



# UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

## SUMMARY OF 2016 SURVEY OF GRANTEES



Photo: Gemma Wood, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, UN Trust Fund



Photo: NFFCK, Kyrgyzstan

## BACKGROUND OF THE UN TRUST FUND

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) awards grants to initiatives that demonstrate that violence against women and girls can systematically be addressed, reduced and eliminated.

### THE UN TRUST FUND'S CURRENT PORTFOLIO COMPRISES:

**106**

GRANTS

**\$54M**

TOTAL GRANT  
VALUE

**77**

COUNTRIES &  
TERRITORIES

### SINCE ITS CREATION IN 1996, THE UN TRUST FUND HAS AWARDED:

**\$129M**

TOTAL GRANT  
VALUE

**462**

INITIATIVES

**139**

COUNTRIES &  
TERRITORIES

Established by UN General Assembly resolution 50/166 and administered by UN Women on behalf of the UN system, the UN Trust Fund works with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and governments in three priority areas:



Improving access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multi-sectoral services to end violence against women and girls



Improving prevention of violence against women and girls



Increasing effectiveness of legislation, policies, national action plans and accountability systems to prevent and end violence against women and girls

# 2016 SURVEY OF OUR GRANTEES

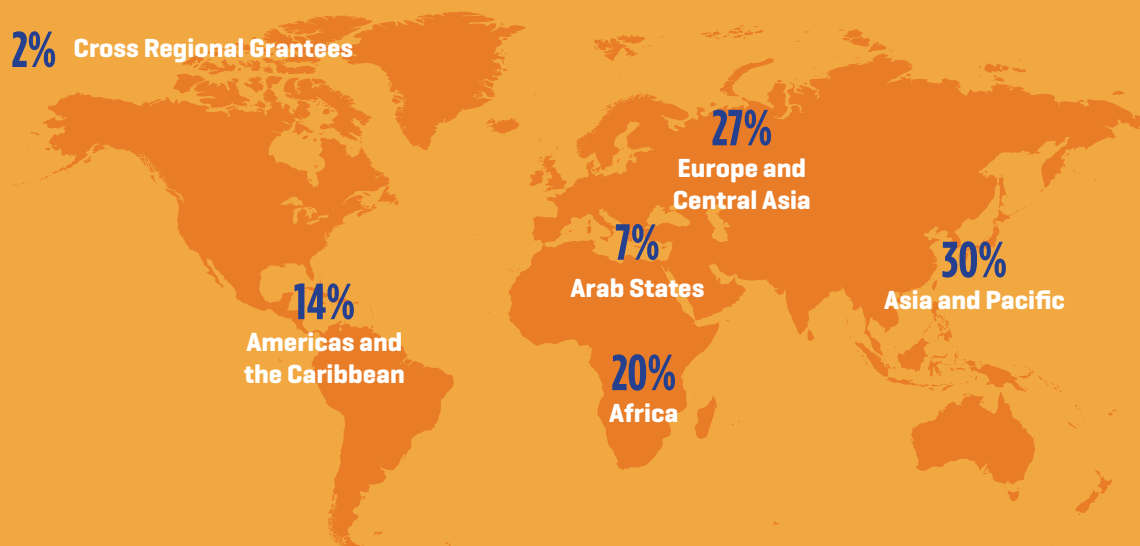
In line with the 2015-2020 **Strategic Plan**, the UN Trust Fund's work is organized under three pillars: (1) giving grants; (2) collecting evidence of results and learning lessons; and (3) global advocacy to end violence against women and girls.

The aim is to support grantee organizations to achieve, replicate and scale up results on ending violence against women and girls (EVAW/G) through the UN Trust Fund's effective management of grants. This includes building the capacity of grantee organizations to achieve results and sustain their impact even after the UN Trust Fund grant has ended. To this end, the opinions of grantees are crucial for monitoring, evaluating and improving the Fund's work.

The UN Trust Fund's first annual partner survey in 2016 collected information from current grantees. The survey comprised 20 questions about the support provided by the UN Trust Fund, the added value of its grants compared to other donors, and ideas for improvements. Answers were provided anonymously online.

