



**International Association of Women Judges**  
Advancing Human Rights and Equal Justice for All



**END LINE PROJECT EVALUATION “WOMEN JUDGES LEAD IN THE FIGHT TO DEMAND JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVIVORS IN MALAWI” PROJECT**

Malawi Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba and Mzuzu

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*This evaluation report has been developed by an independent evaluation team. The analysis presented in this report reflects the views of the authors and may not necessarily represent those of the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ), its partners or the United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF).*

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i. List of acronyms and abbreviations

CBO	Community Based Organisations
CVSU	Community Victim Support Unit
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GENET	Girls Empowerment Network
IAWJ	International Association of Women Judges
IEC	Information Education Communication
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Gender Based Violence
ODK	Open Data Kit
KII	Key Informant Interviews
MAJAM	Magistrates and Judges Association of Malawi
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisations
NSO	National Statistics Office
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SV	Sexual Violence
ToT	Trainers of Trainers
RDC	Royal Development Consulting
YONECO	Youth Net and Counselling
UN	United Nations
UNTF	United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
TWG	Technical Working Group
VAC	Violence Against Children
WOJAM	Women Judges Association of Malawi

## ii. Executive Summary

### **Introduction**

The evaluation team acknowledge the contribution from the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund). The UN Trust Fund contributed \$500,000 USD to this project. This report presents the external evaluation findings of the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) funded project, which was implemented by the Women Judges Association of Malawi (WOJAM) entitled “Women Judges Lead the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence.” The project was conducted for two years from March 1, 2017 to February 28, 2019. The project goal was to ensure that women and girls in the four judicial districts of Malawi (Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba and Mzuzu) are safer and better protected from sexual violence. The project was designed to promote two primary outcomes:

- i) Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, and sentence sexual violence perpetrators, and treat victims humanely by the end of the project, and
- ii) Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

The primary beneficiaries of the project were female refugees, Malawian women and girls, and women and minor girl survivors of violence from the four targeted districts. The secondary beneficiaries were justice sector actors, judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, traditional leaders, and government officials who support victims of sexual violence.

IAWJ commissioned an external evaluation at the end of the project with three objectives:

- i) Evaluate the entire project in terms of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact, with strong focus on assessing the results of outcome and project goals,
- ii) Assess the project against gender equality and human rights criteria, and
- iii) Generate key lessons learned and identify promising practices for learning, and provide recommendations to IAWJ and WOJAM for future projects and replication models.

### **Methodology**

The evaluation used a post-test evaluation design. The evaluation measured the changes that happened to women and girls, and justice actors, after being targeted by project interventions. The evaluation looked at both intended and unintended changes. In undertaking the evaluation, the direct beneficiaries were assessed on changes in knowledge and attitude towards the justice system and justice actors, and on the levels of empowerment among beneficiaries and community members to address sexual violence.

The evaluation used both primary and secondary data sources. Primary sources included direct project beneficiaries who are women and girls from the four judicial divisions. The other primary data sources are justice actors, such as members of the judiciary, social welfare officers, the police (law enforcement officers), community leaders, local committees, and individuals who were directly involved in the provision of justice services in relation to handling sexual violence cases including men and boys. Men and boys were targeted to assess their role and influence in mitigation of sexual violence and whether they support survivors of sexual violence to access justice. The evaluation also used the secondary sources of information which included project related documents and reports.

The evaluation used three data collection tools, namely:

- individual questionnaires,
- focus group discussion (FGD) guides, and
- key informant interview guides.

The individual questionnaires were administered to women only. FGDs were administered to women, girls, men, boys and traditional leaders. Key informant interviews were administered to judges, magistrates, social welfare officers, clinical staff, WOJAM officials, and an IAWJ and a UNTF focal person.

### **Key Findings of the Evaluation**

The findings of the evaluation are presented in line with scope of the assignment and have been aligned to set project indicators and responded to project goal and outcome. The project goal was to ensure that women and girls are safe and better protected from sexual violence in the four judicial districts of Malawi (Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba, and Mzuzu). To achieve this goal, the project had two projected outcomes: (i) Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, sentence sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project; and (ii) Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice

### **Project Relevance**

The evaluation noted that the project was relevant in terms of its designed goal, outcomes, interventions and activities employed. The set project goals and outcomes were relevant to the needs of women and girls in the four judicial districts. The project goal aimed at ensuring that women and girls are free and protected from sexual violence (SV). The project further sought that Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate and sentence sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the date of its closure and that Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

The project conducted awareness session that reached a total of 6206 men, 15369 women and 6756 boys and girls. The awareness sessions were conducted in hard to reach areas and areas

with high incidences of SV, as well as targeting school girls. The choice of the places and target audience for the awareness meeting responded to the right group. The majority were women and girls who are survivors of SV. The project sensitized the communities that SV are criminal in nature and such cases are supposed to be managed by formal justice actors. The evaluation noted that the awareness sessions that were done by the project were relevant because they targeted more people in one session and many key stakeholders participated.

The project conducted trainings with judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers on GBV related laws, gender and rights-based approaches to ensure that women and girls are safe and comfortable to access the courts. The project conducted the capacity building of 282 criminal justice actors. Training of the criminal justice actors focused on promoting gender sensitive courts processes and removing gender bias stereotypes when sentencing SV cases. The evaluation noted that previously the criminal justice actors would focus on the perpetrators of SV instead of survivor of SV. The shift that this project created in training the justice actors to focus on survivor of SV was relevant to encourage women and girls to access formal justice system in managing SV. This enabled the project to contribute to the achievement of its set goal, of ensuring that justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate and sentence sexual perpetrators, and treat victims humanely by the phase out date. The involvement of judges to lead the capacity building was relevant and resonated with the theory of change that enhanced the buy in of the proposed changes and contributed positively in mitigating and controlling SV.

The evaluation also noted that project interventions and activities were relevant to the needs of women and girls in the four judicial districts. The evaluation assessed the changes in the awareness levels among women and girls on GBV and SV. About 89.3% of women engaged through the individual questionnaire indicated that they have heard about GBV while 10.7% of women indicated that they have not heard about GBV. Findings from women's FGDs noted 143/154 (92.9%) are aware of the GBV, while 145/151 of girls (96%) are aware of GBV. The results of FGDs show that 100/154 (74.1%) of women participated in the awareness meetings, while 100/151 (66.2%) of girls indicated that they participated in the awareness meetings. Awareness meetings raised by the project was cited as a major source of information about GBV and SV in the areas Blantyre, Lilongwe, Zomba, Mzuzu and Mchinji. The evaluation sought to understand if women were aware of different types of GBV and what contributed to the change in the awareness of GBV and SV information. The FGDs reveal that one of the contributing factors to the change in the knowledge on GBV and SV was the awareness meetings that were done in the communities. Before the project conducted the awareness, women and girls indicated their understanding of SV and GBV was limited and few women and girls were awareness.

The results of 32 FGDs with women and girls, participants acknowledged that the project interventions to address sexual violence were relevant as the activities addressed women and girl's needs. The evaluation results reveal that awareness sessions conducted by the project resulted in the following:

- i) **Created an environment of openness to discussing SV:** Prior to the project, people were not free to talk about SV openly; the awareness raising conducted by the project empowered people to start talking about SGBV and referring cases to relevant officials in the judicial system.
- ii) **Exposed cultural practices that promoted child marriages:** In the communities, the parents were forcing their girl children into child marriages.
- iii) **Reporting SV cases to police:** previously cases of SV were being handled in the communities by chiefs instead of reporting to the police for proper investigation and sentencing
- iv) **Exposure of frequent SV Incidences in refugee camps:** In the camps, new refugees arrive almost every month and most of the women and girls do not know how to manage SV incidences. As such the awareness meetings on SV are relevant.
- v) **Wrong Myths Fuel SV Incidences:** Some men believe that one can be cured of HIV through having sex with a child. Such men end up in defiling a child. The awareness meetings rightly challenged wrong beliefs and practices that fuel SV.
- vi) **Dominant cultural norms:** Findings from the traditional authority FGDs indicated that there is a perception among couples that women are not supposed to deny sex to their spouses when its demanded. When some women refuse, men are free to seek sex from other women. This mean that a woman's right to choose whether or not to have sex with her husband is considered a cause of increased incidences of rape. The project's awareness sessions sensitized communities on women and girls' rights to prevent SV.
- vii) **Involvement of local leaders in awareness increased buy in:** The evaluation noted that involvement of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and local leaders in the awareness activities was relevant and helped to craft community-based actions to address sexual violence. This helped the communities identify themselves with the issues being discussed. The approach neutralized the concept of "Them and Us" when the people doing the awareness are all from outside the catchment area.

