⁵ In **Pakistan**, a [Training Manual on Enhancing Attitudes of Police towards Survivors of VAW](#) was developed and rolled out to more than 500 police personnel across five districts, which improved empathetic, survivor-centred policing.¹⁶⁶ The **Bangladesh** Police Women Network (BPWN) launched their 2021–2023 Strategic Plan in 2021, the aim of which was to empower women police officials to express their collective concerns and inform the establishment of a framework to address gender issues through the network.¹⁶⁷ UN Women also supported the establishment of specialized help desks for women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons, staffed by women, and mandated across the country in 500+ police stations). GREVIO, the monitoring mechanism of the Istanbul Convention, [noted the tool's promise](#).¹⁶⁸

Pakistan: an example of transformative change in justice and policing services

UN Women leveraged a chance opportunity that evolved into a ground-breaking development for VAWG survivors seeking access to justice in **Pakistan**.

To file a case with the police, VAWG survivors must obtain a medical-legal report from a police surgeon. The police surgeon's office is located in a hospital, with no formal connection to the police, and 'usually these women (survivors) are running from pillar to post (to get the report).' The disconnect between health and the police created an additional barrier to filing a report. UN Women recognized that without facilitating this connection, survivor-centred justice would not be achieved.

Finding a solution: UN Women CO took the opportunity to meet Pakistan's most senior police surgeon to better understand the context of medical-legal work. The senior police surgeon shared the many challenges faced by the profession in general, including a lack of career progression, which results in attrition and staff shortages. UN Women leveraged a proposal focusing on forensics to formally link the medical legal with the police. As a result, the

¹⁶³ UN Women (2022). Second Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022, UN Women Internal document.

¹⁶⁴ External partner KII.

¹⁶⁵ UN Women (15 July 2021) '[Supported by UN Women, police forces are becoming more responsive to survivors of violence.](#)'

¹⁶⁶ UN Women (24 June 2021). '[Building trust: Pakistan police address barriers to women's access to criminal justice.](#)'

¹⁶⁷ UN Women and the Bangladesh Police Women Network (2021). [Bangladesh police women network launches 2021–2023 strategic plan.](#)

¹⁶⁸ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025 with Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013–2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

previously unknown senior police surgeon became well known throughout the county and a leading resource for other UN agencies.¹⁶⁹ Work in the policing justice sector in Pakistan included:

- A project funded by the U.S. Government in 2022, where UN Women Pakistan developed the [Training Manual on Enhancing Attitudes of Police towards Survivors of Violence Against Women](#). This was followed by a training rollout to over 500 police personnel in five districts of Pakistan. The training enhanced police capacity to deliver survivor-centered services in an empathetic and gender-sensitive manner.¹⁷⁰
- The Anti-Rape (Trial & Investigation) Act, 2021, mandated the establishment of Anti-Rape Crisis Cells, (ARCCs), a one-stop center model where medical, police, legal aid, and psychosocial support would be available. UN Women helped design and operationalize the ARCCs within hospitals. Together with the Ministry of Law and Justice, and legislative committees, UN Women supported the development of SOPs that embedded survivor-centred principles, defined roles and responsibilities across multisectoral services, and ensured the distinction between survivor support services and perpetrator-related legal actions.¹⁷¹
- Partnering with the Punjab Forensic Science Agency, gender-responsive practices were integrated into its national-level forensic training for judges, lawyers, and police surgeons.¹⁷²
- Trainings under the EU 'Deliver Justice' project brought together police, prosecution, judiciary, and medico-legal officers at Balochistan Judicial Academy in 2024, with further training of new police cadets planned. This was an important achievement for UN Women, since some of these partners had never worked together before. This work was facilitated by the foundational work done through ESP implementation and was an example of the ESP's catalytic nature for influencing more work on essential services.¹⁷³
- Gender-responsive policing training was institutionalized through the development of a training manual based on ESP Module 3 (Justice & Policing) with the Federal Judicial Academy and provincial police colleges in **Pakistan**. A trainers' network now meets quarterly to update curricula, revisit criminal law using a gender lens, and coordinate multi-agency training across the police, prosecution, medico-legal profession and the judiciary.¹⁷⁴
- UN Women supported the mentioned first-of-its-kind study to map the journey of survivors through the organizations that make up the justice continuum in **Pakistan**. Findings were used in trainings to convey an understanding of how current service delivery practices affected survivors.¹⁷⁵
- UN Women ROAP helped to embed survivor-centered principles (such as informed consent, confidentiality and the contextualization of examples) into the ARCC protocols and a training manual for facilitators to reflect the lived reality of survivors in **Pakistan**. This enables medical, legal and justice actors to deliver multi-sectoral survivor-centered, trauma-informed rights-based services.¹⁷⁶

¹⁶⁹ UN Women Pakistan KII.

¹⁷⁰ UN Women (24 June 2021). '[Building trust: Pakistan police address barriers to women's access to criminal justice.](#)'

¹⁷¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

¹⁷² UN Women Pakistan KII.

¹⁷³ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review; UN Women Pakistan KII.

¹⁷⁴ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. Annex: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

¹⁷⁵ UN Women (2022). [A study capturing the Journeys of GBV survivors through the justice system of the Punjab](#). UN Women, NY.

¹⁷⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

Finding 5: The EVAW Programme increased the availability and access to quality, coordinated essential services for VAWG survivors

Women and girls who experience violence require multiple services that are delivered in organizations that operate within different sectors, such as health, justice and policing, and social services. A survivor may present for care at a health facility and then need access to police protection, or present at a police station and need access to health services. As these sectors do not typically work together in many countries, ensuring that survivors receive a comprehensive set of services they may need from multiple sectors requires a mechanism or system to coordinate them. There are several methods of delivering a holistic set of services to VAWG survivors, such as a strong referral network between service organizations and one-stop centers that house providers from multiple sectors.

Coordination mechanisms or bodies at the national and local levels are charged with developing strategies for comprehensive response efforts tailored to context. However, until recently, most countries did not have such mechanisms, and VAWG survivor care was fragmented. Building on the foundation of the first two phases of the UN Joint Programme on ES, UN Women and partners continued to use the ESP and further guidance designed to complement it to expand efforts at the global, regional and country levels that increased the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of coordinated VAWG survivor services.

→ *The ESP is globally recognized as the standard guidance for the development and strengthening of coordinated essential services for VAWG survivors and has been implemented in 100+ countries by UN Women.*¹⁷⁷

Along with efforts that strengthened VAWG services within the health, justice/police, social service sectors, UN Women, leveraging its convening role, continued to advance the coordination of services and prevention programmes across these and other sectors through supporting context-appropriate processes and mechanisms. These mechanisms included both VAWG prevention and response programming, which focused on coordinating comprehensive programming. As a result of this work, agreed VAWG prevention and response strategies were developed and implemented at global, regional and national levels, improving previous prevention efforts and survivor service provision. Coordination work on prevention is included under Finding 6. This section includes the results showing significant service expansion through supporting coordinated models (e.g., the above- mentioned ARCCs in Pakistan) and multisector coordination mechanisms.

Example of key results supporting this finding

Assessing the cost of VAWG survivor services to influence quality of care

- ESP Module 7¹⁷⁸ was designed to estimate the minimum resource requirements needed to provide quality, coordinated VAWG services across the health, justice/policing, and social services sector. However, it became clear that this exercise would be too complex, given the complexities of piloting an exercise costing the health sector and the decision was made to focus on the justice and social services sectors and coordination of these sectors. The costing methodology begins by identifying what resources (infrastructure, staff supplies, training, etc.) are needed for a minimum package of quality services, based on the ESP. The second part of the exercise consists of estimating the financial cost of implementing the identified package of components. Therefore, this guidance helps countries understand what is needed to provide quality services within their context and then produce a cost estimate for national budgets.¹⁷⁹
 - Module 7, developed under the EVAW Programme, was subsequently piloted by The University of Galway and UNFPA, with a focus on the social services sector in **Bangladesh, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea**. The process was conducted with diverse stakeholders to discuss what services were

¹⁷⁷ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

¹⁷⁸ [Module 7: Guidance on estimating resource requirements for a minimum package of services. Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence Core Elements and Quality Guidelines.](#)

¹⁷⁹ External partner KII.

being provided, what was needed, and what defined quality for the identified package of services. In **Pakistan**, the exercise was conducted with shelters in two provinces (Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), revealing factors contributing to low quality of care, such as overcrowding. The ministers in both provinces accepted the results as the basis for developing new policies for the shelters and committed to providing the necessary funding.¹⁸⁰

Strengthening and expanding social services

Social services perform a variety of functions critical to the immediate and long-term recovery for VAWG survivors, from crisis counseling and providing shelter to skill building services that enable women to seek employment. UN Women worked to strengthen and expand social services on many levels in many countries; the examples below focus on high level results at the global, regional, and country levels:

- In 2022, through partnering with the Global Network of Women's Shelters, UN Women's support facilitated expanded access to VAWG services for an untold number of survivors around the world with the launch and subsequent growth of '[Lila.help](#)'.¹⁸¹ **Lila.help is the first-ever online global directory of national helplines, local NGO shelters, crisis centres, and information on emergency services. It has been vetted for safety** (its practices align with international standards for VAWG service provision and are regularly monitored by the National Network on Ending Domestic Violence and META) **and accuracy** (the listings are up to date). The directory includes detailed information about relevant organizations for VAWG survivors and individuals at risk and is available in multiple languages and other criteria related to accessibility, including the presence of children's services. Lila.help is accessible to anyone with online access and is used by women in need of services as well as by those who use the directory for providing confidential referrals. Lila.help's users include women's families and friends, as well as service providers, embassy personnel, tourism staff, and UN Women. Lila.help includes safety features such as an easy exit.
 - Since its launch in 2022, Lila.help has grown from an initial 18 organizations in six countries to over 350 organizations in 124 countries by September 2024; and the directory is now available in 17 languages.¹⁸²
- In 2024, UN Women ROAP supported national consultations to finalize the Draft **Regional GBV/EVAWG Counselling Framework**. The Framework provides regional standards for quality GBV survivor counselling and was developed as part of an initiative of the Regional Working Group on the Implementation of Family Protection/Domestic Violence Legislation that included crisis centres, other members of the Pacific Women's Network Against Violence against Women, the UN Women Fiji MCO, and the Pacific Community. Once finalized, the Framework will be released across the Pacific and will increased access to high quality counselling services among survivors of GBV.¹⁸³
- To strengthen VAWG social services in **Kiribati**, the UN Women supported the development and implementation of a package of national guidelines aligned with the ESP standards in 2022. The **Kiribati Code of Ethics and Practice Standards for Domestic Violence Counselling** present ethical rules and expectations for registered domestic violence counsellors and organisations providing counselling services. The **Kiribati National Domestic Violence Counselling Register Guidelines for the Domestic Violence**

¹⁸⁰ External partner KII.

¹⁸¹ [Lila.Help](#)

¹⁸² External partner KII, Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁸³ Pacific Community (2024 May 8). [Pacific leads on delivering quality counselling services for survivors of gender-based violence](#). Accessed July 2024; UN Women (2024). UN Women Donor Report Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024. Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. UN Women internal document.

Counselling Register is a current public record of domestic violence counsellors who meet the minimum quality standards outlined in code of ethics and standards.¹⁸⁴

Coordination of services

UN Women has supported a range of strategies to strengthen VAWG service coordination in countries. These strategies include national and local coordination mechanisms, referral systems, and/or coordinated service models in a single locale, such as one-stop centers. These strategies have expanded survivor access to a comprehensive package of services spanning health, justice and policing, social services, and other sectors in multiple countries.

