



# ESGBV against Women/Girls with Disabilities

## End of Project Evaluation Report







*This report was produced by Lwanyaaga Julius,  
An independent consultant contracted by IDIWA to conduct  
the End of ESGBV against WGDs Project  
Evaluation*

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### **Disclaimer:**

This Evaluation Report has been developed by an independent evaluator. The analysis presented in this report reflects the views of the author and may not necessarily represent those of IDIWA, its partners, or the UN Trust Fund.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ..... ii</p> <p>TABLE OF CONTENTS ..... ii</p> <p>ABBREVIATIONS ..... ii</p> <p>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ..... iii</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Summary of the findings..... vi</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Lessons, conclusions and recommendations..... xii</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Conclusions ..... xiii</p> <p><b>BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT ..... 2</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">SGBV in Mayuge and the ESGBV intervention ..... 4</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Project description..... 5</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Theory of change ..... 6</p> <p><b>THE END-LINE EVALUATION ..... 8</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Evaluation scope..... 8</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Purpose of the evaluation..... 9</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Evaluation objectives and scope ..... 10</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Evaluation criteria..... 10</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Evaluation questions..... 11</p> <p><b>METHODOLOGY ..... 17</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Design and approach ..... 17</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Sample selection and design..... 17</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">data collection methods..... 19</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Limitations to the evaluation..... 20</p> <p><b>THE FINDINGS..... 23</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Relevance ..... 24</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Coherence..... 34</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Effectiveness..... 38</p>	<p>Efficiency..... 50</p> <p>Sustainability..... 53</p> <p>Impact..... 55</p> <p>Institutional strengthening ..... 59</p> <p>Movement building..... 62</p> <p>Cross-cutting issues ..... 64</p> <p>Lessons, conclusions, and recommendations ..... 67</p> <p>Lessons Learned..... 67</p> <p>Appendix 1: List Of Key Stakeholders/Institutions Consulted..... 73</p> <p>Appendix 2: Documents Reviewed..... 74</p> <p>Appendix 3: List Of Interviewed Respondents By Category And Sub-County..... 75</p> <p>Appendix 4: List Key Informants Interviewed..... 76</p> <p>Appendix 5: List Of Categories Engaged Through Focus Group Discussions..... 77</p> <p>Appendix 6: Key Informant Interview Guide: (Partners)..... 78</p> <p>Appendix 7: FGD Guide: Local Government Officials And Institutional Heads . 82</p> <p>Appendix 8: Survey/Questionnaire ..... 84</p> <p>Appendix 9: Informed Consent Form: Focus Group Discussion Participants ..... 95</p> <p>Appendix 10: Informed Consent Form: Survey Participants (Beneficiary And Non- Beneficiaries)..... 99</p> <p>Appendix 10: Consent Form For: Disability Participation In Field Testing Of The Impact Of The ESGBV Against Wgds Project In Mayuge ..... 103</p> <p>Appendix 11: Term Of Reference ..... 106</p>
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## LIST OF BOXES

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Box 1: Results targeted at outcome and output levels .....	7
Box 2: Structure of the report.....	14
Box 3: Summary of the findings .....	23

## LIST OF FIGURES

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Figure 1: General assessment of the effectiveness of the ESGBV project.....	38
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## LIST OF FIGURES

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Table 1: Key questions asked on each parameter of the evaluation criteria .....	11
Table 2: Glossary of terms.....	15
Table 3: Institutional representatives interviewed as key informants.....	17

Table 4: Community level FGD and survey respondents.....	18
Table 5: Consistency of the ESGBV against WGDs' project with SDGs .....	35
Table 6: Effectiveness of the project in promoting demand and access to rights among WGDs.....	39
Table 7: Effectiveness of the ESGBV project in strengthening mechanisms for protection and response to SGBV against WGDS in Mayuge .....	43
Table 8: Effectiveness of the ESGBV project in strengthening capacity of IDIWA, WGD organizations and DPOs to effectively promote GE and response to SGBV .....	46



## ABBREVIATIONS

BoD:	Board of Directors
CAO:	Chief Administrative Officer
CEDAW:	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CFPU:	Child and family protection Unit
CSOs:	Civil Society Organizations
DHS:	Demographic Health Survey
DHO:	District Health Officer
DCDO:	District Community Development Officer
DPOs:	Disabled Peoples Organizations
ECOSOC:	Economic and Social Council
ESGBV:	Elimination of Sexual Gender Based Violence
GBV:	Gender Based Violence
GoU:	Government of Uganda
IPV:	Intimate Partner Violence
LCC:	Local Council Courts
MoGLSD:	Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development
MoLG:	Ministry of Local Government
NGP:	National Gender Policy
FGM/C:	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
JLOS:	Justice Law and Order Sector
OECD-DAC:	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Development Assistance Committee
OHCHR:	Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons
PDM:	Parish Development Model
PWDs:	People Living with Disabilities
SDG:	Sustainable development goals
SGBV:	Sexual Gender Based Violence
SRHR:	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
SSA:	Sub Saharan African
UBOS:	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UNEG:	UN Evaluation Group
UNEP:	UN Women Evaluation Policies
UNWEP:	UN Women Evaluation Policies

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Government of Uganda (GoU) has ratified various international and regional instruments to protect and promote women/girls' and other minority groups including people living with disabilities (PWDs) rights and to reduce inequalities. Advances in this direction can be traced from the adoption of affirmative action at the time the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government took power in 1986, then the 1995 constitution, which provided for the enactment of laws and policies on equal treatment for all Ugandans. Later on, other laws including the domestic violence act 2010 (DVA), the female genital mutilation act 2010, (FGMA), the persons living with disabilities act 2020 (PLDA), the equal opportunities commission act (EOCA) 2007 and others were put in place still to protect and promote the rights of minority groups including women and PWDs. None the less however, women and girls especially the marginalized women and girls with disabilities (WGDs) continue to experience high levels of denial, discrimination, and other forms of violence<sup>1</sup>.

### THE ESGBV PROJECT

In this regard, United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF) supported the Integrated Disabled

Women's Activities (IDIWA) to design and implement the Eliminating Sexual and

Gender Based Violence (ESGBV) against Women and Girls with Disabilities (WGDs) project, also known as the ESGBV project.

Implementation started in January 2020 running for three years aiming at enhancing provision and access to inclusive services for WGDs who are survivors of Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV). It was also aimed at enhancing capacity of the local Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response structures and promoting positive attitudes among key duty bearers (Local council courts (LCC), health workers and the Justice Law and Order sector (JLOS) on their role in preventing and responding to SGBV in ways that prioritize the safety needs of WGDs.

Implementation was in two phases. Phase one focused on: - Empowering WGDs to demand for fulfillment of their rights and access to SGBV services; Strengthening mechanisms for protection and response to SGBV against WGDs; and Strengthening capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' Groups,

<sup>1</sup> UNFP, (2021), A Global Assessment and Case Studies on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender-Based Violence, and Related Rights

and DPOs to effectively promote gender equality and response to SGBV.

Phase two on the other hand was around movement building, specifically intended to contribute to outcome 4 '*IDIWA and co-implementing partners are institutionally strengthened to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crisis while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EAWW/G with focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.*'

### **THE END-LINE EVALUATION**

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This evaluation was conducted at the end of the project to assess and analyze its impact from inception in January 2020. The process was undertaken by an independent consultant to assess the impact of the project, document the lessons learned and generate recommendations for further programming in the line of promoting women's rights, eliminating SGBV against women/girls especially those living with disabilities, as well as building and sustaining networks for the same purpose.

The main focus of the final evaluation was to provide an external assessment of whether the project was implemented in line with the commitments given in the approved project documents. The objectives of the evaluation as stated in the ToRs were to: -

- 1) evaluate the ESGBV against WGDs project implemented in Mayuge

district from January, 2020, to December, 2022, against the relevance, coherence, impact efficiency, gender and human rights, effectiveness, sustainability, knowledge generation, cross-cutting gender equality and human rights issues; and

- 2) identify key lessons and promising or emerging good practices in the field of ending violence against women and girls to enhance learning.

### **USERS OF THE REPORT**

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This report will be used to generate lessons to inform designing of future work on ESGBV against WGDs. Intended audiences and specific users of the findings include: UNTF Uganda, Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development, (MoGLSD), Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), Mayuge district local government, the District Community Development Office (DCDO), the District Probation Office, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) supporting the women and disabled women, the Women and Disabled People's Movements, DPOs, IDIWA staff and Board of Directors (BoD), lower local governments, and departments; and development partners in future planning and implementation of gender equality, human rights, women empowerment, and disability inclusion programs.



## EVALUATION APPROACH

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The evaluation was managed by an independent consultant and conducted in participatory way. The approach was utilization focused, gender responsive, and it followed human rights-based principles. Both quantitative and qualitative data collection methods were used to generate the required data. A desk review of project documents (proposal, results framework, monitoring reports, partner files and knowledge products) was undertaken. In order to facilitate triangulation and increase data quality, validity, credibility and robustness and to reduce bias, the evaluation combined data from various sources and collection methods including interviews, meetings, observations and discussions with different stakeholders.

Over 320 female and male respondents at the district, sub-county and community levels participated in the evaluation. Data were drawn from five (83%) of the six sub-counties where the project was implemented. Selection of the villages from the respective sub-counties was purposive basing on development (rural vs. urban) characteristics, and accessibility.

The evaluation encountered three major limitations. One was around continuity with implementation as the senior ESGBV project manager, transitioned at the time of the evaluation. This would have affected the flow of information but the evaluation

team took steps to secure an accurate understanding of the project from the other project team members including the executive director, the monitoring and evaluation officer, the finance officer and project reports.

Field work for the evaluation was originally planned to cover all sub-counties where the project was implemented. However, five of them were covered because Malongwe sub-county was hard to reach physically in the limited time. To counter this limitation, the team relied on monitoring reports, and where the phone contacts were available interviews were conducted on phone.

Apart from the ESGBV against WGDs project, the others government and non-government /NGO organizations could have been implementing a good number of VAWG related projects in Busoga region generally. These initiatives might have had an influence on the project outcomes in the intervention community. An effort was made to explore the direct effect of the project from the perspective of the trend before and after intervention where necessary.

The population that participated in evaluation had participated in the project activities; they are therefore potentially different from the general population. This means that they had pre-dispositioned

perspective on ESGBV, making it hard to confirm the impact in a comparative way. However, the open learning activities that attracted across-section of community members helped to fill up this gap.

The evaluation exercise from inception to submission of the final report started in December 2022 and ended in March 2023. Planning, data collection, analysis and reporting the findings of the evaluation

was conducted according to the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) criteria (relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability), knowledge generation, gender and human rights). The evaluation also ascertained contribution of the project in relation to movement building and institutional strengthening, which were asked under relevance, coherence, and effectiveness.

## SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

Evaluation findings are presented according the following key evaluation criteria that was used. This specifically covered ten parameters including: relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, knowledge generation, gender and human rights, impact, sustainability, institutional strengthening and movement building.

### RELEVANCE

The ESGBV project was relevant to the needs of the people, it adopted a relevant approach for the right people. The issues addressed were very relevant i.e., rights and needs of WGDs to live a life free of violence and safety from all risks of abuse.

Addressing violence against WGDs during the crisis of COVID-19 and the way it was addressed made project very relevant and timely. This was a problem addressed at the right time. This was at a moment when key stakeholders including government were overtaken by the fear of controlling the spread of the virus and in some way put minimal attention on the life of disadvantaged groups including WDGs and their needs.

Deliberate focus on building the women's movement in Busoga region and strengthening capacity of institutions to address VAWG during crises was both relevant and strategic. It came at a time when VAWG prevention and response programmers were at cross-roads with limited capacities to do effective and safe VAW prevention and respond. The project provided the right answers at an appropriate time.

UNTF's technical guidance and financial contributions to boost the beneficiaries' incomes also added value to the project making it very relevant at that time. The technical support and finances to startup businesses strengthened the

independence of the beneficiaries, while the shelter strengthening joint coordination and advocacy for the

## EFFECTIVENESS

The respondents rated the overall effectiveness of the project at 94% in delivering the intended results.

At the goal level, the effectiveness of the ESGBV project level was confirmed in the 5 sub-counties visited during the evaluation. The obvious indicators of the effectiveness of the ESGBV were two, i.e.:

- 
- Strengthening mechanisms for responding to violence experienced by

### OUTCOME 1: WGDs who are survivors of SGBV are empowered to demand their right to live free from violence and to access social, economic and legal services

The project created and equipped activists to lead the prevention of SGBV, and demand the rights of WGDs among the project beneficiaries (WGDs that were survivors of SGBV). As a result: -

- 100 percent of the project beneficiaries strengthened knowledge on VAWG, the right to safety, and skills for promoting their safety from abuse, and were able to lead efforts to demand the same by the end of project;
- 100 percent of the direct project beneficiaries' knowledge on human rights and skills for undertaking strategic advocacy for the protection and promotion of their rights as PWDs

district to take up its protective role support survivors.

the WGDs in a survivor-centered way; and

- Making substantial achievements towards its number one goal of 'contributing to an environment that promotes WGDs enjoyment of their rights and safety from abuse.

At outcome level, effectiveness of the ESGBV project is presented as per the specific outcomes as indicated below: -

was deepened. Consequently, strategic connections were initiated, maintained and used to advocate for key entitlements in the health, education, business, and public sectors;

- The project enhanced support seeking, and provision with 100 percent of the beneficiaries approving disclosure of violent experiences to enhance support provision. By the end of the project, 100 percent of the beneficiaries had opened up to report the violence they had experienced and felt appropriately supported;
- The project strengthened WGDs skills for identifying and early signs of abuse

and making appropriate referrals and by the end of the project all had been able to report a case to the relevant referral chain for support on SGBV or other human rights abuses; and

- Created activists or champions for promoting the rights of and WGDs in their respective communities;
- By the end of project implementation the WGD paralegals had successfully

lobbied to be included in the district planning and budgeting processes. They used these processes to secure funds for accessibility materials in key public service centers;

- The WGD paralegals are currently known across the project communities and are recognized as part of the district human rights protection and promotion structures.

### **OUTCOME 2: Strengthened mechanisms for protection and response to SGBV Women and Girls with Disabilities (WGDs) in Mayuge district**

Using the findings of the accessibility auditing facilitated effective advocacy among the district stakeholders in the planning department and working committees to change a lot in the line of the districts planning for the services of PWDs generally and WGDs in particular.

As a result:-

- The district took the lead in gazetteing the Mayuge district disability ordinance, which legalized all efforts to support the WGDs in the district;
- The district leadership adopted a policy to allocate special funds in all annual budgets to provide for the services needed by the PWDs starting with adjustable labor beds in health center III units, and access ramps on public offices at the district headquarters

More than 200 community members who are not WGDs including Parents, care givers, family and other community members were equipped with knowledge and skills for making appropriate and safe referrals for the survivors of SGBV who are WGDs. As a result,

- In the three years, more than 150 cases were referred to various places including health, police and probation for support including rescue of three survivors (2 girls and 1 woman) of violence.
- Key actors including Busoga Kingdom, members of parliament (MPs), Celebrities, Criminal Civil and Justice System, Decision makers and social service providers were skilled on improving prevention and response from responsible institution.



**OUTCOME 3: Capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' organizations and DPOs strengthened for effective promotion of GE and response to SGBV against WGDs**

- The ESGBV project contributed to formation of a Sub-regional SGBV referral network of Disabled People's Organizations, WGDs and other women rights groups, organization and institution with over 15 members;
- The members are currently knowledgeable about the international, regional, national and subnational legal frameworks. They are currently using this knowledge and skills to advocate for elimination of SGBV among WGDs;
- The network's executive or governing body is now well constituted it includes 7 members selected from representatives of the partner organizations
- The network jointly runs the SGBV shelter that provides response services to the survivors of SGBV who are WGDs in Mayuge and beyond.

**OUTCOME 4: IDIWA and co-implementing partners are institutionally strengthened and sustainably respond to COVID-19 pandemic and other crisis while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EVAW/G with focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.**

Annual reports and interviews confirmed that women's IDIWA's staff strengthened skills for planning, and effecting plans to work and support survivors of SGBV in crises. As a result during the COVID-19 lock-down the staff successfully: -

- Reached out and delivered relief items to 300 vulnerable WGDs households including food (maize flour and beans, sugar, salt and soap);
- Run a temporarily shelter for WGDs who were homeless, during the time when violence against women was reported to have increased across the country;

- Provided gendered/disability responsive COVID 19 Information Education and Communication materials to WGDs;
- Advocated successfully for the review and change of the stringent national standard operating procedures that had exposed the WGDs to more danger and suffering during the lock down; and
- Gained capacities and demonstrated confidence to act in gender-sensitive ways and replicated various initiatives of the ESGBV against WGDs project at the community, sub-county, district and national scale after the project.

## EFFICIENCY

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The stakeholders involved in implementing the project rated the implementation process as 100 percent efficient specifically because it was: -

- Implemented within the planned time frame;
- Implemented successfully with the resources available

At the district and institutional levels (including the other implementing partners) all respondents (100 percent) concurred that activities implemented were planned in a timely manner and within the allocated budgets. CSO key

## SUSTAINABILITY

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96 percent of the stakeholder believe that structures and relationships built will sustain the changes, achievements, and aspirations of the project in an irreversible manner.

The direct beneficiaries commended the intangible sustainable benefits of the ESGBV project in improving societal relationships and better inclusivity and understanding between men and women; the PWDs and those without disabilities, it heightened advocacy on the reduction of VAW both for the WGDs and those that do not live with any disabilities treating them as equal and all facing the same challenge (GBV) with the same effects for both.

informants rated the efficiency criterion by measuring efforts on the internal activities they implemented with the support of the UNTF funds.

The district leadership both political and technical believed that UNTF's investment in developing an accessibility audit committee, a human rights defenders committee, the training manuals on disability inclusion was good value for money.

At community level, testimonials and change stories indicated that activities were delivered in a timely manner.

Collaboration among institutions and CSOs that did not often collaborate before is also pointing towards sustainability. Over 200 permanent stakeholders at different levels including the district, school teachers, health workers, police officers, and community members benefited from capacity building initiatives of the ESGBV.

There is demonstrated improved knowledge by all stakeholders involved in the project, a sound shift in the attitudes on critical issues and strategies for gender equality and women's empowerment, and disability inclusion. The design of the project is scalable, and

many initiatives are continuing within all institutions which participated from the start.

At community levels the outcomes of the project were overall viewed as sustainable by both the implementing partners and the beneficiaries. The

## IMPACT

The key informants rated the project 100 percent impactful with key achievements that are likely to stay forever including: -

- positioning of WGDs in strategic positions at the district and sub-county planning and decision making positions;
- inclusion of WGDs and PWDs in key district and sub-county planning and budgeting processes as a policy;
- inclusion of the PWD agenda in key district local government infrastructure and physical development processes.

By large, the outcomes of the project were met and much as impact cannot easily be measured in the short time, the project has visibly:-

- strengthened institutional capacity of IDIWA and her partners to effectively undertake programs involving responding and preventing SGBV against WGDs even during crises;
- Resulted in positive change, particularly in knowledge, attitudes

beneficiaries believe the capacity building received will take the objectives of the project even further. The WGDs have assimilated the 'gospel of non-violence and human rights protection and promotion for all' and it is an integral part of them, hence it continues after the project ends.

and behaviors of WGDs on their rights in addition to strengthening their skills and will to advocate for and demand their safety from violence as a right.

The ESGBV has created a network of WROs, government offices and departments all committed towards ending violence against WGDs. The network brings together about 15 CSOs and other services providers for the survivors of SGBV. The members have formalized their relationship through signing MoUs and working on cross referrals. They jointly run the SGBV shelter and have lobbied the district LG to join them as a way of strengthening sustainability.

The project strengthened IDIWA staff and structures on a range of things but mostly working effectively under crises. This outcome not only strengthened IDIWA capacity but improved its social contribution since the organization was involved in supporting the WGDs during lock down.

## LESSONS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### LESSONS

Successful implementation of the ESGBV project presented the following lessons: -

1. Strengthening capacity of local institutions to lead efforts to defend the rights of WGDs and women generally is very effective as it inspires them to own these efforts;
2. A context based implementation strategy is required for implementing activities in communities with differing contextual characteristics;
3. Activities specifically for improving the WGD's life, such as start-up capital provided to boost business, and linking them savings schemes sustains the momentum for preventing SGBV at less costs;
4. Promoting entrepreneurship skills of the WGD beneficiaries is well placed as sustainability strategy as it strengthens their independence, and enhances their relevance at family and community levels;
5. Capacity building, partnerships, and advocacy can facilitate value for money and should be sustained in order to ensure the lasting impact of the women's movement in Mayuge, Busoga and Uganda at large;
6. WGDs are resourceful, as long as they are empowered to realize their potential and abilities;
7. Gender awareness raising campaigns and events targeting opinion leaders such as: cultural, religious, and other stakeholders are effective and can have a crucial contribution in steering community mental change gradually;
8. Social-norm deconstruction activities and events can play a vital role in sustaining changes in societal norms, much as it comes with some challenges;
9. Adoption of community mobilization approaches that inspire everyone to participate and own the change process is an effective strategy though it sometimes invites complexities as well;
10. Effective advocacy for policy reforms is strengthened by the partnership approach. This is even stronger when undertaken jointly in a movement or network;
11. Effective prevention of VAW and discrimination of the marginalized groups requires addressing the root-cause i.e., the negative deep-rooted social norms need to be changed.



## CONCLUSIONS

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The evaluation found that IDIWA along with her partners successfully carried out the planned project activities that made a significant contribution in terms of systematizing the process of involving everyone in addressing and responding to SGBV against WGDs and other women.

All stakeholders appreciated the implementation strategy in delivering the intended outcomes in terms of its relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, and contribution to impact, sustainability, knowledge generation, and adherence to the principals of human rights and gender equality. The results also proved the intervention effective in strengthening institutions' capacity and movement building.

The project demonstrated commendable achievements in relation to expected outcomes. Some of the key achievements are:

- 1) Recognition of the rights of the WGDs and other marginalized groups as well as their safety as an important issue that concerns and requires everyone to take-up as a personal, family, community, and institutional responsibility;
- 2) Strengthening knowledge, and skills of IDIWA and the implementing partner(s) as well as the members of the women's movement on handling SGBV in crises, and planning to adapt to the changing pattern of work to

The project addressed very relevant needs of WGDs to fully enjoy their rights and safety from all forms of violence. It applied relevant and effective approaches in doing so, while at the same time highlighting the need for adequate measures to enable WGDs and other women and girls stay safely with everyone.

