



UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



BACKGROUND

The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996. It is the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that is dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls. The UN Trust Fund is administered by UN Women on behalf of the UN System.

The overriding aim of all UN Trust Fund activities is to support initiatives that have a real, concrete and lasting impact on the lives of women and girls. The UN Trust Fund focuses on three priority areas:

- Preventing violence against women and girls through empowering groups especially at risk of violence, and engaging in strategic prevention efforts;
- Expanding survivor access to services and building the capacity of service providers to respond effectively to the needs of women and girls affected by violence; and
- Strengthening implementation of laws, policies, action plans and institutions to become more effective, transparent and accountable in addressing violence against women and girls.

Photo: Phil Borges



In 2015 the reach and impact of the work by UN Trust Fund grantees was global and groundbreaking:

111

INITIATIVES

76

COUNTRIES &
TERRITORIES

\$57M

TOTAL GRANT
VALUE

1M

WOMEN, GIRLS, MEN
& BOYS BENEFITED

180,000

WOMEN & GIRLS
DIRECTLY BENEFITED

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Photo: Ezequiel Catalan



SUR Corporación de Estudios Sociales y Educación project in Colombia, Chile and El Salvador.

Strengthening Police Responses to Violence: SUR Corporación

In **Colombia, Chile and El Salvador**, a UN Trust Fund grant helps SUR Corporación de Estudios Sociales y Educación (SUR Corporación), a civil society organization, in training police on enforcing laws and policies to stop violence against women and girls. SUR Corporación focuses on addressing the need to strengthen the police response, as well as on the registration and follow-up of reports of violence against women.

RESULTS

Over 700 hundred officers have attended a course grounded in the principles of women's right to live free from violence. It teaches participants about different manifestations of violence, how to improve responsiveness, and how to track and follow-up on cases. Improved communication between the police and women's organizations in all three countries has fostered common understanding of the scope of violence against women and girls.

Addressing the Intersection of VAW and HIV in Schools: Grassroot Soccer

Grassroot Soccer is implementing a girl-centered programme in five **South African** sub-districts focused in schools. Grassroot Soccer is up-scaling and expanding their innovative SKILLZ Plus sports-based intervention to foster girls' empowerment, to expand girls' awareness of sexual and reproductive rights and to increase girls' access to medical, legal and psychosocial services. Grassroot Soccer's intervention is being implemented at four high schools and junior secondary schools.

RESULTS

In 2015, more than 1,100 girls in eight schools participated in educational sessions that use the language of soccer to engage participants about gender-equitable relationships and inspire action to prevent and address violence.

Photo: Jaco Roets



Grassroot Soccer project in South Africa.

THE MOMENT IS RIGHT

Projects funded by the UN Trust Fund are making large strides to prevent and end violence against women and girls, but resources for these initiatives are severely lacking.

Photo: Phil Borges



A recent study by the Foundation Center, a US-based organization, found that only 2 per cent of all human rights-related giving by private foundations is allocated to ending violence against women and girls. According to research by the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), the median income for women's rights organizations globally is less than US \$20,000.

The UN Trust Fund's grant giving ranges from school based programmes to community-based interventions, to initiatives providing support to survivors of violence and those at risk. However, the Trust Fund is able to fund just a fraction of the requests it receives each year, while demand is growing steadily. Last year for example, it received 1,025 applications for a total of more than US\$423 million.

This year is a critical juncture for the future of efforts to prevent and end violence against women and girls. The setting of the Sustainable Development Goals provides a unique opportunity to reposition the issue of violence against women and girls and ensure it is placed unequivocally at the centre of the sustainable development agenda.

The opportunities in the coming months could prove pivotal in reversing the trend of chronic underinvestment in initiatives to prevent and end violence against women and girls. For these commitments to be transformed into real change in the lives of women and girls, they must be matched with an ambitious and robust financing package. The UN Trust Fund is more determined than ever to turn public commitments into real improvements in the lives of women and girls.

Thank you to all of our donors and partners whose generous support makes the results of our grantees possible.



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