- At the regional level in 2021, UN Women ROAP convened a workshop to strengthen approaches to coordinated, multi-sectoral responses to violence against women and girls across the region that included more than 130 stakeholders from 12 countries (**Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste**) working in the health, justice and policing, social services, representing governments and CSOs. The workshop provided practical guidance on survivor-centred approaches and coordination across different sectors. Efforts to replicate the regional workshop at national levels subsequently took place in **Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste**, with support from UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP, and UNODC. These consultations were instrumental to shaping cross-sector agreements to build coordinated responses in these countries.¹⁸⁵
- The current SAFENET system in **Solomon Islands** and **Kiribati** are products of long-term investments that have become flagship models of multisectoral service response in the Pacific. As described, SAFENET is a national network of VAWG survivor service providers who coordinate together to provide services and referrals to survivors. While service coordination is challenging in many contexts, the challenges related geography of the Pacific Island countries can be so difficult, islands may not even have a police station.¹⁸⁶ UN Women's support under both the UN Joint Programme on ES and the current EVAW Programme has strengthened and expanded SAFENET in the two countries, including responding to the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, through establishing special referral pathways.¹⁸⁷
 - In **Kiribati**, expanding SafeNet to faith-based providers enhanced survivor access to confidential counselling, legal aid, and case management for women living in remote provinces.¹⁸⁸
 - In the **Solomon Islands**, UN Women's support of SAFENET under the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs helped expand services to eight of nine provinces, coupled with health provider training. This led to increased reporting as the availability of higher-quality care traveled by word of mouth.¹⁸⁹
- In **Viet Nam**, nearly three years of ESP-related advocacy and operational work culminated in the establishment of the first **One-Stop Model for Women and Children (OSM4WC)** in Ho Chi Min City under Decision 1275/QD-UBND. Subsequently, these centers were established in four more provinces. OSM4WCs house a range of essential services in one location (legal aid, health, etc.), saving women from having to attend multiple service delivery points. This model aims to assist women and children, particularly those facing violence and sexual abuse, but especially those socio-economically disadvantaged and marginalized,

¹⁸⁴ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

¹⁸⁵ UN Women (2021). '[Stepping Up Solutions to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific](#).' UN Women, New York.

¹⁸⁶ UN Women Fiji MCO KII.

¹⁸⁷ Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

¹⁸⁸ UN Women Kiribati KII.

¹⁸⁹ UN Women Fiji MCO KII.

such as migrants, LGBTQI, persons with disabilities.¹⁹⁰ A draft coordination mechanism and SOPs governing essential services for women and children were developed in Ho Chi Minh City and in Da Nang city.¹⁹¹ The proposed **E-PeaceHouse model** is based on a three-tiered, real-time coordination platform with the Cloud House (national), regional coordination zones, and community safe-access points, which will allow survivors to connect remotely (phone/web/app), be assessed, and receive appropriate support (e.g., self-care, remote consultations, referrals, emergency protection). The system is designed to facilitate real-time data collection, monitoring, and dissemination of VAW and VAC information, reducing geographic barriers and dependence on physical infrastructure.¹⁹² To ensure the quality of these one-stop centers, UN Women, in consultation with Ho Chi Minh City facilitated shared learning for 20 service providers and advisors of the Ho Chi Minh City OSM4WC and the Peace House Shelter to visit one-stop centres based in hospitals in the **Philippines**, which are among the most developed in ASEAN countries.¹⁹³

- In **Pakistan**, the Family Protection and Rehabilitation Center for Women in Islamabad was renovated to provide immediate and long-term recovery services for women, including, shelter, training in digital literacy, and small-business skills. In **Timor-Leste**, UN Women supported the establishment of a multisectoral Hotline and Helpline for GBV and VAC, along with development of ESP-aligned confidentiality and safety protocols.¹⁹⁴
- After years of consistent support from UN Women in **Cambodia**, there are functional coordination mechanisms at the national, provincial, and district levels. UN Women helped clarify the roles of national and provincial GBV working groups, ensured quarterly convenings, and provided financial and technical support for their operations. As a result, survivor service agencies are collaborating with each other and making appropriate referrals for the first time.¹⁹⁵

Finding 6: Through targeted advocacy and comprehensive capacity strengthening, UN Women advanced prevention policy, strategies and initiatives, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region

*"UN Women put prevention in the heart of government agendas and the UN system"*¹⁹⁶

Evidence gathered over the last three decades has shown that preventing violence against women and girls is possible; decreased levels of VAWG are associated with a range of effective interventions and practices.¹⁹⁷ The RESPECT Framework and related guidance developed by UN Women and partners (presented in Finding 1) focus on practical guidance and tools tailoring and implementing these evidence-based interventions in different contexts. UN Women has affirmed its commitment to VAWG prevention in the impact areas of its successive Strategic Plans,

¹⁹⁰ UN Women (2024). UN Women Donor Report Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024. Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. UN Women internal document.

¹⁹¹ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022. ¹⁹² Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025

¹⁹² Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁹³ UN Women (2024). Reflections: [Piloting the Essential Services Package \(ESP\) for Women and Girls Subject to Violence in Asia and the Pacific](#); UN Women (2024). UN Women Donor Report Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance Progress Report to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024. Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade UN Women internal document.

¹⁹⁴ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

¹⁹⁵ UN Women Cambodia KII.

¹⁹⁶ UN Women KII.

¹⁹⁷ [What works to prevent violence](#).

including its latest Strategic Plan (2026-2029).¹⁹⁸ UN Women is currently developing a Global Prevention Strategy that will guide the Entity's programming under the new Strategic Plan. The strategy has been developed through multiple consultations across all levels of the Entity and has drawn on the evidence generated by years of work in this area, much of which has been supported by DFAT.¹⁹⁹ The UN Women ROAP developed a regional strategy for prevention in 2020, aligned with the RESPECT Framework, that guided the extensive programming that took place in the region.²⁰⁰

As noted elsewhere in this evaluation, UN Women's approach to prevention under the EVAW Programme targeted structural change. This included advancing a strong understanding of VAWG prevention to push policy reform and changes to social norms that influence behaviour. UN Women's extensive work in this area enabled an understanding of what actions support primary prevention of VAWG, meaning targeting its root causes, such as programmes that influence norms and practices versus awareness-raising campaigns, which, while important, are generally not effective for long-term behaviour change.²⁰¹ Evidence syntheses and briefs promoted a five-step behaviour-change design process from behaviour identification to reinforcement and monitoring.²⁰² Building on this foundation, UN Women supported multiple efforts focusing on the design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of prevention strategies and interventions.

Example of key results supporting this Finding

Positioning Prevention on regional and national agendas

- UN Women co-convened the **Action Coalition (AC) GBV Community of Practice** meeting in 2024, bringing together approximately 60 participants from across regions and sectors. The meeting fostered dialogue around finance prevention, aligning NAPs with evidence-based strategies and integrating prevention into broader development and humanitarian frameworks.²⁰³
- UN Women with partners organized and supported a **series of global and regional advocacy and policy exchange events on preventing VAWG**. These events were designed to enrich the knowledge base, provide guidance and facilitate the exchange of best practices among policymakers and practitioners and advance the agenda for prevention:
 - Communications products such as the 'Her Future is Now,' an animation based on the RESPECT Framework, was a short, powerful film that described the comprehensive actions needed to prevent violence.²⁰⁴
 - The **APFSD side event** focused on evidence-based prevention at the systemic level, such as strengthening national strategies, cross-sector coordination, and ASEAN commitments to prevention.²⁰⁵ A **fireside chat at the ASEAN Women Leaders' Summit in Vientiane** in 2024, co-

¹⁹⁸ UN Women (2025). [UN Women Strategic Plan 2026-2029](#).

¹⁹⁹ UN Women KII, Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025

²⁰⁰ UN Women Asia and the Pacific (2020). [UN Women Asia Pacific regional strategy on VAW prevention. Draft](#).

²⁰¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025; UN Women multiple KIIs.

²⁰² UN Women and the Prevention Collaborative (2021). ['Awareness Raising to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls.' Practice Brief. UN Women and Prevention Collaborative](#); UN Women and the Prevention Collaborative (2021). ['Fostering Behaviour Change to Prevent Violence Against Women.'](#) Practice Brief.

²⁰³ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025; UN Women multiple KIIs.

²⁰⁴ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁰⁵ UN Women Regional Office Asia Pacific (ROAP) (2025). 12th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) 25-28 February 2025. SDG 5 Round table concept note. UN Women KII.

organized with UNFPA, gathered policymakers and civil society leaders to press for stronger investment in preventing VAWG in schools, workplaces, and communities.²⁰⁶

- **A cross-country exchange and learning on VAW Prevention and the RESPECT Framework** took place in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in 2023, hosted by the UN Women Centre of Excellence for Gender Equality (Seoul) and UN Women ROAP. The event convened stakeholders from governments, experts, and CSOs from 10 countries across Asia and the Pacific region to strengthen capacity for using the [RESPECT Implementation Package](#) and provide an opportunity for regional ERAW-related learning and exchange.²⁰⁷
- UN Women, DFAT, UNFPA, and the Prevention Collaborative co-designed the **Southeast Asia GBV Prevention Platform** between August 2022 and June 2023. The Platform improves coordination and collaboration in VAWG prevention in the Southeast Asia region through evidence-based advocacy, dialogue, policy and programming. The Platform also connects governments, civil society, non-government organizations, regional bodies and international organisations to coordinate prevention investments, evidence, and policymaker engagement, including addressing emerging forms of VAWG such as technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.²⁰⁸
- The UN Women ROAP increased **prevention tracking and accountability** with the MPPP technical accompaniment, implemented from 2023 to 2024, in partnership with the Equality Institute (EQI). The accompaniments used the MPPP to strengthen national-level systems for monitoring VAWG prevention in **Cambodia, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam** and was subsequently adopted by the three countries, using its national-level indicators to track short, medium, and long-term progress.²⁰⁹
- UN Women provided technical support to countries to **develop prevention strategies and plans**:
 - UN Women provided support to seven states in **Nigeria** to develop GBV prevention action plans to engage traditional and religious leadership in evidence-based strategies;
 - In **Pakistan**, UN Women convened a national workshop to use RESPECT to draft a national prevention roadmap, aligned with the draft National Policy on VAW. A roundtable follow-up created the momentum for a coordinated national approach for prevention.²¹⁰
 - In the **Philippines**, UN Women, together with the Prevention Collaborative, convened a three-day workshop in 2025 with national partners to operationalize its National Action Plan on ERAW (2025–2030) and plan coordinated, scalable prevention efforts. Participants identified priority behaviours linked to IPV, built coordinated action plans, explored links with women’s economic empowerment, and left with a context-specific roadmap.²¹¹
 - In **Papua New Guinea**, three context-appropriate RESPECT strategies were selected for planning prevention work, with a focus on developing a male engagement strategy.²¹²
- UN Women provided technical support to countries for **designing prevention interventions**: As described, the RESPECT Framework was used to promote intervention design in many countries in several regions. Workshops to rollout RESPECT strengthened capacity for designing prevention interventions in South Asia

²⁰⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025; UN Women multiple KIIs.

²⁰⁷ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁰⁸ Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (2025). [Southeast Asia Gender-based Violence Prevention Platform](#); Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁰⁹ UN Women KII.

²¹⁰ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025; UN Women multiple KIIs.

²¹¹ UN Women ROAP (20 July 2025) [LinkedIn post on Strengthening violence against women prevention efforts in the Philippines](#); UN Women KII.

²¹² UN Women Papua New Guinea KII.