The project gave adequate attention to strengthen institutional policies and actions to effectively prevent SGBV against WGDs and other women and girls. It also strengthened the monitoring and accountability role of the duty bearers, district and central government in preventing and responding to SGBV at all levels;

continue delivering services during emergencies and crises;

- 3) Initiated the first ever successful attempts to bring together the WROs, DPOs, individuals working together to strategize on ways to undertake advocacy for the engagement of government to lead the process of planning for inclusive service provision, and allocating resources for this effort. This resulted in forming the first-ever GBV network for the Busoga region;

- 4) Raised awareness and lifted the taboos that sustained the stigmatization, exclusion, and discrimination of WGDs as well as the beliefs on openly discussing the issue of VAW, and ultimately Increased the number of community members who believe that women deserve the same treatment as men;
- 5) Interactive awareness building campaign activities based on community mobilization principals created a non-hierarchical

relationship between women and men, the PWDs and other community members; and the WGDs and other women and girls that were engaged;

- 6) Developing knowledge products including manuals, translating key policy documents in braille to facilitate communication with people with hearing impairments, as well as installing access ramps on public buildings, the disability ordinance and others.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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1. The approach used to implement the project was a unique initiative that needs to be further studied, strengthened and grown because it has potential to inform development of a methodology that can be used by others to systematize programing to prevent and respond to SGBV against WGDs;
2. There is still need for IDIWA to continue with facilitative support to consolidate results. This is true since experience shows that some government entities need follow-up for a long time to gradually take on new roles;
3. The project covered nearly half i.e., six out of the thirteen sub-counties that make up Mayuge district. Since it succeeded as a pilot, there is need for

IDIWA to work with flexible donors like UNTF to roll the project to the other parts of the district;

4. It is recommended that a community-specific needs assessment and local context mapping is performed to inform more context based planning and resources allocation to ensure balanced engagements in subsequent projects;
5. The ESGBV project was introduced at time when Mayuge and Busoga region in general did not have a vibrant women's movement yet the setting in the entire sub-region is strongly patriarchal and women more so those living with disabilities are deeply marginalized. There are still indicators that it still needs support to strengthen harmony and cohesion. As the ESGBV

project is ending there is need to consider it as a young initiative that still needs support to strengthen;

6. There is need for IDIWA to formally register all trained paralegals and secure a standing arrangement that they will be recognized by the district hierarchies and be afforded an opportunity to participate in future engagements as human rights defenders in the district;
7. Success of the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge is good opportunity

to build on the current success of the project to inform other stakeholders on the inclusion of women and girls with disabilities. IDIWA should consider sharing information on the way the results were achieved by this project.

- a. There is needs for further research documentation, and policy-oriented dialogue as a basis to bring this project to the next level. At this level, it is important to consider high-level forums where key policy makers will be engaged.





## BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) is a violation of human rights that denies the human dignity of the individual and hurts human development<sup>2</sup>. It includes any harmful act of sexual, physical, psychological, mental, and emotional abuse that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and female<sup>3</sup>.

SGBV is reported across Uganda, and Government of Uganda, (GoU) is committed to and has taken noticeable strides to eliminate it through: protecting the rights of women and girls, promoting gender equality, and inclusion for all citizens as required in the international, and regional human rights regimes to which it has ratified<sup>4</sup>.

Unfortunately however, actual realization of these commitments is still a challenge with for instance, SGBV is still widespread

across the country as over one million female Ugandans 14 – 49 years are exposed to sexual violence each year<sup>5,6</sup>; inclusion of minority groups including the people living with disabilities (PWDs) in planning, budgeting, and service provision is still more in policies and frameworks than it is in practice<sup>7</sup>; and enjoyment of human rights still for some but not all groups<sup>8</sup>.

Examples are around SGBV most of whose consequences are reported among women/girls more than half of who have at some point experienced physical violence, more than one in five have been sexually abused, about 10 percent of those between 15 – 19 years and close to 20

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<sup>2</sup> UNHCR Uganda: Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Thematic Report (September 2019).<https://reliefweb.int/report/uganda/unhcr-uganda-sexual-and-gender-based-violence-sgbv-thematic-report-september-2019>

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2019), Sexual and gender-based violence: The time to act is now; <https://www.unocha.org/story/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-time-act-now#>

<sup>4</sup> MoGLSD, (2021), National Action Plan On Business and Human Rights

<sup>5</sup> United Nations (1979), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women New York, 18 December 1979

<sup>6</sup> Stephen Senkaaba, Africa Renewal, Violence against women unabated despite laws and policies.<https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/uganda-violence-against-women-unabated-despite-laws-and-policies#>:

<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development Situational; (2020); Analysis of Persons with Disabilities in Uganda. <https://www.developmentpathways.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Webready-DP1294-ESP-Disability-Uganda-Sept-2020.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Karim Mo, (2015), The practical implementation of human rights - universal or contextual? Uppsala University. <https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:872625/FULLTEXT01.pdf>

percent of those age 20–24 are victims of sexual assault at some point in life<sup>9,10</sup>.

The situation is also worrying among the WGDs who constitute 15 percent of the female population in Uganda<sup>11</sup>. Like elsewhere around the world, the WGDs, and other vulnerable groups in Uganda including the people living with HIV and AIDS, and women/girls from poor backgrounds are always invisible and excluded from participation in many things including the decisions that affect their lives<sup>12</sup>.

Enjoyment of human rights among these is limited also because of the negative (patriarchal) beliefs, and attitudes that give more privileges to some groups (males) and deprive the others (females). For example, being woman/girl is sometimes associated with inferiority, while having a disability of any sort is negatively perceived and often results in stigma, discrimination, exclusion, mistreatment, and other forms of abuse against these

groups confirming the observation that gender and disability intersect<sup>13,14</sup>.

Partly because of this, nearly two-thirds of WGDs in Uganda have at a certain point been abused either physically, sexually, or emotionally by an intimate partner, family member or a stranger. A higher percentages (51%) are survivors of emotional violence, 49% have experienced physical violence, while 39% have been sexually abused at a certain time in life<sup>15</sup>.

Enjoyment of other rights and entitlements including access to public services in the education, economics, health, transport, employment, politics, and justice sectors remains a challenge for the WGDs<sup>16</sup>. The situation involving the exclusion, isolation and stigmatizing WGDs tends to worsen during crisis and emergencies as reported during the recent outbreaks of the COVID-19 and ebola when such conditions not only exacerbated violence but also limited the

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<sup>9</sup> Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and ICF. 2018. Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016. Rockville, Maryland, USA: UBOS and ICF.

<sup>10</sup> UBOS, DFID, and UN Women; (2020), National Qualitative Survey on Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) in Uganda. [https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/02\\_2022VAWG\\_qualitative\\_report.pdf](https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/02_2022VAWG_qualitative_report.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> NUDIPU, (2019), Disability Rights in Uganda; A community Perspective through Radio Polls.

<sup>12</sup> UBOS, Ministry of gender, labor and social development; (2020); Situational Analysis of Persons with Disabilities in Uganda

<sup>13</sup> UNHCR; 2021; Statement of the UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

<sup>14</sup> United Nations Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), and Department for Economic and Social Affairs: Toolkit on Disability for Africa. Culture, belief and disability

<sup>15</sup> Anne Valentine, Ilhom Akobirshoev, and Monika Mitra, (2019), Intimate Partner Violence among Women with Disabilities in Uganda. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/article/PMC6466247/>

<sup>16</sup> National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda, (2013), Disability Rights in Uganda – A Community Perspective through Interactive Radio Polls

provision and access to services among these groups<sup>17</sup>.

In March 2020 when the first COVID-19 case was confirmed in Uganda, government introduced the lockdown / stay-at-home orders and social distancing measures to control spread of the virus. Like elsewhere around the world however, these orders are believed to have increased occurrence of family violence due to economic hardship, and decline in social support structures among other contributing factors.

As reported in the UN Women Rapid Gender Assessment survey (RGA), which measured the COVID-19 pandemic's socioeconomic impact and impact on violence against WGDs, the pandemic amplified existing challenges for WGDs in Uganda including: - tightening their already restricted participation in the labor market; reducing access to services and public goods; increasing unpaid care and domestic work; compromised the feeling of safety, strained mental and

emotional health; and constrained access to relief services<sup>18</sup>.

### **SGBV IN MAYUGE AND THE ESGBV AGAINST WGDs INTERVENTION**

This was the situation in Mayuge prior to the start of the ESGBV project. The district is in Eastern Uganda, where 43.6 percent of the elderly (60 years and above), 6.1 percent of the youths (18 -30 years), and 6.1 percent of children (2 – 17 years) live with some form of disability<sup>19</sup>. These specifically include 26 percent living with some impairments, 8.1 percent whose level of disability is regarded a lot, 0.9 percent who are totally impaired, and 8.9 percent whose state is regarded 'a lot'<sup>20</sup>.

According to the baseline conducted for the ESGBV against WGDs project, most if not all forms and types of SGBV that were investigated including emotional abuse, abandonment and denial, intimidation or duress, sexual, physical, and forced or early marriage for WGDs were confirmed to be widespread. Experience of these was reported by 68 percent, 39 percent, 19

<sup>17</sup> Katana, E., Amodan, B.O., Bulage, L. *et al.* Violence and discrimination among Ugandan residents during the COVID-19 lockdown. *BMC Public Health* **21**, 467 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-021-10532-2>

<sup>18</sup> Ramya Emandi, Jessamyn Encarnacion, Papa Seck; (2022); Six ways women with disabilities have been affected by the pandemic. <https://data.unwomen.org/features/six-ways-women-disabilities-have-been-affected-pandemic>

<sup>19</sup> Uganda Bureau of Statistics 2017, The National Population and Housing Census 2014 – Area Specific Profile Series, Mayuge district, Uganda. <https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/2014CensusProfiles/mayuge.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and ICF. 2018. *Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016*. Kampala, Uganda and Rockville, Maryland, USA: UBOS and ICF.

percent, 14 percent, 3 percent of the interviewed WGDs respectively<sup>21</sup>.

SGBV services existed but were not offered in a formal and streamlined way. The baseline showed that before the project started, WGDs struggled to access health care services not because they were not there but because of barriers including movement from the areas of residence to the health centers, and movements within the units as well as communication barriers especially for those with hearing and speech limitations.

These were hindering full enjoyment of the rights, privileges and opportunities for the PWDs as other members of society. Particularly, 66% had never accessed SGBV services within the district. Inclusive service provision was more in theory and did not greatly consider access for the WGDs even in public places. WGDs lacked access to essential social services, legal and psycho social support services. Public places like hospitals, police, and judicial offices could more easily be accessed by people without disabilities.

Negative social norms condoned SGBV and families could cover up and protect perpetrators of violence against women generally but mostly those living with

disabilities. Girls with disabilities were often denied the right to education and health care because of their 'inferior social status' and disabilities. WGDs lived in a series of unstable relationships because their male partner did not want to identify with them in public as society viewed them as ineligible partners.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

In this regard, UNTF supported IDIWA to design and implement the ESGBV against WGDs project to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life lived by WGDs in Mayuge district.

The project was in line with UNTF's vision, which obliges member to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all women and girls, including ending VAW/G and achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. This is also aligned with the UN Women vision of development results in the field of ending VAW/G.

It is also in line with UNTF's mission for the 2021 – 2025 strategic plan, which is to enable civil society organizations (CSOs), especially WROs and those representing the most marginalized groups, to play a central role in delivering survivor-centered and demand-driven initiatives and to support their programs to achieve a

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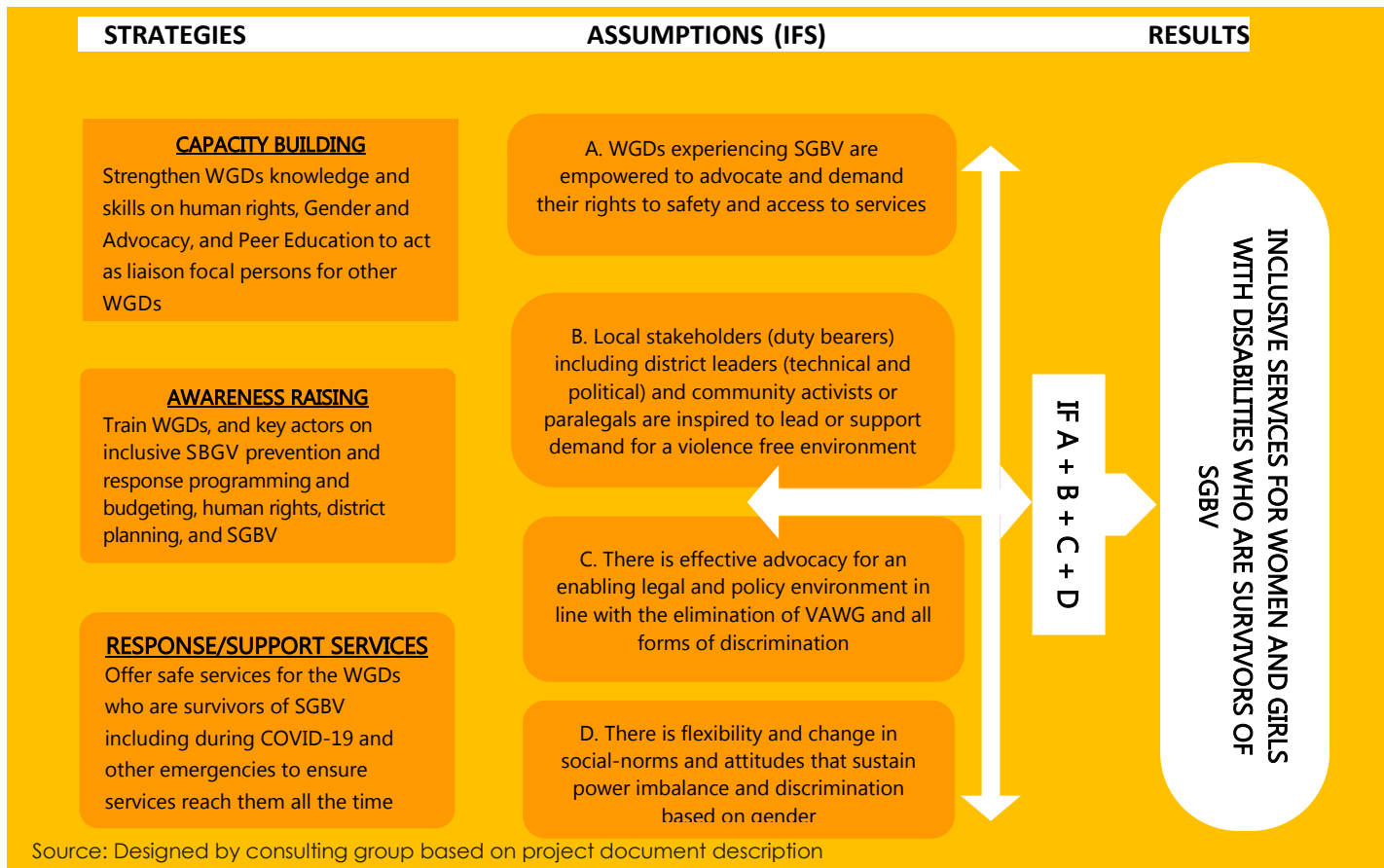
<sup>21</sup> DIWA, UNTF, Spot Light Initiative to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls, (2020);

Eliminating SGBV against WGD in Mayuge district Baseline Report.

sustainable impact on ending VAW/G in a manner that contributes to global solidarity, partnerships and stronger, inclusive feminist movements.

The project was developed in line with national development priorities and goals such as the National Vision 2040 & the

National Development Plan II 2016-2020 both of which point to gender equality and non-discrimination based on any reasons. The goal of the project was 'Inclusive services for Women and Girls with Disabilities who are survivors of Sexual Gender Based Violence in Mayuge district.'



## THEORY OF CHANGE

Initially, the project intend to contribute to delivery of inclusive services for the women and girls with disabilities who are survivors of SGBV. At that time focus was on three specific objectives, which were to: -

1. Empower WGDs with their Human Rights and Advocacy skills;
2. Strengthen protection and response to SGBV cases among WGDs; and
3. Empower IDIWA organs, WGDs' Organizations and Groups, and DPOs to promote GEWE and response to SGBV against WGDs.



After outcome four was added the targeted results' statement was changed to '*Strengthened capacity to adapt to the changing context and deliver Inclusive services for Women and Girls with Disabilities who are survivors of Sexual Gender Based Violence during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.*'

### Box 1: Results targeted at outcome and output levels

At that time objective four, 'To improve IDIWA and co-implementing partner's resilience to crises including COVID-19 to ensure stability of projects and sustainability of the organizations in the longer term' was added.

Consequently, the project had four result areas and different outputs were set to contribute to the respective outcomes as indicated in box 2

<b>Outcome 1:</b>	Women and Girls with Disabilities empowered to protect and demand fulfillment of their rights and access to SGBV services
<b>Outputs:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>300 WGDs equipped with information and knowledge on their rights, and how to use it to demand for services;</li><li>Women and Girls with Disabilities supported to access legal, psycho-social, economic and health services;</li><li>50 Women and Girls with Disabilities trained to act as focal persons, Peers Educators and Champions and against SGBV.</li></ol>
<b>Outcome 2:</b>	Strengthened mechanisms for protection and management of Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities (WGDs).
<b>Outputs:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>200 Duty bearers and other service providers in Mayuge District sensitized on the rights of Women and Girls with disabilities;</li><li>Parents, care givers, family and community members are aware of the referral mechanisms and their role in reporting cases of SGBV against WGDs in their households</li><li>50 senior women teachers and health workers are knowledgeable on early assessment, identification and referral for SGBV against WGDs.</li></ol>
<b>Outcome 3:</b>	Capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' Organizations and Groups, and Disabled People's Organizations -DPOs Strengthened for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs
<b>Outputs:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>IDIWA organs, WGDs Organizations and Groups, and Disabled People's Organizations in Mayuge District are knowledgeable on the National and International frameworks on Gender Equality and Violence against WGDs;</li><li>Sub-regional CSOs Sexual and Gender Based Violence coordination and referral network established and functional in Busoga sub region.</li></ol>
<b>Outcome 4:</b>	IDIWA and co-implementing partner are institutionally strengthened to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EVAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.
<b>Outputs:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>300 WGDs are provided with emergency relief and recovery packages and trained on human rights and advocacy skills</li><li>IDIWA and the implementing partner are empowered to promote inclusion of women and girls with disabilities in emergency response services including COVID-19 and other crises.</li></ol>

## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

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This project was delivered through a partnership with a number of stakeholders. The overall technical guidance and financial support was provided by UNTF. The other stakeholders included government ministries and departments (Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development (MoGLSD), and Ministry of Local Government (MoLG). All departments at the district (both political and technical) participated in the project guided by the office of the Chief

Administrative Officer (CAO). Partners in civil society including WROs and DPOs were involved especially as member of the network of WROs, PWDs, and WGDs. Institutions including those in the areas of education, health, police, trade, and agriculture also participated in the project activities. The general community including the PWDs, the other community members, the parents and caregivers of the WGDs and others were engaged through participation in the projects activities.

## THE END-LINE EVALUATION

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As specified in the project document, it was a requirement to conduct an end of project evaluation. IDIWA commissioned the final evaluation of the ESGBV against WGDs project with the primary purpose of carrying out a comprehensive review of its performance against the set targets. According to ToRs for the evaluation, the purpose of the evaluation was to assess

the projects' achievements against the set objectives, identify and document lessons learnt (including design issues, lessons and best practices that can be up-scaled or replicated), and assess how the project contributed to inclusive service provision for WGDs who are survivors of SGBV in Mayuge district.

## EVALUATION SCOPE

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The scope of the evaluation was defined in respect to the following aspects:

### PROGRAMMATIC SCOPE:

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The Evaluation focused on the core outcomes that the project aimed to achieve i.e.: -

a. WGDs who are survivors of SGBV are empowered to demand their right to live free from violence and access social, economic and legal services;

b. Strengthened mechanisms for protection and response to SGBV against WGDs in Mayuge district by 2022;

c. Capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' Organizations and Groups, and DPOs strengthened for effective promotion

- of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs; and
- d. IDIWA and co-implementing partner institutionally strengthened to

### **GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE:**

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The evaluation covered five of the project implementation sub-counties (Buwaaya, Bukatuube, Kigandalo, Kityerera, Imanyiro) all from Mayuge districts in the eastern region of Uganda. Key Informant interviews were also conducted at the district headquarters. The partners at district level included the district planning committees, the community development and probation offices, the gender, health, education, and planning technical officers, the district disability focal person and the district engender etc. Additional information was obtained from health units, police stations, schools, and civil society organizations some of which do

The overall purpose of the final evaluation was to assess progress towards achievement of the objectives of the project. Progress was measured against the standard evaluation principles of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, knowledge generation, gender and human rights, and impact from inception in January 2020. The evaluation also assessed the contribution of the project towards strengthening the women's movement in Busoga region, and

sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.

not directly operate or are not restricted to the project intervention communities.

### **TIME SCOPE:**

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This evaluation was conducted at the end of the project. It specifically covered the period from inception in January 2020 to the end in December 2022.

### **CONTENT SCOPE:**

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The specific objectives of the evaluation were guided by the OECD – DAC evaluation criteria (relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impact, knowledge generation, and gender and human rights) as highlighted in the terms of reference (ToR).

### **PURPOSE OF THE EVALUATION**

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strengthening capacity of IDIWA and her partners to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls. The lessons generated in this evaluation will inform the process of designing IDIWA's future work around preventing and responding to violence against women with special differences.

## EVALUATION OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

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The specific objectives of the final evaluation were to assess the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, knowledge generation, gender and human rights, and impact of the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge district.

The evaluation also assessed the contribution of the project in building the women's movement, and capacity to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EVAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls. The process was guided by UN Women

Evaluation Policies (UNEP) and UNEG guidelines on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in evaluation and the UNEG Ethical Guidelines for evaluation. Key principles (fair power relations and empowerment; leave no one behind; independence and impartiality; transparency; quality and credibility; and innovation) were respected<sup>22</sup>. The process generated lessons, and recommendations which will be used for learning internally at IDIWA, and the partners in the civil society and among the partners in the government (local and central).

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

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This evaluation specifically:

- 1) Assessed **relevance** of the ESGBV against WGDs project in addressing the needs of WGDs and other women/girls who are survivors of SGBV in alignment with their human rights, and safety;
- 2) Assessed the
  - a. **Effectiveness, and**
  - b. **Efficiency** of ESGBV's approach for achievement of results, as defined in the logical framework, and the ToC;
- 3) Analyzed the ways in which the **human rights approach and gender equality** principles were integrated in the ESGBV against WGDs project;
- 4) Identified, **validated and documented knowledge and lessons generated** from the ESGBV against WGDs project, promising practices and innovations of work;
- 5) **Assessed the impact or added value** of the ESGBV against WGDs project;

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<sup>22</sup> UNEG Human Rights and Gender Equality Task Force (2011); Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation -Towards UNEG Guidance:

evaluationhttp://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/980

- 6) Assessed the **sustainability** plan and steps put in place to ensure that the ESGBV against WGDs projects' achievements and opportunities are continued even after the end of the project;
- 7) Provided **actionable recommendations** with respect to the ESGBV against WGDs project and overall approach to promote the enjoyment of rights and safety for the WGDs who are survivors of violence, exclusion, stigma and denial.

The evaluation allied the eight evaluation criteria, in addition to assessing the: -

- 8) Contribution of the project towards **movement building** i.e., strengthening capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' Organizations and Groups, and DPOs to effectively promote of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs; and
- 9) **Institutionally strengthen** IDIWA and co-implementing partner to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EVAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.

## EVALUATION QUESTIONS

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A list of questions aligned to the evaluation criteria (relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency sustainability and impact, knowledge generation, and gender and human rights), as well the projects contribution to movements

building, and institutional strengthening were highlighted in the ToRs. This was revised during inception to make the questions more focused. Table 1 presents the questions asked for each criteria.