The survey attracted **88 individual responses** from **85 active grantee organizations** (up to three staff members from each organization were encouraged to complete the survey to reflect different roles in the projects). Responses reflected the balanced regional profile of the Fund's portfolio:

**2%** Cross Regional Grantees



# KEY COMMENTS FROM GRANTEES

## 1. The UN Trust Fund helps organizations raise much-needed funds.



**82%**

of respondents said that securing a UN Trust Fund grant **will enable their organization to mobilize** additional resources for EVAW/G projects during or after the grant [2% said no; 16% were unsure]



**49%**

of respondents said that it was “highly unlikely” or “**unlikely**” that **their organization could have raised the same funds without the UN Trust Fund grant** [16% said it was “likely” or “highly likely”; 35% were unsure]



“[Like us] most of the grantees are women-led (national) organizations. Women organizations struggle to mobilize resources... I feel the UN Trust Fund is contributing to bridge this critical gap. The funding comes with technical support to ensure that objectives are achieved.”



“The organization has been able to utilize the UN Trust Fund grant to scale up our work and to mobilize other resources from the Australian Government to reach more women.”



“Our organization has scaled up this project in another five locations with support from another funding agency [due to this grant].”



“With funding from the UN Trust Fund, we are able to implement our project to a much fuller extent than was possible before, providing us the opportunity to prove our impact and thus raise more funds.”



## 2. The UN Trust Fund adds further value through its support and brand.



**75%**

of respondents said that the **capacity development** and other **programmatic and operational support** provided by the UN Trust Fund was the **main added value and benefit of a UN Trust Fund grant**



**66%**

of respondents said that an **added benefit** of a UN Trust Fund grant is **visibility and publicity**



**56%**

of respondents said that an **added benefit** of a UN Trust Fund grant is **the amount of funding**



**53%**

of respondents said that an **added benefit** of a UN Trust Fund grant is **the Fund's flexibility and responsiveness** to challenges and unforeseen events



"The partnership with the UN Trust Fund gives great visibility and credibility to our organization in securing other projects."



"The collaboration with the UN Trust Fund makes it possible for our organization to gain the right experience needed for implementing other projects in the future... through our current project with the UN Trust Fund we were able to collaborate with the Government, which opens new opportunities for us."

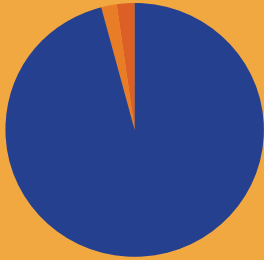


"The benefit or added value of the UN Trust Fund is their belief in small organizations."



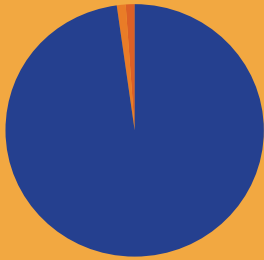
"UN Trust Fund enabled my organization to contribute significantly in addressing violence against marginalized and often ignored groups of women. With this project my organization is now known as a player in ending violence against women and with this visibility and... groundwork it should be possible to continue with the effort."

### 3. Grantees are highly satisfied with their experience as a UN Trust Fund grantee.



**95%**

of respondents were **“very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their experience as a UN Trust Fund grantee** [2% were “no more or less satisfied than with other donors”; 2% were “not satisfied” due to concern about the Fund’s restrictions on certain types of expenditure, such as international travel]



**98%**

of respondents were **“very likely” or “likely” to recommend the UN Trust Fund as a source of potential funding for other organizations** working in the same field [1% were “no more or less likely than other source of finance”; 1% were “unlikely”]



“We would recommend the UN Trust Fund as a funder to other organizations for the reason that it was a fruitful partnership. UN Women and the UN Trust Fund provided us with useful, knowledgeable feedback.”



“I will recommend the UN Trust Fund as a source of funding because of the possibility of learning through cooperation particularly about monitoring and evaluation... [The] important thing is also the duration of the project which is two [to three] years. That is good because the grantee has time to develop the approach...”