(Bhutan, Maldives, Sri Lanka), East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe), West Africa (Nigeria) and Southeast Asia (Viet Nam).²¹³

- In **Nigeria**, technical support from the Prevention Collaborative following a ToT resulted in embedding prevention principles in government planning and enabled the development of prevention strategies in 13 states, leveraging zonal coordination with the Ministry of Women Affairs.²¹⁴
- In **Cambodia**, primary prevention is integrated into the NAPVAW IV, including to address climate and other crises. RESPECT was used to develop a prevention model focused on social norm change that will be piloted and include assessments and mapping.²¹⁵

Using M&E to solidify commitment and action for preventing VAWG

The guidance, [Making Progress in Prevention Possible](#) (MPPP), describes how to measure progress made towards VAWG prevention by defining what type of changes can be expected from effective programming in the short-, medium-, and long term, and identifies the specific areas of change within these stages. The MPPP highlights the importance of addressing data gaps related to intersecting forms of discrimination based on gender, age, disability, ethnicity and sexual orientation, to ensure that prevention efforts are responsive to the needs of diverse groups. The MPPP domains and associated indicators are tailored to the Asia-Pacific context, promoting regional consistency for measurement, meaning that progress in prevention can be tracked and compared across the region.²¹⁶

The programmatic strategy ensured successful uptake by engaging in a process that began with selecting countries based on both their interest and readiness for using the MPPP and continued through a technical accompaniment comprised of ongoing support provided to country partners by UN Women and/or EQI. Technical support was provided through workshops, events, and one-on-one trainings. Workshops convened government, CSO and other stakeholders to work inclusively and collaboratively towards a shared understanding of prevention and prevention monitoring within specific country context. For example, the first MPPP workshop in **Timor-Leste** convened government ministries, representatives from police, seven CSOs, various development partners and donor partners, ensuring that all key stakeholders were included and understood their individual roles in tracking national progress in prevention.²¹⁷

In this way, the technical accompaniments ensured countries had the capacity to use the framework and measure and report on the indicators at the national level across agreed domains (e.g., risk factors for violence; access to employment/health/justice; track government actions and commitments; implementation of laws; personnel training; and support to women's organizations). Multiple stakeholders highlighted how the MPPP, combined with the Prevention Programming Guide,²¹⁸ set the stage for realistic expectations for results for both countries and donors.²¹⁹ The MPPP was adopted by **Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Timor-Leste**.²²⁰

- **Cambodia** used the MPPP to strengthen the monitoring framework of NAPVAW IV (2024- 2030).
- In **Timor-Leste**, the Government took a significant step forward by committing to use a streamlined set of only six targeted indicators under its NAPVAW - from a previously very large set of indicators - focusing on prevention and essential services, including justice.

²¹³ Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

²¹⁴ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025; UN Women multiple KIIs.

²¹⁵ UN Women Cambodia KII.

²¹⁶ UN Women (2021). '[Stepping Up Solutions to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific](#).' UN Women, New York.

²¹⁷ The Equality Institute and UN Women (2021). 'Making Progress in Prevention Possible.' Lessons Learnt Paper.

²¹⁸ UN Women and the Prevention Collaborative (2023). '[Violence Against Women Prevention Programming Guide](#).'

²¹⁹ Multiple UN Women and external consultant KIIs.

²²⁰ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

- **Viet Nam** built a unified national approach to track prevention outcomes using MPPP indicators. An MPPP-informed desk mapping catalogued dispersed GBV-related datasets and confirmed that the country already collects national-level data that was aligned with MPPP indicators. The MPPP proved to be a valuable tool in 2025 during the governmental review of its national policy on gender equality.

Finding 7: Interventions aimed at shifting community norms showed promise

This finding relates to the success of the EVAW Programme in addressing another set of structural factors - norms and practices that influence the behavior of people and societies. UN Women, in collaboration with its partners, advanced the design and implementation of evidence-based prevention interventions, tailored to context, which showed promise in transforming community norms and practices. As noted under Finding 2, these prevention efforts also succeeded in changing institutional practices at the national and local levels.

Example of key results supporting this Finding

Strategic use of storytelling, social media, and high-level events to influence norm change

- **Nearly half a million people were reached worldwide** with moving personal stories of surviving VAWG through an initiative implemented in partnership with [The Moth](#), a globally renowned storytelling organization with a large online presence and following. This survivor-centered, trauma-informed storytelling initiative empowered 20 female-identifying and non-binary gender equality advocates, women's rights activists and feminists from eight countries across Asia and the Pacific to use personal narratives to advocate for social norm change to accelerate the end of violence against women and girls. This innovative approach elevated survivor voices, fostered inclusive feminist advocacy, and contributed to shifting discriminatory beliefs.²²¹
- The UN Women ROAP and the Equality Institute produced, [Her Future is Now](#), an animation video that showcases the transformative journey of how Lina's community moved to prevent VAWG and ensure a safer future for all girls. This powerful work highlights the comprehensive and inclusive approach that is effective in preventing VAWG, based on the RESPECT Framework.²²²
- The UN Women ROAP partnered with the Asian Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) to support [Breakthrough](#) to organize the pan-Asian summit, *The Reframe: Envisioning a World without GBV*. The Summit convened CSOs and other stakeholders from the **Asia and Pacific region** to exchange knowledge and good practices on VAW prevention. UN Women facilitated sessions on the RESPECT Framework and, in collaboration with Quilt, a session on online opposition to gender equality.²²³ The Summit resulted in an intersectional feminist advocacy agenda on prevention/norm change, identification of high-level policy priorities, and a regional action plan aligned with global mechanisms.²²⁴

Implementing curricula with youth groups and in schools to change social norms

Across the Asia Pacific region, the UN Women ROAP and partners advanced two flagship, evidence-based, youth-centred prevention curricula described under Finding 1: **Voices against Violence (VaV)** and **Connect with Respect (CwR)**.

- The **Voices against Violence** curriculum was implemented in two phases in **Thailand**, equipping adolescents with knowledge, leadership skills and confidence.

²²¹ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

²²² Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

²²³ Breakthrough (2022) 'The Reframe: A pan Asian summit. Envisioning a world without GBV. Report.; Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.' Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

²²⁴ Breakthrough (2022) '[The Reframe: A pan Asian summit. Envisioning a world without GBV.](#)' Report.

- **Phase I:** UN Women partnered with World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and the Girl Guides Association of **Thailand** (GGAT) in 2023 to implement the curriculum in a cascading model of capacity strengthening tailored to the Thai context; learning materials were translated and adapted into the Thai language and were implemented with Girl Guides, their leaders, and volunteers. The trained Girl Guides were supported by GGAT to further implement VaV in 14 Thai schools. Young people who participated reported improved knowledge, attitudes, and preparedness to act. Further, one school developed its own resource package on gender and EVAWG to integrate VaV into its regular school curriculum. The teacher leading the rollout of the curriculum was awarded a plaque of honour and won second place as a 'Model Teacher in Learning Management for Sexuality Education and Active Learning Life Skills,' an award presented by the Ministry of Education.²²⁵
 - **Phase II** was implemented in 2024-2025 with a strengthened focus on adapting the curriculum to the Thai context. Students demonstrated gains in understanding, with teachers reporting notable improvements in confidence, critical thinking, and leadership. The 'Take Action' component spurred student-led outreach and campaigns that reached peers and teachers, with many students speaking at assemblies and launching social media pages to promote respectful relationships.²²⁶
- Between 2021 and 2025, UN Women, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Training in **Viet Nam**, provided sustained support to scale and institutionalize the **Connect with Respect** toolkit to prevent school-related gender-based violence, with strong results.
- The Multi-Country 'Connect with Respect' ('CwR') study,²²⁷ conducted with UNESCO and the University of Melbourne in consultation with UN Women ROAP, highlights key results of implementing CwR across five countries in Asia and Africa (**Eswatini, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Zambia**): relationships between students improved; help-seeking behaviour increased; and negative bystander actions were reduced. These are promising results for adaptation across contexts.²²⁸
 - The successful earlier CwR pilot in **Viet Nam** (funded by DFAT in an earlier initiative) led to a national-level adaptation and rollout of materials, strengthened capacities of educators and education authorities, development of school workplans, and regional knowledge-sharing.²²⁹ In 2024-2025, the CwR was adapted for continuing and vocational education centres serving marginalized learners in Dien Bien, Da Nang, and Ho Chi Minh City, with results showing stronger teacher and student knowledge and practice around GBV, increased equitable treatment, and higher rates of help-seeking and peer support.²³⁰
 - The UN Women ROAP partnered with the Political Education and Students Affairs Department to design and print the Connect with Respect ('CwR') toolkit and a photobook entitled Journey of Changes. The photobook documents best practices and lessons learned from the CwR in five schools.²³¹

²²⁵ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

²²⁶ UN Women and WAGGS (2025). A final report of the violence against women and girl prevention program October 2024-April 2025; UN Women ROAP (27 June 2025). '[Empowering young people to prevent violence against women and girls in southern Thailand's schools.](#)'

²²⁷ Cahill, Helen, Babak Dadvand, Anne Suryani, Anne Farrelly (2022). '[Analysis of experience and outcomes of Connect with Respect violence prevention programme: a five country study.](#)' UNESCO Harare, and the University of Melbourne. HAR/ED-HW/2022/8

²²⁸ Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

²²⁹ First Progress Report (2021) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2020 – 30 June 2021.

²³⁰ UN Women ROAP (May 2025) Preliminary report on Connect with Respect implementation in Viet Nam.

²³¹ Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

- The described University-level work in **Thailand** under the HeForShe University Tour resulted in Thailand's first dedicated campus policy on preventing and responding to sexual harassment/violence, adopted by Thammasat University, and other institutions (e.g., Chulalongkorn, Mahidol International College, Webster, and Stamford) committed to research, policy development, student collaboration, and the #PolicyPlease student campaign and Gender Equality Club.²³²

Scaling up community-based prevention

- A three-year Technical Assistance Institutional Cohort hosted by [Raising Voices](#) was launched to support adapting and implementing SASA,²³³ the ground-breaking community behaviour change programme developed by Raising Voices. This technical assistance will ensure country office personnel have the resources and tools they need to adapt and implement SASA! effectively.²³⁴
- After the successful prevention work in **Viet Nam**, the UN Women ROAP coordinated with country offices in **Timor-Leste** and **Viet Nam** to share learning and insights at a roundtable organized by DFAT, entitled 'Launch of Regional Reports on COVID-19 Impacts on Girls' Learning and Wellbeing in PICS and SSSEA – Informal DFAT Girls' Education and Wellbeing Roundtable' in 2023.²³⁵
- UN Women co-founded the **Oceania Impact Network** and is co-creating a **Pacific Safe Sports Hub** with the University of Queensland and Olympic bodies to prevent/respond to violence in sport and other sports-based prevention interventions, including the globally recognized '[Get into Rugby Plus](#).'²³⁶

Finding 8 (Impact): The efforts of the EAW Programme resulted in transformative advances at global, regional and country levels, affirming UN Women's unique leadership and pivotal role in the EAW space

Recent independent corporate evaluations of UN Women's work on ending violence against women and girls had similar observations about the Entity's central and critical role in the EAW ecosystem, both within and external to the UN system. UN Women's corporate strategy for ending violence against women and girls stems from its founding principles, and triple mandate.²³⁷ The effectiveness of implementing the strategy through the various global, regional and country efforts described has clearly positioned UN Women as a technical leader in the EAW space.²³⁸ UN Women was viewed by external country partners as the 'go-to' agency for EAW matters.²³⁹ A similar finding was echoed in the 2021 review of the DFAT-UN Women Strategic Partnership.²⁴⁰

The current EAW Programme was designed to consolidate VAWG prevention and response together into a single, comprehensive initiative that would expand on the foundational work that took place under earlier DFAT-UN Women EAW initiatives in both areas.²⁴¹ UN Women's distinctive vision for driving change at the structural level shaped the design and delivery of the EAW Programme's multiple interventions that have cumulatively resulted in

²³² UN Women (2021). '[Stepping Up Solutions to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific](#).' UN Women, New York.

²³³ Raising Voices. [The SASA Story](#)

²³⁴ Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

²³⁵ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

²³⁶ UN Women KII.

²³⁷ UN Women IEAS (2021). '[Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women](#)'.