**Table 1: Key questions asked on each parameter of the evaluation criteria**

Parameter	Questions
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To what extent has the project been conceptualized, planned and designed to respond to key narrative frameworks such as: -</li> <li>b) To what extent was the project implemented in line with the UNTF's mandate and corporate objectives on promoting the integration of inclusivity into all its initiatives</li> </ul>
Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) To what extent has the project achieved the intended goal, objectives, outcomes and outputs?</li> <li>d) Did the project register any intended and/or unintended effects on gender equality and inclusive service delivery, and enjoyment of human rights for the WGDs?</li> </ul>
Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) How were the project resources/inputs converted to results; considering inputs and outputs</li> <li>b) What were the strategies and interventions put in place to deliver value for money?</li> </ul>
Coherence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To what extent does the project fit into the local and national policies that support the elimination of SGBV against WGDs?</li> <li>b) Safety of the WGDs</li> </ul>
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What are key short-term and long-term contributions and added values of the project?</li> <li>b) What are the benefits of the project to society, policy makers and district leaders?</li> </ul>
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) What are the strategies that have been put in place to ensure the results document out of the project will be sustained?</li> <li>d) What is the sustainability plan of the results from the other partners in the ESGBV project given the level of ownership generated, effective partnerships established, and capacity strengthened through processes?</li> </ul>
Knowledge generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What are the key learnings or lessons that we are getting from the project in relation to ending violence against women with disabilities?</li> </ul>
Gender and Human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) To what extent did the design and implementation of the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge prioritize cross cutting issues gender and human rights?</li> <li>c) What at the particular elements of the human rights based and gender responsive approaches that were adopted for this project</li> </ul>
Institutional strengthening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To what extent did the project strengthen IDIWA and its partner(s) to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EVAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls</li> </ul>
Movement building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To what extent did the ESGBV strengthen IDIWA, WGDs Organizations, DPOs, and institutions in Mayuge District's knowledge and skills to advocate for adaptations, implementation, refinement, and formulation of International and National frameworks on Gender Equality and violence against women and girls with disabilities</li> </ul>

## GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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The evaluation process was participatory and inclusive from the start to the validation stage. Key stakeholders were consulted in deciding on the key areas it considered and the way it would be accomplished. The process followed the guidelines provided in the UNEG guidance and from the UN Women evaluation policy. Gender equality and human rights perspectives were specifically integrated in the evaluation process from the designing

of the tools. The process also paid attention to groups who benefited and contributed to the ESGBV against WGDs project. Participants were disaggregated by relevant criteria of disadvantaged and advantaged groups depending on their gender or status such as women/men, class and location, and disability status to assess whether benefits were distributed in a fair way in respect for the principle of 'leaving no one behind'.

## EVALUATION MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

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The following individuals/groups were involved in completing the evaluation

- 1) The evaluation team comprising of two lead evaluators was responsible for manning the evaluation process. The lead evaluators were responsible for carrying out most of the tasks including developing the inception report, constituting and training the data enumeration team, preparing members for data gathering, data collection and analysis, meeting with IDIWA team and other partners, presenting preliminary findings for validation and submission of the draft and final evaluation report.
- 2) The two team leaders were assisted by two supervisors who supported in the data collection field missions. They also foresaw the data, cleaning and

transcription processes. All in-field debriefs were coordinated by the supervisors' team. They also took leadership of the daily activities undertaken to complete the processes that led to the generation and use of data for the evaluation.

- 3) IDIWA staff under the leadership of the Monitoring and Evaluation officer provided information in relation to the stakeholders that were interviewed, supported in generating lists of interviewees from which the consultants selected the respondents. They were also available to be interviewed in addition to linking the consultant to key data sources.
- 4) The UNTF team provided guidance on the whole process including reviewing the inception report and providing

feedback on the same, reviewed and provided feedback on the evaluation approach and criteria, reviewed the final evaluation report and provide

feedback on ways to improve the processes involved and to ensure factual accuracy and avoidance misinterpretation of data.

## THE EVALUATION REPORT

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This report describes the evaluation process of the ESGBV project implemented by IDIWA with support from UNTF. It presents results of the analysis of data collected to evaluate the impact of the three-year project that was among other things aimed of strengthening local Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention

and response structures and promote positive attitudes among key duty bearers on their role in handling SGBV cases in ways that prioritize the specific needs of WGDs. The Terms of Reference (TORs) that guided this evaluation process are appended as Appendix 11.

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### Box 2: Structure of the report

The report has three main sections that are explained below: -

**Section one**, which contains introductory information in four sections:-

- The purpose and scope of the evaluation
- The methodology,
- Limitations, and the
- Context within which the project was implemented.

**Section two** contains: -

The analysis of data and the findings organized in eight sections aligned to the evaluation framework used, which specifically covered:- the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, gender and human rights, knowledge generation, impact, and sustainability.

It also presents the findings on the contribution of the project on movement building and institutional strengthening to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises while maintaining interventions to EVAW/G

**Section three**, which presents: -

- The lessons learned,
- Conclusions and
- Recommendations.

This (final) and the inception reports were the main deliverable of the evaluation. It incorporates feedback from the IDIWA and UNTF review teams and recommendations

from the validation process. Supplementary information on the report is in the annexes. The commonly used concepts throughout the report in the report are explained table 2 below

Table 2: Glossary of terms	
Terms	Uses and definitions
Beneficiary	Beneficiaries refers to the or individuals who were targeted by activities implemented for the project
Duty bearers	Duty-bearers are those actors who mandated by their jurisdictions promote and protect and safe guard human rights and to abstain from human rights violations
Co-implementing partner	In the project design IDIWA was meant to work another partner to implement the project, that partner is called Co-IP. The CSO partners in the network or movement build in the project are called co-implementing partners





## METHODOLOGY

### INTRODUCTION:

The evaluation methodology was developed and presented to IDIWA for review and input. The detailed version was presented in the inception report to UNTF for additional review, guidance and approval. This section of the report presents the methodology used during the evaluation clearly explaining how it addressed the evaluation criteria, yielded answers to the evaluation questions, and achieved evaluation purposes and objectives. Below is a summary of the methodology.

### DESIGN AND APPROACH

A combination of approaches were used to generate, manage and utilize the data obtained. It applied a summative design to assess performance on project objectives; while the formative design guided the process of identifying and documenting

the lessons learnt, which was used to inform future programming.

### SAMPLE SELECTION AND DESIGN

Selection of the participants for the evaluation was done across all levels. At the district, purposive sampling targeted the technical and political officials involved in the project. These were preferred because they fully understood the project, they both directly and indirectly participated in, followed-up and/or monitored its implementation. Still at district and sub-county levels, project CSO partners, and institutions (health centers, police, and courts of law) were mapped for the evaluation. At community level, the categories mapped included the direct beneficiaries (women and girls with disabilities, and their benefactors), and implementers including the duty bearers (paralegals).

**Table 3: Institutional representatives interviewed as key informants**

Institution	Female	Male	Total
Local government officials (Technical)	13	21	34
Local government officials (Political)	3	4	7
Civil society partners	5	5	10
IDIWA Staff	3	1	4
Institutions (Cultural)	2	3	5
Institutions (Religious)	1	4	5
Institutions (Health)	4	2	6
Institutions (Police)	4	2	6
COVID-19 Task force	1	3	4
Schools	3	3	6
Media houses	3	4	7
JLOS	1	2	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>97</b>

Generally, men’s participation as KIIs was slightly higher than that of women. This was expected because this category targeted office bearers most whom were men. It was mostly in institutions (schools, health facilities, and police) where the numbers of women were either higher or equal to the men. This confirms an the observation that the district generally and the communities are still highly patriarchal tending to give the men more chances to participate in decision making positions than women.

The evaluation sampled five out of the 6 sub-counties where the project was implemented. The five sub-counties were purposively selected targeting

those that were more accessible especially for the staff and partners that implemented the project. This means that we got places where a cross section of project activities happened. These were Buwaaya, Bukatuube, Kigandalo, Kityerera, and Imanyiro. From each of the five sub-counties the evaluation still purposely selected two villages targeting one typically rural and one that is characteristically regarded a township by the description of its residents. During data collection, the enumerators visited all the 10 villages. All KIIs were stakeholders that had participated in the project including the direct and indirect beneficiaries.

## COMMUNITY LEVEL POPULATION AND SAMPLE SIZE

At community level the evaluation population included the direct beneficiaries (women and girls with disabilities, and their benefactors), and

indirect beneficiaries of the project. These were engaged through a survey and focus group discussions (FGDs). Table 4 provides the breakdown

**Table 4: Community level FGD and survey respondents**

Category	FGD		SURVEY		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Direct beneficiaries (WGDs)	36		100		136
Other community members (Not WGDs)	18	18	50	50	136
District disability committee members	6	6			12
Community (opinion) leaders	12	12			24
Parents or care givers for WGDs	12	12			24
Local council leaders	6	6			12
Totals	<b>90</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>344</b>

## DATA COLLECTION METHODS

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Mixed methods were used to collect the required data. This approach also facilitated the process of strengthening data quality because the combination of various methods gave the evaluation team chance to put on lenses of the users of the findings; to prioritize gender-balancing; and to explicitly integrate the universal human rights-based approaches in the entire data collection process.

For this reason, the whole process utilized inclusive, and gender sensitive participatory methods for data collection. Primary and secondary sources of data were utilized to inform findings of the evaluation. The adopted mixed methods facilitated triangulation and cross verification of data from different sources. Qualitative data was collected through FGDs, and KIIs, while quantitative data was collected using an electronic survey that was administered among the direct

## DATA VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

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All data for this evaluation was collated, triangulated and verified before making conclusions. Data collection tools were pretested before the actual collection process to ensure validity and reliability of the data. Multiple data collection and analysis methods allowed for validation across multiple methods and sources.

The IDIWA staff, and the UNTF team reviewed all key deliverables (data

beneficiaries (WGDs and other community members not WDGs). It was also obtained from secondary data sources including project reports. Similarly, data related to outcomes was mainly derived from project documents, activity reports bi-annual and annual reports.

The snowballing technique was used to identify especially the beneficiaries of the COVID-19 support component of the project, and other project beneficiaries that were hard to identify. Observation techniques were employed for assessing physical changes the project contributed to. Photography and audio recordings were similarly used to capture qualitative data. Internet searches were used to assess efforts taken to share project related information and knowledge or lessons learned as products with other people that were not directly involved in the project.

collection tools, the inception, and draft report) and provided feedback on the necessary changes. Before the full validation process with key stakeholders, a mini-validation process was held internally with staff and some paralegals. The final report will be disseminated to all key stakeholders.

## DATA ANALYSIS

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Data analysis followed multiple steps including quality review of the data scripts, compilation of data in a software application, and synthesis and triangulation by team members. Content analysis was conducted using synthesis products which were assessed between stakeholder categories, project documents, and publications. The data was analyzed to

serve the purposes of two deliverables: preliminary findings' presentation, and the final report. As part of analysis, the evaluators sought information that would facilitate understanding WGD's participation in the project was influenced by context, relationships and power dynamics obtained during the implementation process.

## LIMITATIONS TO THE EVALUATION

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The ESGBV against WGDs project was faced with a challenge of staff turnover. For example, the project manager transitioned before the evaluation. This had been staff who was involved in the project from designing to almost the end. This limited the evaluation team's ability to access some information especially relating to experiences around implementation. To address this, the evaluation team took steps to ensure that they have an accurate understanding of the project through rigorous engagements with the management and other staff that worked on the project for a long time.

There were some planning issues that delayed the time to start the evaluation. Unfortunately, the time-line was not very flexible given the fact that evaluation was undertaken at the very end of the project, yet implementing partners had not applied for a no cost extension. This meant that some processes had to be hurried.

The solution sought was to increase the number of data collectors to be able to cover a lot in the limited time. It is important to note that much as the timelines were not very flexible, data quality and data analysis were not compromised.

## CONFIDENTIALITY AND ETHICS

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Because of the sensitivity of issues related to violence against women/girls in Mayuge basically because of the social norms relating to disclosure of relationship experiences especially if they are abusive, collecting data on the same required precautionary measures.

Therefore, the respondents' anonymity, as well as the non-attribution of their answers, were carefully safeguarded to protect the safety of both respondents and data collectors.

The evaluation was carried out following UNEG's Norms and Standards, UN

Women Evaluation Policy as well as the Ethical Guidelines for evaluations in the UN system. This evaluation adopted the Ethical Guidelines, in particular respect for: - dignity and diversity; right to self-determination; fair representation; alignment with codes for vulnerable groups; redress; confidentiality; and avoidance of harm.

As ethically required, the evaluation team sought permission first if direct quotes would be used and attributed. There was an informed consent sheet that was signed by the respondents before participating in the evaluation (see Annex 6, 7, 8). Safe spaces were created for the respondents that had sensitive

information to share. Critical ethical considerations for data collection incorporated in the evaluation design included the following: -

- i. Organizing data collection visits at the appropriate times and places to minimize risk to respondents;
- ii. Provision of information on how individuals in situations of risk could seek support;
- iii. Planning ahead of time on how to protect the rights of the respondents, including privacy and confidentiality; and
- iv. Training the evaluation team on collecting sensitive information, and agreeing to diversionary content in case of suspected dangerous interference





## THE FINDINGS

This section of the report presents the findings of the evaluation in subsections titled according to the parameters (Relevance, Coherence, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability and Gender and Human Right and Knowledge generation) of the UNEG evaluation criteria. Two more areas were added including movement building, and institutional strengthening, which were asked under relevance and

effectiveness respectively. According to the results, generally the ESGBV against WGDs project was a success because it achieved the expected results, at a reasonable cost, it positively impacted lives and changed the discourse particularly on WGDs and PWGs in generally not only in Mayuge but in the entire Busoga region and the country at large.

### Box 3: Summary of the findings

The key informants assessed the ESGBV project and in their opinion, the project was: -

- ◇ 100 percent relevant to: -
  - the needs of the target population;
  - the context at the time of implementation; and
  - the needs and priorities of institutional stakeholders
- ◇ 93 percent coherent with the priorities, frameworks and policies at the : -
  - regional level;
  - National level;
  - district and community levels
- ◇ 94 percent effective in delivering the intended results of the project
- ◇ 100 percent efficient specifically because the project was: -
  - Implemented within the planned time frame;
  - Implemented successfully with the resources available
- ◇ 96 percent believe that structures and relationships built in the project will Sustain the changes, achievements, and aspirations of the project in an irreversible manner
- ◇ 100 percent impactful with key achievements that will stay forever including: -
  - positioning of WGDs in strategic positions at the district and sub-counties;
  - inclusion of WGDs and PWDs in district planning and budgeting processes;
  - Prioritizing inclusion of PWDs in all physical developments in the district
- ◇ 100% regarded the project a learning process with lessons that will stay forever and with potential of inspiring more people to learn in the future

## RELEVANCE

### RELEVANCE AND ALIGNMENT TO INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGIES AND COMMITMENTS

The ESGBV project was relevant and timely as per its objectives, the category of beneficiaries targeted, the approaches and the time of implementation. The goal and objectives of the ESGBV project contributed to realization outcomes 1: *(Improved access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multi-storey services to end VAW/G) of UNTF*, and Outcome 6 of the Spotlight Initiative. *'Promoting strong and empowered civil society and autonomous women's movements by: Advocating for laws and policies that protect the participation of autonomous women's groups; Ensuring COS participation in development planning; Building capacity of CSOs; Deploying innovative financial mechanisms; and Strengthening partnerships and networking opportunities'*

It is also indirectly contributed to two other objectives of UNTF i.e., *Increased effectiveness of legislation, policies, national action plans and accountability systems to prevent and End VAW/G*, and *Improved prevention of VAW/G through changes in behavior, practices and attitudes*.

Analysis of outcome 2 of the project *'Strengthened advocacy skills among the WGDs, DPOs, and other women rights organizations to identify strategic advocacy issues*, indicates

that the project contributed to increased effectiveness of laws, policies, and accountability systems to prevent and end VAWG. This is particularly involved creation of WGD rights paralegals, and strengthening knowledge of the WGDs on their rights especially in line with district planning and budgeting.

### RELEVANCE OF THE ISSUES ADDRESSED

The project was designed to address intersecting issues of human rights and gender. The two domains were broadly identified by IDIWA as major drivers of the inequalities that sustain the isolation, discriminations and stigmatization of a particular category of people WGDs while giving the others more attention.

The project addressed violence against women and girls looking at all forms and indeed Mayuge is part of the Busoga region where according to UBOS, noted that, *'Women rarely experience only one form of violence... rather, women and girls experience a combination of physical, economic, sexual, and emotional violence ... if not occurring simultaneously, different forms of violence occur in successions'* <sup>23</sup> This is true since the discrimination against WGDs is deeply rooted in being physically, economically

<sup>23</sup> UBOS, DFID, UN Women, Spot Light Initiative; (2020); National Survey on Violence; Qualitative Report. <https://www.ubos.org/wp->

content/uploads/publications/02\_2022VAWG\_qualitative\_report.pdf



and almost entirely dependent on those who are able for most if not everything. This makes the ESGBV against WGDs project very relevant given that it is addressing deeply rooted social issues.

The discrimination and denial of rights to some groups (WGDs) also makes the ESGBV against WGDs project very relevant. Research by UBOS also highlighted disability among the risk factors for VAWG. The end-line evaluation found that even in marriage the WGDs are regarded as being on probation as their partners wait to get a perfect fit. *'In Busoga here being a woman you are taken as a person that in incomplete .... some things are missing in you ... now I think you are starting to imagine what happens to a woman who has a disability... obviously you are taken as an animal of some sort. That is why I tell you we needed this project. It came at the right time.'* DPO representative

The ESGBV project addressed knowledge gaps around SGBV, human rights, and strategic advocacy for the protection and promotion of the rights and safety of the WGDs. This requires strong awareness raising and skills building among the key players (duty bearers), which the ESGBV project planned and catered for in output 2.1 *'Strengthened capacity to adapt to the changing context and deliver Inclusive services for Women and Girls with Disabilities who are survivors of Sexual Gender Based Violence during and in the aftermath'*. This made the ESGBV very relevant because it focused on

empowering relevant structures in addressing the problems the project addressed.

The ESGBV intended to strengthen response to VAW especially among the WGD survivors. It is proven truth that violence, discrimination, and other abuses come with trauma. The evaluation found that this is even worse for the WGDs who are in intimate relationships because they are entirely emotionally affected since they have lived with in circles of people who regard their *relationship a sacrifice*, which increases their vulnerability. Unfortunately, this creates and strengthens 'relationship-dependency syndrome, which ultimately make the WGDs vulnerability to repeat itself at the relationship, family and community levels. *'As a disables woman you have to rely on someone to survive, when you get married your partner thinks they are helping you by marrying you, you parents want you to treat that man very special because he married the person that was bothering them since birth ... you have to be a dependent for life and you know what that means, you cannot negotiate anything because everyone thinks you are just a burden they are helping.* ESGBV project beneficiary.

As such the project is regarded relevant because it addressed real issues i.e. human rights violation. To this end it leaves behind a number of changes and commitments by the district to prioritize the needs of WGDs.

## RELEVANCE TO THE BENEFICIARIES' NEEDS



The project direct beneficiaries were the WGDs, their benefactors and the indirect beneficiaries were highlighted during project designing. The needs and priorities of the women and girls generally and the WGDs who are survivors of SGBV were also mapped well.

The information on their needs was also obtained at baseline, and during subsequent project implementation engagements. Thus, the project was on spot with the particular needs it addressed. As a result, during the evaluation, the direct beneficiaries regarded the project extremely relevant giving three justifications for this rating: -

- The category of people or direct beneficiaries of the project;
- The project activities; and

- The approaches used to deliver the project.

Specifically, the project targeted the women and girls and more so WGDs who according to FGD the participants were, *'always forgotten, and treated as less human, with no rights at all'*. In this regard, the project was unique, handling a category of people that not even the government structures that are bound by policy to support catered for.

*'Just consider the type of people the project came for, the lame, the blind, the albinos etc..., no one considered us because even during general elections no one includes our needs in their manifestos... this project is very important, I just pray they do not*



*abandon us and go.*' FGD participant - WGDs group

*No one knew us, no one wanted to care about an albino, they said we were an omen, people feared us. It is this project which made people start think about us ... when you talk about rights, those were not for us because even in the workshops the district officials confessed it was something they knew but never put efforts to consider important.*

FGD participant - WGDs group

In line with activities and approach used. The key informants, noted that the project applied the human rights-based approach, putting the rights of the beneficiaries and all the other stakeholders involved ahead of everything. This determined the approach of engagement, which prioritized taking the services to the beneficiaries instead of waiting to serve them to come to a central place.

*'This project was for us the people with disabilities. They would come to our homes and pick you, drive and drop the items they have for you, and if they had something to teach you about your rights sometimes, they would teach you from your home or sometimes take you to a place where they even refund your transport fees...'*

FGD participant - WGDs group.

*What shows that the project added value was the value it accorded to the brothers and sisters we had forgotten as leaders. Here in Mayuge even if it is a meeting for the head of human rights, you find there would be no plans for the PWDs, no attempt to see if they communicate, how they reach, if they see etc. For me the project added a lot of value because now all district processes are considering their unique needs.*

Probation officer

Sexual harassment is the most serious threat against WGDs in Uganda with the UDHS reporting that 33.9% have experienced violence at some point in life<sup>24</sup>. This especially true among the WGDs that have challenges with hearing and speech. Representatives and DPOs noted that because abusers know that it is hard to describe such people to the law enforcers, it has been common for them to rape, defile, and engage in other sexually abusive ways that are not normal and in the end a greater part of the cases of the sexual harassments remain unheard, unacknowledged and unreported. *'sexually abusing the WGDs was very common because when for example a person who cannot make noise in defense then the abusers find it easy because even when she decides to report, very few people will understand when she is describing the rapist ... you need to assemble*

<sup>24</sup> Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and ICF. 2018. *Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016*. Kampala,

Uganda and Rockville, Maryland, USA: UBOS and ICF.

*a whole village for her to identify and report the person responsible and even then few people will understand and believe what she says.'*

DPO representative.

The project also addressed the gaps in national capacities and limited knowledge of prevention strategies, which constrains effective prevention. Considering this fact, the project was highly relevant as its objectives, outcomes, outputs and activities reflect both prevention and response to sexual violence.

While highlighting the need for adequate measures to enable WGDs and other PWDs' enjoy safety within the village, parish, sub-county, and district circles, this project gave more attention to ensure and strengthened capacity of duty bearers at all levels to prevent and respond to sexual violence and to take active roles in creating safe and violence free environment for WGDs and PWDs generally. To this end, the project was relevant in strengthening the monitoring, reporting of SGBV roles of the duty bearers.

## RELEVANCE TO INSTITUTIONAL VAW PREVENTION AND RESPONSE NEEDS



Outcome 4 of the project, *Strengthened Institutional and EAW Response to COVID-*

*19 (and other crises) was made as part of the revision of program implementation, was*

intended to provide emergency relief, SGBV support services and training for WGDs; and Strengthening District level advocacy for disability and gender inclusive COVID-19 response, training of IDIWA staff, board members and co-implementing patterns on remote working.

The two objectives made the project extremely relevant at the regional, district and community levels. On one hand, strengthening institutional capacity was timely given the fact that many organizations that worked on response to VAW were closed for work. It was only after the lead taken by IDIWA while implementing the ESGBV project that the WGDs and other women survivors of SGBV in Mayuge reopened for operation.

*'At that time many service providers were closed, for example the albinos need some special oils when it is hot, the WGDs living with HIV and AIDS needed to refill their ARVs but the order of the president was that no movement until allowed by the Resident District Commissioner but who was there to listen to an albino who cannot speak the same language as the RDC? The project helped to negotiate all this'* District health Officer – Mayuge

In the same trend, provision of relief items during the COVID-19 crisis (lock-down) was regarded by the beneficiaries, 'a God-sent chance'. For example, engagement of the district COVID-19

task force on the movements, and provision of supplies to the PWDs, was done at the time the standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were meant for good reasons had turned to be more harmful particularly for the WGDs. Accordingly, some had been abandoned or forgotten by the relative and this was feared to continue in fear of the disastrous repercussions of breach of the SOPs.