However, the evaluation noted that the survivors of sexual violence (girls and women) were not given the chance to speak at such events. Involvement of survivors of sexual abuse could have given opportunity for stakeholders to appreciate the manner in which SV affects them. Girls in schools suffer in silence and during such awareness meetings, girls would expose the tendencies of teachers who abuse them sexually. The evaluation also noted that beyond the awareness meetings, clear action plans were not developed. Whilst the awareness in itself is the first step to address sexual violence, stakeholders could have used the platform to develop an action plan to establish accountability mechanisms for dealing with sexual violence.

The evaluation also noted that capacity building conducted to judges' magistrates was relevant since its intention was to stop dominant social norms that perpetuate sexual violence. Such norms were present both in the community and in the judicial system. The evaluation noted the following challenges to the judicial system that were addressed by the project:

- i) **Discrepancies in sentencing between female judges and magistrates and male judges and magistrates on sexual violence cases:** Male magistrates would give lenient sentences while female judges would give stiffer sentences. Even when high court judges would review sentences from the lower courts, female judges would give stiffer sentences and male judges would give lenient sentences.
- ii) **Gender stereotypes and prejudice:** In most cases judges and magistrates would bring their personal gender stereotypes and prejudices to SV cases.
- iii) **Hostile environment for women and re-victimization:** Most SV cases attract interest from community members. In such an environment, women and girls find it uncomfortable to give evidence and this causes re-victimization

However, the trainings that the project conducted with justice actors helped to respond to the above challenges thereby addressing some of the challenges that women and girls used to face in seeking justice on SV. This reveal that the project activities and interventions were relevant.

### Project Effectiveness

The project sought to ensure that women and girls have a good perspective about formal justice system and should feel confident and empowered to access justice. The project trained judges, magistrates, and police prosecutors on the importance of being gender sensitive and on GBV related laws. This was to ensure that criminal justice actors provide a conducive environment to women and girls to access and utilize the courts, and at the same time provide relevant sentences to perpetrators of SV. The results from women and girls FGDs show that there is good perception about justice system. Women have better knowledge regarding the justice process as evidenced by 87.3% of women who indicated that they are aware of the justice process and 60.2% who said they prefer the formal justice system to manage SV incidents. The results further noted that 76% of women and 50.3% of girls feel comfortable to report SV to the police. On the other hand, 78.6% of women and 74.8% of the girls in the FGDs indicated that they feel comfortable to report to court. About 64% of the women expressed comfort in giving evidence in court. On the other hand, the majority of girls described police as corrupt and expressed the belief that they take bribes from SV perpetrators in order to get lenient sentences in court. However, both women and girls in the FGDs were aware of the process of reporting SV cases. The evaluation also noted that women interviewed through the questionnaire had limited knowledge of GBV related laws, and only 32.9% of the women interviewed indicated knowledge of the laws. The finding is an indicative that the outcome of ensuring that women and girls have good perspective about formal justice system and should feel confident and empowered to access justice has been achieved.

The results of the evaluation show that 72.9% of women interviewed through the questionnaire are aware of women and girls' rights. This is consistent with the project output of ensuring that Malawian women and girls have improved understanding of their rights.

However, the depth of knowledge on specific women and girls' rights needs strengthening. The results show that 80.7% of women interviewed are aware that SV incidents are to be reported to police. While findings from FGDs indicate that all women (154) and girls (151) are aware that SV incidents are to be reported to the police, the higher percentage of women who know that SV cases need to be reported to police demonstrate greater knowledge of remedies available to them to hold sexual perpetrators accountable. The results from FGDs show that both women and girls are aware of pathways for reporting SV.

In line with the project outcome that sought to have the Malawian criminal justice stakeholders demonstrate an increase in knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting, adjudicating, and sentencing sexual violence perpetrators, the evaluation noted that all the persons trained (4) judges and (8) magistrates sampled in the study, demonstrated confidence in dealing with sexual violence related laws. The evaluation further noted that the perspective of trained judges, magistrates, and police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity was good. This was done through assessment of their knowledge and skills based on a series of practical statements. The results showed that all 4 trained judges and 8 magistrates scored all the statements correct while 2 out of 3 police prosecutors scored all statements correct. This is indicative that the criminal justice actors recognize the importance of gender sensitivity in handling SV cases.

The project trained more magistrates and judges on gender approach in dealing with SV, through training of trainers (ToT) approach. The participants trained as trainers were drawn from four judicial divisions, and were responsible to train and orient more judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, and court research officers in the districts and judicial divisions. The project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 282 officers. However, the project did not develop mechanism to assess the quality of training that were facilitated by trained ToT and mechanism of results of training in the actual delivery in courts.

The evaluation noted that the project sought to influence the development of clear protocols on sexual violence cases and disseminate to Malawian criminal justice actors. On the other the project also aimed at ensuring that the criminal justice system is informed about its response to sexual violence through the Gender Justice Taskforce. The evaluation has noted that at the end of two years, the project has succeeded in influencing the Chief Justice to develop and issue a circular on management of witnesses in GBV and SV cases. The project has succeeded in setting up the Gender Justice Taskforce with clear scope of work. However, the Gender Justice Taskforce is yet to fully influence the criminal justice system on its response to sexual violence. The Gender Task Force has since developed the curriculum of managing SV cases that will continue to inform the criminal justice actors in dealing with SV cases.

### Project Efficiency

The evaluation noted that there were delays in project take off in the year one. The delay was due to changes in staff on the side of IAWJ to oversee the implementation of the project. On

the other hand, the evaluation noted the process of developing the curriculum took more time than anticipated and that affected the rolling out of other project activities. The development of training curriculum was a joint activity between IAWJ and WOJAM and with the changes of staff at IAWJ, the finalization of the curriculum took long than anticipated. The evaluation noted that there were some challenges in complying with financial management and that resulted in the delay in funds transfer, which in turn affected implementation of other activities.

The evaluation also noted that the implementation of a training of trainers (ToT) was an efficient strategy to reach out to more criminal justice actors. It was technically efficient for the project to train 28 trainers who in turn trained 282 officers through interactive training sessions. However, the project lacked a good monitoring and evaluation plan to document the results of the training and awareness meetings. For example, a number of judges and magistrates were trained but there was no monitoring to track what has changed as a result of the training. One of the key outcomes of the project was to ensure that there are consistencies in the judgments made in courts as result of the training. However, after the training, the project missed the opportunity of developing case studies and resources to demonstrate the effects of the training.

Whereas, the project was technically correct to conduct over 35 awareness sessions where it involved a number of key stakeholders, the project needed good monitoring to track other initiatives that followed as a result of the awareness. This would have shifted the awareness from being an event to a long-term process of learning and behavioral change.