²³⁸ UN Women IEAS (2025). '[Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts](#).' New York; UN Women IEAS (2021). [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women](#).

²³⁹ UN Women IEAS (2021). '[Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women](#)' p. 8.

²⁴⁰ Friedman, Judith and Jenny Geppert (2021) [UN Women- DFAT Strategic Partnership Framework](#). Review Report: Final Date: 16-03-2021.

²⁴¹ External partner KII.

transformative impacts at the global, regional and country levels and has reinforced the Entity's position as a global leader in the EVAW space, within and beyond the UN system.

Leveraging UN Women's strategic commitment to long lasting change, the majority of the EVAW Programme's work streams targeted and achieved foundational shifts, as demonstrated by the many new or reformed laws, policies, and protocols, global and regional commitments, increased access to coordinated, quality survivor services, and the transformation of norms and practices in government bodies, institutions, women's organizations, and communities. Investing in structural change takes vision: the eventual impact of the work will be stronger and longer lasting than efforts designed for short-term change (such as awareness campaigns). However, these structural interventions take time to show results.

Under the EVAW Programme, UN Women's methods and actions consistently demonstrated the type of persistent patience, stemming from a deep knowledge of context, needed to achieve significant results. Partners consistently characterized UN Women's contributions as evidence-driven work oriented towards structural and institutional change.²⁴² In the words of one KII participant who described a significant national change that took place after years of work,

"The challenge is working with the government, it is slow... but it is what leads to sustainability...there are many times we think, 'Oh, we're never going to get that done,' but still we need to do it ... at their pace, because they have so many competing demands...if we look back though...over the years, we've come a long way."

One of the keystones of UN Women's programming success in the EVAW space is the collaborative and expansive way that partners are engaged, right from the get-go - in the design, implementation, and further advancement of programmatic efforts. The findings describe many of the diverse partnerships strengthened or formed under the EVAW Programme and the pivotal role these partnerships played in the eventual success of multiple efforts. Partners were engaged as technical experts, as the voices of survivors, marginalized women, and communities, as government policy- and programme-decision makers, actors in global and regional bodies, and sister UN agencies, among others. In multiple interviews, external partners working at the global and country levels of the EVAW Programme expressed that working with UN Women lent the credibility to their work that enabled them to grow.²⁴³ UN Women supported many partners after recognizing their potential for innovation, which led to ground-breaking work in the field.

Women's rights organizations (WROs), CSOs, and women's movements are a different type of partner, and one that is often sidelined or forgotten. For VAWG prevention and response, these organizations and groups are not only in touch with the lived reality of the women and girls these interventions are designed to help, they also shoulder most of the work done in communities in both areas. UN Women's key role in supporting women's groups, CSOs, and women's movements stems from its mandate, which is unique within the UN system and has been recognized widely, and also noted in the most recent independent corporate evaluation.²⁴⁴ Under the EVAW Programme, UN Women's work to support CSOs and CSO networks resulted in driving agendas and policy change at the global, regional and country levels, and strengthening and expanding the provision of essential services to VAWG survivors.

UN Women provided expansive support to these organizations, including to grantees of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and Girls. This involved ensuring that CSOs were included in processes and capacity strengthening for advocacy, leadership and technical capacity. All these strategies were critical to ensuring that hard-to-reach women and those facing intersecting forms of discrimination were both included in processes and reached by interventions (focus under Finding 9). Partners at the regional and country levels noted that UN Women is the only agency consistently supporting women's rights organizations on EVAW, underscoring its convening and platform-building role in and outside the UN system.²⁴⁵

²⁴² Multiple external partner KIIs.

²⁴³ Multiple external partner KIIs.

²⁴⁴ UN Women IEAS (2025). '[Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts.](#)' New York.

²⁴⁵ Multiple external and UN Women KIIs.

This section presents evidence that highlights UN Women's leadership, strategic partnerships, support to CSOs, and how efforts implemented under the ERAW Programme continued to expand and influence efforts in the ERAW space. The examples selected demonstrate an overlap with those cited under other findings specific to an area of focus. For example, the High-Level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing was mentioned as part of the richness of UN Women's work as a leader in this area but is also a key example of UN Women's global leadership.

Examples of key results supporting this Finding

UN Women as a global and regional leader in the ERAW space

- **As co-lead of the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Gender-Based Violence**, UN Women created significant momentum by providing a shared vision and accountability framework, resulting in over \$5 billion in financial pledges on GBV and the implementation of over 600 programmes.²⁴⁶
- UN Women serves as **Secretariat of the High-Level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing**. UN Women supported the first High-Level Network meeting at CSW69 (2025), where members adopted Terms of Reference, showcased good practices, including prioritizing capacity-building, norm change within police organizations, and responses to emerging forms of violence, such as TFVAWG.²⁴⁷
- Leveraging the CSW66 negotiations to advance the global knowledge and attention to **gender and climate change**, UN Women partnered with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to produce the described the above-mentioned guidance note.²⁴⁸
- UN Women moved quickly to react to the **COVID-19 pandemic**, drawing global attention to the '**shadow pandemic**,' a phrase coined by UN Women and now the recognized term used to describe the upscale of all types of violence against women and girls during the lockdowns.²⁴⁹
- **Across Asia and the Pacific**, the UN Women ROAP played a leading convening and technical role in **shaping policy agendas that embedded evidence-based prevention and survivor-centred response**, and supporting **groundbreaking work in emerging areas**. For example, the UN Women ROAP and partners co-facilitated ASEAN's first regional dialogue on the intersection of VAW and VAC, which affirmed ASEAN's commitment to this important new focus.²⁵⁰
- The United Nations Joint Programme on GBV Prevention in Southeast Asia (UN Women and UNFPA), funded by DFAT, supports the **Southeast Asia Gender-Based Violence Prevention Platform** by leveraging existing national, regional and international platforms, evidence, networks and relationships.²⁵¹
- UN Women supported the Asia-Pacific regional rollout of the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls.²⁵²

Strategic partnerships facilitated innovative work for preventing and responding to VAWG

1. **The Hellenistic Risk Assessment Tool** developed with UN Women's support by BiaStop! (stop violence), a national NGO in **Greece**) is now mandated by law for use across the country by all first responders. This partnership started after BiaStop! attended CSW63 (2019), where one of its founding forensic psychologists

²⁴⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁴⁷ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025; and UN Women (2025). [The High-Level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing: Building commitment on gender-responsive policing](#).

²⁴⁸ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

²⁴⁹ CNBC (24 July 2020) [UN director warns of a 'shadow pandemic' of violence against women during lockdowns](#) and [Ipsos and UN Women study brings new light to the "shadow pandemic"](#)

²⁵⁰ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025. UN Women KII.

²⁵¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁵² Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

met with UN Women to discuss a risk assessment tool that would be used to prevent and respond to VAWG. Under Greek law, the tool can be used to offer protection to at-risk women and girls before violence occurs. The Tool development was in its nascent phase and UN Women recognized its potential and supported the Tool's remaining development and piloting under the EVAW Programme.²⁵³

2. UN Women partnered with the Global Network of Women's Shelters (GNWS) who developed **Lila.help, the online global directory of VAWG services**. Before partnering with UN Women, GNWS experienced challenges in mobilizing funds to expand Lila.help. UN Women recognized the potential that Lila.help represented through expanding access to VAWG survivor services, and the Entity offered key support that enabled Lila.help to grow to its current numbers, with listed vetted organizations in much of the world. Lila.help continues to expand, facilitating service access to survivors globally. GNWS attributes the credibility conferred to the organization as a result of its partnership with UN Women, and that this was pivotal in Lila.Help receiving funding from other organizations, such as ACCOR and the Kering Foundation to continue this work.²⁵⁴
3. UN Women partnered with Co-Develop and the Centre for Digital Public Infrastructure and together explored the gendered aspects of Digital Public Infrastructure and its potential for improving the lives of women and girls through designing and building DPI with their perspectives in mind. UN Women recognized the importance of this work from the outset, joined the Digital Public Goods Alliance, and this portfolio has now expanded into a new, innovative programming stream, with the potential to eventually develop a Digital Public Good for Gender Justice.²⁵⁵

Empowering CSO action and influence in the Asia Pacific region

- The **Asia Network to Prevent GBV**, the first pan-Asian civil society network focused on VAWG prevention, held its inaugural meeting at the 2024 SVRI Forum²⁵⁶ as a result of the UN Women ROAP's sustained support provided to this network. This opportunity provided space for the Network to share their advocacy agenda, seed funding, and technical assistance.²⁵⁷
- Recognizing that Asia-Pacific based CSOs have been underrepresented at SVRI Forums, **UN Women ROAP strategically engaged with SVRI leadership** in 2023. Two regional consultations with CSO networks identified the need for targeted support to develop abstracts, and a regional capacity-building session was held with CSO representatives from diverse organizations. **Abstract submissions from the Asia-Pacific region to the SVRI Forum increased by 32 percent** between 2022 and 2024, **along with acceptance rates:** 46 abstracts from East Asia and the Pacific were accepted in 2024, representing a 39 percent increase from 2022, while accepted abstracts from South Asia more than doubled, rising by 117 percent from 24 to 52.²⁵⁸
- Expanding access to advocacy spaces:
 - To ensure youth presence in intergovernmental spaces, the **UN Women ROAP facilitated Thai Girl Guides' participation in the CSO Forum ahead of CSW67** regional consultations to network with veteran advocates and shape recommendations.²⁵⁹
 - UN Women ROAP facilitated the participation of WROs and CSOs in multiple fora, including at the **Pacific Regional Prevention Summit**, which synthesized the lived experience of survivors and

²⁵³ External partner KII.

²⁵⁴ External partner KII. The Lila.Help initiative received funding from the ACCOR Hotel Group to strengthen its list of available services for survivors and those at risk in the South-East Asia region and most recently, in 2025, support from the Kering Foundation. Both organizations are Leaders and Commitment Makers in the Generation Equality Gender-Based Violence Action Coalition.

²⁵⁵ External partner KII.

²⁵⁶ SVRI (2024). [SVRI Forum '24: Connect-share-learn](#). Cape Town, South Africa, 21-25 October 2024.

²⁵⁷ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁵⁸ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁵⁹ First Progress Report (2021) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2020 – 30 June 2021.

evidence for action,²⁶⁰ and **at the Beijing+30** roundtable to advance sustainable EVAWG strategies,²⁶¹ and at the 2023 Seoul conference on femicide.²⁶²

- **Empowering capacity strengthening** efforts took many forms and covered everything from skills-building in specific areas to ensuring that CSOs were convened with government partners in participatory processes:
- UN Women facilitated a session on the critical role of women's movements in driving systemic change and prioritizing marginalized groups, such as women migrant workers, as part of a regional workshop, held in Bangkok in 2024. This resulted in a stronger network of advocates focused on ending violence against women in **Thailand** who came together to focus on advocating for law and policy reform on VAW.
 - In **Sri Lanka**, WRO and CSO capacity was strengthened to design, implement and measure social norms and behaviour change under the DFAT-funded THRIVE programme.²⁶³
 - The MPPP technical accompaniment in **Cambodia, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam** convened CSOs with multiple government ministries to set priorities and monitor baselines.²⁶⁴
 - **Partnering with the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and Girls** to provide capacity strengthening sessions to CSOs resulted in a 91 per cent increase in applications originating from the **Asia-Pacific region**.²⁶⁵

The EVAW Programme catalyzed further programming

The programmatic review of the JP on ES found that its implementation catalyzed and informed future EVAW programming. Similarly, the impact level results described under the current initiative could not have been achieved without the extensive foundation laid by the work of the previous DFAT-funded initiatives in prevention and response, and evidence for the same catalytic effect was observed for the EVAW Programme.