*'I don't know what we were going to do if it were not for that project... when they brought us food, I had been left with nothing but to wait for when to die. No family member was allowed to visit. So for us who had relatives that stay away, we had no one to cater or even reached us... but they talked and we were allowed even to go to hospitals for treatment ' .... Project beneficiary from Buwaya*

The inclusion of the district officials in the implementation structure strengthened the relevancy of the project to the district. Nearly four quarters of interviewed respondents at district level indicated that the project prompted the district and other local government entities, such as sub-counties and parishes, to prioritize issues of the WGDs and in the process challenged them to fulfil their mandate.

*'We all knew it was our role as leaders to take care of everyone in the district and mostly those that other people have no formal obligation to protect ... I don't know what we*

*would have done as leaders because someone calls you to tell you about your role but you have forgotten about ... if there is anything that has come to remind us of our role as leaders it was this project... I must confess we had forgotten and both the technical and political leaders'*  
Representative District Planning Department.

As result, the project contributed to adoption of a number of important things and completion of a number of strategic commitments to help in complementing the mandate of the key duty bearers. For example, currently Mayuge district local government, has developing policies to: -

- ✚ Give special consideration to the applications of PWDs and especially the WGDs when recruiting district employees as to increase their chances of getting jobs;
- ✚ Keenly promote access to all public buildings by proving ramps on all administrative structures at the district and sub-county offices;
- ✚ Treat all disabled women in a special way in all district and government initiatives like the Parish Development Model (PDM); and
- ✚ Give WGDs special priority when distributing government supplies like mosquito nets.

All these activities encouraged the accountable parties to improve the lives of WGDs everywhere in the implementation

area, hence supporting the assertion that the initiative was relevant and significant at the district level.

## RELEVANCE TO DISTRICT INSTITUTIONAL PLANS AND NEEDS

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The key informants and survey respondents rated the ESGBV project very relevant at the district, institutional, and community levels for varied although related reasons. At the district level, the relevance of the project was perceived in the line of supporting key duty bearers including the political and technical leaders effectively deliver their mandate in relation to promoting inclusion and protection and promotion of the rights and entitlements of everyone especially WGDs.

According to the district chairperson for instance, the project was very relevant because it was implemented at a time when the political leadership had transitioned following the 2021 elections. Both the technical and political wings of the district unanimously agreed that after the elections, almost a whole new council was not clear on its mandate for special groups and specifically the PWDs, yet according to the disability act 2020 the district council has full mandate to: -

- a. coordinate and monitor the implementation of policies and programs for persons with disabilities in the district or city;
- b. promote and advocate for the integration of services for persons



- with disabilities in the district or city plans of action;
- c. advocate for the implementation of national policies on disability in the district or city;
- d. submit reports on the situation of persons with disabilities in the district or city local government council and to the Council twice a year;
- e. inquire into any matter that violates the rights of persons with disabilities and non-compliance with laws, regulations, policies and programs

- relating to disability and recommend appropriate action to the relevant body at the district or city level, if appropriate or to the Council; and
  - f. Perform any other function that may enhance the wellbeing of persons with disabilities in the district or city.
- The project was thus timely in strengthening knowledge, skills, and influencing the attitudes of the duty bearers to undertake their mandate.



### **AWARENESS RISING AND INFLUENCING ATTITUDE CHANGE**

Interaction with various project stakeholders revealed that WGDs are generally more likely than any other category of people in Mayuge to experience all forms of violence both at home and in other environment. The

evaluation found that the perpetrators usually include the people the victims know and that, very often, the victims do not protest or report the assault due to social stigma and opt for silence. This is often related to ignorance of what is right



or wrong to do by the victim and the support options. *'All this abuse and mistreatment that we used to go through was because of lack of knowledge. You don't know if it is wrong, you don't know what you are entitled to, you don't know where to report to get help ... it was IDIWA that changed all this'* Project beneficiary from Kigandalo.

In relation to attitudes, the evaluation uncovered the fact that before the ESGBV project, the WGDs did not at all feel comfort in sharing and discussing their experiences that involved abuse even within their families. Protesting openly/publicly was nearly unheard of. The project was able to address and respond to this issue through awareness raising activities e.g., training on human rights, support seeking, and support provision etc.

The WGDs interviewed for this evaluation indicated that before this project they and other PWDs were too frightened to report incidents in fear for the repercussions just in case the perpetrators took revenge. They were also afraid to complain against a male family members as they worry that they revenge in some dangerous ways. The awareness raising by the ESGBV project inspired the WGDs to discuss and share experiences on their concerns, learn about the appropriate mechanisms to

prevent especially violence from close family and intimate partners, and where they can turn to if they face such harassment, to complain and get other services but in a safe way.

As a result, the project made significant progress in increasing knowledge and confidence of WGDs in breaking the 'culture of silence' and tackling incidence of abuse. Interactions in FGDs for the evaluation also confirmed that WGDs who participated in the ESGBV project are now more confident and capable of identifying and reporting violence.

*'I feel I am now more confident. I can freely talk and discuss with my partner and friends about gender issues, disability rights and how we can be free from all kind of violence and harassment. I had never discussed these with anyone, even with my parents and siblings earlier before this project, as we felt it is not good to discuss such things'* Project beneficiary - Imaniro

#### **RELEVANCE TO MOVEMENT BUILDING**

Focus of the project on strengthening the women's movement and the movement of the WROs working women and girls living with disabilities made the project very relevant contextually. According to the key informants that participated in the movement building activities: -

- 1) the project was timely;
- 2) the project touched areas that were very important and highly required in strengthening the movement; and

3) the project's key outcomes in this area (networking groups and WROs) to undertake joint advocacy for the rights of woman and WGDs.

The timeliness of the project was discussed in the line of circumstances surrounding the women's movement in Busoga region. Accordingly, despite the fact there are a number of WROs in the region, they did not often come together especially for advocacy on women's rights. Rather, they operated in isolation, with each undertaking its work independently.

The key informants noted that much as the WROs in eastern Uganda noticed the need to work together, it was never on issues of advocacy. Rather, the only issue that brought the members together was around fundraising, activity implementation and planning but not undertaking strategic advocacy, *'For us in the movement, this project was timely... we*

*were disjointed, we never came together to work on advocacy... we only came together to write a proposal but not advocacy... this project was needed* Representative of a Network member WRO.

Among the other core outcomes of the project was creation of a vibrant network of members committed to the women's cause. This is among the key areas that made the project very relevant. *'We are now in a network, we are moving towards a strong movement ... we have a network that came out of this project. We are together with all rights organizations... we have now a complete prevention and response to VAW intervention, and that is what we needed... we sit in the same space with service providers like the police, health and judicial officers and our referrals are now very effective... it is all because of the IDIWA's efforts in this project* ED – Network member.

## COHERENCE

The ESGBV against WGDs project is fully consistent with key international, regional, national frameworks and local policies and processes. In particular it is aligned to the global development 2030 agenda, international human rights standards, national strategies and action plans for gender equality or for EVAWG, human rights, and inclusion of the people living with disabilities. The frameworks to which the project fits in or help the central and district local government contribute to include: -

- 1)The Universal declaration of human rights especially articles 1, 2, 7, and 16 relating to freedoms, equality, and entitlements for all humans<sup>25</sup>. One of arms of the ESGBV was on promoting rights for WGDs and access to survivor centered services among the WGDs who are survivors of SGBV;
- 2)The United Nations Disabled persons have the right to economic and social security and to a decent level of living. They have the right, according to their capabilities, to secure and retain employment or to engage in a useful,

productive and remunerative occupation and to join trade unions.

- 3)The ESGBV project goals also directly fit into the United Nations General Assembly resolution of 1975 that resulted in the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons (OHCHR). The project is particularly consistent with number 6, which is on the medical treatment; number 7 on the right of disabled persons to economic and social security and to a decent level of living; and number 8 which entitles disabled persons to have their special needs taken into consideration at all stages of economic and social planning<sup>26</sup>
- 4)At the regional level, the ESGBV project objectives were consistent with Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa, which acknowledges that PWDs have inherent dignity and individual autonomy including freedom to make personal decisions<sup>27</sup>.

<sup>25</sup> United Nations, Universal Declaration of Human Rights. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

<sup>26</sup> United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High commissioner; 1975; Declaration of rights of disabled persons; General Assembly resolution 3447 (XXX): <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments->

[mechanisms/instruments/declaration-rights-disabled-persons#](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/declaration-rights-disabled-persons#)

<sup>27</sup> Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa. [https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36440-treaty-protocol\\_to\\_the\\_achpr\\_on\\_the\\_rights\\_of\\_persons\\_with\\_disabilities\\_in\\_africa\\_e.pdf](https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/36440-treaty-protocol_to_the_achpr_on_the_rights_of_persons_with_disabilities_in_africa_e.pdf)

5)The ESGBV project also contributed to strengthening national commitments to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) that provides a comprehensive framework within which women’s safety

from all forms of violence and discrimination is enshrined

6)With the global agenda 2030, the project goals and aspirations are consistent with the sustainable development goals (SDG) 1, 4, 5, and 10 as explained below in table 5 below

**Table 5: Consistency of the ESGBV against WGDs’ project with SDGs**

SDG	Project Component aligned
GOAL NO. 1: NO POVERTY	Targeting that by 2030 all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance. The ESGBV under the economic empowerment support after COVID-19 was contributing to this global target.
GOAL NO. 4: QUALITY EDUCATION	Particularly around eliminating gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including PWDs, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations. The ESGBV particularly promoted access to inclusive education through promoting effective communication, and access to all services school
GOAL NO. 5: GENDER EQUALITY	Ending all discrimination against women and girls and as a basic human right, and an effort towards a sustainable future. The overall goal of the ESGBV project is directly consistent with SGD one
GOAL NO. 10: GENDER EQUALITY	Particularly around empowering and promoting social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status; and ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard. The ESGBV focused on ensuring that all members of communities is Mayuge have the same opportunities.

The project is consistent with and supports the implementation of national strategies and action plans related to the promotion of gender equality, elimination of VAWG, promotion and protection of human rights, inclusive service provision and access. In particular it contributed to the aspirations of the Constitution (article 22), other instruments include the National Gender Policy (2013), the New Gender Policy (2017). The goal of the latter is to eradicate gender discrimination and inequalities in all spheres of life. One of the five guiding principles of the policy is 'Peace and Harmony at Family, Community Level and National level', it results in fair appropriation, ownership and control of productive assets as well as meaningful participation in decision-making and activities for development.

#### **COMPLEMENTING AND CREATING SYNERGIES WITH OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WGDs INTERVENTIONS**

The evaluation found that complementing activities under Outcomes 3 and 4, intended to strengthen capacity and networks to prevent and respond to violence against WGDs and advocating for their rights helped IDIWA and its partners in the Civil society and public sectors complemented each other. The activities on WGD rights promotion and protection as well as support provision during COVID-19 and other crises paved a

foundation for activities aimed at economic empowerment of WGDs and women generally.

The business skills built and start-up capital provided as part of recovery from the COVID-19 crisis as well as relationship conflicts resolved through duty bearers while implementing the ESGBV project increased in agricultural productivity, reduced dependence of the WGDs as well as increasing production at family level through various livelihood supports. WGDs and other women farmers invested more in different agricultural value chains like cassava, groundnuts, pepper, cabbage, and other vegetables. They also invested in crafts making and sales.

The project implementation team at IDIWA and the other partners in the civil society and government institutions held periodic meetings to monitor and track progress. Joint monitoring and evaluation activities were conducted to ensure the project achieved its set objectives. It also builds on the progress made in earlier interventions and as a result the project improved cohesion among the same target group. The project helped to build the capacity of the existing WGD's groups that have been working with IDIWA for the past many years. Trainings on business



management, virtual business skills, Savings, Financial education, climate-smart agriculture and cooperative improved the capacity of the groups.

The evaluation found that IDIWA and other CSO's partnership with UNTF was a good example of partnership with UN agencies delivering as one. The relationship with UN agencies convinced government workers and other institutions to accept to lead their role of championing the protection and promotion of rights of marginalized groups in the communities. Furthermore, the lesson sharing session between the partners led to WGDs being appointed in key decision making positions at the district, which is a chance to further the cause of the WGDs.

### **PROJECT PARTNERS' COORDINATION TO MANAGE AND DELIVER PROJECT RESULTS**

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Partners in the movement and SGBV prevention and response network worked with the same beneficiaries in the same target areas much as the shelter also attracted people from communities away from Mayuge. The activities on human rights protection, SGBV prevention and response paved a foundation for activities aimed at economic empowerment of women.

According to the individuals and groups of DPOs and other CSO partners cascading the training on business skills, helped the participants to realize the need to work, earn and save and vowed to do so by using a local 'cash-box method', which was similar to collecting loose coins at home, or by establishing separate family and business 'purses'. Accordingly, this will promote savings and address access to finance.

### **APPLICATION OF THE ESGBV PROJECT TO SCALE UP VAW PREVENTION PROGRAMING AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROMOTION**

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If the promotion of safety for WGDs and enjoyment of rights pivots on progress in terms of knowledge generation and dissemination, attitude change, approval for equality, and equity, the project has really made a firm contribution.

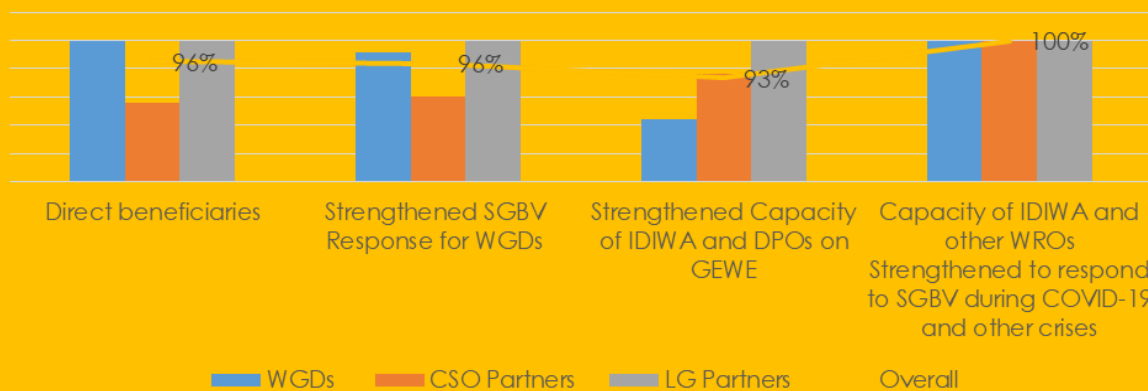
As mentioned before, not all activities were implemented without challenges, but the effort was made and has borne fruit. That is something of value to build on. Activities under outcomes four of the project were implemented jointly among all network members with the monitoring function shared which provided the overlap between the components and learning.

## EFFECTIVENESS

Effectiveness of the ESGBV against WGDs project was measured in relation to achievement of the intended outputs, and objectives. Progress on results at outcome and output level is determined as per the targets set in the results framework. The

general (non-structured) assessment of the effectiveness of the project by all stakeholders involved rated its effectiveness at 96 percent as indicated in figure 2 below

**Figure 1: General assessment of the effectiveness of The ESGBV Project**



Generally, more direct beneficiaries of the project (WGDs and other community members), and IDIWA's partners at the district local government (DLG) said the project was effective to a large extent. On the other hand, 93 percent of the CSO representatives felt the project was effective to a larger extent.

The effectiveness of the ESGBV project was evaluated in relation to the extent to which it met its outputs and set targets, i.e., current results were linked to the set target outputs, and activities as highlighted in the project log frame to establish the clear progress of the project.

96.3 percent of the IDIWA staff and the co-implementing partner, indicated that project was effective in fulfilling the UNTF's objectives around inclusion or living on one behind.

The same category and proportion found that the project design and implementation strategy effective at both the institutional and organizational levels. This was attributed to the fact that it enhanced their ability to carry out their mandate in relation to protecting vulnerable groups of people, particularly the WGDs. Results on respective outcomes are presented below.

## OUTCOME 1: WGDS IN MAYUGE DISTRICT EMPOWERED TO PROTECT AND DEMAND FOR FULFILLMENT OF THEIR RIGHTS AND ACCESS TO SGBV SERVICES.

**Table 6: Effectiveness of the project in promoting demand and access to rights among WGDs**

Output	Status of achievement	Description
<p>1.1 300 Women and girls with disabilities equipped with information and knowledge on their rights.</p> <p>1.2: Women and Girls with Disabilities survivors of SGBV supported to access legal, psycho- social, economic and health services.</p> <p>Output 1.3: 50 Women and girls with disabilities trained as peers educators and Champions against Sexual and Gender Based Violence.</p>	100%	<p>IDIWA used the simplified disability focused SGBV advocacy toolbox to equip the 300 beneficiaries who were WGDs that were survivors of SGBV with knowledge on their rights, how and where to demand for them. As a result: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 100% percent of the beneficiaries opened up to report the violence they had experienced before the project to get support in case it happens again;</li> <li>- 100% had knowledge on the basics about human rights generally and their rights as PWDs</li> </ul> <p>The WGDs were taken through a series of trainings and equipped with skills on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identification of signs early signs of abuse;</li> <li>- Making appropriate referral and by the end of the project all had been able to report a case to the relevant referral chain for support on SGBV or other human rights abuses; and</li> <li>- Created activists or champions for promoting the rights of and WGD s in their respective communities;</li> <li>- By the end of project implementation the WGD paralegals had negotiated for being included in the district planning and budgeting processes;</li> <li>- The WGD paralegals are currently known across the project communities and are recognized as part of the district human rights protection and promotion structures.</li> <li>- The recommendations of the paralegals resulted in the district supporting the construction</li> </ul>

In Uganda, there are numerous legal frameworks that outline disabled people's rights and how to preserve those rights so that this group receives services like SGBV prevention and response services. The Person with Disabilities Act, 2020 (Act 3 of 2020), one of these legal instruments, states that everyone in Uganda, including the government, must respect, uphold, and advance the fundamental and other human rights and freedoms of people with disabilities, which are guaranteed by the Constitution, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and optional protocols.

All of these confirm the integration of WGWDs service requirements in government agencies like the police, hospitals, courts, and others. With the implementation of the UNFT project, the existence of these legal protections for the rights of people with disabilities has influenced women with disabilities to demand for their rights.

This was confirmed by the results which showed that partnerships made were with government agencies in order to guarantee the recognition of WGDs rights and simple access to SGBV services. One of the partnerships was mentioned in the context of health, where WGDs actively cooperate with health support groups like village health teams (VHT), who are part of the referral network set up to accelerate the reporting of SGBV cases. The UNFT project has therefore been effective in ensuring that disabled WGDs are empowered to protect their rights and access SGBV services.

At public service level, results revealed that the project influenced them to build clamps to ease accessibility to and through public service offices especially the SGBV services, awareness was created among public servants and they learned the need of prioritizing serving the WGWDs, and strengthened the need for formation on the laws and policies that protect and defend the rights of the WGWDs

### **OUTPUT 1.1: 300 WGDS EQUIPPED WITH INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE ON INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORKS ON ESGBV**

The WGDS interviewed demonstrated awareness of the available legal frameworks on Violence against Women and PWDs. However, there were variations in the knowledge levels between international and national legal frameworks. Specifically, results revealed that of the 300 women and girls with disabilities trained, 50 percent could mention national policies while 30.2 percent could mention international frameworks spontaneously.

It was also established that those who knew the national legal policies on disabilities did not know all of them but majority knew the Constitution of Uganda

and the Disability Act. On the side of the international legal framework, UNCRPD was highly mentioned.

As regards the specific information and applicability of these legal frameworks, data showed that mostly educated WGDS could easily interpret the laws and knew how to use them. This implies that the project was effective in equipping the WGDS with information and knowledge on International and National legal frameworks, but some factors like education and others potentially influenced interpretation and understanding process.

### **OUTPUT 1.2: WGDS WHO ARE SURVIVORS OF SGBV SUPPORTED TO ACCESS LEGAL, PSYCHO- SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND HEALTH SERVICES.**

In general, the WGDS' ability to access fundamental services like legal, psycho-social, economic, and health was a top priority during the implementation phase. Beneficiaries who were interviewed attested that the services they require in their daily lives have been made more accessible to them. Specifically, the victims of sexual assault applauded IDIWA for creating a shelter where they can go and receive shelter for some time and psychosocial support. This accordingly strengthens their hope for confidently living like other members of the

community. There were many testimonies of increased access to financial services as well. Specifically, results showed that seventy percent of the WGDS were given the opportunity to work for themselves after they received start-up capital for businesses and of seedlings and pesticides for those in agriculture. Similarly, WGDS survivors commended IDIWA for influencing health institutions to provide them with all of the services they required, including post exposure prophylaxis (PEP), which they needed after experiencing sexual violence like rape and defilement.



*'You know for every WGD, the biggest risk is rape ... because there is not much you can do in self-defense... we are raped and live at risk for contracting HIV and AIDS... we needed PEP*

*and since this program started all the people I refer to the health centers get this service...'*

Paralegal – Imanyiro

### OUTPUT 1.3: 50 WGDS TRAINED AS PEERS EDUCATORS AND SGBV PREVENTION and RESPONSE CHAMPIONS

Reviewed progress reports indicate that, a group of 50 women and girls known as paralegals, were recruited and trained as agents working in communities to advocate for the rights of disabled women and girls. They were tasked to work in all the parishes where implementation took place.

This team collaborates works together with government structures and institutions including the local government, police, health institutions, community development department, and others to mobilize other WGDs for economic empowerment, to support WGDs who are survivors of sexual violence by referring them to relevant service providers, provide psychosocial support, and to conduct

community awareness activities on the rights of the WGDs, and mediation/counselling survivors of SGBV.

The evaluation however observed that, disability limits the vibrancy of activism among some paralegals. *'sometime the levels of disability limit activism and this affects the magnitude implementation of SGBV prevention and response activities.* As a result, not all trained paralegals are able to carry out these activism activities effectively. Just more than two-thirds of trained paralegals are able to work. Activities are mainly carried out by WGDs with relatively minor physical impairments and blind WGDs and those with other complex disabilities find it hard to walk around and undertake this advocacy.

## OUTCOME 2. STRENGTHENED MECHANISMS FOR PROTECTION AND RESPONSE TO SGBV AGAINST WGDs IN MAYUGE

Table 7: Effectiveness of the ESGBV project in strengthening mechanisms for protection and response to SGBV against WGDs in Mayuge

Output	Status of achievement	Description
<p>2.1 200 Duty bearers and other service providers in Mayuge District sensitized on the rights of Women and Girls with disabilities</p> <p>2.2 Parents, care givers, family and community members are aware of the referral mechanisms and their role in reporting cases of SGBV against WGDs in their households.</p> <p>2.3 50 senior women teachers and health workers are knowledgeable on early assessment, identification and referral for SGBV against WGDs.</p>	100%	<p>IDIWA conducted an accessibility auditing of key public services and places in Mayuge district. The findings were disseminated the district planning department and working committees and this changed a lot in the line of the districts planning for the services of PWDs generally and WGDs in particular. As a result:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The district took the lead in gaze ting the Mayuge district disability ordinance, which legalized all efforts to support the WGDs in the district;</li> <li>- The district leadership accepted to include allocations in the annual budgets the district to provide for the services needed by the PWDs starting with adjustable labor beds in health center III units, and ramps on public offices at the district headquarters</li> <li>- More than 300 community members who are not WGDs including Parents, care givers, family and other community members were equipped with knowledge and skills for making appropriate and safe referrals for the survivors of SGBV who are WGDs. As a result,</li> <li>- In the three more than 150 cases were referred to various places including health, police and probation for support including rescue of three survivors (2 girls and 1 woman) of violence.</li> <li>- Key actors including Busoga Kingdom, MPs, Celebrities, Criminal Civil and Justice system, Decision makers and social service providers were skilled on strengthening prevention and response to SGBV against WGDs from responsible institution</li> </ul>

The implementation influenced concerted and coordinated efforts among a number WGDs groups and DPOs in Mayuge to ensure the establishment of an environment where WGD who are survivors of SGBV can seek support. For example, results showed that WGD had gained confidence and authority and task and pressure public service providers like the police, hospitals, and local courts to include their services among the top priority needs.