The project succeeded in utilizing judges based on their expertise. WOJAM collaborated with IAWJ to develop curriculum to address gender bias and stereotypes in dealing with SV in through the courts. The process of developing the curriculum and of engendering the court process and procedures was based on the experiences of the judges who were already working within the criminal justice department. Their personal experiences in dealing with criminal matters enabled the curriculum to address real needs and gaps in the judicial system. The involvement of judges in conducting awareness session was technically efficient. It also influenced the other stakeholders involved in the awareness session positively. This was in line with the key project theory of change; improving the criminal justice sector's response to SV is a change that is best led from within the justice sector to ensure institutional buy in and sustainability.

### Project Sustainability

Royal Development Consulting (RDC) noted that the project contributed to positive changes in raising awareness of justice system in managing SV but also built the capacity of criminal justice actors on the importance of gender sensitivity in managing SV survivors and perpetrators. The evaluation noted that a number of activities have the potential to be sustained. Through the project awareness meetings, a number of district stakeholders were involved such as social welfare officers, police prosecutors, CBOs, chiefs who could continue

with the awareness meetings. In districts where there are existing TWG on GBV could continue with awareness meetings based on the commitment from other stakeholders working in the districts. The staff from judiciary and police who are members in the TWG could play a critical role in ensuring that such initiatives are sustained. The project also noted that as a result of awareness meetings a number of initiatives have been introduced that will require support of the project to be established and consolidated. This is an area where the project will require extension to institutionalize the initiatives.

The evaluation noted through all the 8 FGDs with traditional leaders that there has been increased referral of SV cases to police through provision of referral letters. The traditional leaders and CBOs after attending WOJAM awareness meetings, are also conducting awareness of SV in their respective communities. During FGDs with women and girls it was noted that a high proportion mentioned friends as source of information on GBV and SV. When probed, it was noted that women and girls who attended WOJAM awareness meetings also shared information with their friends in the communities. The knowledge gained by community leaders, members and CBO will likely continued to be shared beyond the life of the project. The evaluation however observed a need for more engagement with CBOs to have good understanding on SV related roles.

The project built the capacity of police prosecutors, magistrates and judges whose core duties is to provide justice. The skills and knowledge gained through the project will continue to benefit women and girls in the districts. On the other hand, the evaluation further noted that some of the trained police prosecutors were transferred to other districts and there is no guarantee that where they have been transferred, they will continue to advocate for the gender sensitivity in managing SV.

On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project such as Gender Task Force will need more time to bear fruits and influence judicial procedures and protocol. Gender Task Force once institutionalized will have some long-term benefits in ensuring that women and girls get better access to justice. The Gender Task Force aim is to collaborate with Chief Justice to influence policy direction.

One of the significant aspects of the project was the investment made on capacity building of the judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers in dealing with SV. The knowledge and skills gained will continue to be utilized by the officers beyond the life of the project. However, the evaluation noted that not all judge and magistrates have been trained.

The project has developed a number of training materials that will continue to be utilized by judges and magistrates. The Head of Judicial Training Unit indicated that the materials developed by the project will be useful in strengthening the training content for judicial staff.

### Project Impact

The results of the SV cases from the National Police Headquarters show that there is a reduction of incidences of SV. However, for a project of two years, it is difficult to ascertain that the reduction in cases of SV is largely the result of the project awareness meetings. The project conducted more than 35 awareness sessions in all of the four judicial divisions of Malawi with a total of 15,369 women, 6206 men and boys, and 6756 girls. The number that was reached through the project awareness exceeded the projected number at the design stage.

As a result of awareness meetings, the project has contributed to increased SV reporting as noted by the police prosecutors and magistrates. The results of the evaluation noted that 60.2% of women interviewed preferred the formal justice system compared to 39.8% who preferred informal process. Of those who preferred formal justice system, 42.1% preferred the justice system because it is accessible, 85.2% indicated that it is reliable, 16.7% indicated that its affordable and only 6.2% mentioned that it is user friendly. The higher percentage of women who regard criminal justice as reliable has the potential of attracting more women to refer their cases to court.

Nevertheless, some women through the individual questionnaire also complained about delays in concluding SV cases and complicated procedures that are followed in managing SV cases. About 43.3% of the women interviewed through the individual questionnaire mentioned delays in concluding cases while 22% indicated procedures that are used to have cases concluded. The process and procedure of giving evidence coupled with medical reports is some of the challenges mentioned by women. Women find the procedure cumbersome and complicated.

### Knowledge generation

The evaluation noted the two-year period of project implementation has generated key lessons and new knowledge in managing SV among women and girls. Key lessons that have been learned include but not limited to:

- i) Involvement of multi stakeholders in the awareness meetings has potential to achieve better results on the communities and leveraging of resources
- ii) Use of Judges in developing training materials and facilitating capacity building increased buy in from the criminal justice actors
- iii) Use of cascading training approach (ToT) increased reach
- iv) Special model for Management of SV in refugees' camps to respond to the challenges of diverse languages and cultural background of refugees
- v) Early reporting of SV cases ensures that evidence is not compromised

The evaluation also noted some promising practices in the management of SV. These include:

- a) **Involvement of judges and magistrates in SV awareness and capacity building:** the evaluation noted that judges and magistrates took a leading role in community awareness sessions, which involved other stakeholders. Ordinarily, judges and magistrates are viewed as people who are responsible for punishing law offenders but

their involvement in community awareness provided an opportunity to clarify the law so that community members are empowered to seek court redress in situation where they feel that have been sexually victimized. This is approach has been tested and worked through this project and has greater potential to influence positive influence in fighting SV.

- b) The shift from focusing on SV perpetrators to SV survivors:** the evaluation noted that the project has initiated shift in approach in managing SV in the judicial system. Prior to the project implementation, the judges and magistrates and court system emphasized more on having perpetrators of SV properly sentenced. The survivors of SV were viewed as instrumental in providing evidence to ensure that perpetrators are sentenced. Little attention was given to the needs and concerns of the survivors of SV. However, the project has brought the shift in being affirmative to pay attention to the survivors of SV in court processes. The project conducted needs assessment, developed training material and trained criminal justice actors on gender sensitive courts with special attention on survivors of SV. The project has exposed to need to make the courts gender sensitive.

#### Human Right Based Approach

Lastly, the evaluation noted that the project implementation was in line with the principles of rights-based approach.

**Participation:** The evaluation team noted that the project incorporated the concept of participation of stakeholders to a large extent in the implementation. The only group that was not given space to participate was the women and girls themselves. Given the fact that most of the SV perpetrated against girls is not reported it would be ideal in future awareness sessions that girls be involved and given the space to participate to become beneficiaries of the results of the intervention. The project developed comprehensive training materials to deal with gender bias, stereotypes and prejudices in dealing with SV. The development of the materials involved judges and experts in gender issues. Findings from judges and magistrates revealed that the training was very helpful. However, it would be good to develop a tool to get feedback from court users including women on how the courts are addressing gender barriers.

**Accountability:** Throughout its implementation, the project worked with different stakeholders in conducting its activities.

**Non-Discrimination:** The evaluation noted that the implementation of the project included hard-to-reach areas where courts are far from communities.

**Equality:** The whole design of the project aimed at promoting equality in accessing justice on SV cases. This was addressed through capacity building to address gender stereotypes and bias among criminal justice actors.

**Linkage to Human Rights:** The project interventions are in line with the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and principles of human rights.

## Conclusion

The project implementation managed to achieve its goal that was to ensure that women and girls are safe and better protected from sexual violence. The evaluation noted progress and improvement in the way criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, and sentence sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project. The evaluation also noted that women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

The project evaluation has noted that project interventions were relevant to the needs of women and girls and the justice system. Through the project, women and girls have been sensitized on how to report SV, how to access the criminal justice system, and culturally dominant norms that put women and girls at risk have been challenged. Judges, magistrates and police prosecutors have been trained on the importance of being gender sensitive in SV cases. The results of the evaluation noted that project has exposed challenges that were affecting women and girls related to SV which include: i) Lack of Openness to discussing SV ii) Exposed a culture that promote child marriages, iii) Non-reporting SV cases to police, iv) Wrong Myths that Fuel SV Incidences, v) Dominant cultural norms and vi) Limited involvement of local leaders in fighting SV. Furthermore, judges, magistrates and police prosecutors have been sensitized on gender bias, stereotypes and prejudices in sentencing perpetrators of SGBV.