- The ESP and RESPECT Framework consistently serve as guidance for new initiatives. The EU-funded Spotlight Initiative (both phases) based their prevention and response pillars on the RESPECT Framework and the ESP, respectively.²⁶⁶
- In the **Americas and Caribbean**, UN Women with PAHO adapted the RESPECT Framework to the regional context and rolled it out in **Chile** and **Bolivia**.
- In the **Pacific**, the ESP informed and laid the groundwork for development of the Pacific Partnership on VAWG prevention and response.²⁶⁷
- In **Pakistan**, the ESP was described as being:

*"the language of the government...Everyone (government actors across sectors, CSOs, etc.) knows, when you're talking about quality services for survivors, that's the ESP."*²⁶⁸

²⁶⁰ UN Women IEAS (2025). ['Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts.'](#) New York.

²⁶¹ UN Women (2024). Event Recap: Roundtable: [Sustainable Strategies to Respond to and Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls in an Era of Uncertainty at the AP Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+30 Review.](#)

²⁶² Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁶³ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁶⁴ The Equality Institute and UN Women (2021). Making Progress in Prevention Possible. Lessons Learnt Paper.

²⁶⁵ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁶⁶ UN Women 'Independent Evaluation and Audit Service (IEAS) (2020). Corporate evaluation of UN Women's Flagship Programme Initiatives (FPIs)' and the ['Corporate evaluation of UN Women's Flagship Programme Initiatives \(FPIs\) and the Thematic Priorities \(TPs\) of the Strategic Plan \(SP\) 2018–2021.](#)

²⁶⁷ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

²⁶⁸ UN Women KII.

3.3 Programme coherence and efficiency

3 How well did EVAW Programme efforts create synergies and complementary linkages with other EVAW initiatives supported by UN Women and others in the EVAW space?

Finding 9: The flexibility and length of donor investment enabled UN Women to address gaps, complement ongoing efforts, and accelerate progress, leveraging its convening role

UN Women's skilled and savvy management of the current EVAW Programme resulted the design and implementation of highly effective strategies that influenced significant change at all levels of programming. The EVAW Programme was designed to enable UN Women to build on the strong foundation of its programmatic successes attained under earlier the DFAT-funded initiatives that have been documented by several previous evaluations, including the programmatic review of the Joint Programme on Essential Services²⁶⁹ and the recent corporate evaluations.²⁷⁰ UN Women KII participants consistently commented that the flexible structure of the generous award from the Government of Australia, coupled with the years of investment, was critical to the attainment of the noted outcomes and impacts.²⁷¹ This was also mentioned by external partners who described how the flexibility of long term contracts and their deliverables paved the way for innovative efforts that moved the field forward.²⁷²

The funding investments from the Government of Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade were awarded to UN Women for the two parts of the initiative covered by this evaluation (i.e., excluding the funds distributed to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women) and between 2019-2025 were as follows:²⁷³

Award amounts in AUD:

Period covered	Response efforts	Prevention efforts
2019-2021	4, 500,000.00	1,500,000
2022-2025	4, 500,000.00	2,000,000
Totals	9,000,000	3,500,000

The flexible and long-term nature of this funding facilitated the observed programme responsiveness in addressing gaps, scaling up ongoing promising efforts, and supporting newly identified priorities, concerns and opportunities; this was similarly noted in the review of the DFAT-UN Women initiative.²⁷⁴

The cornerstone of UN Women's success in implementing its strategic vision for ending violence against women and girls stems from its convening role to engage participation and collaboration of the wide range of partners noted,

²⁶⁹ Annex of the Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025: Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence: Phases I and II (2013-2019) End Term Programmatic Review.

²⁷⁰ UN Women Independent Evaluation and Audit Service (IEAS) (2020). [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's Flagship Programme Initiatives \(FPIs\) and the Thematic Priorities \(TPs\) of the Strategic Plan \(SP\) 2018–2021](#). UN Women IEAS (2021). [Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women](#); UN Women IEAS (2025). [Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts](#). New York.

²⁷¹ Multiple UN Women KIIs with personnel at the global, regional and country levels.

²⁷² Multiple external partner interviews with UN Women consultants.

²⁷³ Third-Party Cost Sharing Arrangement between the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and trade ('DFAT') and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment; Proposal on Ending Violence Against Women Between the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ('DFAT') and The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and The Empowerment of Women ('UN Women') Extension 2022-2025.

²⁷⁴ Friedman, Judith and Jenny Geppert (2021) [UN Women- DFAT Strategic Partnership Framework](#). Review Report: Final Date: 16-03-2021.

both within and external to the UN system. The results presented are supported with examples of partnerships that range from women's organizations and movements on the ground to government actors in national, regional and global bodies and institutions, and academics, researchers, and non-governmental organizations with special expertise.

Example of key results supporting this Finding

Leveraging funding flexibility

DFAT and UN Women intentionally combined prevention and response under one investment umbrella to reinforce the complementary synergies of the programmatic efforts in both areas.²⁷⁵ DFAT's partnership approach was described as supportive and trusting of programme leadership, flexible (including with no-cost extensions) and facilitating responsiveness to emerging needs.²⁷⁶ UN Women leveraged the flexibility of this support to continue programme momentum, adapt workplans, and bridge gaps across the Essential Services Package (ESP) and prevention portfolios. UN Women interview participants used words to describe the funding mechanism as "catalytic," delivering "bang for the buck," and quick pivots to "what the moment is calling for," by funding critical pieces work that made comprehensive strategies possible, particularly during COVID-19.²⁷⁷ For example:

- Demonstrating its management efficiency in delivering results despite the shifting contexts under the EVAW Programme, UN Women met virtually all the Year 3 and Year 4 milestones under the updated DFAT agreement of 28 June 2022.²⁷⁸ Guidance on the use of safe technologies in service delivery was developed at the regional level, with a special focus on the needs of migrants and, although not supported directly by the DFAT programme, UN Women released guidance on [addressing violence against women through social protection: a review of the evidence](#)
 - Consultant contracts for technical support to regional and country offices were structured with a mix of specific deliverables (e.g., the web-based Violence Against Women Prevention Programming Guide) and intentionally broad ones (e.g., technical support for the design of evidence-based programmes). This created a responsive "framework of deliverables" that could be re-prioritized as needs emerged.²⁷⁹
- Many stakeholders noted that the funding structure of the DFAT award from the outset proved vital during COVID-19, facilitating swift adjustments, such as adapting efforts like service provision and prevention programming for online delivery.²⁸⁰
- As shown in the section on CSO support, UN Women and partners helped channel resources to facilitate capacity strengthening for CSO-led efforts in the EVAW space. The success of this strategy was illustrated by the rise in proposals to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, as well as the noted increased participation at the 2024 SVRI forum.²⁸¹
- In **Pakistan**, UN Women funded strategic gaps to facilitate meaningful ESP-related work that lacked funds, such as supporting prosecutor training in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and partnering with UNODC in a joint workplan to support police and prosecutors across Punjab and Sindh.²⁸²

²⁷⁵ External partner KII.

²⁷⁶ UN Women KIIs at all levels.

²⁷⁷ Multiple UN Women interviews.

²⁷⁸ Third-Party Cost Sharing Arrangement between the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ('DFAT') and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment; Proposal on Ending Violence Against Women Between the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ('DFAT') and The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and The Empowerment of Women ('UN Women') Extension 2022-2025.

²⁷⁹ External partner KIIs.

²⁸⁰ Multiple UN Women KIIs.

²⁸¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁸² UN Women Pakistan KII.

- In **Viet Nam**, funding was used to enable adjustments to the mentioned government restructuring, preserving capacity and relationships despite the rapid change in political context.²⁸³

UN system coordination

Interview data from UN Women offices at all levels reflected that, despite challenges, UN Women's mandate as a coordinating Entity within the UN system was pivotal in forging partnerships with sister agencies to deliver credible joint responses at the global, regional and national levels.²⁸⁴ UN Women consistently mobilized UN entities to strengthen survivor-centred essential services, including UNFPA, UNODC, WHO, UNCHR, UNICEF, UNESCO and ILO.²⁸⁵

- As UN Women supported [Lila.help](#) to expand its directory of resources, UNICEF was working on the [Laaha Platform](#) that provides information to women and girls on sexual and reproductive health and GBV, and information on where and how to access needed services.²⁸⁶ To ensure that the work on both platforms was complementary rather than duplicative, UN Women worked to coordinate UNICEF with GNWS.²⁸⁷
- In the [EU–UN Spotlight Initiative](#), UN Women assumed the technical coherence agency role in more than 70 percent of country and regional programmes and allocated over \$86 million to women-led and feminist CSOs over five years.²⁸⁸
- Partnering with UNFPA and UNICEF, UN Women's support to ASEAN raised the regional commitment to the nexus of VAW and VAC sectors,²⁸⁹ based on earlier collaborative work that mapped opportunities to integrate policy and services for the intersection of VAW and VAC in families, relationships, and schools.²⁹⁰
- In **Cambodia, Pakistan, and Viet Nam**, where collaborative UN work took place under Phase II of the JP on ES, UN Women served as the overall coordinating entity for continued rollout of the ESP.²⁹¹
 - In **Viet Nam**, UN Women with UNFPA, UNODC, and WHO collaborated with six key line ministries and local authorities during COVID-19, training over half the number of service providers reached under Phase II of the JP on ES in a single year.²⁹²
 - In **Cambodia**, UN Women collaborated closely with UNFPA to ensure complementary assessments of case-management (UNFPA) and coordination-mechanisms.²⁹³
 - Coordination between the **Spotlight Initiative** and **Pacific Partnership** ensured that the work of two large initiatives operating in the same region was complementary, coordinating efforts and shared objectives on ending VAW.²⁹⁴

²⁸³ UN Women Viet Nam KII.

²⁸⁴ Multiple UN Women KIIs.

²⁸⁵ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

²⁸⁶ [Laha](#)

²⁸⁷ External partner KII.

²⁸⁸ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

²⁸⁹ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

²⁹⁰ UNICEF, UNFPA, and UN Women (2021). [Ending Violence against Women and Children in Asia and the Pacific: Opportunities and Challenges for Collaborative and Integrative Approaches](#). Bangkok: UNICEF, UNFPA and UN Women.

²⁹¹ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁹² Second Progress Report (2022) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2021 – 30 June 2022.

²⁹³ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

²⁹⁴ UN Women Fiji MCO KII.

3.4 Programme sustainability

4 How did the EVAW Programme ensure that its interventions would continue to strengthen and transform VAWG services and prevention?

Finding 10: Sustainability was built into EVAW Programme Strategies, but funding is needed to continue the momentum

The current EVAW Programme was built on the former DFAT-funded initiatives that developed, tested, and promoted the global, standard guidance for implementing VAWG prevention and response efforts (i.e., the RESPECT Women Framework and the Essential Services Package) that are now being used in multiple countries in all regions. Under the current initiative, UN Women continued to implement these frameworks by developing, testing and supporting the implementation of additional guidance, tools, and protocols based on the foundational frameworks. The technical documents described under Finding 1 served to fill identified gaps by expanding on specific areas covered in both Frameworks (e.g., the Handbook on Gender-Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence; the MPPP) as well as augment them with information and methods pertaining to new and emerging evidence and priorities. The work that UN Women and partners did around these new guidance documents and tools both kept the global standards relevant in this dynamic field and facilitated their implementation with practical tools. In this way, the EVAW Programme has left a lasting legacy for VAWG prevention and response.