Additionally, the ESGBV project was commended for organizing WGDs into groups for strategic advocacy. They periodically visit local government offices to advocate for services and policies to safeguard the WGDs against ESGBV. *'Now we go every year when they are going to make the budget and engage the district on our safety, it must be put into consideration every time they are planning'* Representative of a DPO - Mayuge Town. An example is a WGDs group in Buwaya that influenced the health center to buy adjustable bed for WGDs to get appropriate health services.

#### **OUTPUT 2: 200 Duty bearers and other service providers in Mayuge District sensitized on the rights of WGDs**

Evaluation also interviewed the duty bearers to ascertain knowledge shifts on rights of Women and Girls with disabilities. Findings revealed a generally positive shift among a cross section of duty bearers including the police child

Additionally, results revealed that a variety of prevention and response mechanisms were developed to respond to SGBV experiences by the WGDs. All these procedures involved working together among WGDs and the implementing partner at the district to ensure that WGDs who are SGBV survivors are protected and receive the services they need.

This included the formation on referral network, which works as a well-defined path through which cases of SGBV services and other basic support centers is attained. There were also efforts to raise awareness among for the service providers for the SGBV survivors. As mentioned earlier, this resulted in building a shelter to provide temporarily homes for the WGDs at risk or the survivors of SGBV. To this end even a toll free line has been provided and made known to all WGDs and service providers in the referral point's network.

and family protection Unit (CFPU), health workers, cultural leaders, probation officers, District Community Development Officer (DCDO) and other relevant individuals.

The results revealed deepened understanding of the legal procedure for assisting SGBV survivors, mandated institutions and organizations on defending rights of WGDs, and the general rights of women. Interviewed duty bearers revealed that the acquired knowledge on the rights of WGDs enabled them give top priority to the needs of this vulnerable group. *'We go to school just as you went but let me tell you,*

*you can never stop the process of learning. This project taught us many things from general knowledge on human rights to specific things about the rights of PWDs, the special treatment they are supposed to get and others. For example now the district engineer is tasked to go through all plans for public building as long as it is going to be used for by the general public even if it is just for trading, you cannot get the approval if he notices that it does not cater for the accessibility of the PWDs'* Probation officer

**OUTPUT: 2.1: Parents, care givers, family and community members are aware of the referral mechanisms and their role in reporting cases of SGBV against WGDs in their households.**

Findings revealed that 100% of the interviewed community members and caregivers of the disabled women and girls with disabilities are aware of the established referral network that facilitates reporting of the SGBV cases.

was focused on a number of things not only general SGBV case reporting but also on the responsibilities of parents, caregivers, family, and community members in supporting the WGDs to access justice and other service.

The findings further revealed that all of them are aware of their role in reporting cases of SGBV. This implies that the implementation of the project in this line

Even among the ordinary community members, more than a half are aware of what to do in the event that SGBV occurs among WGWDs.

**OUTPUT 2.2: 50 senior women teachers and health workers are knowledgeable on early assessment, identification and referral for SGBV against WGDs.**

The results showed that the paralegals who are the main activist groups who have received training in educational and medical settings have adequate knowledge on SGBV case handling (evaluation and referral) procedures for WGD cases. Specifically, results showed that all of the 50 senior women teachers and health workers trained, are capable

of advising on the appropriate mechanism for checking and confirming sexually violated WGDs among students and community members. They are capable of making initial assessments while assuring the survivor's confidentiality. They are also strongly knowledgeable on the appropriate ways to support WGDs who are survivors of

SGBV to access appropriate health services, such as using the police form 3 (which tracks rape and defilement cases),

as well as other information about filling out the referral form to help survivors get urgent support.

**OUTCOME 3: Capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDS' organizations and groups, DPOS strengthened for effective promotion of gender equality and response to SGBV against WGDS**

**Table 8: Effectiveness of the ESGBV project in strengthening capacity of IDIWA, WGD organizations and DPOs to effectively promote GE and response to SGBV**

Output	Status of achievement	Description
<p>3.1: IDIWA organs, WGDs Organizations and Disabled peoples' organizations are knowledgeable on the national and international frame works on Gender and violence against WGD</p> <p>3.2 Sub-regional CSOs' sexual and Gender Based Violence coordination and network established and functional in Busoga.</p>	97%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project contributed to formation of a Sub-regional SGBV referral network of Disabled People's Organizations, WGDs and other women rights groups, organization and institution with over 15 members much as some have not been confirmed;</li> <li>- The members are currently knowledgeable about the international, national and subnational legal frameworks. They are currently using this knowledge and skills to advocate for elimination of SGBV among WGDs;</li> <li>- The network's executive or governing body is now well constituted it includes 7 members selected from representatives of the partner organizations</li> <li>- The network jointly runs the SGBV shelter that provides response services to the survivors of SGBV who are WGDs in Mayuge and beyond</li> </ul>

Results showed improved WGWD abilities to report SGBV cases. Police officers and medical professionals who participated in the KI interviews attested that the WGDs are now speaking out and report perpetrators of SGBV. Particularly,

the police officers at Mayuge Central Police asserted that the victims now know their rights and that they report any violations when they occur. Likewise, interviews with JLOS representatives agree that that WGDs are now willing to



testify in courts about any sexual assault they have experienced.

In the same line, implementation was effective because it took into account the deepening of knowledge regarding the use of evidence to report SGBV incidents. In other words, direct beneficiaries were given the knowledge to facilitate generation of necessary evidence as proof of abuse. This included completing the pertinent forms needed to file SGBV lawsuits, choosing crucial witnesses who may testify in their defense during court proceedings, and learning about the general processes from reporting to testifying in courts of law.

Results regarding gender equity and response also showed a positive change in knowledge among IDIWA staff and other CSOs working in a related field, and that this knowledge increased their

### **Output 3:1: IDIWA organs, WGDs Organizations and Groups, and DPOs in Mayuge District are knowledgeable on the National and International frameworks on Gender Equality and Violence against WGDs**

In line with output 3, the project concentrated on two primary aspects in order to strengthen the stakeholders' knowledge on the National and International frameworks on Gender Equality and Violence against WGDs:

- Organized trainings specifically on national and international legal framework. These training activities, were implemented at the

capacities to address and prevent SGBV against WGDs.

According to the interviewees, *'currently we prioritize the needs raised by the community and the facilitators on the strategic need of the WGDs. For example, currently we prioritize access to education, equality in employment attainment, equal political representation, and other related strategies that will both promote access to services but also sustainability of the changes we have contributed to by using or working with the beneficiaries directly.* CSO representative.

The duty bearers commended the effectiveness of the project in enhancing their abilities to comprehend engagements and trainings that strengthened their knowledge in these areas.

organizational and institutional levels. They were aimed at supporting representatives to better comprehend and retain their understand information on the national and international framework governing the protection of WGDs against SGBV.

Assessment results revealed that 80 percent of those that participated in these trainings could now easily

articulate the content of international frameworks and declarations including: -

- ✧ The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW - 1979), Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and
- ✧ The UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993).

Results at the national level shown that trainings supported the participants to deepen knowledge and understanding of the:-

- ✧ Constitution of Uganda of 1995 in relation to the equal rights of all Ugandans;
- ✧ People with Disabilities Act, 2020 (Act 3 of 2020), and as a result, members are now able to respond and prevent SGBV from both social and legal perspective;
- ✧ The Domestic Violence act 2010;
- ✧ The National gender policy;
- ✧ The National equal opportunities act;
- ✧ The Employment act, and others

### JOINT ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES

Coordinated efforts were made by various stakeholders to intensify advocacy and disseminate information on national and international frameworks on SGBV, the rights of PWDs, gender equality and others. Implementation of these advocacy activities was made specifically through campaigns such as the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-

Based Violence prevention campaign at the organizational level and public events at the community level. This made it possible for the beneficiaries, and other stakeholders to learn more about the global and national framework, which strengthened advocacy efforts on all fronts.

### OUTPUT 3.2: Sub-regional CSOs SGBV coordination and referral network established and functional in Busoga sub region.

The evaluation findings revealed that a network of organizations and other stakeholders working together to address SGBV against WGDs was successfully established and registered to operate in Busoga region. The network is functional and it has operated throughout the implementation period. Some of the activities cited were the

trainings of the members of the network, joint implementation of some SGBV prevention activities especially during the 16 days of activism campaign and other advocacy response and prevention work that improved collaboration among the implementing partners in Mayuge district. The combined efforts of the network members contributed to the project's

success resulting in creation of a functional referral network. The referral network, according to the beneficiaries, has made it easier for them to report incidents of sexual abuse and has given them the opportunity to closely follow their cases and obtain the feedback they need, *'Now every survivor has a point to report violence and the abuse of rights. They help you and if you cannot find support in one place they will refer you to another place until you get appropriate support'*. Project beneficiary from Imaniro.

The movement has also strengthened collaboration among the members and

#### LIMITING FACTORS TO EFFECTIVENESS:

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- 1) Effectiveness of the project especially in relation to awareness creation and influencing attitudes was slowed down by the in areas with deeply rooted patriarchal tendencies, and negative stereotypes and misconceptions on disability. In such places it had challenges due to limited support from a few but informally influential individuals. Meeting were held to harmonize this and facilitate norm change.
- 2) There was limited awareness of how formal networks operate. This affected network building at the start and it affected referral structures in the beginning. There was limited evidence of successful joint operations by different organizations in the region. It took time to bring everyone onboard.
- 3) Overall the ESGBV has been effective and contributed to support and strengthening efforts to prevent and respond to ESGBV, movement building, and capacity strengthening especially in areas of supporting survivors in crises. The interventions have been effective in enhanced knowledge and skills on survivor centered service provision.

harmony. It has made the voice of the women's groups and CSOs strong because they jointly address all they need to. *'The network has helped us get stronger, we have many members and we are still glowing. One thing we have learned is that we are stronger together. Before we cam together it was hard even getting an appointment at the district to work with them to serve their people was hard but now if you are a member of the network, they know we have the numbers... they respect us'*  
CSO Network member

## EFFICIENCY

### STAFFING, PLANNING AND COORDINATION WITHIN THE PROJECT

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The evaluation found that on the whole, there were adequate materials and equipment for the whole project implementation cycle. In term of human resource, the project was adequately supported. Project funds contributed to sustain eight full time staff that were fully committed to the project. The evaluation can thus conclude that capable and adequate human resources were allocated throughout the project implementation. Additionally, there were other IDIWA staff whose salaries are not paid by the ESGBV

project that still contributed to its implementation.

Thus, the evaluation concludes that the actual human resource costs are efficient and effective but are not fully captured in the budget. IDIWA staff were technically supported by UNTF technical advisers on any matters that required additional advice. The technical support to the project facilitated the achievement of results that represent significant value for money.

### TIMELINESS IN DELIVERY

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Timely implementation was generally ensured through the period of implementation because the project duration was well used to implement all planned activities and the anticipated results were obtained.

There was a strong link between IDIWA and the district local government, something that helped to reduce the delays normally caused by time losses in the projects that require partnerships with local governments. In most cases these are associated with time losses in processes involved in securing the political buy-in for project.

Implementation of the ESGBV project required partnerships with various partners and government institutions (police, health units, and the judiciary) that were feared to cause delays due to bureaucratic processes that prevail in institutions.

Effective plans were made to resolve the foreseen bottlenecks and delays. Annual work planning took into consideration activities carried over from the previous year. The program used the regular meetings between partners to generate consensus and awareness efforts to enforce an increased speed in delivery rates.

## VALUE FOR MONEY

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The key stakeholders directly involved in implementation of the project confirmed that the results gave value for money and have long lasting impacts. Value for money with the institutions is further realized by the fact that the individuals that were involved as trainers of trainers now remain as strong resources that are cascading the dissemination of knowledge and enhancing the goals, objectives and values of the ESGBV project.

To enhance use of the designed materials for this program including manuals, they were transcribed into brail. The IEC materials and other materials successfully 'sold' the ideas, goals and objectives of the project and received remarkable 'buy-in' internally. This led to wider participation.

The areas that implementation partners felt very efficient were around: capacity strengthening; materials development; community sensitization and gender, human rights, training; advocacy training; and human rights and gender equality programming.

At community level, the project achieved all the key results in accordance with the log frame. The implementation strategy involving the training and use of paralegals both as change agents and day to day activists created strong activists for the

project. Each sub-county had more than 10 paralegals who worked with the institutions (police, health centres) to support the WGDs. In schools, the senior women and men teachers still remain as change agents and activists for the rights of WGDs. In the local villages the local council leaders and opinion leaders, and continue to carry out village level activities at no cost to the project.

Based on the findings from this evaluation, the projects investments and value for money was achieved. The aim of the value for money concept is to maximize the positive value generated for beneficiaries against the fund invested. Looking at the above indicated project outputs from the ESGBV project, it was effective in the utilization of resources. The total budget allocation for the project was USD 417,560 and it was fully utilized.

Except where there were delays, in releasing funds, and during the lock-down where funds were switched, tranches of funds received from the donor were fully utilized within the same year. During the heat of the COVID-19 crisis the project received additional resources and they were utilized as planned.

All project resources were spent over the project implementation. Looking at the



results on the ground, from institutional level to community levels, it is evident that leveraging on the capacities of strategic partners such as with the district local government, and other CSO partners as well as the involvement of community-based structures for implementation helped the project to achieve cost and time efficiency in the implementation of activities.

The evaluation concluded that the outcomes and outputs were all achieved.

#### **USE OF M&E DATA FOR ACCOUNTABILITY, MANAGEMENT AND LEARNING**

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A baseline survey was conducted at the beginning of the project. The project was monitored at three stages. At the district level, the community level, and project implementation level. At the district level the project was monitored directly through the chief administrators' officer, at the community levels it was the local duty bearers and paralegals, while internally at IDIWA it was the project M&E officer.

The project M&E officer tracking all planned and implemented activities on a daily basis. Information gathered by the Project M&E Officer was used to probe into the issues raised and technical support was offered.

During project implementation, often the project staff and the staff of the co-implementing partner made joint visits to

Project resources were utilized in line with the donor requirements and partnership agreement.

IDIWA financial management systems are satisfied with the way the project funds were managed and used for each approved activity. Where over-expenditures were recorded, written justifications and approvals were sought and made available

the communities to observe the progress of the work accomplished and to make technical inputs at field and management levels. IDIWA also used consultants to conduct evaluations (baseline, mid-line and end-line).

The paralegals who were important partners in the implementation of the project also contributed by monitoring the activities carried out to ensure achievements made are sustained. IDIWA, the co-implementing partner, and the district local government conducted joint monitoring visits to all project communities. The evaluation found that this monitoring pattern facilitated the necessary address of the challenges effectively that led to improved implementation of project activities.

## SUSTAINABILITY

The sustainability prospects of the project results vary across the different strategic areas and across the district. Higher sustainability prospects coincide with results incorporated institutionally through policies supported by more permanent mechanisms based on cooperation between IDIWA, the CSO partners, the district local government partners, and other stakeholders. For example, when everyone in the district clearly recognizes that respect for everyone's human rights, a life free from violence, and services for the survivors of violence is priority.

The evaluation confirms that project was been designed and implemented in the way that the direct beneficiaries, the paralegals, as well the sub-county and district level stakeholder all of which are embedded and linked to the other duty bearers will sustain the work that was carried out during project implementation. All project stakeholders were linked to district executive committee, the district planning committee and other committees.

Institutions within the district structures including the police, health care workers, and judiciary were engaged during the designing and implementation of the project. For instance, early warning processes on VAW, stigmatizations of

WGDs, and denial of entitlements for the WGDs are now identified and channeled through these institutions for redress. The mechanisms and structures set up at local level can continue to be strengthened through their active involvement. The paralegals have been linked to the district leadership and other duty bearers to voice WGD's concerns at the broader (national) level where possible.

There is evidence already that the approach adopted by IDIWA in the E-SGBV project is conducive to longer-term sustainability due to the high-levels of buy-in and engagement it encouraged from the outset, particularly in terms of its capacity to mobilize local government and other key stakeholders to get involved and own the project.

The experience with identifying, training and empowering paralegals is especially successful in this regard as they are now organized into local teams that are committed to the project and its objectives. For example three functional associations or Networks are now in place. These include: - The Mayuge women Human rights defenders; Mayuge district accessibility audit association, and Better together organization. All these are working at the grassroots these will be

supported by the district and sub-county level stakeholders all of whom are committed to working together to take forward the goals of the project and to uphold its achievements and successes thus far. This is also crucial in ensuring longer-term sustainability after the project ends.

National level engagements were considered a challenge for the project due to a lack of frequent engagements with national level stakeholders. Mostly engagements have been with key stakeholders, at district, sub-county, and parish levels and have resulted in some key sustainability indicators at that level. For example, the advocacy engagement with the district planning committee resulted in a minute in the district planning committee that: - set apart some money for: -

- ✧ The purchase of 10 flexible beds that will be placed in government health units across the district; and
- ✧ Annually setting aside resources (in the district budget) to facilitate the acquisition of basic requirements and needs of the WGDs in the district;
- ✧ Facilitating the duty bearers to implement the Mayuge disability ordinance that will reduce

Still, in the line of local policies for the protection of the rights of WGDs, IDIWA has trained a whole range of district

officers on human rights for WGDs. In the same line, these trainings were also extended to the WGDs who are the primary beneficiaries. Much as the engagements have not be so strong at the national level, the awareness created at lower levels and advocacy skills imparted among the peer educators, will ensure that there is continuity in the agenda of those working to support the WGDs to enjoy their rights and entitlements.

The outcomes of the ESGBV project were viewed as sustainable by both the implementing partner and the beneficiaries. The women's movement building approach of the project and the establishment of a referral network is central to the sustainability of the project. Where the ESGBV project has taken root, and become part of the community safety platform for WGDs, and local leadership system for instance; sustainability is assured.

Where momentum has gathered and synergies established, these will continue with formal project interventions. Five paralegals are now working with the district as political leaders and technical workers; hence they are already an integral part of the local leadership system.

Respondents believed the best way to ensure the sustainability of interventions already implemented and to map out the

ESGBV against WGDs agenda, IDIWA should design its next project to respond to critical social issues relating to rigid social norm issues from the grassroots. That would consequently respond to the district inclusion agenda which boldly

attempts to deal with structured violence indiscipline through use of austerity measures which will have deep impacts on women, girls, boys, and men, especially the poor, disabled and excluded members of society.

## IMPACT

### PROJECT GOAL

The evaluation concluded that the ESGBV project contributed to substantive recognition, promotion and protection of the rights WGDs and PWDs generally, increased appreciation of the rights of WGDs; strengthened coordination and collaboration to promote provide services the WGDs and other women who are survivors of SGBV; and promoted the involvement of WGD participation in making decisions that concern them. The evaluation concluded that the results of the project impact largely contributed to the district plans and priorities on

inclusive service provision, IDIWA's strategic plan for the next 5 years; and the women's movement in Eastern Uganda. Below the evaluation presents key results in which the project proved value for money; impacted WGDs' empowerment; built sustainable individual and institutional capacities; developed frameworks for promoting inclusive gender responsive approaches for securing WGD's rights; and increased participation of WGDs in district budgeting and other decision-making processes.

### WGD, DPO, AND INSTITUTIONAL EMPOWERMENT

The evaluation confirmed indices of progress towards empowerment at three levels i.e., the individual (WGDs), institutions (DPOs, WROs Police, Health units, and judiciary) and the community at large. This was particularly strong among women's organizations in Busoga where especially the smaller and grass-roots organizations were strengthened to undertake advocacy for policy

formulation on SGBV prevention and human rights protection and promotion. There was a notable result in the form of the collaboration between IDIWA, the other WROs, and local government institutions in putting the rights, safety, and entitlements of WGDs to the front. The project has attracted CSO partners' interest in addressing VAW generally and promoting the rights of WGDs. In

particular, the project strengthened capacity (knowledge) and influenced the commitment to protect WGDs, and provide response services in safe and survivor centered.



The building of WROs, and district local government staff capacities through the various training of trainer packages, has created tremendous capacity within those institutions. Therefore, there is a now network of members with strong capacity to advocate for policies to totally eliminate violence against WGDs and other women and girls, respond to VAW against WGDs and other women when it happens and support the self-reliance of WGDs at risk for violence. Additionally, working together, the institutions (WROs, Police, Health care workers and district officials) successfully advocated for the

installation of access ramps on public health units, and schools.

At district level the formulation of a disability ordinance and other planning

and budgeting as well as physical planning policies are a notable achievement. There is a stronger collaboration with district stakeholders and other institutions and a general improvement in the social, health and education sectors.

Some of the lessons and the results of this project have been used to inform the two other districts in Busoga region on the policies relating to the rights of PWDs some of which like Bugiri have already drafted a disability ordinance for the district.



## CHANGING GENDER NORNS, PROMOTING EQUALITY AND QUALITY

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The evaluation concluded that the results of the ESGBV against WGDs project contributed to substantive change in gender norms towards embracing equality and contributed to effective frameworks for developing gender-responsive approaches for securing WGDs' rights and increased WGD's participation in the defending and promoting their safety.

### POSITIVE CHANGE IN EQUALITY AND WGD'S EMPOWERMENT

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It is evident that the project under Outcome four facilitated economic empowerment of the WGDs including helping them to startup businesses, strengthen the ones they had and inspiring those that had not started in the same line to get more economically productive. This has shown signs of positive change, particularly in knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of WGDs to be financially independent or at least to be able to contribute to their

### POSITIVE PROGRESS IN ENDING ESGBV AGAINST WGDs AND OTHER WOMEN/GIRLS.

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The project contributed to strengthening knowledge of WGDs and other key stakeholders including the health workers, police, judiciary and district political and technical staff, on SGBV, its forms, root cause, contributing factors, and consequences for the WGDs and women generally. As a result, now all these can identify what VAW is generally, when to complain, what constitutes an

The project contributed to an increase in WGDs and women generally participation in decision-making and taking positions that can influence in key institutions and processes. The district for example has passed a resolution for the district service commission to pay special attention to applications of the PWDs generally and WGDs specifically.

personal economic needs. A case in point are currently the 7 WGDs who used the startup capital to venture into agriculture and trade.

This positive change has further resulted in improvements in gender equality and women's empowerment both at individual and institutional level, as conveyed in progress reports, survey responses, interviews, and focus group discussions.

offensive action under the guideline of the disability ordinance and the laws of Uganda.

This potentially holds the possibility of deterring violence or of bringing violators to justice. Interaction with FGD and evaluation survey also revealed a reduction in witnessing violence against WGDs in the communities.

Focus group participants and survey respondents further indicated the potentiality of the project in developing effective strategies to prevent violence in the community because of enhanced

**UNINTENDED RESULTS AND IDEAS THAT COULD HAVE WORKED BETTER**

IDIWA further collaborated with the District Local Governments (LGs) in implementing the ESGBV against WGDs project. As a result, the project activities were aligned with the District Development Plans (DDPs). This had the following advantages:

1. Aligning ESGBV project activities with those of the districts promoted systematic implementation;

### **CHANGING LIVES OF THE BENEFICIARIES**

The WGDs and other community members interviewed reported that there is a reduction in violence and mistreatment of the WGDs by the immediate family members, and neighboring communities. There is increased access and ownership some resources and other productive assets by WGD as well as increased participation in decision-making. For example as a result of the training there is inclusion of WGDs in decision making related discussions at family level. There is an increase in WGD participation and contribution of ideas in community development programs and reduced discriminatory practices against WGDs.

awareness that has already strengthened WGDs abilities to the lead in challenging the existing societal norms that sustain violence against WGDs.