The evaluation however, noted that the survivors of sexual violence (girls and women) were not given the chance to speak during awareness meetings. Involvement of survivors of sexual abuse could have given opportunity for stakeholders to appreciate the manner in which SV affects them. Girls in schools suffer in silence and during such awareness meetings, girls would expose the tendencies of teachers who abuse girls sexually. The evaluation also noted that beyond the awareness meetings, clear action plans were not developed. Whilst the awareness in itself is the first step to address sexual violence, stakeholders could have used the platform to develop an action plan to establish accountability mechanisms for dealing with sexual violence.

The project interventions have been effective and have increased the confidence of judges and magistrates to work with GBV related laws and adjudicate in a gender sensitive manner in SV cases. Women and girls have shown increased confidence to access the courts and even to give evidence in court. The evaluation also noted that traditional leaders have a better understanding of the formal criminal justice system in SV cases. Women and girls have greater understanding of communication pathways in reporting SV cases. The evaluation noted that the project sought to influence the development of clear protocols on sexual violence cases and disseminate to Malawian criminal justice actors. On the other hand, the project also aimed at ensuring that the criminal justice system is informed about its response to sexual violence through the Gender Justice Taskforce. The evaluation has noted that at the end of two years, the project has succeeded in influencing the Chief Justice to develop and issue a circular on management of witnesses in GBV and SV cases. The project has

succeeded in setting up the Gender Justice Taskforce with clear scope of work. However, the Gender Justice Taskforce is yet to fully influence the criminal justice system on its response to sexual violence. The Gender Task Force has since developed the curriculum of managing SV cases that will continue to inform the criminal justice actors in dealing with SV cases.

The evaluation noted that implementation of the project was done efficiently because it used judicial officers whose primary function is to administer justice. The use of a ToT training approach enabled the project to reach more judges, magistrates and police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity in providing justice to women and girls who survive SV. The use of multi-stakeholders in raising community awareness was efficient as a single forum could present most aspects of managing SV by stakeholders based on their specific expertise. The evaluation noted and concluded that there were delays in project take off in the year one. The delay was due to changes in staff on the side of IAWJ to oversee the implementation of the project. On the other hand, the evaluation noted the process of developing the curriculum took more time than anticipated and that affected the rolling out of other project activities. The development of training curriculum was a joint activity between IAWJ and WOJAM and with the changes of staff at IAWJ, the finalization of the curriculum took long than anticipated. The evaluation noted that some challenges in complying with financial management and that resulted in delay in funds transfer, which in turn affected implementation of other activities.

RDC noted that a number of aspects that point to sustainability of the interventions and initiative triggered by the project. Through the project awareness meetings, a number of district stakeholders were involved such as social welfare officers, police prosecutors, CBOs, chiefs who could continue with the awareness meetings. In districts where there are existing TWG on GBV could continue with awareness meetings based on the commitment from other stakeholders working in the districts. The staff from judiciary and police who are members in the TWG could play a critical role in ensuring that such initiative are sustained.

One of the significant aspects of the project was the investment made on capacity building of the judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers in dealing with SV. The knowledge and skills gained will continue to be utilized by the officers beyond the life of the project. However, the evaluation noted that not all judge and magistrates have been trained.

The project has developed a number of training materials that will continue to be utilized by judges and magistrates. The Head of Judicial Training Unit indicated the materials developed by the project will be useful in strengthening the training content for judicial staff.

On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project such as Gender Task Force will need more time to bear fruits and influence judicial procedures and protocol. Gender Task Force once institutionalized will have some long-term benefits in ensuring that women and girls get better access to justice. The Gender Task Force aim is to collaborate with Chief Justice to influence policy direction.

On the other hand, the evaluation further noted that some of the trained police prosecutors were transferred to other districts and there is no guarantee that where they have been transferred, they will continue to advocate for the gender sensitivity in managing SV.

The evaluation noted that a project of two years is too short to contribute towards a sustainable reduction of incidents of SV in Malawi. However, the project has contributed to increased reporting of SV cases to criminal justice actors, minimizing a serious problem in the past. The evaluation has also noted some of the project initiatives that are useful in programming protection from SV for women. It noted that most often emphasis in SV cases has been on perpetrators, with little emphasis on support for the survivors.

At this time, survivors of SV are not compensated in any way in Malawi. Some survivors of SV contract sexually transmitted diseases or become pregnant; they have to live with these situations for the rest of their lives. It is therefore noted that it would be very useful to review current laws in regard to compensation for women and girl survivors.

The evaluation noted that the two-year period of project implementation has generated key lessons and new knowledge in managing SV among women and girls. Key lessons that have been learned include but are not limited to:

- a) Involvement of multi stakeholders in the awareness meetings has potential to achieve better results on the communities and leveraging of resources
- b) Use of Judges in developing training materials and facilitating capacity building increased buy in from the criminal justice actors
- c) Use of cascading training approach (ToT) increased reach
- d) Special model for Management of SV in refugees' camps to respond to the challenges of diverse languages and cultural background of refugees
- e) Early reporting of SV cases ensures that evidence is not compromised

The evaluation also noted some promising practices in the management of SV. These include: i) involvement of judges and magistrates in SV awareness and capacity building and ii) the shift from focusing on SV perpetrators to SV survivors:

- a) Need to focus on Sexual Violence Survivor Advocates who should follow up on the survivors of SV:
- b) Establishment of gender specialized structure within judiciary to improve delivery of SV management
- c) Review of existing SV laws to incorporate compensation for SV survivors

Lastly, the evaluation noted that the project implementation was in line with the principles of rights-based approach. The project complied with principle of Participation though the evaluation limited participation of girls in awareness meetings and lack of feedback mechanism from court users. The project promoted accountability, throughout its implementation. However, the project did not create a platform where courts users would

give feedback on the challenges, they face in accessing justice. The project worked with different stakeholders in conducting its activities. The evaluation noted that the implementation of the project activities did not discriminate certain communities. The interventions included hard-to-reach areas where courts are far from communities. The whole design of the project aimed at promoting equality in accessing justice on SV cases. This was addressed through capacity building to address gender stereo types and bias among criminal justice actors. The project interventions are in line with the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and principles of human rights.

## **Recommendations**

Based on the results and conclusion of the evaluation, the following recommendations are being proposed for action:

### Project Relevance

The evaluation noted that increased awareness of women and girls' rights and how to manage SV is an entry point to behavioral change. The evaluation recommends continuation of awareness raising of specific women's and rights by duty bearers who participated in the awareness meeting by WOJAM. Such stakeholders include: magistrates, police prosecutors, police from VSU, social welfare officers, health personnel, traditional leaders, NGOs and members of the CBOs. The above members have observed the approach that was initiated by the project where a number of stakeholders would participate in the awareness and emphasize on their area of specialty in addressing SV. The awareness will enable more women and girls know about their rights and start demanding access to justice from duty bearers.

The judiciary through the magistrates in the judicial districts should strengthen the TWGs working on SV prevention and management so that they can coordinate the awareness sessions in the districts. The District Commissioner should coordinate the TWG with the technical support from the judiciary who have a better understanding of SV related laws. The evaluation further recommends that in future awareness meetings, stakeholders should be developing an action plan with clear roles and responsibility for Women's rights / women and girls' rights and in awareness raising, or in addressing SV.

The evaluation further recommends a comprehensive study on the changes in sentencing patterns among judges and magistrates in line with the trainings that they received through as a result of the project. The study will inform whether the trainings initiated by the project has brought change in reversing the sentencing biases that existed between male and female judges and magistrate on SV cases. Based on the outcomes of the above study, WOJAM should review training content to address the gaps that will be informed by the findings of the study.