The sustainability of EVAW Programme work can also be observed in the many interventions that influenced structural changes in countries through legal and policy reform and the development of adoption of SOPs at the national and institutional level. Stakeholders stressed that structural legal and policy reforms endure and create enabling conditions for other interventions; pairing these reforms with movement strengthening increases the likelihood of long-term violence reduction.²⁹⁵ The success of these initiatives also stemmed from the empowering and respectful approach UN Women uses with governments and international bodies that encouraged commitment and ownership.²⁹⁶

- In the **Solomon Islands**, SafeNet evolved into a coordinated, government-led network providing multi-sectoral response services. SafeNet continues to expand across provinces, and the internal expertise of service provider organizations continues to grow. SafeNet stands as an example of long-term local ownership and leadership by the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs.²⁹⁷

Most of the policy work in countries focused on the development and or revision of National Action Plans on violence against women. NAPs are recognized as accountability tools and coordination mechanisms that ensure that violence against women and girls remains on government and stakeholder agendas; these plans, once developed, can be renewed for subsequent cycles to sustain focus and investment.²⁹⁸

- **Cambodia** stands as the strongest example of how policy development at the national level can instill the type of ownership that leads to sustainability. UN Women's support led to the iterative strengthening of successive NAPs. As described, the processes for developing the NAPVAW IV, starting with an evaluation of the NAPVAW III, led to the inclusion of explicit actions for LGBTIQ+ people and women with disabilities. This illustrated institutional learning and commitment from one plan cycle to the next.²⁹⁹

²⁹⁵ UN Women KII.

²⁹⁶ Multiple stakeholder KIIs.

²⁹⁷ UN Women SOI and Fiji MCO KIIs.

²⁹⁸ UN Women KII.

²⁹⁹ UN Women Cambodia KII.

Capacity strengthening efforts were often designed with lengthy periods of technical support that raised skill levels and confidence in partners at all levels. This type of deep technical support resulted in long-term changes such as the demonstrated uptake of curricula into regular training and educational programmes and the ability to implement programmatic action.

- In the **Solomon Islands**, the Ministry of Women has been working with the police academy to develop a GBV module for pre-service training to ensure all incoming officers receive training in how to deliver GBV services.³⁰⁰ In **Pakistan**, the ESP was integrated into the curriculum of the Training Institute for the police and judiciary.³⁰¹ In **Viet Nam**, UN Women worked with continuing education centers to integrate school-related GBV content into the national continuing education system.³⁰² In **Thailand**, the Voices against Violence curriculum was adapted and integrated into a school curriculum.³⁰³
- In **Pakistan**, UN Women and the Prevention Collaborative supported a strategic national process, guided by Handbook on Multisectoral National Action Plans to Prevent VAWG, that focused on skilling stakeholders on implementing the forthcoming National Strategy to End Violence against Women.³⁰⁴
- In **Papua New Guinea**, three locally relevant components of the RESPECT Framework were adopted, which encouraged future investment from the European Union.³⁰⁵

³⁰⁰ UN Women SOI KII.

³⁰¹ UN Women Pakistan KII.

³⁰² UN Women Vietnam KII.

³⁰³ Third Progress Report (2023) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2022 – 30 June 2022.

³⁰⁴ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

³⁰⁵ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

4 Lessons Learned

The EVAW Programme was a complex initiative that implemented many diverse global, regional, and national efforts to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls across contexts that varied from the island nations in the Pacific to countries in Western Africa. In addition to the usual challenges faced by programmes in the field pertaining to emerging crises and changes in local political structures, the first two years of the EVAW Programme took place during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the five-year period of its duration, the **backlash against gender equality has been increasing at an alarming rate**. All these conditions presented challenges to programme implementation.

Political challenges impeded or completely stopped progress in some instances. In **Bangladesh**, just after the development of a three-year roadmap for institutional change in the police, the conflict in July 2024 precluded engagement with the national police and the work was paused. Similarly, the restructuring of the government in **Viet Nam** created significant challenges, affecting work plan implementation and achievement of results. The implementation of the revised official development assistance management framework prevented government partners from signing agreements with UN Women, a situation that remained unresolved.³⁰⁶ During COVID-19, the reprioritization of funds due to the emergency in **Cambodia** left gender equality and EVAW underfunded, and at the time (under NAPVAW III) there was no policy that could protect this budget, making it difficult to continue ensuring service provision.³⁰⁷

While there were many examples of strong **UN coordination** throughout EVAW Programme activities which strengthened efforts and subsequent results, in some contexts, collaboration with sister UN agencies proved difficult. Several stakeholders mentioned that differences in corporate rules and administrative systems sometimes make it difficult to collaborate.³⁰⁸ Echoing a finding in a recent corporate evaluation,³⁰⁹ two related factors determining success or failure were the personalities of the individuals involved, along with differences in how agencies interpret their own versus UN Women's mandate. For example, difficulties arise in leveraging UN partnerships for work in crisis areas due to the perception that UN Women does not work in humanitarian contexts,³¹⁰ when in reality, UN Women co-leads the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Reference Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action,³¹¹ and has a corporate Humanitarian Strategy based on the commitments of the Entity's 2022-2025 Strategic Plan.³¹²

The results of prevention programming could have been elevated through additional funding provided at global level. Most prevention activities took place at the regional or country levels and in the Asia-Pacific. Interviews indicated that the majority of prevention funding was distributed to the region based on the priorities of the Australian government and because it is closer to individual country implementation.³¹³ These are sound reasons; however, there were some lost opportunities to enhance global influence in prevention. Response efforts at regional and country levels were backed by advocacy to drive global agendas, ensuring widespread uptake, and this was missing for prevention. For example, the potential for the adaptation and uptake of the MPPP M&E Framework beyond the Asia-Pacific region remains uncertain, creating a missed opportunity to strengthen national prevention efforts globally. Related to this, UN Women's method for developing global technical guidance involves the broadest diversity of stakeholder participation to ensure that the guidance is fully aligned with current international standards. Missing from the MPPP is the actual list of agreed global ethical and safety standards for VAWG data

³⁰⁶ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

³⁰⁷ UN Women Cambodia KII.

³⁰⁸ Several UN Women KIIs.

³⁰⁹ UN Women IEAS (2025). '[Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts](#).' New York.

³¹⁰ Multiple UN Women KIIs.

³¹¹ IASC Reference Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action. Accessed October 2025, from: <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-reference-group-on-gender-and-humanitarian-action>

³¹² [UN Women what we do: Humanitarian action](#).

³¹³ Several UN Women interviews.

collection, or an explicit reference to the source that has them, which is a critical component of any guidance on VAWG data collection.³¹⁴

Programming on **social norms change faced challenges**. Despite the important progress noted in this area, the scale and pace of VAWG prevention efforts remains constrained by a lack of long-term investments in programming streams.³¹⁵ An evaluation of UN Women's approach to social norms in 2024 noted the lack of a consolidated strategy for social norms change.³¹⁶ There were before and after assessments that demonstrated short-term change, but this could reflect temporary shifts because they had recently been exposed to the programme; it is impossible to know if these will be lasting changes, and what will happen when these youth encounter the same entrenched norms in their families and communities.

Staff turnovers, shortages, and competing priorities within countries among both UN Women and partners sometimes posed impediments to progress. External partners observed that when working with UN Women, long-standing staff leveraged knowledge of the EVAW space to make strategic connections that facilitated work in countries and regions, but this continuity of staff was inconsistent, with more rapid personnel turnover in some places.³¹⁷ This also took place among external partners that UN Women engaged, among government and other partners. For example, in **Fiji**, with implementation of the NAP in 2023 and an M&E plan started, conditions were favourable to implement the MPPP. After efforts to engage government partners, competing priorities within the Fijian Government's NAP team, as well as resourcing constraints halted the work.³¹⁸

Gaps in the ESP guidance were observed by several stakeholders during implementation the JP on ES, with the most common theme being the lack of practical, context-specific tools to assist partners in implementing some standards.³¹⁹ While the EVAW Programme worked to respond to recommendations of previous assessments and rectify these gaps by producing new guidance on specific areas e.g., on gender-responsive policing and survivor-centred approaches, along with practical tools, stakeholders commented that more needs to be done to operationalize the standards: e.g., tailoring to programmatic context, and identifying the steps to plan actions such as developing SOPs and other protocols based on the standards. These activities are still somewhat dependent on specialized external technical support for implementation.³²⁰

Similar to other review and evaluations, there is a need for stronger **communications and visibility products** to show the impact UN Women is making on advancing the elimination of violence against women and girls.³²¹ There were effective communications products such as the [Stepping Up Solutions](#) and the [repository](#) of UN Women's work on technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, as well as briefs, short videos and posts to social media. **A communications strategy that is tied to better monitoring and evaluation practices at the programmatic level** would improve this area and can be used for resource mobilization. UN Women's indicators at the strategic planning level are well designed to capture the Entity's results at the highest level; at the programmatic level, similar monitoring and reporting systems to convey overall results are sometimes missing. This is an area that needs strengthening. HQ, country and regional offices provide detailed information for special studies such as evaluations and surveys, and this type of detail is critical for creating communications that will reach wide audiences.

Gender backlash and shrinking civic space is threatening VAWG progress globally. As anti-feminist rhetoric floods social media and other spaces, addressing VAWG has become polarized, and this situation is made worse with a

³¹⁴ Ellsberg, Mary and Alina Potts (2018). '[Ethical considerations for research and evaluation on ending violence against women and girls](#).' APO online. DFAT Australia.

³¹⁵ Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

³¹⁶ UN Women IEAS (2024). '[Feminist collaborative evaluation of UN Women's approach to social norms change](#).'

³¹⁷ Multiple external partner KIs.

³¹⁸ The Equality Institute and UN Women (2021). [Making Progress in Prevention Possible](#). Lessons Learnt Paper.

³¹⁹ Annex to Fifth Progress Report (2025) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2024 – 30 June 2025.

³²⁰ Multiple KIs.

³²¹ Multiple UN Women and external partner KIs.

drastic reduction in funding. Online and offline attacks on WROs across several regions have resulted in many choosing to focus on other areas, such as women's economic empowerment and climate change, leaving VAWG work under-resourced.³²² The rise in TFVAWG has exacerbated this situation with targeted attacks on women in public life, including human rights defenders, to silence their voices and diminish their leadership.³²³

³²² Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

³²³ Fourth Progress Report (2024) to the Government of Australia: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Reporting Period: 1 August 2023 – 30 June 2024.

5 Conclusions

The evidence supporting the ten findings shows that UN Women's combined efforts under the EVAW Programme have transformed the VAWG prevention and response landscape at country, regional, and global levels. From engaging key partners in the EVAW space, particularly women's organizations, networks, and movements, to prioritizing structural change, UN Women's strategic approaches have facilitated a shared understanding of how to address the needs of survivors after violence occurs, and what can be done to prevent violence from occurring. The work on developing, piloting, and promoting technical guidance has solidified expertise among hundreds of key stakeholders in the EVAW space for designing and implementing effective efforts to end VAWG that are aligned with international standards. The reforms to laws, policies, and systems have shifted the norms and practices of international and regional bodies, national governments, and country institutions. These changes in the legal/policy environment coupled with the efforts to strengthen women's organizations and movements are likely to lead to sustaining change, based on a growing body of evidence.³²⁴

The EVAW programme enabled UN Women to consolidate bodies of work that focused global attention, policy, and programmatic action to advance emerging priorities in the EVAW space. This includes research, policy, guidance development, and work on newly recognized forms of VAWG, or new contexts in which it takes place. The EVAW Programme also advanced efforts to address VAWG in new areas such as TFVAWG, the VAW-VAC nexus, the intersection between climate change and VAWG, and femicide. On the other end of this is recognizing new areas that provide opportunities to expand the reach of interventions, such as the work on harnessing the potential of Digital Public Infrastructure for the good of women and girls.

UN Women and partners acted at the global, regional and country levels to improve the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of VAWG survivor services. The years of foundational work that took place under the earlier DFAT-funded JP on ES made it possible for the EVAW Programme to influence impact-level change during this stage of programming. The most notable achievements took place in gender-responsive justice and policing, but efforts in essential services coordination, expanding access to survivor services, and strengthening social services also yielded significant outcome-level results.

