



# LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND THE UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

A local women's NGO trained by AALGBT.  
Photo: UN Trust Fund Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist/  
Gemma Wood

## ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER WOMEN AND GIRLS



**Lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LBT) women often suffer from stigma and discrimination based on their gender identity and sexual orientation. This can mean they are denied equal access to health and other services for survivors of violence.<sup>1</sup>**

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) is investing more than **US\$22 million<sup>2</sup>** to end violence against underserved and marginalized women and girls to ensure that no one is left behind.

The UN Trust Fund invests in improving the delivery of services and transforming harmful, discriminatory attitudes to prevent and end violence against LBT women.

### **ALLIANCE AGAINST LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER DISCRIMINATION (AALGBT) – ALBANIA**

In Albania, the AALGBT works to improve the quality of response services for LBT women experiencing violence.

The project engaged in situational analysis, training, awareness-raising, and published the first-

ever nationwide research on discrimination and violence targeting LBT persons, while identifying the gaps in institutional responses. Its research involved local stakeholders and national public institutions aiming to ensure the institutional ownership and follow up.

Its nationwide awareness-raising campaign reached **2,540** women and girls in six regions: Diber, Elbasan, Pogradec, Shkodra, Vlora and Tirana. The project improved the delivery of specialized services for LBT women in five cities by increasing the ability of local women's NGOs to recognize and respond to cases of violence against LBT women.

***“I would consider a success the fact that thanks to this programme people contact us about special cases when LBT victims of violence need help, without contacting their family who often do not accept***

***them or kick lesbians or transgender people out of their family houses.”***

*—Ana, 25, social worker in Vlora*

### **EQUALITY – CHINA**

Domestic violence and gender-based violence remain serious problems in China, with government interventions largely focused on intimate partner violence against married women. While this is a prevalent form of violence against women; many women survivors of violence in China belong to underserved groups, including women with HIV/AIDS and LBT women. However, stigma and discrimination affecting these women often impede access to legal interventions and social services.

Equality's sustained campaigns over the past year, supported with a

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.vawresourceguide.org/sites/default/files/briefs/vawg\\_resource\\_guide\\_sexual\\_and\\_gender\\_minority\\_women\\_final.pdf](http://www.vawresourceguide.org/sites/default/files/briefs/vawg_resource_guide_sexual_and_gender_minority_women_final.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> According to spending analysis in 2016.

small grant from the UN Trust Fund, have empowered LBT individuals and community groups to know their legal rights about violence. Working with community groups, Equality has built the capacity of service providers supporting LBT women, including the training of police officers to identify cases of violence against LBT women. In addition, the project trained social workers to increase their ability to offer direct services for survivors, and brought together another **15** organizations in a forum on the topic.

In 2017, Equality has directly provided services for **56** women survivors of violence, higher than the amount during the same period the year before. During this time, the project has also contributed its perspectives and expertise to inform two new implementing regulations for the national law on domestic violence, which were passed in Yunnan Province.

Recognizing the success of the project, in February 2017 Equality received

a **\$110,366** grant from the Ford Foundation to strengthen and extend the UN Trust Fund-supported project.

### RAINBOW SKY ASSOCIATION OF THAILAND – THAILAND

Lesbian and transgender women in Thailand face violence, stigmatization and discrimination. Since 2012, the National Social Welfare Act recognizes diverse gender identities and people with different sexual orientations from heterosexual. However, despite this improvement in the recognition of LGBT people, addressing discrimination and the needs of LBT women is lagging.

The Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand, operating nationally through its network of provincial offices, empowers lesbian and transgender women, builds their capacities to claim their human rights and advocates for them within their communities and in relevant government agencies. The aim is to

eradicate violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

In four provinces, the programme uses the proven Community Life Competence model to empower communities to address issues of human rights, violence, stigma and discrimination. It also supports community organizations to develop a mechanism to monitor incidents of violence, stigma and discrimination against lesbian and transgender women.

The programme offers LBT women access to training, services and information about violence, stigma, discrimination and human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Of lesbian and transgender women surveyed after the training, respectively **98 per cent** and **96 per cent** said they now knew how to seek assistance when violence occurs, and **94 per cent** and **92 per cent** said they could help their peers to seek assistance when violence occurs.

## LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND SERIES

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women supports projects that strive to protect the human rights of women and girls to live a life free of violence. These projects are reaching out to communities and individuals around the world, including the most underserved women and girls, who are often at an increased risk of violence not only because of their gender, but also because of their ethnicity, sexual orientation or disability. Working under the umbrella of the UN 2030 agenda, the UN Trust Fund contributes to its aim to leave no one behind. This factsheet is one in a series which showcase efforts and results of the UN Trust Fund's grantees in local and national contexts.

## THE UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (UN TRUST FUND)

The UN Trust Fund, created in 1996 by the UN General Assembly and managed by UN Women on behalf of the UN system, is the only global grant-making mechanism dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls. To date, the UN Trust Fund has supported 462 initiatives in 139 countries and territories with grants totalling US\$129 million. Its current portfolio consists of 106 grants in 77 countries and territories totalling US\$54 million.



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