### Project effectiveness

The evaluation noted that in the districts, the Department of Social Welfare is responsible for mainstreaming gender in the department's operation and work. The study recommends that WOJAM should involve the Department of Social Welfare to explore areas of addressing gender issues that were noted by girls in the project. As a way of improving negative perception that girls have towards police offices, the stakeholders at district level should introduce accountability mechanism. One way is to involve the community radio stations in the district, to provide updates on the ongoing cases on SV in the districts.

On the limited knowledge of communities about GBV related laws, the evaluation recommends that WOJAM should develop simplified IEC materials on GBV related laws and that could be used by CBOs and TWG on GBV to raise awareness. Increased awareness of GBV related laws by women and girls will give them greater confidence to seek clarification or appeal if not satisfied with sentencing of perpetrators of SV, among other actions.

However, the evaluation noted that a one-day awareness session is not sufficient to address all issues concerning GBV. For example, knowledge of GBV related laws cannot be comprehended in single sessions by community members. In addition, the awareness raising did not cover the entire districts. The evaluation therefore recommends that WOJAM should work with district partners to develop a timetable with clear topics to be covered in each session. The sessions should be interactive to allow participants to ask questions and seek clarifications.

#### Project efficiency

WOJAM should develop a scale up plan to reach out to remaining magistrates to ensure that women and girls access gender sensitive courts in all four judicial divisions. The evaluation also noted that the project lacked a good monitoring and evaluation plan and tools to track the changes with judges and magistrates as a result of the training facilitated by the project. It is therefore being recommended that WOJAM should develop mechanism of tracking effects of the training facilitated.

The evaluation noted that the use of a strategic team in conducting the awareness meetings was good and provided an opportunity to present SV prevention, reporting and management to ensure that women and girls access justice.

The evaluation noted that WOJAM did not have a dedicated full-time project person to oversee project implementation. The project utilized judicial staff who were assigned to provide oversight on the implementation of the project. It is therefore being recommended that in the future, WOJAM should consider having a dedicated project officer to oversee implementation of activities and strict observation of donor requirements.

#### Project sustainability

The evaluation noted that a number of activities have the potential to be sustained. Through the project awareness meetings, a number of district stakeholders were involved such as

social welfare officers, police prosecutors, CBOs, chiefs who could continue with the awareness meetings. In districts where there are existing TWGs on GBV they could continue with awareness meetings. The project also noted that as a result of awareness meetings a number of initiatives have been introduced that will require support of the project to be established and consolidated. This is an area where the project will require extension to institutionalize the initiatives.

The project built the capacity of police prosecutors, magistrates and judges whose core duty is to provide justice. The skills and knowledge gained through the project will continue to benefit women and girls in the districts. On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project such as the Gender Justice Task Force will need more time to bear fruit and influence judicial procedures and protocols. The evaluation therefore recommends an extension of the project to allow more time to strengthen the structures like these. The Gender Justice Task Force, once institutionalized, will have some long-term benefits in ensuring that women and girls get better access to justice. The Gender Justice Task Force also aims to collaborate with the Chief Justice to influence policy direction.

The project has trained judges and magistrates in some districts but not all districts. Gender sensitive courts are of national interest; WOJAM needs to explore ways of institutionalize trainings so that more judges can be trained. WOJAM should collaborate with the Training Unit in the judiciary and Magistrates and Judges Association of Malawi (MAJAM) to ensure that this is done and that it receives the support it needs.

### Project impact

The evaluation noted that has contributed to increased SV reporting as noted by the police prosecutors and magistrates. On the other hand, the project has also helped women to have a more positive attitude towards the formal criminal justice actors and system. Nevertheless, some women through the questionnaire also complained about delays in concluding SV cases. The evaluation, therefore, recommends that WOJAM and stakeholders further orient women and girls on court procedures for them to better appreciate court processes to avoid delays.

### Knowledge Generation

The evaluation noted the two-year period of project implementation has generated key lessons and new knowledge in managing SV among women and girls. Key lessons that have been learned include but not limited to:

- i) Involvement of multi stakeholders in the awareness meetings has potential to achieve better results on the communities and leveraging of resources
- ii) Use of Judges in developing training materials and facilitating capacity building increased buy in from the criminal justice actors
- iii) Use of cascading training approach (ToT) increased reach

iv) Management of refugees and the displaced communities on SV

The evaluation also noted some promising practices in the management of SV.

## 1.0 Context of the Project

Malawi is one of the least developed countries in the world, with a population of 17,563,739 as of the 2018 National Population Census Report (NSO, 2018)<sup>1</sup>. Women and girls constitute 51.5% of the population. They are amongst the most marginalized citizens and suffer from all forms of violence and discrimination, including domestic and sexual violence (SV). A national survey conducted in Malawi in 2013 by Health Policy Project, which was funded by USAID, shows that one out of five females aged 18 to 24 experienced at least one incident of sexual violence (SV) before turning 18 years of age. Further, 68.4% of the survivors experienced multiple incidents of SV yet less than 25% of the survivors knew where to get help (Health Policy Project, 2015)<sup>2</sup>. The National Plan of Action for combating Gender Based Violence developed by Malawi Government with financial support from UNFPA recognizes that while Malawi is committed to implementing national and international laws on the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls, poverty, distance from courts, discrimination, low literacy levels, religious beliefs, harmful cultural practices, weak dissemination of laws and policies, customary norms and procedural, evidentiary, customary or other barriers often leave SV victims without legal remedy. SV victims often face re-victimization, ostracism, lack of shelter, and incompetent or corrupt criminal justice stakeholders when seeking help (GoM, 2018).

According to (ibid), the justice system falls short in addressing these problems. For instance, police prosecutors, magistrates, judges and other judicially related personnel may have preconceived notions of gender prejudices, stereotypes and myths surrounding SV, especially on how women should behave and the needs of victims. Many criminal justice actors still misinterpret laws, practices, and evidentiary requirements surrounding SV. The ineffectiveness of the justice sector's response to SV is exacerbated by inconsistent guidance from higher courts. As a result, SV continues, often with impunity, further perpetuating abuses (GoM, 2018). The High Courts in Malawi have reported an increased number of appeals related to GBV cases in which subordinate courts failed to provide a remedy for women and girls. On the other hand, some of the magistrates trained by the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) complained of inconsistent judgments from the higher courts that leave the magistrates confused as to which case law to apply in their case decisions. The lack of guidance on SV cases between and among the highest courts of Malawi charged with issuing case law and the subordinate courts remains a barrier to effective application of the law.

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<sup>1</sup> 2018 Preliminary Population and Housing Census Report for Malawi, (2019) National Statistics Office

<sup>2</sup> Health Policy Project Report on Gender Based Violence in Malawi; (2015) A literature review for national response Mellish Madison, Susan Settergren & Henry Sapuwa

## 2.0 Description of the project

The project being evaluated is “Women Judges Lead the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence” and was implemented by IAWJ in partnership with the Women Judges Association of Malawi (WOJAM). It was a two-year project that ran from March 1, 2017 to February 28, 2019. The project was financed by the UN Trust Fund. It focused on ending sexual violence against women and girls, specifically:

- i) Violence in the family, such as sexual, intimate partner, non-partner violence, and
- ii) Violence in the community, such as sexual violence by non-partners, rape/sexual assault, sexual harassment and violence in public spaces and institutions, such as schools.

The overall goal of the project was to ensure that women and girls in the four judicial districts of Malawi (Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba and Mzuzu) are safer and better protected from sexual violence. The project was designed to promote two primary outcomes and accompanying outputs:

Outcome 1. Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, sentence sexual violence perpetrators, and treat victims humanely by the end of the project.

Output 1.1 Malawian criminal justice stakeholders demonstrate an increase in knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting, adjudicating and sentencing sexual violence perpetrators.