UN Women forged strong collaborations with key global experts, national actors, women's civil society organizations, and others to implement a stream of programmatic efforts at the global, regional, and country levels to improve police services for VAWG survivors or for those at risk of experiencing violence. These efforts influenced a pivotal shift in the norms and practices of police services for VAWG cases at the institutional level in countries on the one hand and, on the other, placed gender-responsive policing squarely on the agendas of global and regional policy bodies. In this way, UN Women has evolved as a clear leader in this area of the EVAW space.

UN Women and partners also continued to advance essential service coordination by strengthening already established systems such as SAFENET in Solomon Islands and Kiribati and supporting the establishment of one-stop centers that consolidate multi-sectoral services in one physical location, such as the ARCCs in **Pakistan** and the OSSCs in **Viet Nam**. Implementing the costing module to estimate the resources needed to provide essential services also strengthened country partners' understanding of what comprised quality of care. There were many efforts that demonstrated increased access to care, such as the support to the GNWS to grow Lila.help directory of services that is accessed by millions of women around the world.

The EVAW programme advanced prevention efforts and, as in other areas, influenced change at the structural level, working in collaboration with the same diverse range of partners. Efforts in this area focused on the **Asia-Pacific region** to facilitate a strong understanding of primary prevention that informed the design of regional and national prevention strategies and initiatives such as the [UN Joint Programme on Gender-Based Violence Prevention in Southeast Asia](#) (2024-2029),³²⁵ a UN Women and UNFPA partnership that is supporting and complementing DFAT's flagship initiative, the [Southeast Asia GBV Prevention Platform](#). Prevention strategies were reinforced at the

³²⁴ UN Women KII.

³²⁵ [UN Joint Programme on Gender-Based Violence Prevention in Southeast Asia | Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#)

national level by developing a national M&E framework for prevention to inform decision-making processes, track national progress, and increase accountability.

Several interventions were supported to influence a shift in social norms. On a global level, storytelling was used to great effect in social media platforms and at high-level events, reaching a worldwide audience of more than half a million people. UN Women supported interventions with youth that tailored standard curricula for context to use in schools and youth groups. Some of these curricula were integrated into training programs and regular school curricula; in other instances, campaigns on university campuses influenced campus policy development. UN Women also built internal capacity to implement the well-known SASA! method for community norm change by engaging UN Women Country Offices from two regions, UN partners and others in a three-year technical support cohort, facilitated by Raising Voices, SASA!'s developers.

There were many examples illustrating the ERAW Programme's resilience and adaptability to sudden change, with the efforts launched during COVID-19 as a strong example. UN Women worked tirelessly at the country, regional and global levels to produce guidance and provide both technical and financial support to ensure the safe continuation of VAWG programmes and services. UN Women strengthened feminist movements by convening and supporting pan-regional CSO platforms, opening doors to policy and research fora, such as supporting AP-based CSO participation in the SVRI 2024 Forum. Given its strategic priority to work with grassroots women's groups, UN Women is uniquely positioned to reach all women in all contexts with its programmatic actions and interventions through its collaborative partnerships with organizations operating in communities, national governments, regional mechanisms and global bodies. Many of the examples provided showed how activities and interventions included diverse groups of women and girls, including those with disabilities, LGBTQ+, migrant women, etc., by tailoring their design and implementation specifically for this purpose - the LNOB principle was well integrated into ERAW Programme work.

The ERAW Programme successfully met its overall expected outcomes and exerted a large impact in the ERAW space by implementing an effective set of strategic approaches that respond to the needs and priorities of diverse groups of women and girls who experience or are at risk for violence and reducing the potential for violence by intervening at the structural level. In prevention, UN Women successfully increased understanding of what works to prevent violence, established and reformed laws and policies, strengthened capacity for ERAW programme design, advocacy and research, particularly in the **Asia-Pacific region**. Likewise, UN Women's efforts in VAWG response accomplished its aims related to increase the availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of essential services that address the immediate and long-term needs of women and girls who experience or are subject to violence.

UN Women's triple mandate underpinned the design and delivery of the ERAW Programme. Stakeholders and previous evaluations consistently underlined UN Women's ability to elevate women's voices to inform policy and programming through engagement of women's groups and movements as its unique advantage in the ERAW space. The ERAW Programme's many efforts and interventions were grounded in the Entity's extensive experience and informed by newly emerging evidence in the field. In sum, the ERAW Programme findings show how five years of programming led by UN Women accelerated progress towards ending violence against women and girls and further cemented UN Women's position as a leader in the ERAW space, both within and external to the UN system.

6 Recommendations

The EVAW Programme was designed to leverage the work of earlier initiatives, enabling the attainment of impact-level results. The evidence in this report demonstrates how long-term investment leads to lasting change, and deeper country ownership and investment in VAWG prevention and response. The recommendations stem from these and other findings, lessons learned, and stakeholder feedback from interviews. The cross-cutting priority of addressing the needs of all women and girls (i.e., LNOB) should be seen as a foundational part of all the recommendations.

Recommendation 1: Continue advancing the work that is driving change towards gender-responsive and survivor/victim-centred policing and justice services for VAWG survivors, and expand on this focus to achieve the same with other justice sector institutions and actors

UN Women is seen as a global leader in this area, and has strong partnerships at the global, regional and country levels. UN Women should continue to expand on the globally recognized work to transform the police and justice sector, including in the area of digital public infrastructure. The many achievements, such as the launch of the High-Level Member State Network on Gender-Responsive Policing and the rollout of the Handbook on Gender-Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence has ignited a momentum of interest, demand and action that UN Women should leverage to further accelerate this work. **UN Women could expand its work in this sector by targeting other institutions for change, such as the court systems, and prosecutors' offices. Finally, there is a need for further practical tools to operationalize the Handbook, and guidance on new areas, such as the forthcoming Guide for Police on Addressing Technology-Facilitated Violence against Women and Girls.**

Recommendation 2: Continue to promote and support the uptake of the ESP and related guidance in countries, building upon programmatic gains in advancing the coordination of service provision

The ESP uptake should continue to expand, both through scaling up activities in countries already using it, as well as supporting fresh uptake in new countries. Developing additional practical tools for its implementation would better facilitate its operationalization in countries. Several stakeholders noted the need for developing a resource that defines what successful ESP implementation looks like across diverse contexts. Also, it is recommended to focus on how to expand the context of the ESP to the work of CSO service providers.

The coordination of services is one of the most difficult areas of VAWG response since it involves bringing together organizations that do not always have established ways of working with each other. **The programmatic success attained in this area can be expanded to continue supporting existing mechanisms or systems.** UN Women should build on successful models such as SAFENET in Kiribati and Solomon Islands at the national level, and the anti-rape crisis centers in Pakistan at the provincial levels. Further, **UN Women should leverage its coordination mandate to support women's machineries to establish multisectoral mechanisms and models that ensure seamless service delivery for survivors across different sectors in countries, including for long-term recovery, and convene sister UN agencies to coordinate and plan joint efforts.**

Recommendation 3: Build on existing efforts to ensure VAWG prevention is embedded into high-level commitments and is the focus of national level policy, strategies, and initiatives

There were many achievements in the area, particularly at the regional and country levels in the Asia-Pacific. **UN Women should continue this work to reinforce existing regional and country policy and commitments on prevention,** including through the UN Joint Programme on Gender-Based Violence Prevention in Southeast Asia (2024-2029), and **advocate for new developments to both expand the work and stay current with emerging priorities.** In addition, **the work in this area would benefit from stronger global leadership in prevention,** as noted in the above-mention section on lessons learned. At the time of writing, UN Women is developing a prevention sub-strategy, which will accompany implementation of its new Strategic Plan (2026-2029) and help guide activities and

encourage interconnectedness between the Entity's headquarters, regional and country offices. Leadership at the higher levels that results from implementing activities such as high-level advocacy, expands the potential for impact and the wide expansion of normative change, but this needs to be supported with an adequate level of funding.

Recommendation 4: Continue promoting, adapting, and strengthening capacity to implement promising practices in social norms change among youth and communities

The recent corporate evaluation on UN Women's approach to prevention and response similarly recommended the continued rollout of comprehensive frameworks and tools on prevention and response that include a focus on social norms change at multiple levels.³²⁶ The work on social norms change took place in several contexts within the EVAW Programme, demonstrating success based on pre and post assessments; however, sustaining long-term change depends on consistency in messaging over time. There was evidence of promising practices in this area, as with the adoption and expansion of the CwC curricula in the Thai school. **UN Women's capacity for implementation of SASA! in communities is growing through the technical cohort led by Raising Voices and should be leveraged to conduct these interventions.**

Recommendation 5: Strengthen documentation of programmatic results and integrate a communications strategy to enhance their dissemination.

Many stakeholders acknowledged the need for better monitoring of results and linking these to innovative communications strategies. The sixth recommendation of the Corporate Evaluation on EVAW coordination echoed this need for UN Women to strengthen its monitoring and evaluation (M&E) capacity and better capture its results relating to coordination, along with their dissemination.³²⁷ For example, **this programme would have benefitted from an interconnected, robust M&E framework that could be used to track and report activity outputs at the country, regional and global levels, which could then be aggregated and used effectively in communications products.** For example, there was no accurate way to determine the number of participants reached by prevention or response interventions in the current evaluation because this information only appears in text format of the annual progress reports. Along with the need for better monitoring, **there is a need to increase the M&E capacity of implementing partners, including other UN Agency COs.**

Substantial resources were invested in developing comprehensive materials, but limited attention was given to ensuring that the materials engaged broader audiences. **The focus on producing technically-sound documents should be paired with designing formats and platforms suitable for general uptake by partners without technical backgrounds.** These include user-friendly formats such as soundbites on social media, infographics, short videos, and one-page briefs to engage policymakers and broader audiences.

Recommendation 6: Advance existing work on emerging priorities such as addressing TFVAWG, VAW-VAC, the intersection of climate and VAWG, and Femicide

The EVAW Programme has been quick to act to respond to newly emerging priorities in the EVAW space, building on its existing Communities of Practice on VAWG prevention and response. The body of guidance and research produced on the above-mentioned areas has significantly increased our understanding of the nature of these newly evolved or identified forms of VAWG or contexts, and inroads are being made on effective ways of preventing and responding to them. **UN Women should continue this work in these areas and in other areas as they arise, to ensure that VAWG prevention and response efforts reflect current patterns and trends in relation to VAWG.**

³²⁶ UN Women IEAS (2025). '[Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts.](#)' New York.

³²⁷ UN Women Independent Evaluation and Audit Services. 2021. '[Corporate evaluation of UN Women's UN system coordination and broader convening role in ending violence against women.](#)'

Recommendation 7: Continue and expand support and work with CSOs, WROs, and women's movements
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The role of women's rights organizations (WROs), CSOs, and movements is critical to VAWG prevention and response. These organizations and groups are not only in touch with the lived reality of the women and girls that these interventions are designed to reach; they also shoulder most of the work done in communities in both areas. UN Women's key role in supporting these groups stems from its mandate, and is unique within the UN system, has been recognized widely, and noted in the most recent independent corporate evaluation.³²⁸ Through coordinated advocacy in the above-mentioned ACT Programme, for example, 179 women's rights organizations helped shape the outcomes of 20 global and regional normative and policy processes on ending violence against women and girls, strengthening accountability and service delivery. Under the EVAW Programme, **UN Women's work to support CSOs and CSO networks benefited from this learning and experience and resulted in driving agendas and policy change at the global, regional and country levels, as well as strengthening the provision of essential services for VAWG survivors. Continuing to engage and support the empowerment of these groups will strengthen efforts in all areas and help ensure that all women and girls are reached by response interventions.**

³²⁸ UN Women IEAS (2025). '[Independent corporate evaluation of UN Women's approach to violence against women prevention and response: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts](#).' New York.