2. Allowed the IDIWA and the WGDs and their rights defenders access to the district budgets, which encouraged transparency and inclusiveness in the planning, and implementation; and
3. Helped to achieve meaningful mutual accountability, particularly in areas like Gender which requires major shifts in social norms and the way that LGs operate.

Due the economic empowerment that was facilitated by the startup materials distributed as part of the COVID recovery materials, there is notable increase in economic opportunities for WGD at household and community level through increase agricultural livelihood support and improved household food security.

In the same line, the WGDs indicated that there is an increased level of understanding of the skills in running their businesses, cooperation with their intimate partners and other family members and friends as they work together for joint growth and development. The strong bond that has

been created between WGDs and other community members within the communities, a thing that did not exist before.

The inclusion of selected community members used as paralegals and use of other community members in the exercise of supporting the WGDs during

### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Institutional strengthening is component of ESGBV project that was added at a later stage of the implementation of the project. It constituted outcome four *'IDIWA and co-implementing partners are institutionally strengthened and sustainably respond to COVID-19 pandemic and other crisis while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EAW/G with focus on the most vulnerable women and girls'* of the

### IDIWA AND THE IMPLEMENTING PARTNER ARE EMPOWERED TO PROMOTE INCLUSION OF WGDs IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES INCLUDING COVID-19 AND OTHER CRISES

Interviews with staff at IDIWA indicated that the project strengthened IDIWA at three levels the institutional, its staff and beyond. As an institution, IDIWA broadened her strategic direction to include systematizing the provision of SGBV response services in a survivor centered way. This was embedded in the organization's strategic plan for the next five years including focus to EAWGDs and emergency response. As a result, IDIWA and its partners' staff are currently empowered to lead awareness creation

the COVID crisis strengthened inclusive participation. In addition, the involvement of the families or benefactors of the WGDs and their male partners in the project activities including trainings contributed to the empowerment of everyone.

project. It was aimed at improving IDIWA and co-implementing partner's resilience to crises including COVID-19 to ensure stability of projects and sustainability of the organizations in the longer term. Progress in this areas was measured against the outputs and activities planned presentation is aligned to the same.

among other institutions in Mayuge and Busoga in general on emergence response to SGBV and its prevention. The ESGBV project created a reference group of 11 members that include associations and groups of WGDs, Woman Rights Organizations and DPOs who are members of SGBV regional Network that are skilled supporting others on emergence response programing; institutional capacity development; GEWE, and EAWG; VAW service

provision during emergencies and crises, cooperate governance.

The intervention has had an impact the district's crisis planning and handling processes after the ESGBV reference group advocated for the more flexible and inclusive approach to the needs of everyone in the district. Together with IDIWA the reference group engaged the district COVID-19 task force and registered key milestones some of which are now part of the district crisis planning these specifically include: -

1. The district passing a resolution on a local policy around setting apart resources both financial and human that is responsible for promoting and fostering inclusive planning and service delivery during emergencies;
2. The district COVID-19 task force passing a resolution to include a PWD focal person responsible for leading the advocacy agenda for the inclusion of PWDs in the district emergence and rescue planning;
3. District COVID-19 task force taking on flexibility and loosening the movement and interaction restrictions to allow for access to services and rescue materials for the WGDs;
4. District departments including probation and community welfare of development, agreeing to enter a memorandum of understanding with IDIWA and the VAW referral network, which strengthened the referral process;
5. IDIWA worked with the district COVID-19 taskforce to reach more than 300 WGDs in the district and deliver relief items that were life-saving for the WGDs and other PWDs that had been abandoned. This means that the ESGBV contributed to extending a life of the WGDs served in this way. The other ways in which the project contributed to saving the lives of the WGDs was through: -
  - a. Providing leadership in promoting disability and gender responsive approaches to crises response and recovery through which more than 300 WGDs received both training, mentoring, and resources for starting and running personal sources of income; and
  - b. Providing strategic guidance to IDIWA and partners in developing policies and programming purposely to improve SRH of WGDs;

## STRENGTHENING WGDs KNOWLEDGE ON THEIR RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS AND SKILLS TO ADVOCATE FOR INCLUSIVE DELIVERY

Analysis of the trend of knowledge levels and understanding of human rights among the WGDs and advocacy skills indicates that the ESGBV project strengthened WGD knowledge levels by more than 25 percent from 71% at baseline 100 percent after project implementation. There was also increase in the proportion knowledgeable on the

*One thing that this project did for me was to educate us about human rights. When you are in my condition and you hear people talk about human rights you think there are other special people who have rights but not you because for use even your own parents mistreat you and show that you are not a human being. But this project made us realize that we have rights like other people and that we have a right and whatever it takes to demand for them. We have done that... go to the schools and see, go to the district and see what we have done. All building have a ramp for the PWDs to pass, our services are now a priority even in the district budget...* PWD focal person – Buwaya

According to the district Gender officer, the project increased access to services for the WGDs. Accordingly, the project strengthened collaborations with the government to deliver services for the WGDs who are survivors of SGBV. To this The ESGBV project also smoothed access to legal aid among the WGDs. In the first place, alerting the WGDs about their rights catalyzed the demands for

*'Providing just shelter for the survivors or WGDs at risk for violence would be missing some component but when the project provided legal support that was strong. Even when the project goes all the men that*

processes to demand for the denied or abused rights. At baseline the proportion that knew the process and where to report the services that are trampled upon was 29 percent, while at the time the project came to an end, the proportion that was progressive increased to 89 percent.

effect, all the 300 project beneficiaries received relief materials that include food, (maize flour and beans, sugar, salt and soap), detergents and sanitizers, face masks, gloves, and medical kits for (10) Women with spinal injuries.

the same. On the other hand, the shelter services that provided temporarily refugee for those at risk for violence, was augmented by the legal services.

*have been handled know that abusing a WGD calls for legal action and they have stopped. It even gave the shelter more credibility, now people know that all that is there is a serious thing.'* Gender officer



## MOVEMENT BUILDING



Movement building was outcome 3 of the ESGBV against WGDs project. It was aimed at strengthening capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' organization groups and Disabled people's organizations- DPOs strengthened for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs. The intention was to design ways to formally plan for sustaining the results of the ESGBV project interventions and to strengthen advocacy for an inclusive society in which women and girls with disabilities are recognized as subjects of rights and protected from acts of human rights abuse and violence.

Evaluating progress on this outcome was based on performance with the three outputs set to contribute to it.

According to staff at IDIWA the ESGBV project supported movement building at two levels, on one side was the a network that brings together all women led organizations that work towards gender equality, and then another one that brings together the organizations that promotes and protect the rights of PWDs focusing on the women and girls. *'In this area, the ESGBV against WGDs' project has been remarkable, it supported us to start the formation of two groups' Better together association, which brings together WGDs who have issues of violence in Mayuge, and the Mayuge Human Rights Defenders*

*formed by the trained paralegals to promote and protect human rights especially for women ... they have strengthened our advocacy work'. IDIWA ED.*

The two innovations are regarded strong tools for promoting human rights on one hand undertaking advocacy. According to the Mayuge district PWD representative, *'these are working are focal person for the rights of WGDs ... they work with police and follow-up on cases ... they work with the accessibility audit committees to provide guidance for inclusion of WGDs in all public plans in the district..'*

Accordingly the network is now working as an agency that contributes to guiding the district on the standards for promoting and protecting human rights and upholding the required standards. The most outstanding achievement has been around advocating for and successfully having the district leadership adopt the guidelines for standard building control act, which provides for accessibility standards. *'Better together talked to the district engineer, and we move around the district engaging engineers on accessibility for all and using the law we have successfully influenced change on many buildings to include ramps for the disabled people and special toilet facilities. That is our success and we are proud of it.'* Better together member.

The association has influenced the district to recognize and maintain a district accessibility audit committee with members from key decision making offices at the district. The ESGBV project linked the committee to GIZ to facilitate its operations.

IDIWA created the Busoga GBV and Disability Rights Network of 14 organizations working to support and influence women's right organizations on

advocacy for the rights of WGDs. It also works with the media houses, local groups of women and girls with disabilities and journalists on strategic and effective advocacy. During the 16 days of activism campaign 2022 the network worked with Reproductive Health Uganda and run a free medical camp for the WGDs, and used social media to influence policy change on key issues and making them public.

## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Gender lenses were used throughout the project life span. This was aimed at caring for and promoting gender sensitivity. As such discussions with the director and M&E officer at IDIWA indicated that this was well integrated from project design. The evaluation found that whereas the project targeted 100% of direct women as beneficiaries because it targeted WGDs, the men were also involved throughout the project implementation though not as direct beneficiaries.

To this end the project targeted men who were influential in the district e.g. the district health officer, the district planner, the district chairman, the district focal person for PWDs among others who were trained on gender, human rights, SGBV, and survivor centered response to SGBV.

FGD respondents noted that the WGDs mainly and other women and girls were more empowered via their rights, SGBV, and safety generally. They were given tips on reporting to enable them to take part in protecting and promoting their own safety. They were trained about advocacy for their rights and to ensure that their views are respected.

The WGDs noted they are now part of district and sub-county decision-making forces. IDIWA learnt that it was just after the start of the SGBV the all women started caring about their status in decision making especially outside their homes. They were always reluctant to take part in discussions at the village level and never at the sub-county or district levels while now

they are much more assertive. The statement below demonstrates that training WGDs on their rights to

participate in planning processes has played a role in sensitizing everyone one the entitlements of everyone in this regard.

*"Initially, we were reluctant about the whole idea of women's rights and especially involvement of the women with disabilities in planning. Truth is that we never considered it a violation of human rights because we thought they did not even need it and then no one thought about for example how they would reach here to discuss with others and then we always thought about the hindrances. For example, what if it happens that among them there is a person who cannot here, how will they talk to us, how will we be able to talk to them? Do they even need the rights? And to some people hearing that a WGD is in a relationship was an abuse because we thought they were not supposed to have relationships.*

*However, the sensitizations were good because they helped us learn that our sisters also have rights like other people. They have priorities and ideas for the good of the community and their own. We had always ignored that. It was like disturbing a long-standing tradition that we met. So many of us would not attending any of their meetings initially. But no one misses them."*

*Word of a male district leader*

The ESGBV project set a gender marker of 99 percent on inclusive planning and budgeting, Equality and inclusive planning for Empowerment. Under the project, the capacity of implementing partners has been strengthened on how to design, monitor and work with PWDs, women/girls respectfully.

As part of the indirect results, the project enhanced WGD's access to and ownership of resources like personal business, gardens, and land to supports their economic empowerment. The evaluation learnt that this was a result of the project sensitizing stakeholders and the broader community about inclusive gender-sensitive approaches, as well as WGD rights and their role in enterprises.

Because of the ESGBV project, WGDs realized their leadership potential and

during the 2021 elections, more than 10 stood and competed for political leadership in their communities and over a half of these were voted. In other less formal spaces, WGDs are now appointed on decision-making structures /committees. Such positions were traditionally reserved for men, highly educated, and super gifted or talented women.

Apart from awareness raising and other capacity development initiatives to reduce discriminatory practices against WGDs access and ownership of land and other productive assets, the ESGBV project has strengthened community governance through development of community by-laws that formalize their roles in leadership.



## IMPLICATIONS AND LESSONS

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The findings on cross-cutting issues point three general implications: -

1. Whereas designing of the ESGBV project did not include the men among the direct project beneficiaries, this did not fail the project. The flexibility of the implementing partner (IDIWA) to this effect strengthened its effectiveness. During distribution of the COVID relief materials and composition of implementation stakeholders groups they were included.
  - a) The lesson we learn is that in highly patriarchal communities, it is strategic to include some male stakeholders because this cements the sustainability efforts and reduces risks of jeopardizing violence against women.
2. Mayuge district is still highly patriarchal. Men dominate many decision making processes, and hold strong and influential stakes in the way key resources are distributed, managed and utilized.
  - a) The lessons are that any interventions on gender equity and inclusion for all must include rigorous and transformative awareness raising engagements to influence total or meaningful change to this effect
3. The rights and entitlements of the PWDs and especially WGDs are simply imagined. People will know that they are human beings but may not need or have the same rights others not because of stigma but because of ignorance.
  - a) The lesson is that awareness raising and transformative engagements to influence community attitudes on the same need to be more rigorous for more lasting results



## LESSONS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### LESSONS LEARNED

Implementation of the ESGBV project produced a number of programmatic, sustainability, capacity-building, and technical support lessons at various levels, as indicated below;

- 1) A different programming strategy is required for implementing VAW prevention strategies in communities which are very far apart and with limited cohesion attributes. This is because implementation of the ESGBV indicated that applying a uniform strategy to communities with different contextual characteristics does not achieve the same results;
- 2) Initiatives for improving the WGDs' ways of life such as provision of start-up capital to boost WGD businesses and linking them to savings schemes sustains the prevention of SGBV momentum at a less cost, and yet it has far reaching benefits to participants;
- 3) Promoting entrepreneurship knowledge and skills is well placed in strengthening sustainability for change of WGDs' lives. However, should be preceded by rigorous efforts to address patriarchy and male hegemony. During project implementation, WGDs proudly shared that, because of the entrepreneurial empowerment they now earn some money, they are treated as relevant in their homes and live a good life. However, the same people they live with sometimes forcefully use the outcomes of their businesses;
- 4) The ESGBV project demonstrated beyond doubt that capacity building, partnerships, and advocacy produced value for money and should be sustained in order to ensure the lasting impact of the women's movement in Mayuge, Busoga and Uganda at large;
- 5) Women and Girls with Disabilities are resourceful, as long as they are empowered to realize their potential and abilities. WGDs have collectively demonstrated to other community members that they substantially contribute to the growth and advancement of both their communities and their personal lives;
- 6) Gender awareness raising campaigns and events such as the 16 days of activism campaign that target large and influential groups including religious and cultural leaders as

stakeholders are very effective and can take crucial role to help people's mental changes gradually;

- 7) Activities and events that can facilitate deconstruction of social-norms can play a vital role in changing perceptions on minority groups including PWDs who are female. However, this does not come without challenges, much as when managed in an effective way, it facilitates opening avenues an inclusive and gender equal society;
- 8) Adoption of the community mobilization approach that gives everyone within the community chance to participate in and leading the change process. This can be achieved by diversifying activities to include those make everyone feel responsible for preventing and responding to SGBV is an active and effective way. However, it is important to note that this sometimes invites complexities as well. It is effective to

identify and manage these complexities during the early or initial stages of project implementation;

- 9) Effective movement building and advocacy for policy reforms is strengthened by the partnership approach. This is even stronger when members of the network are supported to have a broader conception of the goal of the movement. This is more likely to yield sustainable policy changes;
- 10) Effective prevention of VAW and discrimination of the marginalized groups such as the WGDs at institutional levels required addressing the root-cause i.e., the negative deep-rooted social norms that give some groups more power than others.
- 11) Individual initiatives may raise awareness, and influence change in attitudes but sustainable long-term changes need coordination and active engagement across all levels of the ecological model.

## CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation found the project very useful, effective and promising in setting up mechanisms to prevent and to safely and effectively respond to SGBV against women and girls with disabilities and women generally. IDIWA along with her

partners successfully carried out the planned project activities/events that made a significant contribution in terms of systematizing the process of involving everyone in addressing and responding to SGBV against WGDs and other women.

All project stakeholders confirmed satisfaction with the implementation strategy and the project outcomes in terms of the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, and contribution to impact, sustainability, knowledge generation, and adherence to the principals of human rights and gender equality of the project. The results also confirmed the project effective contributing to institutional strengthening and movement building.

ESGBV against WGDs addressed very relevant rights and needs of WGDs to fully enjoy their rights and safety from all forms of violence. It applied relevant approaches in doing so, while at the same time highlighting the need for adequate measures to enable WGDs and other women and girls safely stay with everyone on the communities.

**The project demonstrated commendable achievements in relation to expected outcomes.**

**Some of the key achievements are:**

- Recognition of the rights of WGDs and other marginalized groups as well as their safety from violence as an important issue that concerns and requires everyone to take-up as a personal, family, community, and institutional responsibility. Efforts should be undertaken to ensure that

The project undertook efforts to ensure institutional policies and actions that are in place are strengthened and where necessary adopt others to effectively prevent SGBV against WGDs and other women and girls as well as strengthening the monitoring and accountability role of the duty bearers, district and central government in preventing and responding to SGBV at all levels;

Establishment of new mechanisms broadened the communities' capacity in addressing the social norms and institutional structures that perpetuate violence against WGDs. An accessibility audit was carried out under this project and it was used to effectively advocate the effective strengthening of district and other central government departments' institutional capacity to ensure full safety for WGDs and access to services they are entitled to.

everyone in the ecological model is involved in these efforts;

- Strengthening knowledge, and skills of IDIWA and the implementing partner(s) as well as the members of the women's movement on handling SGBV in crises, and planning to adapt to the changing pattern of work to

- continue strengthening all capacity of VAW prevention and response organizations to plan for operations during crises;
- Initiated the first ever successful attempts to bring together the WROs, DPOs, individuals working together to strategize on ways to undertake advocacy for the engagement of government to lead the interventions for the prevention and response to SGBV as well as allocating resources to this effect. This resulted in forming the first-ever GBV network for the Busoga region;
  - Raised awareness on the negative stereotypes that sustain the taboos that condone stigmatization, exclusion, and discrimination of WGDs. In this way, the project contributed to community approval for open discussion on the issue of VAW, as well as increasing the number of community members who believe that women deserve the same treatment as men;
  - Interactive awareness building activities based on community mobilization principals created a non-hierarchical relationship between women and men, the PWDs and other community members; and the WGDs and other women and girls;
  - Developing knowledge products including manuals and translating key documents in braille to facilitate to facilitate information flow even among people with hearing, and reading impairments,
  - Installation of facilities such as access ramps on public buildings, as well as developing a local policy to promote mobility and access for the disabled as indicated in the disability ordinance;
  - The Project reached more than 150,000 community members with messages on non-violence, human rights, fairness, justice and lawfulness among others to protect and promote the rights of WGDs and other community members in Mayuge district through mass actions like 16 days of activism, cultural programs, and IEC materials etc.
  - The community mobilization approach through mass communication led to shifts in perception of the status and role of WGDs and women generally in society.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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1. The ESGBV project was implemented successfully but with a combination of approaches. The process generated a lot of knowledge on what works to prevent and respond to violence against WGDs. This is a unique initiative that needs to be further strengthened and grown to inform development of a methodology that will be used by others to systematize programming to prevent and respond to SGBV against WGDs;
2. Considering the extensive work initiated by IDIWA with support from UNTF, in promoting inclusive planning and service delivery, promoting the rights of marginalized groups (WGDs), and ensuring safety from violence. It is true that the project has worked on a sustainability plan but there is still need for IDIWA to continue with facilitative support to consolidate the results. This is true especially with government entities that need to be followed-up for a long time to gradually take on new roles;
3. The project covered nearly half i.e., six out of the thirteen sub-counties that make up Mayuge district. Indeed the assumption was that the change and effects will naturally be diffused into the other parts of the district. However, this is less than 50% coverage, there is need for IDIWA to work with flexible donors like UNTF to roll the project to the other parts of the district still to strengthen sustainability but also to broaden the critical mass that will hold the change created;
4. IDIWA used the same implementation approach for all the sub-counties in the project catchment area. This indeed yielded over 90 percent of the expected results. However, it is recommended that a community-specific needs assessment and local context mapping is performed to inform more context based planning and resources allocation to ensure balanced engagements in subsequent projects since some parts of Mayuge are not easily accessible all throughout the year;
5. The ESGBV project was introduced at time when Mayuge and Busoga region in general did not have a vibrant women's movement yet the setting in the entire sub-region is strongly patriarchal and women more so those living with disabilities are deeply marginalized. Even when the movement was started under the ESGBV project, there are still indicators that it still needs support to strengthen harmony and cohesion. As the project is ending there is need to consider it a young initiative that still needs support to strengthen;
6. The ESGBV project created paralegals to continue advocacy for demanding,



promoting and protecting the rights and safety of women and girls including those living with disabilities. However, these are mostly recognized at the institutional and community levels. There is need for IDIWA to formally register all those trained and secure a standing arrangement that they will be recognized by the district hierarchies and be accorded an opportunity to participate in future engagements as human rights defenders in the district;

7. The goal, aspirations, focus and strategies of the ESGBV project are very relevant not only in Mayuge but across

Uganda. There is good opportunity to build on the current success of the project to inform other stakeholders on the inclusion of women and girls with disabilities. IDIWA should consider sharing information on results achieved by this project.

8. There needs to be further documentation, research and policy-oriented dialogue as a basis to bring this project to the next level. At this level it is important to consider high and broader level forums where key policy makers will be engaged.

## Appendix 1: List of key stakeholders/institutions consulted

No.	Level		Name of institution	Place of engagement
1	District local government		Mayuge district local government	District head quarters
2	Partners		Civil society organizations	Respective operational offices
3	Partners		Police stations	Respective stations
4	Partners		Health Units	Respective units
5	Partners		Busoga Cultural Institution	Official operational offices for Busoga cultural establishment
6	Partners		Religious institutions	Respective religious bodies in the district
7	Implementing Partners		IDIWA and co-implementing partner	Respective operational offices
9	COVID-19 Task force		Mayuge District COVID-19 response Task force	District head quarters
10	GBV Network		Sub-regional SGBV referral network of Disabled People's Organizations	IDIWA coordinating office

## Appendix 2: Documents reviewed

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1. Project narrative Annual Reports
2. National development plan (Vision 2040)
3. National gender policy
4. National Policy for persons with disabilities
5. National Equal Opportunities Policy
6. National policy for disaster preparedness and management
7. Persons with Disabilities Act, 2020 (Act 3 of 2020)
8. National Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Preparedness and Response Plan (June 2020)
9. Project document
10. Project results framework
11. Mayuge District budget papers
12. Mayuge district plans
13. Mayuge district Disability ordinance
14. Project reports
15. Baseline report for the ESGBV project in Mayuge district
16. Midterm evaluation report for the ESGBV project in Mayuge district
17. The Constitution of Uganda
18. The domestic violence Act 2010
19. Uganda Violence Against Women and Girls Survey 2020
20. Disability inclusion in Uganda
21. Disability status report 2019
22. Project theory of change

### Appendix 3: List of interviewed respondents by category and sub-county

Respondent category	District	Buwaaya	Bukatuube	Kigandalo	Kigandalo	Imanyiro	Malongo
Direct Beneficiaries (WGDs)	100	16	16	16	16	16	16
Community members who are not WGDs	100	16	16	16	16	16	16
District Gender office	1						
District community development officer	1						
Representatives of the district political leadership	2						
Representatives of the sub-county political leadership	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
Disability focal persons	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
District accessibility audit committee	6						
Media personalities	10						
Busoga GBV and disability network members	5						
LC members	18	3	3	3	3	3	3
Religious leaders	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cultural leaders	3						
Senior women/men teachers	21	3	3	3	3	3	3
Health care workers	21	3	3	3	3	3	3
Parents or care givers for WGDs	50	8	8	8	8	8	8
Police officer	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
JLOS	6						
Mayuge district technical planning committee	10						
Representatives of the co-implementing partner CSOs	4						
<b>Total</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>

#### Appendix 4: List Key Informants Interviewed

Category	District	Buwaaya	Bukatuube	Kigandalo	Kigandalo	Imanyiro	Malongo
Technical planning committee	10						
District political leadership	2						
Gender officers	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Community development officer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sub-county political leadership		1	1	1	1	1	1
Disability focal persons		1	1	1	1	1	1
District accessibility audit committee		1	1	1	1	1	1
Media personalities	10						
Busoga GBV and disability network members	5						
LC members		2	2	2	2	2	2
Religious leaders		1	1	1	1	1	1
Cultural leaders	3						
Senior women/men teachers		3	3	3	3	3	3
Health care workers		3	3	3	3	3	3
Parents or care givers for WGDs		4	4	4	4	4	4
Police officer		3	3	3	3	3	3
JLOS	6						
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>



## Appendix 5: List of categories engaged through Focus Group Discussions

Area	Population	Sample size	Description of Composition
District level	District disability and equal opportunities committee members	12 (10)	1 – Women only group (6 participants) 1 – Men only group (6 participants)
Sub-county level	Direct beneficiaries (WGDs)	36 (30)	3– Women who are not WGDs (6 FGDs) 3– Men who are not WGDs (6 FGDs)
Sub-county level	Other beneficiaries (community members who are not WGDs)	36 (30)	3 – Women only group (6 participants in each of the 6 FGDs) 3 – Men only group (6 participants in each of the 6 FGDs)
Sub-county level	Community (opinion) leaders	12 (12)	1 – Women only group (6 participants) 1 – Men only group (6 participants)
Sub-county level	Parents or care givers for WGDs	12 (12)	1– Women only group (6 participants) 1 – Men only group (6 participants)
<b>Total</b>		<b>108</b>	

## Appendix 6: Key Informant Interview Guide: (Partners)

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### Relevance:

The other target for the ESGBV project was around strengthening capacity of IDIWA, and other Disabled people's organizations (DPOs) to effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs.