Output 1.2 Protocols on sexual violence cases are developed and disseminated to Malawian criminal justice actors.

Output 1.3 The criminal justice system is informed about its response to sexual violence through the Gender Justice Task Force.

Outcome 2. Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

Output 2.1 Malawian women and girls have improved understanding of their rights and greater knowledge of resources to report sexual violence.

Output 2.2 Mechanisms and resources to address sexual violence are established among targeted individual beneficiaries and institutional actors.

The goal and outcomes of the project are in line with the National Gender Policy 2016, which recognizes the need to increase awareness to address the problem of gender-based violence. The primary beneficiaries of the project were female refugees, women and girls, and women and minor girl survivors of violence from the four targeted districts. The secondary beneficiaries were justice sector actors, judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, traditional leaders, and government officials who support victims of sexual violence.

The theory of change behind the project resonates with the premise that holding sexual violence (SV) perpetrators accountable for their actions has been proven to deliver a clear message that SV is not tolerated and thereby contributes to SV prevention. Improving the criminal justice sector's response to SV is a change that is best led from within the justice sector, to ensure institutional buy-in and sustainability. Judges are highly respected not only by the community at large, but also by key formal and informal justice actors, such as police, prosecutors, lawyers, traditional leaders and chiefs. The involvement of judges and magistrates to lead the improvement in the criminal justice systems is one of the key strategies that were employed by the project.

The implementation of the project result chain was based on a number of strategies. For example, the IAWJ and its local member association, the Women Judges Association of Malawi (WOJAM) believe that women's leadership within the justice sector will positively influence SV prevention and response in Malawi by raising awareness among women and girls about the legal protections to which they are entitled. Secondly, IAWJ and WOJAM believe that training of judges, prosecutors and police on gender stereotypes, substantive provisions of SV laws, procedural and evidentiary issues will contribute positively in mitigating and controlling SV. Thirdly, IAWJ and WOJAM argue that there is a need for clear and consistent protocols and guidance from higher courts to the subordinate courts handling SV cases. Fourthly, IAWJ and WOJAM posit that meaningful exchange and interaction between justice sector stakeholders and multi-stakeholders is important to promote a better coordinated and more consistent SV response from the courts. Lastly, IAWJ and WOJAM argue that it is important to facilitate dialogue between criminal justice actors with SV victims and women and girls who lack access to courts. Addressing these weaknesses in the SV prevention and protection chain will, in turn, increase the community's confidence in the justice sector's effectiveness and ability to protect the rights of women and girls to be free from SV.

The total budget for the project is \$572,500.

### 3.0 Purpose of the Evaluation

A final project evaluation is a mandatory requirement by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact of this project. The results of this evaluation will be used to generate information on the impact in relation to the above-mentioned outputs and outcomes. This will provide insight and recommendations, which will improve future interventions targeting SGBV. It is expected that IAWJ and WOJAM will use the lessons attained from this evaluation to inform future program development in IAWJ member countries which face similar challenges in implementing SGBV laws, as well as to determine the possibility of future opportunities for building on this project's successes. Similarly, IAWJ will share insights and learning with key stakeholders of the program including district authorities, government officials, participants and others in Malawi to continue to strengthen interventions to address SGBV in the country. Finally, the evaluation will facilitate knowledge and exchange of best practices within the national justice sector and among multiple stakeholders to scale up best practices on combating SGBV in Malawi.

#### 3.1 Evaluation Objectives and Scope

The evaluation covered the entire project duration from March 1, 2017 to February 28, 2019. Geographical coverage of all four judicial divisions:

- Northern division
- Central division
- Southern division
- Eastern division

Target groups: The evaluation covered the targeted primary and secondary beneficiaries, as well as broader stakeholders, such as traditional chiefs and leaders, mother groups, health care workers and others who participated in project activities.

The overall objectives of the evaluation were to:

- i) Evaluate the entire project in terms of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact, with strong focus on assessing the results of outcomes and goals, and assess the project against gender equality and human rights criteria.
- ii) Generate key lessons learned and identify promising practices for learning.
- iii) Provide recommendations to IAWJ and WOJAM for future projects and replication models.

#### 3.2 Evaluation Team

Mr. George Vilili was the team leader in conducting this evaluation. He is a multi-faceted Program Development and Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant. He has more than 18 years

of experience in the areas of Research, Monitoring and Evaluation, Strategic Management, Project Design, Implementation, Financial and Program Management, Capacity Building and Workshop Facilitation, Rights Based programming, Advocacy, Networking, and Data Management. He has been conducting monitoring and evaluation, capacity building assignments for international and local organizations and bi-lateral donors, government departments in the area of health including HIV and AIDS, education, water and sanitation, nutrition, governance, livelihoods, agriculture, and youth development in Sub Saharan Africa.

Mr. Vilili has conducted five evaluations on gender-based violence (GBV) over the past six years. He was a team leader in the end of project evaluation for an EU funded project with Save the Children Malawi on Ending Violence Against Children (VAC) that was implemented in Ntchisi and Balaka District. The evaluation was conducted from March to May 2017. In October 2017, he was a consultant in the evaluation of the Keeping Girls in School project that addressed gender-based violence affecting girls' education in eight districts of Malawi. In 2018, Mr. Vilili also developed a School Readmission Policy for boys and girls who dropped out of school from both primary and secondary levels. In the process, he facilitated an assessment of challenges affecting girls, including those regarding gender-based violence. In 2013 and 2014, he conducted an evaluation for World Vision International on two programs that focused on livelihoods and rights of children that assessed gender-based violence. In addition, Mr. Vilili conducted a baseline assessment for a gender-based project for Southern Africa HIV/AIDS Information and Dissemination Services (SAfAIDS) in Malawi, and coordinated the same in Lesotho in 2012.

During this evaluation, he was responsible for developing the inception report, designing evaluation methodology, development of data collection tools, recruiting and training the evaluation team, data collection, data analysis and report writing.

Mr. Ronald Edward Phiri is a gender and rights development specialist with 17 years' experience in gender and rights mainstreaming, evaluation of development programs, risk assessment, institutional capacity development and policy analysis, poverty analysis, social protection and rural development. He has excellent facilitation and data management skills. He has undertaken a number of assignments with government departments, and local and international organizations. He holds an MSc in Agribusiness Management and Gender and a BSc in Rural Development.

Mr. Phiri was involved in designing data collection tools, training evaluation team, data collection and analysis and report writing.

Apart from the two consultants, the evaluation team is comprised of two field supervisors, Mrs. Joylet Genda and Mr. Baxton Nkhoma, who have worked with Royal Development Consulting (RDC) on various assignments and possess strong research ethics. Royal Development Consulting also engages 10 enumerators with experience in participatory ethical data collection processes, who have worked with the firm previously.

Table 1: Detailed work plan for evaluation

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of inception report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception report</li> </ul>
21 <sup>st</sup> January 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruitment of evaluation team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation team recruited</li> </ul>
23 <sup>rd</sup> January-25 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training and pretesting of data collection tools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training done</li> </ul>
4 February 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-submission of Inception Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised Inception Report</li> </ul>
5-7 February 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuation of training of enumerators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of the evaluation team completed</li> </ul>
8 February 2019 18 February 20 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaning of data instruments and uploading of revised tools</li> <li>• Getting feedback from Evaluation Reference Group</li> <li>• Re-submission of Inception Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection tool revised</li> </ul>
21 <sup>st</sup> February- 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection conducted</li> </ul>
7 <sup>th</sup> March- 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaning of data collection sets and loading of final tools on KOBO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data cleaning done</li> </ul>
8 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data analysis and report writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft report submitted</li> </ul>
29 <sup>th</sup> March 2019 1-10 April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of draft report</li> <li>• Review/Comments from IAWJ and Evaluation Reference Group</li> <li>• UNTF review of draft report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft report with comments</li> </ul>
11-15 April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of second draft report</li> </ul>	
21 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of second report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft report with comment</li> </ul>
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received comments on second comments from IAWJ</li> </ul>	
6 <sup>th</sup> May, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of final document to IAWJ</li> </ul>	Final Revised report submitted

### 3.2 Evaluation Questions

RDC conducted the evaluation of the project in line with the evaluation objectives. As indicated, the evaluation used three data collection tools: an individual questionnaire for women, focus group discussions for women, girls, men, and traditional leaders, and key informant interviews with justice actors. Each evaluation question was aligned to corresponding project indicators as indicated in the table 2.