“UN Trust Fund not only provides funds that allow implementation of projects, but it also provides knowledge and skills that are retained long after the project is implemented.”

#### 4. Grantees are highly satisfied with the UN Trust Fund's advice and support



of respondents were **"very satisfied" or "satisfied"** with **programmatic advice and guidance** provided by the UN Trust Fund **on approaches, methodologies and project planning**



of respondents were **"very satisfied" or "satisfied"** with **monitoring and evaluation advice and guidance**



of respondents who attended the UN Trust Fund's **capacity development workshop** at the start of project implementation said they were **"very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied"** with the **experience**



of respondents said that as workshop participants **they had retained and used what they learned** and were still implementing it effectively in project implementation



"The workshop was an eye opener on results-based management and it helped further refinement of the project results and indicators.... The knowledge gained has strengthened my organization's monitoring and evaluation capacity."



"The workshop material guidance, learning and support at the [capacity development] workshop was one of the most successful and useful workshops for grantees I have ever attended."



"For me as somebody who was responsible for making the narrative report [six-monthly progress reports], the comments and recommendations I got each time [from the UN Trust Fund] were very useful and a source of learning and improvement of my own approach and skills in the field."



"With the support and help of the UN Trust Fund in terms of results based-project management we expect to achieve our results with even more beneficiaries than expected."

# CHALLENGES AND GRANTEE RECOMMENDATIONS



“The low percentage of **overhead costs** covered by the UN Trust Fund makes it difficult for larger organizations to cover their costs, especially staff salaries.”

“One issue has been the relatively **low level of core funding** the UN Trust Fund provides.”

**NOTE:** The Fund applies a 10-20% cap on HQ project staff salaries if these cannot be attributed to a specific project activity; a 20% cap for projects with budgets of USD 50,000 to USD 500,000; and a 10% cap for those with budgets of USD 500,001 to USD 1 million.



“It would be good to organize **capacity training**... on different thematic issues related to violence against women.”

“Follow-up of capacity development workshop and annual reunion of participants/grantees to share the learning of the projects and to learn best practices.”

**NOTE:** Resource constraints mean the Fund can hold only one workshop for grantees at the start of project implementation.



“Support and guidance in Mandarin would make my recommendation of the UN Trust Fund to other Chinese organizations unconditional.”

**NOTE:** The UN Trust Fund is currently only able to fund translation into English, French, Spanish and some other languages at workshops depending on demand.



“The reporting through the Grant Management System (GMS) has some limitations.”

**NOTE:** Improvements are being made to the UN Trust Fund's grants and results management systems to make them more user-friendly in 2017.



# NEXT STEPS

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- 1** The **survey of information** provided by grantees **will happen annually** to review progress and ensure services and support are meeting expectations.
- 2** The UN Trust Fund has developed an (internal) **action plan to target areas that need improvement in terms of services and support provided**, including information and grants management systems and reporting templates and procedures.
- 3** The **2015-2020 Strategic Plan has already addressed some grantee feedback**, including a commitment to sharing knowledge and generating evidence through grantee collaboration. In October 2016, the UN Trust Fund hosted a **knowledge-sharing event with current and previous grantees** on multi-sectoral cooperation approaches to delivering services to survivors of violence in the Europe and Central Asia region.
- 4** The UN Trust Fund will continue to **advocate with donors to raise more resources to improve and increase our service and support for grantees**, such as the Fund's ability to improve its systems and allocate more resources in certain areas.
- 5** The UN Trust Fund is exploring options for **increasing the ceiling for overhead/core costs of smaller organizations** in recognition of their impact and reach, and the challenges they face to sustain their work. **Training modules will be added** to the Fund's capacity development workshops to enable grantees to enhance their fundraising skills.

If you would like more information on this survey, please contact [untf-evaw@unwomen.org](mailto:untf-evaw@unwomen.org)

Please also visit our website for more news on the work of our grantees: <http://untf.unwomen.org/en>



Planet 50-50 by 2030  
Step It Up for Gender Equality