- a. In light of the operational environment at the time the ESGBV project started in Mayuge, to what extent and for what reasons would you think this was or was not necessary?
- b. In this line, the project intended to bring together all like-minded partners in Mayuge into a network. In relation to what you know about this arrangement, and in light to the project's achievements to date, do you think this objective is still relevant?

The project also had a component that was intended to **Strengthen Institutional and EAW Response to COVID-19 (and other crises)**.

- a. In your view, what value and for whom did this component of the project add?
- b. Why was it specifically important in the context of delivering and accessing services for WGDs who are survivors of SGBV during **risks and crises COVID-19 (and other crises)**?
- c. What value did it add to IDIWA's programming specifically around working with WGDs during crises?

### Coherence

- a) To what extent does the project fit into the local and national policies that support the elimination of SGBV against WGDs?
- b) Which are some of the interventions and policies at the local and national level that address the same issues as the goal of this project?
- c) To what extent does the ESGBV project in Mayuge fit in the other interventions that IDIWA is working to address?
- d) To what extent did the ESGBV against WGDs intention to strengthen Disabled people's organizations- fit in the needs of the network and groups of DPOs especially those working on SGBV among WGDs in Mayuge?
  - a. Describe how these networks or groups worked to serve WGDs who are survivors of SGBV before the project?
- e) The project also focused on strengthening response to SGBV among WGDs during the COVID-19 pandemic. To what extent did this focus of the project fit in:
  - 
  - a. IDIWA's policy on risk mitigation and response to COVID-19?
  - b. Mayuge district COVID-19 prevention policies?
  - c. National COVID-19 task force policies?

### Effectiveness:

1. To what extent has the UNTF effectively used its position to build IDIWA and Mayuge Local Government partners and beneficiaries' capacities with regards to domestication of its goal and ambitions for the WGDs?
2. Did the ESGBV project reach its targeted beneficiaries at project goal and outcome level? Explain.
  - a. In which areas has the project had its least/best achievements? What have been the constraining factors and why? How can they be overcome?
3. What, if any alternative strategies would have been more effective in achieving the project objectives?
4. To what extent has the ESGBV project made sufficient progress towards its planned objectives and results specifically in relation to?
  - a. Strengthening District level advocacy for disability and gender inclusive COVID-19 response
  - b. Provision of Emergency Relief, SGBV support services and Training for WGDs on demanding and accessing services during COVID-19 and other crises
  - c. Strengthening capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' groups and DPOs for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs

### Efficiency

5. Has ESGBV project implementation strategy and execution been cost-effective? Explain
  - a. To what extent did the management structure of the project support efficiency for project implementation?
6. How do you rate the economical use of financial and human resources?
  - a. Have resources funds, human resources, time, expertise etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve outcomes?
    - i. What measures WERE taken during planning and implementation to ensure that resources are efficiently used?
    - ii. Were project funds and activities delivered in a timely manner and within budgets? If not,
      1. What were the bottlenecks encountered?
      2. How were they addressed?
7. The project also intended to bring together and strengthen capacity of all DPOs, WGD organizations working to prevent and respond to SGBV against WGDs, to what extent did the project attempt to address the constraints and hindrances (e.g. political, practical, and bureaucratic) to movement building?
  - a. What level of effort was made to overcome these challenges?

8. Do the results achieved justify the costs?
  - a. Could the same results be attained with fewer resources?
9. In light of what whatever was done to during COVID-19 pandemic, to what extent would you say the project predicted and reacted to risks in an appropriate way?

### **Gender and Human Rights**

1. To what extent did the design and implementation of the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge prioritize cross cutting issues gender and human rights?
2. What at the particular elements of the human rights based and gender responsive approaches that were adopted for this project?
3. How was the aspect of 'live no one behind' catered for in the following focus areas of the ESGBV against WGDs in Mayuge project: -
  - a. Strengthening District level advocacy for disability and gender inclusive COVID-19 response
  - b. Provision of Emergency Relief, SGBV support services and Training for WGDs on demanding and accessing services during COVID-19 and other crises?
  - c. Building a moment or network of CSO rroups and DPOs for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs

### **Impact**

10. What are the main effects of the ESGBV project activities? These might be positive and negative changes produced by the project's interventions, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended.
11. To what extent can the changes/results that have been achieved be attributed to the inputs, strategies, actions and outputs of the project?
12. How did gender equality and inclusive planning impact on the design, development and implementation of initiatives that mitigate violence against women and girls with disabilities?
13. Describe how ESGBV project initiatives, policies and strategies got formulated, enforced, implemented and monitored in line with national, regional and international provisions?
14. What is that the project is living behind in relation to the following areas on which it focused: -
  - a. Strengthening District level advocacy for disability and gender inclusive COVID-19 response
  - b. Provision of Emergency Relief, SGBV support services and Training for WGDs on demanding and accessing services during COVID-19 and other crises?
  - c. Building a moment or network of CSO rroups and DPOs for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs

15. What are the lessons learnt which would improve on the relevance, effectiveness and impact of the project at various levels?

### Sustainability

16. To what extent did the project contribute towards building local capacity and leadership in a manner that would lead to ownership and sustainable results?
17. Based on your experience with the project which components should be carried over into a future phase (scalable activities), and are there any recommendations for their improvement?
18. What sustainability mechanisms have been put in place to sustain the achieved results, especially the positive changes generated by the project in the following areas: -
  - a. Strengthened District level advocacy for disability and gender inclusive COVID-19 response
  - b. Improved access to emergency Relief, SGBV support services and Training for WGDs on demanding and accessing services during COVID-19 and other crises?
  - c. A strengthened movement or network of CSO groups and DPOs for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs

### Knowledge generation

- a) What are the key learnings or lessons that we are getting from the project in relation to: -
  - a. Ending violence against women with disabilities?
  - b. Strengthening advocacy for disability and gender inclusive response during crises like COVID-19 or others?
  - c. Improved access to emergency Relief, SGBV support services during crises
  - d. Strengthened movement or network of CSO groups and DPOs for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs
- b) To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G?
- c) What are some of the key promising practices that project implemented that can be shared with other practitioners?

## Appendix 7: FGD Guide: Local government officials and Institutional Heads

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### Relevance

1. How were you involved in the 'ESGBV project implemented by IDIWA in Mayuge district'?
2. Were the activities relevant to the priority needs of the entire community in Mayuge (local, national, regional and international priorities) and the project direct beneficiaries (WGDs)?
3. The project also had a component that was intended to **Strengthen Institutional and EAW Response to COVID-19 (and other crises)**.
  - a. In your view, what value and for whom did this component of the project add?

### Coherence

- a) To what extent does the project fit into the local and national policies that support the elimination of SGBV against WGDs?
- b) To what extent does the ESGBV project in Mayuge fit in the other interventions that are being is working to address?
- c) To what extent did the ESGBV against WGDs intention to strengthen Disabled people's organizations- fit in the needs of the network and groups of DPOs especially those working on SGBV among WGDs in Mayuge?

### Sustainability

4. What strategies have been put in place to enhance sustainability of the project results?
5. What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period after the end of the project?
6. In terms of funding for the project, to what extent has the project generated political support for the safety and prioritization of the needs, and safety of the WGD?
7. What proportion of the project was funded from local resources?
  - a. Has there been an increase in local funding for the project (government, private sector etc.?)

### Gender and Human Rights

- f) To what extent did the design and implementation of the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge prioritize cross cutting issues gender and human rights?



- g) What are the particular elements of the human rights based and gender responsive approaches that were adopted for this project?
- h) How was the principle of 'leave no one behind' catered for in the process of implementing the ESGBV against WGDs in Mayuge project?

### **Impact**

- 19. What are the main effects of the ESGBV project activities? These might be positive and negative changes produced by the project's interventions, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended.
- 20. To what extent can the changes/results that have been achieved be attributed to the inputs, strategies, actions and outputs of the project?
- 21. What are the lessons learnt which would improve on the relevance, effectiveness and impact of the project at various levels?

### **Knowledge generation**

- 22. What are the key learnings or lessons that we are getting from the project in relation to: -
  - a. Ending violence against women with disabilities?
  - b. Strengthening advocacy for disability and gender inclusive response during crises like COVID-19 or others?
  - c. Improved access to emergency Relief, SGBV support services during crises
  - d. Strengthened movement or network of CSO groups and DPOs for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs
- 23. To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EAW/G?  
What are some of the key promising practices that project implemented that can be shared with other practitioners?

## Appendix 8: Survey/Questionnaire

### Introduction

This is a survey tool that assesses and analyses the impact of the UNTF Project 'Eliminating Sexual Gender Based Violence Project in Mayuge District' from the beneficiaries/stakeholder perspective. The goal of the evaluation is to investigate the beneficiaries/stakeholder perceptions about the contribution of the Project towards an environment that promotes safety from all forms of SGBV among WGDs and promotion of their participation and rights in Mayuge district. The overall objective of evaluation is to assess progress towards achievement of the outcomes of the project both at community and district levels against the standard evaluation principles of effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability, knowledge generation and impact criteria, as well as the cross-cutting gender equality and human rights issue since its inception in January 2020. This instrument solicits information to assess the perceptions of stakeholders and beneficiaries. The lessons learnt from this evaluation will inform the design of UNTF's future work for WGDs in Uganda. Your information and response to the survey will be held in confidence.

### SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF RESPONDENTS

Indicate your gender (tick where appropriate)

Female	<input type="checkbox"/>
Male	<input type="checkbox"/>

Circle where appropriate

a. Age		b. Highest Level of Qualification	
<i>18-29 years</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>None</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>30-39 years</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Primary</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>40-49 year</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Secondly</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>50-59 years</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Tertiary</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>60 and above</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Graduate</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Post graduate</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Indicate your disability if any

What is your occupation?

**SECTION B: RELEVANCE**

The ESGBV Project was relevant to the priority needs of the project direct beneficiaries?  
(Tick where appropriate)

Needs & Priorities	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Girls (0-9) with disabilities					
Adolescent girls (10 - 19) with disabilities					
Young women (20 - 24) with disabilities					
Adult women (25-59) with disabilities					
Elderly women (60 or more) with disabilities					

The ESGBV Project was relevant to the priority needs of the community at large and the project direct beneficiaries? (Tick where appropriate)

Needs & Priorities	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Beneficiaries (WGds)					
Beneficiaries (Community members)					
Beneficiaries (IDIWA)					
Mayuge District Leadership					
Region					
National					

To what extent were project inputs, activities and outputs with the intended impacts and effects as related to the needs and priorities considering the economic, political, social and cultural contexts? (Tick where appropriate)

Needs & Priorities	Extremely inconsistent	Inconsistent	Consistent	Extremely Consistent
Inputs				
Activities				
Outputs				

How relevant were the initiatives to equip the WGDs in Mayuge district in empowering them to protect and demand for fulfillment of their rights and access to SGBV services

Irrelevant  
Relevant

What, if any, changes could be made to the project to make it more appropriate and relevant to the client beneficiary and partners' concerns, needs and preferences?

To what extent were project inputs, activities and outputs related to the needs and priorities WGDs related to pandemics including COVID-19 during the lockdown considering the economic, political, social and cultural contexts at the time of the COVID-19 lockdown of 2019 2020? (Tick where appropriate)

(Tick where appropriate)

Needs & Priorities	Extremely inconsistent	Inconsistent	Consistent	Extremely Consistent
Inputs				
Activities				
Outputs				

Irrelevant  
Relevant

How relevant were the initiatives to Strengthen IDIWA’s Institutional and EVAW Response to COVID-19 (and other crises).

What, if any, changes could be made to the project to make it more appropriate and relevant to the WGDs’ concerns, needs and preferences in Mayuge district during the COVID-19 lockdown and/or any other crises?

**SECTION C: COHERENCE**

To what extent is the project consistently fitting into the district and sub-county policies that support the elimination of SGBV against WGDs; and ensuring safety for the WGDs?

	Extremely inconsistent	Inconsistent	Consistent	Extremely Consistent
Supporting elimination of SGBV against WGDs				
Supporting, and maintaining safety for the WGDs				
Promoting and protecting the rights of WGDs				

In your view, to what extent did the project’s component on strengthening institutional readiness to respond to SGBV and protection and promotion of access to services and other entitlements of WGDs and other PWDs during crises and other crises?

Extremely inconsistent	Inconsistent	Consistent	Extremely Consistent
------------------------	--------------	------------	----------------------

Give reasons or justification for your response in the previous question



The ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge also focused on strengthening response to SGBV among WGDs during the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises, in your opinion, to what extent and why would you say that the project objectives fit or where consistent with: -

Extremely inconsistent	Inconsistent	Consistent	Extremely Consistent

Why would you say that the project objectives fit or where consistent with: -

IDIWA's policy on risk mitigation and response to COVID-19?			
Mayuge district COVID-19 prevention policies?			
National COVID-19 task force policies?			



## SECTION D: EFFECTIVENESS

To what extent has the project made sufficient progress towards achieving its objectives

Objectives/Outcomes	Lesser extent	Significant	Greater Extent
Women and Girls with Disabilities in Mayuge district empowered to protect and demand for fulfillment of their rights and access to SGBV services			
Strengthen mechanisms for response to Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities (WGDs) in Mayuge by 2022			
Capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' organizations and groups and Disabled People's Organizations Strengthened for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs			
Capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' organizations and groups and Disabled People's Organizations Strengthened to effectively respond to SGBV during COVID-19 (and other crises)?			

How appropriate has the ESGBV project been in responding to the needs of the WGDs in the district (Tick where appropriate)

Extremely Inappropriate	Inappropriate	Appropriate	Extremely Appropriate
What changes, if any, could be made to the project to make it more effective?			

How appropriate was the ESGBV project in responding to the needs of the WGDs in the district during COVID-19 (and other crises)? (Tick where appropriate)

Extremely Inappropriate	Inappropriate	Appropriate	Extremely Appropriate
What changes, if any, could be made to the project to make it more effective in responding to COVID-19 and other crises?			

### SECTION E: EFFICIENCY

Were the activities implemented by the project planned in a timely manner and within the budget? Yes   
No

Did the actual/expected results (outputs and outcomes) justify the costs incurred from both the UNTF and IDIWA n? Consider quality issues as well. (Tick where appropriate) Yes   
No

<i>How well have the activities implemented by the project transformed the available resources into the intended results in terms of quality, quantity and timeliness and in terms of the target beneficiaries?</i>	<b>Very Poor</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Poor</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Good</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Very Good</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Could the activities implemented by the project have been implemented with fewer resources without reducing the quality and quantity of results?* (Tick where appropriate) Yes   
No

### SECTION F: GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

In your opinion, did the design and implementation of the ESGBV against WGDs project prioritize cross cutting issues of gender equity Yes   
No

What are the key aspects of human rights that were outstanding for this project?

and human rights for WGDs?

What are the key aspects gender equity that were outstanding for this project?

**How was the aspect of 'live no one behind' was catered for in the following areas of the ESGBV against WGDs project?**

Demand for the provision of and access to emergency Relief and other SGBV services for WGDs	
Strengthened advocacy for disability and gender inclusive COVID-19 and other crises response	
Building a movement or network of CSO groups and DPOs for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGDs	

**SECTION G: SUSTAINABILITY**

To what extent are the benefits of the activities implemented by the project likely to be sustained after the completion of this project?	<b>Lesser Extent</b>	
	Significant	
	Great Extent	
What sustainability mechanisms options are there to ensure that the project activities and impacts are sustained?		
Explain how the given mechanisms will contribute towards building district and community capacity and WGD leadership in ways that would lead to sustainable results in the project's agenda		
To what extent did the project contribute towards building IDIWA and the District Local government institutional capacity, skills and leadership in an SGBV inclusive planning, prevention and response in in Mayuge?	<b>Lesser Extent</b>	
	Significant	
	Great Extent	

## SECTION H: KNOWLEDGE GENERATION

To what extent and for whom among the various stakeholders did the project contribute to the generation of learnings?

Stakeholder category	Lesser extent	Significant	Greater Extent
Direct beneficiaries (WGDs) in Mayuge district			
Other community members (caretakers of the WGDs)			
District local government officials			
IDIWA organs and staff of the other DPOs			
Any other categories			

Specifically what lessons did the project contribute to among the respective categories of stakeholders?

What were the lessons for the Direct beneficiaries (WGDs) in Mayuge district?	
What were the lessons for the Other community members (caretakers of the WGDs)	
What were the lessons for the Other community members (caretakers of the WGDs)	

## SECTION G: IMPACT

State the most significant changes of ESGBV project activities including positive/negative changes, directly/indirectly, intended/unintended? (List the changes below and tick the appropriate answer).

Changes produced by the project activities	Tick where appropriate					
	Positive	Negative	Direct	Indirect	Intended	Unintended
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						

To what extent can the changes / results that have been achieved be attributed to the inputs, strategies, actions and outputs of the ESGBV project?

Changes/Results are a result of	None	Minimal	Moderately	Extensively
Inputs				
Strategies				
Actions				
Outputs				

UNTF's technical and resource management, coordination role in the delivery of ESGBV project

To what extent is UNTF's effective and responsive in achieving the technical and resource management role for the project? Site some example for your answers

Not responsive	Moderately responsive	Very Responsive

Site some example for your answers

To what extent has been the ESGBV project effective in coordination, partnership, implementation procedures in terms of sharing of resources, cost reduction, and any benefits of a project?

Level of effectiveness in	None	Moderately	Good
Sharing resources			
Cost reduction			
Any benefits of the project			

**The End**

**Thank you**





## Appendix 9: Informed Consent Form: Focus Group Discussion Participants

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**Study Title: Impact Evaluation for End Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Mayuge District**

### Introduction

I am ..... working on behalf of @24 Research Direct. a full-service consulting firm built around a multidisciplinary team of professionals with hands-on-experience in research, and program strategic development. The firm draws on the expertise of a pool of local, regional and international consultants—with diverse expertise and experience in gender transformative programming. @24 Research Direct has been contracted by Integrated Disabled Women’s Activities (IDIWA) to conduct an evaluation of the **End Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Mayuge District**

Integrated Disabled Women Activities (IDIWA) is a voluntary, not for profit, a registered non-governmental organization focused on empowerment of Women and Girls with Disabilities by Advocating for improved access to services, resources (ownership and control), participation in democratic and governance processes, economic opportunities and respect for their human and health rights. This is done through training, Advocacy and lobbying, and networking and by involving community members and beneficiaries.

IDIWA has been implementing the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge from January 2020. The project has been delivered through a community driven approach in the 6 sub-counties. The project came to an end in December 2022 and thus IDWA is conducting an end of project evaluation to understand the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, gender and human, knowledge generation sustainability and its contribution in building the women’s movement in Busoga region

### What the participant would be asked to do

There will be up to 143 other community members like you to take part in the FGDs should you accept to participate. We do approximate that we shall conduct at least 18 FGDs, 97 individual interviews, and 100 surveys across the study sites. We will have the discussion in a private outdoor

space or a private area in a public building or other location in your community like a community center, church, school. Only the investigator, a note taker and other group members will be there. We will ask you to take part in a discussion about the impact of the IESGBV against WGDs' project. Our discussion will take about 60 minutes.

We also request to record this discussion. The purpose of recording is to enable us capture your views without misrepresenting them. After the discussion, we will transcribe the recording (transfer from audio to text). After that, we will destroy the recording. Do you consent to be audio recorded?

1. Yes
2. No

### **Risks and benefits of being in the study**

There are no major risks to participating in this study. However, some questions might make you feel uncomfortable, or you may feel uncomfortable sharing some confidential information about yourself or your partner. If that happens, you may refuse to answer any question or to stop the interview at any time. It is also possible that others may overhear this conversation. We will do our best to prevent that from happening by speaking to you in a private or semi-private location.

There will be no direct benefits to you for participating in this study. However, your responses will be used to understand the impact of the ESGBV against WGDs project that shall inform lessons that could be adopted in other programs with the same or goal related goal in your district or elsewhere in Uganda.

If someone comes near us to find out what we are talking about we will pause until they leave. Please do not say your name, the names of others, or other information that would make it easy for someone to identify you while we are audio recording.

Also, you may be upset by or not like some of the questions we ask. You do not have to answer any questions you don't want to and you can stop taking part in the study at any time. IDIWA is already working with partners and health facilities that provide counselling services. We shall refer you to where you prefer to get the services in case you breakdown, get upset or feel uncomfortable during the case of the interview.

### **Confidentiality**

Your name and contact information will not be shared or recorded on documents that list the unique answers that you will provide during the group discussion. Instead, you will be assigned a unique code to identify the set of responses that you provide.

Any identifying information will be kept separate from the responses you will provide during the discussion. Only the consulting team and select few staff will have access to your responses. The other entities which may have access to the study information include the UNTF who has been funding the project, and district partners. The only other time someone may contact you, should

you choose to take part, is when our team conduct quality checks to find out whether the discussion happened.

At the time of reporting, responses will be presented without identifying the individual respondent.

We will keep study records secure so that only the research team can see them. We will destroy what we write down and audio recordings after we put them in a computer. At the end of the study, we will ensure that you cannot be identified anymore. The research team will keep the information you share and may use it in the future. But no one will know the information comes from you.

### **Voluntariness**

Taking part in this study is voluntary, meaning you decide if you want to take part in the study. Nothing bad will happen to you and there is no penalty if you choose not to take part or if you want to stop taking part at any time. If you decide not to take part or stop at any time we will respect this and not ask you why you do not want to take part.

### **Compensation /Reimbursement**

This study is voluntary and you will not be paid any money for your participation. However focus group discussion participants will be provided with a transport reimbursement of 5,000 Uganda Shillings to facilitate their travel to and from the discussion venue. The incentive will be given to the person participating in the study and not a third party, upon completion of the group discussion.

### **Refreshment**

Refreshments (a drink and a snack) worth Uganda Shillings 3000 will be given to you in the course of our discussion.