*Table 2: Details of the evaluation questions*

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation Questions</b>	<b>Corresponding Indicators</b>
Relevance	To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?	Output Indicator 1.1.1: Perspective of trained participants on the ToT (who report that ToT was helpful in SV approach) Output Indicator 1.1.2: Number of interactive training seminars on sexual violence laws and gender stereotypes conducted by ToT trained judges for male and female judicial officers and police prosecutors Output Indicator 2.2: Number of multiple stakeholders who take steps in approach to SV action to address SV cases <sup>3</sup>
Effectiveness	To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs (project results) achieved	Project Goal Indicator 1: Number of sexual violence incidents reported by women and girls

<sup>3</sup> This is a project defined indicator that will assess steps and actions developed by traditional leaders, medical professionals, justice sector actors, institutional actors, government officials and others to fight SV.

	and how?	<p>Project Goal Indicator 2: Perspective of women and girls on the safety and access to justice</p> <p>Project Goal Indicator 2.1. Changed perspectives of women and girls on their rights, the remedies available to them and steps they can take to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable</p> <p>Outcome Indicator 1.1: Percentage of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors who report increased awareness and confidence to apply sexual violence laws</p> <p>Outcome Indicator 1.2: Perspective of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitive attitude.</p> <p>Outcome Indicator 2.2.1: Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loops</p> <p>Output Indicator 2.1: Percentage of women who score a minimum of 60% on the post-sexual violence quiz</p> <p>Outcome Indicator 2.2.1: Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loops</p> <p>Output Indicator 2.2: Number of mechanisms created (feedback loops, referral systems, adoption of policies)</p>
Efficiency	To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?	<p>Output Indicator 1.2:</p> <p>Number of protocols on sexual violence cases developed</p> <p>Number of project activities planned within stipulated time</p> <p>Number of activities implemented within planned budget lines</p> <p>Output Indicator 2.2: Work plan</p>

		documenting multiple stakeholders' collaboration on sexual violence cases
Sustainability	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?	Output Indicator 1.3: Number of initiatives to address sexual violence and access to justice Output Indicator 2.2: Number of mechanisms created (feedback loops, referral systems, adoption of policies)
Impact	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?	Project Goal Indicator 1: Reduced number of sexual incidents reported by women and girls
Knowledge generation	To what extent has the project generated knowledge, including promising or emerging practices in the field of Ending Violence Against Women /Girls (EVAW/G) that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?	Number of promising practices identified by the project
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.	Number of lessons learnt through the project

## 4.0 Evaluation Methodology

### 4.1 Evaluation Design and Methodology

Royal Development Consulting used cross-sectional evaluation design where the participants were interviewed at the end of the project to get deeper understanding of the interventions that the project brought. In undertaking the evaluation, RDC assessed the beneficiaries and stakeholders that were targeted with project interventions to ascertain the effects of the project. The evaluation engaged respondents to get insights after the project intervention by focusing on post-test assessment. The evaluation used mixed methods, both qualitative and quantitative approaches.

#### 4.1.1 Overall Evaluation Design

The evaluation used post-test evaluation design. The evaluation measured the changes that happened to women and girls and justice actors after being targeted by project interventions. The evaluation looked at both intended and unintended changes. In undertaking the evaluation, the direct beneficiaries were assessed on change in knowledge and attitude towards the justice actors, and levels of empowerment among beneficiaries and the community members to address sexual violence.

#### 4.1.2 Data Sources

The evaluation used both primary and secondary data sources. Primary sources included direct project beneficiaries who are women and girls from the four judicial divisions. The other primary data sources are justice actors such as members of the judiciary (such as judges, magistrates), social welfare officers, the police (law enforcement officers), community leaders, local committees (such as community-based civil protection committees, community victim support units and mothers' groups) and men, women and boys were targeted to assess their role and influence in mitigation of sexual violence and whether they support survivors of sexual violence to access justice.

The evaluation also used the secondary sources of information which included: project documents, such as the project proposal, monitoring and evaluation reports, national plan of action to combat gender-based violence, Police Victim Support Unit Records and Community Victim Support Unit records, the National Gender Policy, WOJAM annual report and training reports, other UN reports and government reports on projects addressing sexual violence in Malawi.

#### 4.1.3 Data collection tools, methods, and analysis

The evaluation used three data collection tools, namely: individual questionnaires, focus group discussion guides and key informant interview guides. The individual questionnaires

were administered to women only. The questions on the individual questionnaire were linked to project indicators, outputs and outcomes, and were closed questions with pre-determined response options. The questionnaire was loaded to mobile phones using an Open Data Kit (ODK) application KOBO. Enumerators used the KOBO to collect information on individual questionnaires from women using android mobile phones. The information from android phones was uploaded in the online secure database with strict access only to the lead consultant and statistician, and later the data was exported into a statistical package (SPSS) for cleaning and analysis. Inferential statistical techniques were used in undertaking the data analysis.

Qualitative data from focus group discussions and key informant interviews has been analyzed based on content and themes of the evaluation. Information was coded based on the themes that were emanating from the findings. Qualitative findings were analyzed using quasi-statistical analysis to identify the views of the particular group or stakeholder. The use of three different data collection tools provided an opportunity to triangulate the findings.

Throughout the evaluation process, the consultants used a participatory approach where the following stakeholders provided guidance and input to the evaluation design and process; staff from IAWJ and WOJAM, the UN Trust Fund Malawi Project Focal Point and the Evaluation Reference Group.

#### 4.1.4 Sampling framework

The evaluation used a combination of multi-stage sampling procedures (combined sampling approach). The evaluation purposively sampled all the four judicial divisions. From each judicial division/region, two districts were sampled randomly. The areas where the awareness meeting took place in the judicial division formed the sampling frame. The choice of areas where awareness took place was selected purposively because the design of the evaluation focused on post-test assessment, which focused on the group targeted by the project interventions. The project targeted to reach 2000 direct beneficiaries and the sample size was calculated based on this number with 5% margin of error and 95% confidence level. With the proposed sample calculation, a total of 325 direct beneficiaries were expected to be sampled. The evaluation instead interviewed a total of 347 direct beneficiaries.

*Table 3: Sites where Data Collection Took Place*

<b>Southern Judicial Division</b>	<b>Eastern Judicial Division</b>	<b>Central Judicial Division</b>	<b>Northern Judicial Division</b>
Chitera	St Anthony Girls Secondary School	T/A Mkanda	Mpherembe
Luwani Refugee Camp	Machinga	Dzaleka Refugee Camp	Bolero

In the same areas where orientations were conducted, men and boys and women and girls accompanied by guardians were selected randomly for focus group discussions. In each sampled orientation area, two FGDs with women and girls were conducted to allow the evaluation to gather sufficient information for triangulation of the findings. In each district, one FGD was done with men and boys. In each district one FGD with traditional leaders was also conducted. In total 48 FGDs were done with (16) women & (16) girls and 8 FGDs for men and boys combined and 8 FGDs traditional leaders.

Key informant interviews were selected purposively; those who participated in the project activities or provided support to address sexual violence were targeted. The key informants targeted were: judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, medical officers, social welfare officers and WOJAM members who provided support to survivors of sexual violence. The evaluation also engaged the UNTF Project and IAWJ focal points.