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A.1.2 Documents Internal to UN Women

A.1.2.1.Executed Agreement

Third-Party Cost Sharing Arrangement between the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and trade ('DFAT') and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women ('UN Women') for "Ending Violence Against Women and Girls" DFAT Arrangement Number 76006.

A.1.2.2.Project proposals

Proposal on Ending Violence Against Women between the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and trade ('DFAT') and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women ('UN Women'): 2020-2022 with option to extend to 2025.

Proposal on Ending Violence Against Women Between the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ('DFAT') and The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and The Empowerment of Women ('UN Women') Extension 2022-2025.

A.1.2.3 Annual Progress Reports from UN Women to DFAT

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A.1.2.4 Other Internal Documents

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Annex 2 Key Informant Interview participants

Organization	Name of Respondent	Connection to EVAW Programme work
UN Women Headquarters	Kalliopi Mingeirou	Chief, EVAW section
UN Women Headquarters	Caroline Meenagh	EVAW section - Multi Sectoral Services
UN Women Headquarters	Evelyn Selle Letiyo & Irene Atim	EVAW section – Prevention (current)
UN Women Headquarters	Khamsavath Chanthavysouk	EVAW section – Prevention (former)
UN Women Headquarters	Constandina Deligiorgis	EVAW section – Prevention (former)
UN Women ROAP	Melissa Alvarado	EVAW Regional Programme Manager, ROAP
UN Women Country Office Cambodia	Chantevy Khourn, Robin Mauny, Rachana Srun	EVAW focal points
UN Women Country Office Kiribati	Froline Taaka*	EVAW focal point
UN Women Country Office Pakistan	Saman Ahsan, Ehjaz Mustafa	EVAW focal points
UN Women Country Office Solomon Islands	Doris Puiahi	EVAW focal point
UN Women Country Office Viet Nam	Phuong Le	EVAW focal point
UN Women Country Office Bangladesh	Shrabana Datta	EVAW/GRP focal point
UN Women Country Office Timor Leste	Ishta Kaul	EVAW, Normative & Coordination
UN Women Country Office Fiji	Jurgita Sereikaite	EVAW Fiji MCO
UN Women Country Office Fiji MCO	Abigail Erikson*	Chief, UN Trust Fund to EVAW, formerly Programme Advisor, Fiji MCO
UN Women Country Office Papua New Guinea	Tosin Akibu, Felicitas Sangga Pearl Atuhaire	Head of Programmes
UN Women Country Office China	Li Chen	EVAW Programme analyst
Government of Australia-DFAT	Jayne Harries	Ending Gender-based Violence Advisor Assistant Director, Gender Equality: Strategic Budget and Investment Section Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion Branch, Development Policy Division Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
UN Women Consultant	Melissa Scaia	Technical Guidance prevention & response (incl. survivor-centred approaches)
UN Women Consultant	Cate Sumner	Digital Public Infrastructure
UN Women Consultant	Jane Townsley	Gender-responsive policing
UN Women Consultant (now Global Fund)	Mirko Fernandez*	Gender-responsive policing

Organization	Name of Respondent	Connection to EVAW Programme work
Office of the National Police Commissioner, Iceland	Eygló Harðardóttir	Gender-responsive policing
The Equality Institute	Loksee Leung	Prevention
Prevention Collaborative	Lyndsay McLean	Prevention
Shero	Busayapa Srisompong	Lawyer and founder
Chulalongkorn University	Dr. Ratchada Jayagupta	Thailand representative to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Rights of Women and Children
IDLO (now UN Women)	Raluca Maria Popa	High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2022
Global Network of Women's Shelters	Margot Kuijpers & Aleid van den Brink*	Project Leader, Lila.help; Board Member - GNWS, Board Member -GREVIO
The University of Ireland at Galway, School of Political Science and Sociology	Nata Duvvury*	Professor and Director for Centre for Global Women's Studies (for Module 7 ESP on costing)
University of Miami Law School	Tamar Ezer*	Lecturer in Law, Associate Director, Human Rights Clinic; Faculty Director, Human Rights Programme

*Interviews from these stakeholders that took place from April-June 2025 for the programmatic review of the UN Joint Programme on Essential Services were included as the information provided was relevant to the current exercise.

Annex 3 Key Informant Master Interview Guide

The interview guide is set up to speak to the work, in either or both prevention and response. If stakeholders are describing one area or the other, the questions will continue to refer to that area.

The guide is tailored to the four audience groups, with a modified form for the donor partner:

1. UN Women HQ and ROAP
2. Selected UN Women COs
3. UN Women Consultants
4. External Partners(a) and Donor Partner (b)

Introductory blurb for interviews:

Thank you very much for taking the time to talk with me today.

The Ending Violence against Women: Essential Services Package and Prevention Frameworks and Guidance programme (EVAW Programme) started in July 2020 and will end in December 2025. As part of the end term review, we are conducting interviews with stakeholders who worked with the programme during this time.

The review is both an assessment of what was done as well as looking forward to what could be done, and that is how the interview is structured. The review objectives are to:

- 4) To assess the effects of the EVAW Programme's approaches and strategies in the three outcome areas of both a) expanding the reach and quality of services for survivors and b) enhancing prevention of violence against women and girls;
- 5) To evaluate UN Women's organizational performance such as management systems, design of strategies and programmes, including Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), and their effectiveness in facilitating implementation of programme objectives; and
- 6) To identify lessons learned and make concrete recommendations on how UN Women can build on its work during the past five years, identifying successful strategies to scale-up, based on lessons learned.

The interview is confidential. Your comments will be presented anonymously as general results combined with others and nothing you say will be individually attributed without your permission. I will be taking notes as we speak but would also like to record the interview to be sure I am accurately representing what you say. I will erase the recording when I have the data in a Word document.

1 UN Women HQ and ROAP

Introduction

1. From the perspective of your work with the EVAW Programme, how would you describe its unique, or key contribution(s) overall?
 - Please feel free to describe efforts in either or both essential services or prevention.

Overall key achievements

2. How would you describe the EVAW Programme's key achievements, regarding the priorities and challenges in your programmatic context (global or regional) relative to its aims to:
 - Strengthen quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for VAWG survivors;
 - Address root causes and risk factors to prevent VAWG, at the global, regional, and country levels in general and in the Asia-Pacific region in particular.
3. How do you view the (ESP or RESPECT Women) as set of collective guidance on providing a coordinated response/designing and implementing strategies to prevent and respond to VAWG?
4. Please describe how the EVAW Programme responded to unanticipated contextual changes such as those imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, or shifts in political structures?
 - Please describe any examples.
5. How well do you think the EVAW Programme contributed to integrating the LNOB principle into its work on preventing and responding to VAWG?
 - Are there particular examples you could describe that show how vulnerable women and girls were reached or included in interventions?
6. Please describe how EVAW Programme work has complemented the work of other initiatives on ending violence against women and girls, either within or external to UN Women.
7. In your view, how sustainable do you feel the EVAW Programme's strategies have been to ensure the continued improvement of essential services provision/prevention strategies, beyond the programme end?
 - Do you have any examples of ownership or commitments at the level of work you support (global, regional, county)?
8. How did UN Women's work under the EVAW Programme contribute to UN agency coordination?
 - Were roles and responsibilities of the different partners clearly defined?
 - What went well?
 - What was challenging?
9. Were there any challenges or lessons learned that we have not talked about?
10. What do you feel are the most important priorities that the EVAW Programme might address, moving forward? This could include filling current gaps, working within a context of gender-backlash, working with particular actors or sectors, etc. Please describe.
11. Is there anything else that you think would be helpful for us to know about your work with the EVAW Programme that was not covered?

2 UN Women COs

Introduction

1. From your work with the EAW Programme, how would you describe its unique, or key contribution(s) overall?
 - Please feel free to describe efforts in either or both essential services or prevention.

Overall key achievements

2. How would you describe the EAW Programme's key achievements, regarding the priorities and challenges in your programmatic context (global or regional) relative to its aims to:
 - Strengthen quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for VAWG survivors, specifically:
 - o Establishing/strengthening guidelines, protocols and action plans;
 - o Expanding/strengthening VAWG survivors services;
 - o Increasing the use of VAWG survivor services.
 - Address root causes and risk factors to prevent VAWG, at the global, regional, and country levels in general and in the Asia-Pacific region in particular:
 - o Increased guidelines, policies, protocols to prevent VAWG;
 - o Strengthening capacity for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of prevention strategies;
 - o Strengthened advocacy, research capacity and networks on VAW prevention.
3. Please describe how the EAW Programme responded to unanticipated contextual changes such as those imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, or shifts in political structures?
 - Please describe any examples/
4. How well do you think the EAW Programme contributed to integrating the LNOB principle into its work on preventing and responding to VAWG?
 - Are there particular examples you could describe that show how vulnerable women and girls were reached or included in interventions?
5. Please describe how EAW Programme work has complemented the work of other initiatives on ending violence against women and girls, either within or external to UN Women.
6. In your view, how sustainable do you feel the EAW Programme's strategies have been to ensure the continued improvement of essential services provision/prevention strategies, beyond the programme's end?
 - Do you have any examples of ownership or commitments at the level of work you support (global, regional, county)?
7. How did UN Women's work under the EAW Programme contribute to UN agency coordination?
 - Were roles and responsibilities of the different partners clearly defined?
 - What went well?
 - What was challenging?
8. Were there any challenges or lessons learned that we have not talked about?
9. What do you feel are the most important priorities that the EAW Programme might address, moving forward? This could include filling current gaps, working within a context of gender-backlash, working with particular actors or sectors, etc. Please describe.

10. Is there anything else that you think would be helpful for us to know about your work with the EAW Programme that was not covered?

3 UN Women Consultants and 4a External Partners

Introduction

1. Please describe how you worked with the EAW Programme.
2. From your work with the EAW Programme, how would you describe its unique, or key contribution(s) overall?
 - Please feel free to describe efforts in either or both essential services or prevention

Overall key achievements

3. How would you describe the EAW Programme's key achievements, regarding the priorities and challenges in the area you worked in, relative to:
 - Strengthening quality, coordinated and multi-sectoral services for VAWG survivors;
 - Addressing root causes and risk factors to prevent VAWG, at the global, regional, and country levels in general and in the Asia-Pacific region in particular.
4. If you have experience with how the EAW Programme responded to unanticipated contextual changes such as those imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, or shifts in political structures, please describe.
5. If you have experience with how the EAW Programme contributed to integrating the LNOB principle into its work on preventing and responding to VAWG, please describe.
6. How well do you feel the EAW Programme complemented other EAW initiatives?
7. Within the scope of your work with the EAW Programme, how sustainable do you feel its strategies have been to ensure the continued improvement to essential services provision/prevention strategies, beyond the programme end?
 - Do you have any examples of ownership or commitments at the level of work you support (global, regional, county)?
8. Were there any challenges or lessons learned that we have not talked about?
9. What do you feel are the most important priorities that the EAW Programme might address, moving forward? This could include filling current gaps, working within a context of gender-backlash, working with particular actors or sectors, etc. Please describe.
10. Is there anything else that you think would be helpful for us to know about your work with the EAW Programme that was not covered?

4b Donor Partner

1. From your perspective, how would you describe the unique contribution of the EVAW Programme comprehensive initiative on preventing and responding to VAWG?
2. What do you think are the most important results of the EVAW Programme, relative to donor partner priorities on EVAW?
3. How well do you feel that the EVAW programme addressed marginalized women, including women with disabilities?
4. What would the EVAW Programme need to do to position itself as a unique opportunity for moving the VAWG prevention and response forward?
 - Are there particular areas that the programme should build on?
 - Are there gaps that should be addressed?
5. Is there anything else that you think would be helpful for us to know about your work with the EVAW Programme that was not covered? If yes, please describe.