### **Feedback/Dissemination**

The results of the study will be written up in a report that will be used by IDIWA and partners to understand the impact of the project. A district dissemination workshop shall be held and knowledge products will be generated using the findings of the evaluation. A dissemination workshop will also be held at the district headquarters targeting district officials and communities of parishes will the evaluation will be conducted

### **Contacts and Questions**

The researcher(s) conducting this study are mentioned below. You may ask any questions you have now. If you have any questions later, you may contact them at:

Team Leaders:                      Lwanyaaga Julius  
   @24 Research Direct  
   Tel: +256-780 -969005  
   Email: jlwanyaaga@gmail.com  
   @24 Research Direct  
   P. O. Box 1786, Wakiso

Email: @24rd@gmail.com

Supervisor:

Ssonko Sula Hassan  
@24 Research Direct  
Tel: +256-706 - 6470775  
Email: sonkohassan@gmail.com

**Statement of Consent**

I have read the above information or had the above information read to me. I have received answers to the questions I have asked. I consent to participate in this research. I am at least ..... years of age.

Name of participant: .....

Signature or thumbprint/mark of participant: .....

Date: .....

Name of Person obtaining Consent: .....

Signature of person obtaining consent: .....

Date: .....

**Witness of person in case person is Illiterate:**

Name of Witness: .....

Signature or thumbprint/mark of witness: .....

Date: .....

## Appendix 10: Informed Consent Form: Survey Participants (Beneficiary and Non-beneficiaries)

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**Team Leaders:** Lwanyaaga Julius and Ssempebwa William  
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**Supervisors:** Ssonko Sula Hassan  
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Email: sonkohassan@gmail.com

**Study Title: Impact Evaluation for End Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Mayuge District**

### Introduction

I am ..... working on behalf of @24 Research Direct. a full-service consulting firm built around a multidisciplinary team of professionals with hands-on-experience in research, and programme strategic development. The firm draws on the expertise of a pool of local, regional and international consultants—with diverse expertise and experience in gender transformative programming. @24 Research Direct has been contracted by Integrated Disabled Women’s Activities (IDIWA) to conduct an evaluation of the **End Sexual and Gender Based Violence against Women and Girls With Disabilities in Mayuge District**

Integrated Disabled Women Activities (IDIWA) is a voluntary, not for profit, a registered non-governmental organization focused on empowerment of Women and Girls with Disabilities by Advocating for improved access to services, resources (ownership and control), participation in democratic and governance processes, economic opportunities and respect for their human and health rights. This is done through training, Advocacy and lobbying, and networking and by involving community members and beneficiaries.

IDIWA has been implementing the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge from January 2020. The project has been delivered through a community driven approach in the 6 sub-counties. The project came to an end in December 2022 and thus IDWA is conducting an end of project evaluation to understand the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, gnercer and human, knowledge generation sustainability and its contribution in building the women’s movement in Busoga region

### What the participant would be asked to do

I will talk with you privately at your home, your work place, or a private outdoor space or other location in your community where you are comfortable should you accept to take part in this

study. However we do approximate that we shall conduct 97 interviews across the project sites. I will ask you to take part in a discussion about the impact of the project.. Our discussion will take about 45 minutes.

### **Risks and benefits of being in the study**

There are no major risks to participating in this study. However, some questions might make you feel uncomfortable, or you may feel uncomfortable sharing some confidential information about yourself or your partner. If that happens, you may refuse to answer any question or to stop the interview at any time. It is also possible that others may overhear this conversation. We will do our best to prevent that from happening by speaking to you in a private or semi-private location.

There will be no direct benefits to you for participating in this study. However, your responses will be used to understand the impact of the ESGBV project in Mayuge district that shall inform generation of lessons that could be adopted in other interventions in Mayuge and elsewhere in Uganda.

If someone comes near us to find out what we are talking about we will pause until they leave. Also, you may be upset by or not like some of the questions we ask. You do not have to answer any questions you don't want to and you can stop taking part in the study at any time. IDIWA is already working with partners in health facilities that provide counselling services. We shall refer you to where you prefer to get the services in case you breakdown, get upset or feel uncomfortable during the case of the interview.

### **Confidentiality**

Your name and contact information will not be shared or recorded on documents that list the unique answers that you will provide.

Any identifying information will be kept separate from the responses you will provide. Only the consulting team and select few staff will have access to your responses. The other entities which may have access to the study information include IDIWA, UNTF, district and sub-count officials. The only other time someone may contact you, should you choose to take part, is when our team conduct quality checks to find out whether the discussion happened.

At the time of reporting, responses will be presented without identifying the individual respondent.

We will keep study records secure so that only the research team can see them. At the end of the study, we will ensure that you cannot be identified anymore. The research team will keep the information you share and may use it in the future. But no one will know the information comes from you.

### **Voluntariness**

Taking part in this study is voluntary, meaning you decide if you want to take part in the study. Nothing bad will happen to you and there is no penalty if you choose not to take part or if you



want to stop taking part at any time. If you decide not to take part or stop at any time we will respect this and not ask you why you do not want to take part.

**Compensation /Reimbursement**

This study is voluntary and you will not be paid any money for your participation. No refreshment will be given to you in the course of our discussion.

**Feedback/Dissemination**

The results of the study will be written up in a report that will be used by IDIWA and partners to understand the impact of the project. A district dissemination workshop shall be held and knowledge products will be generated using the findings of the evaluation. A dissemination workshop will also be held at the district headquarters targeting district officials and communities of parishes will the evaluation will be conducted

**Contacts and Questions**

The researcher(s) conducting this study are mentioned below. You may ask any questions you have now. If you have any questions later, you may contact them at:

Team Leaders:                      Lwanyaaga Julius  
   @24 Research Direct  
   Tel: +256-780 -969005  
   Email: jlwanyaaga@gmail.com

Supervisor:                              Ssonko Sula Hassan  
   @24 Research Direct  
   Tel: +256-706 - 6470775  
   Email: sonkohassan@gmail.com

**Statement of Consent**

I have read the above information or had the above information read to me. I have received answers to the questions I have asked. I consent to participate in this research. I am at least ..... years of age.

Name of participant: .....

Signature or thumbprint/mark of participant: .....

Date: .....

Name of Person obtaining Consent: .....

Signature of person obtaining consent: .....

Date: .....

**Witness of person in case person is Illiterate:**

Name of Witness: .....

Signature or thumbprint/mark of witness: .....

Date: .....

## Appendix 10: Consent form for: Disability Participation in Field testing of the impact of the ESGBV against WGDs project in Mayuge

Hello, my name is [\_\_\_\_\_]. I am one of the interviewers for a study on behalf of researchers from @24 Research Direct. We have been invited by IDIWA to undertake a research to understand the impact of a project (ESGBV against WGDs) they have been implementing in Mayuge for the last three years. Your participation is voluntary.

I would like to share with you about the ESGBV project that our colleagues from IDIWA have been implementing in your district and sub-county. We want to hear your honest opinion and understanding of these materials. The findings from this discussion will be used to improve on the quality of programming for the WGDs and other women who are survivors or at risk for SGBV

### **Duration:**

The interviews or discussions will take up to one hours. You will be asked to give your opinion and understanding of the project.

### **Confidentiality:**

I welcome you to answer all questions as honestly as you can. Your answers will help us improve the quality of services for the WGDs and other women who are survivors of SGBV. Please be advised that although the facilitators will take every precaution to maintain confidentiality of the data, the nature of data collection prevents the researchers from guaranteeing confidentiality. The researchers would like to remind participants to respect the privacy of your fellow participants and not repeat what is said in the interviews to others. Reports of study findings will not include any identifying information. In case you tell us about something that makes us think that your safety or welfare might be at risk, we are obliged to report this to colleagues in child protection that might be of help. Also, if the discussion raises issues that you would like to discuss further with a counsellor or support worker, we would be happy to help with this. We will also give you information about organizations working in your community that may be of use to you or to others that you know.

Non-Disclosure Statement:

\_\_\_I agree to maintain the confidentiality of the information discussed during this evaluation process

### **Compensation:**

Your participation is voluntary, but you will not be paid for participating in this evaluation. You will be given a bar of soap at the end of the interview to appreciate your participation. The interviews will be done at your place of choice. By sharing with us your understanding and opinions of the project and the change it has contributed to could be very useful for IDIWA's related programs in Mayuge and other places in Uganda.

If you have any questions about the project, you can ask me, or you or your parents can contact:

**Team Leaders:** Lwanyaaga Julius  
@24 Research Direct  
Tel: +256-780 -969005  
Email: jlwanyaaga@gmail.com

@24 Research Direct  
P. O. Box 1786, Wakiso  
Email: @24rd@gmail.com

**Supervisors:** Ssonko Sula Hassan  
@24 Research Direct  
Tel: +256-706 - 6470775  
Email: sonkohassan@gmail.com

OR  
Kayanga Elizabeth  
Executive Director, IDIWA  
Tell: 0704608675  
Email: idiwaelizabeth@gmail.com

Do you have any questions about any of the things I have just said?

Are you willing to participate in this study?

DOES NOT AGREE TO PARTICPATE

AGREES TO PARTICPATE

Is this a good place to hold the first interview or is there somewhere else that you would like to go?

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TO BE COMPLETED BY INTERVIEWER

Name of Interviewer Obtaining Disabled person's Consent to Participate in Study:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of respondent (print) \_\_\_\_\_

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TO BE COMPLETED BY RESPONDENT

Please check:

Yes, I understand all the details regarding my participation.

I certify that I have read the above consent procedure / that it was read to me.

Name of Respondent (Print):

Date:

Signature: OR

Thumbprint:

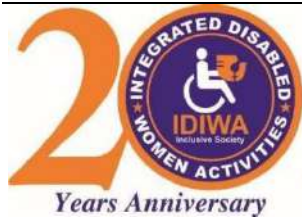
**A witness signs in case the participant is illiterate.**

Name of Witness (Print):

Date:

Signature: OR

Thumbprint: \_\_\_\_\_



### **INTEGRATED DISABLED WOMEN ACTIVITIES**

Plot 10, Jalum Road, Northern Division, Iganga Municipal Council,  
P.O. Box 556, Iganga, Uganda, East Africa, Tel: +256 772 449 270,  
E-mail:idiwa2009@gmail.com, Website: www.idiwaug.org, Facebook:IDIWA NGO, Twitter:IdiwaNgo

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#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONDUCTING PROJECT END-LINE EVALUATION OF THE ELIMINATING SEXUAL GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PROJECT IN MAYUGE DISTRICT**

Date issued: 10<sup>th</sup>/10/2022

Closing date: 20<sup>th</sup> /10/2022

##### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

These terms of reference serve as guidelines for undertaking End-line project evaluation of: Eliminating sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls with disabilities project in Mayuge District. The project focuses on strengthening the local Gender Based Violence (GBV) structures and promote positive attitudes among local council courts, health workers and the justice Law and Order sector on their role in handling SGBV cases and sensitize them in the unique discrimination and specific need of WGDs.

##### **2.0 ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND**

Integrated Disabled Women Activities (IDIWA) is a voluntary, not for profit, a registered non- governmental organization focused on empowerment of Women and Girls with Disabilities by Advocating for improved access to services, resources (ownership and control), participation in democratic and governance processes, economic opportunities and respect for their human and health rights. This is done through training, Advocacy and lobbying, and networking and by involving community members and beneficiaries.

IDIWA visualizes an inclusive society in which Women and Girls with Disabilities and their families are self-reliant, emancipated and respected.

IDIWA mission is to empower Women and Girls with Disabilities and their families to maximize their potential and improve the standard of living

The overall goal is to improve the quality of life of Women and Girls with Disabilities and their families

##### **3.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND**

Project period, budget, beneficiaries and forms of violence

The "Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence Among women and Girls with Disabilities is a USD 439,663, three-year (Jan 2020 and Dec 2022), project implemented in six sub counties in Mayuge district in Eastern Uganda, and



targeted girls and women with disabilities between 9 and 59 years, experiencing different forms of violence including but not limited to:

- **Violence in the family** including: intimate partner violence, physical violence, sexual violence, psychological and emotional violence, no partner and economic violence
- **Violence in the community** including: violence by no-partners (rape/sexual assault), sexual harassment and violence in public places and institutions, violence in schools, workplace and public places

#### Project Context

The demographic and health survey conducted in 2016, indicated that Eastern Uganda has the highest number of cases of GBV with an average of 74% cases. The South Eastern Regional Police report reveal 1376 cases of GBV recorded in three months in 2013, compared to the 2,385 cases registered in 2012. Most GBV cases include physical and psychological abuse, sexual violence against women, sexual abuse and other abusive traditional practices, marital rape, dowry related violence, incest, no spousal/child to mother attacks and violence related to exploitation and deprivation of freedom. Data from the U DHS 2016 shows that older women are more likely to report having experienced recent SGBV than younger women aged 15 to 19. 13% to 16% of older women and 5% of younger women reported recent sexual violence.

Unfortunately, there is no reliable data on SGBV and WGDs because state and nonstate GBV actors do not particularly target WGDs. They are sexually abused by relatives and other community members which exposes them to unwanted pregnancies and STIs including HIV/AIDS. WGDs lack access to essential social services, legal and psychosocial support services.

There are no access ramps and sign language interpretation services in institutions providing the above services. For example, community level midwifery do not attend to WGDs, always arguing that their birthing process requires an expert or Caesarean section which is not necessarily the case. The labor wards and beds are not accessible; WGDs are routinely turned down when they seek sexual and reproductive health services. Families cover up and protect culprits. Girls with disabilities are not prioritized for education and health care nor are they prepared for adulthood, or guided on relationship or marriage. Women with disabilities live in a series of unstable relationship because men do not want to identify with them in public and society views them as ineligible partners. Men just crawl to their houses in the night only to make them pregnant and deny responsibility.

## Specific Project Objectives

This action sets out to achieve the following objectives.

- To Empower 300 WGDs with human rights and advocacy skills by 2022
- To Strengthen protection and response SGBV cases among WGDs by 2022
- To Empower IDIWA organs, WGDs Organizations and Groups, and Disabled People's Organizations to GEWE and response to SGBV against WGDs by 2022
- To Strengthen IDIWA and co-implementing partner's resilience and adaptability to the changing context, and existing interventions on EVAWGDs during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, and other crises in future.

## Project Results Chain

The overall project **goal** is "Inclusive services for women and girls with disabilities who are survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence- SGBV.

**Outcome 1:** Women and girls with disabilities in Mayuge district empowered to protect and demand for the fulfillment of their rights and access to SGBV services.

Output1.1. 300 Women and girls with disabilities equipped with information and knowledge on their rights

Output1.2: Women and girls with disabilities survivors of SGBV supported to access legal, psychological, economic and health services.

Output1.3: 50 Women and girls with disabilities trained as peer educators and champions against SGBV.

**Outcome 2:** Strengthened mechanism for protection and response to SGBV against WGDs in Mayuge by 2022.

Output2.1: 200 Duty bearers and other service providers in Mayuge district sensitized on the rights of WGDs.

Output 2.2: Parents, care givers, family and community members are aware of the referral's mechanisms and their role in reporting cases of SGBV against WGDs in their households.

Output 2.3: 50 Senior women teachers and health workers are knowledgeable on early assessment, identification and referral for SGBV against WGDs.

**Outcome 3:** Capacity of IDIWA organs, WGDs' organization groups and Disabled people's organizations- DPOs strengthened for effective promotion of Gender Equality and response to SGBV against WGD

Output 3.1: DIWA organs, WGDs Organizations and Disabled peoples' organizations are knowledgeable on the national and international frame works on Gender and violence against WGDs

Output 3.2 Sub-regional CSOs' sexual and Gender Based Violence coordination and network established and functional in Busoga.

**Outcome 4:** IDIWA and co-implementing partners are institutionally strengthened and sustainably respond to COVID-19 pandemic and other crisis while maintaining or adapting existing interventions to EVAW/G with focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.

Output 4.1: 300 WGDs are provided with emergency relief and recovery packages and trained on human rights and advocacy skills.

Output 4.2: IDIWA and co-implementing partners Empowered to promote inclusion of WGDs in emergency response services including COVID-19 and other crises.

#### **4.0 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION**

##### **Purpose of the Evaluation**

The purpose of the assignment is to conduct an assessment of the overall project progress and results against the outcomes and indicators of achievement as per project target. Therefore, external evaluator will assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, coherence, and sustainability of the intervention, and the progress made towards achieving its planned objectives. In addition, the evaluation should provide a well-founded comprehensive and concretely argued document, that would clearly spell out the quality of the project and its implementation (Best practices and lessons).

##### **Objectives of the Evaluation**

To evaluate the entire project that started in January 2020 to 2022, against the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability, knowledge generation and impact criteria, as well as the cross-cutting gender equality and human rights criteria.

To identify key lessons and promising or emerging good practices in the field of ending violence against women and girls, for learning purposes.

#### **5.0 SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION**

The assignment will be conducted in the six sub-counties of Mayuge where the project is being implemented (Buwaaya, Bukatuube, Kigandalo, Kityerera, Manyiro, and Malongo). The Evaluation will reach out to 300 WGDs, 12 members of the established district accessibility audit committee, 18 local council and 6 religious leaders have been involved in the project, 20 senior women teachers, 20 health workers, 50 parents and caregivers of WGDs, 12 Police, JLOs, and the Mayuge district technical planning committee.

This exercise is expected to last for a period of two months i.e. from issuance of the ToR to the dissemination of the project finding.

Evaluation Criteria and Questions

Evaluation Criteria	Mandatory Evaluation Question
Effectiveness	1. To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs (project results) achieved and how?
Relevance	2. To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls with disabilities in Mayuge district?
Efficiency	3. To what extent was the project efficiently and costeffectively implemented?
Sustainability	4. To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls with disabilities (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?
Impact	5. To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women’s empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?
Coherence.	6. To what extent has the intervention support or undermines the interventions of the Mayuge district local government and government at large. (Interlinkage between the program and government institutions)
Knowledge generation	7. To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EAWGDs that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?
Gender Equality and Human Rights	Cross-cutting criteria: the evaluation should consider the extent to which human rights based and gender responsive approaches have been incorporated throughout the project and to what extent.

## 6.0 EVALUATION DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

### Proposed Evaluation design

The evaluation will use a mixed methodology (both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collecting and analysis. The intension of the use of the mixed method is triangulate results.

**Sampling and data source**

Purposive sampling technique will be adopted for the selection of respondents for the qualitative survey phase (FGDs and (KIIs) depending on their positions or technical support during the project implementation at both district and sub county levels.

These will include government and civil society officials, Police officers, cultural and Religious Leaders, local leaders. And 8 groups of WGDs will participate in the FGDs) A total of 210 will be selected randomly to participate in the cross-sectional quantitative survey.

**Data collection methods and analysis**

The consultant will use different methods of data collection which include desk/literature review for the different project documents including proposals, results frameworks, baseline report, mid-term evaluation reports, monitoring reports, international and national reports on GBV, interview, surveys and direct observation. Desk review will support to identify which data needs to be collected for each of the targeted respondents in line with the set goals and objectives. Data will be analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively using research analytical methods and computer applications such as SPSS, EXCEL or ACCESS for the different variables.

**Ethical issues**

The consultant shall take all reasonable steps to ensure the rights and wellbeing of the participants in this study. The consultants will ensure that the participants are protected and respected and that the assignment is technically accurate, reliable, and legitimate, conducted in a transparent and impartial manner, and contributes to organizational learning and accountability. The consultants shall sign protection policy before undertaking the activity. The consent form will be designed by the consultant and review by IDIWA management before field visits.

**Outputs/Deliverables**

The assignment is estimated to be undertaken from 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 and to be completed by 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The applicant(s) MUST be available and willing to work within he stated timeframe for the assignment

Deliverable	Time-line
Technical and financial proposal	31/10/2022
Data collection tools	4/11/2022
Draft evaluation report	20/02/2023
Final Evaluation Report	28/02/2023

**Note:**

The consultant shall submit a final report in both hard copies (3 copies) and electronic copies (2 Compatible Disks CDs) along with all survey data (in Excel or SPSS compatible formats), transcripts of the interviews and group discussions, photographs and ethical approval and or informed consent from the participants etc. The report should be written in simple English language using Lao UI font 12 and must be comprehensive. Reference will be cited after each important facts and figures.

**Key Tasks for the evaluation process**

Stage of Evaluation	Key Task	Responsible	Number of working days required	Timeframe
Inception stage	The principal evaluator orients other evaluators	Planning, M&E Officer	10 working days	By 8/11/2022
	Desk review of key documents	Evaluator/s		
	Finalizing the evaluation design and methods	Evaluator/s		
	Submit draft inception report	Evaluator/s		
	Inception meeting, review of inception report and provision of feedback	M&E, Stakeholder Group and IDIWA	5 working days	15/11/2022
	Incorporating comments and revising the inception report	Evaluator/s	4 working days after desk review.	21/11/2022
	Submitting final version of inception report	Evaluator/s		
	Review final Inception Report and approve	M&E, Stakeholder Group and IDIWA.	5 working days	28/11/2022
	Data collection	Desk research	Evaluator/s	10 working days



and analysis stage	In-country technical mission for data collection (visits to the field, interviews, questionnaires, etc.)	Evaluator/s	Over 6-8 weeks (depending on travel)	20/01/2023
Synthesis and reporting stage	Analysis and interpretation of findings	Evaluator/s	4 weeks	21/01/2023
	Preparing a first draft report	Evaluator/s		
	Review of the draft report with key stakeholders for quality assurance	M&E, Stakeholder Group and IDIWA.	10 working days	2/02/2022
	Consolidate comments from all the groups and submit the consolidated comments to evaluation team	M&E Officer/Program manager.		
	Incorporating comments and preparing second draft evaluation report	Evaluation Team	2 weeks	15/02/2023
	Final review and validation of report	M&E, Stakeholder Group and IDIWA teams	5 working days	20/02/2023
	Final edits and submission of the final report	Evaluator/s	4 working days	25/02/2023

## 7.0 QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPETENCES OF THE IDEAL EVALUATION TEAM/

### CONSULTANT

#### Academic Qualifications

The leader of the evaluation team should have a university degree (A master Degree will be an added advantage) in relevant field (gender studies, international law, Research, development studies, Statistics and Economics)

Post graduate diploma in M&E /Research or its equivalent is a must.

Experience and accomplishments

- a. At least 10 years of relevant professional experience in Monitoring and Evaluation including developing theories of change
- b. Experience with program design and theory of change, gender-responsive evaluation, participatory approaches and stakeholder engagement
- c. Specific evaluation experiences in the areas of ending violence against women and girls
- d. Experience in collecting and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data as well as data visualization
- e. In-depth knowledge of gender equality and women's empowerment vi. A strong commitment to delivering timely and high-quality results, i.e. credible evaluation and its report that can be used
- f. A strong team leadership and management track record, as well as interpersonal and communication skills to help ensure that the evaluation is understood and used
- g. Good communication skills and ability to communicate with various stakeholders and to express concisely and clearly ideas and
- h. Good spoken and written communication skills in English and Lusoga or Luganda language

### 8.0 APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Check out our website: [www.idiwaug.org](http://www.idiwaug.org) and complete a set of 3 documents (CV, prior assignments, technical and financial proposal must be submitted by email to: [idiwa2009@gmail.com](mailto:idiwa2009@gmail.com) or hand delivery Plot 10, Jalum Road, Northern Division, Iganga Municipal Council, Iganga, +256, Uganda, not later than **5:00PM on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022.**

**N.B** Please note that IDIWA will not be responsible in any way for any costs incurred in preparation or submission of the documents. Only shortlisted will be contact.