*Table 4: Number of Stakeholders Engaged During Data Collection*

<b>Data instrument/method</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
<b>Individual Questionnaire with Women</b>	347
<b>KII with Judges</b>	4
<b>KII with Magistrates</b>	12
<b>KII with Police Prosecutors</b>	18
<b>KII with Medical Personnel</b>	12
<b>KII with Social Welfare Officer</b>	8
<b>KII with WOJAM officials</b>	4
<b>KII with UNTF Portfolio Manager</b>	1
<b>KII with IAWJ</b>	1
<b>FGD for Women</b>	184
<b>FGD for Girls</b>	151
<b>FGD for Men and Boys</b>	91
<b>FGD with Traditional leaders</b>	66

#### 4.1.5 Limitations of the methodology

**Absence of baseline:** The project did not gather baseline information to provide the basis to compare with findings at the end evaluation to ascertain the effectiveness of the project. As such, the evaluation relied on the recall period of the respondents on the status of the sexual violence factors in the impact areas prior to the project.

**Non-availability of judges:** The evaluation planned to interview at least 12 judges involved in the WOJAM project, but it was not possible to interview the required number because the judges were busy with court engagements. As such four judges were engaged but they provided useful information for the evaluation.

**Limited involvement in WOJAM activities by other police prosecutors:** The evaluation team interviewed 18 police prosecutors, but half of them were not involved in the trainings provided by WOJAM. As a result, the analysis of the impact of the training was based on the nine who attended the training. However, all 18 interviewed police prosecutors were involved in awareness activities.

**Logistics challenges:** The evaluation was conducted at the peak of the rainy season and some areas where the project interventions were done were hard to reach. On several occasions, the team got stuck in the mud. This affected the data collection exercise where respondents had to wait a long time for the evaluation team.

**Transfer of trained police prosecutors:** In a few districts, the police prosecutors who were trained by the project were transferred to other districts and thus were missed in the evaluation.

**Sensitivity of evaluation topic:** The evaluation was supposed to ask women and girls who survived sexual violence about their experiences in accessing criminal justice system. However, to avoid re-exposing the women and girls to traumatic experiences through narration of their experience, the evaluation omitted this part of the evaluation. As such, some of the indicators of the project were not captured in the evaluation.

#### 4.2. Safety and Ethical Considerations and Protocols

The evaluation observed safety and ethical protocols during the data collection process. The following ethical principles and standards were followed:

- i) **Recruitment of experienced team:** RDC recruited enumerators who have experience in handling gender-based violence. The team had ten enumerators six female and four males. The team included four people who have experience in social work, community development with and psychosocial support and counseling.

- ii) **Participation and Protection:** RDC ensured that the study was in the best interest of primary beneficiaries and their families and that it did not cause any harm to them or their way of life.
- iii) **Informed Consent:** RDC ensured that participants understood the purpose and process of the evaluation including their right to say no to anything they did not want to do or say. For girls and boys younger than 18 years, consent was sought through the guardian and parent in addition to the consent of the respondent.
- iv) **Confidentiality and Trust:** It was in the interest of RDC to protect the views of those that were interviewed. All targeted participants were made aware of this. Further, RDC ensured that the authorized evaluation team and IAWJ staff were the only officials to access data from the evaluation.
- v) **Non-disclosure agreement:** All the evaluation team members signed non-disclosure agreements limiting them from sharing the information from the evaluation without consent from the project staff.
- vi) **Voluntary:** Participants in the evaluation were free to stop at any given point in the course of the interview.
- vii) **Use of pseudonyms:** During reporting, real names of the respondents were not used to ensure that they cannot be traced by the reader of the report.
- viii) **Referral mechanism:** Prior to data collection in the field, RDC conducted engagement meetings with district community officers responsible for providing psychosocial support: Child Protection Officers, Social Welfare Officers and Health Surveillances Assistants to accompany the evaluation team. They remained on standby to provide psychosocial support in case the survivors of sexual violence needed such services. However, none of the respondents needed the service.
- ix) **Safe Place for conducting interviews:** RDC ensured that interviews were held at a place which was safe, open and convenient, such as a school room, chief's place, home of respondent, and church.
- x) **Data security:** During data collection, the enumerators were given android phones with personalized passwords. Only the assigned enumerator had access to the phone and each signed a non-disclosure agreement. On the KOBO software for data collection, once the respondent data was submitted to the online database, the information automatically was deleted from the phone. In the online database, only the lead consultant and statistician had access to the database. The dataset will be shared with IAWJ.

## 5.0 Findings and analysis per evaluation questions

Findings of the evaluation have been organized under the evaluation design framework headings: project relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impact, knowledge generation, gender equality, and human rights. The findings under each question are linked to outputs and intermediary outcomes below.

**How to read the report:** There are a number of evaluation questions that were asked to assess each evaluation thematic area. In certain circumstances, some questions would fit into two different sections. For instance, this happened under effectiveness and impact of the project. However, most of the indicators have been presented under effectiveness section.

**Reading the charts:** Most of the questions that were asked of respondent groups were open ended and therefore allowed more than one answer. This resulted in the number on the charts not adding up to 100%.

### 5.1 Project relevance

The evaluation under relevance focused on two dimensions: i) relevance of project goals and outcomes to women and girls needs and ii) relevance of project strategies and activities to women and girl's needs.

#### *5.1.1 Relevance of project goals and outcomes to women and girls*

The design of the project was to ensure that women and girls are safer and better protected from sexual abuse. In order to achieve the set goal, the project had two outcomes: i) to ensure that justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate and sentence sexual perpetrators, and treat victims humanely by the end of the project, and ii) to create an environment and conditions where women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

##### 5.1.1.1 Relevance of SV Awareness Session

To achieve the above two outcomes, the project focused on awareness sessions in various communities in all four judicial divisions, targeting a number of stakeholders including women, girls, boys, men, religious leaders and traditional leaders on sexual violence. The project conducted awareness session that reached a total of 6206 men, 15369 women and 6756 boys and girls. The awareness sessions were conducted in hard to reach areas and areas with high incidences of SV as well as schools targeting girls. The choice of the places and target audience for the awareness meeting responded to the right group. The majority were women and girls who are victims of SV. The table below shows the areas where awareness sessions were conducted. The awareness sensitized the communities that SV are criminal in nature and such cases are supposed to managed by formal justice actors. The evaluation noted that the awareness sessions that were done by the project were relevant because they targeted

more people in one session and a number of stakeholders participated in raising awareness. The focus on creating awareness aimed at creating environment and conditions where women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

*Table 5: Areas where SV awareness were conducted*

<b>VENUE</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>B/G</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Chitera ( Southern MW)	72	328	228	628
Likoswe ( Southern MW)	153	301	297	751
Makata ( Southern MW)	98	406	104	608
Lundu (Southern Mw)	150	500	100	750
Changoima ( Southern MW)	100	200	150	350
Chapananga ( Southern MW)	115	750	60	925
Mlolo ( Southern MW)	30	163	57	300
Bangula ( Southern MW)	120	240	40	400
Fatima ( Southern MW)	155	421	150	756
St Anthony Girls Secondary School (Eastern MW)	7	1700	-	1707
Chancellor College ( Eastern MW)	729	1013	1742	3484
St Michaels Secondary School ( Eastern MW)	17	31	904	952
Lisumbwi Secondary School (Southern MW )	106	601	371	1078
Luwani Refugee Camp ( Southern MW)	700	1339	622	2661
Neno ( Southern MW)	174	518	193	885
Lisungwi Government School ( Eastern MW)	7	1	619	627
Machinga ( Southern MW)	321	465	179	965
Usisya ( Central MW)	109	186	82	377
T/A Chulu ( Central MW)	157	187	31	375
T/A Simlemba ( Central MW)	127	265	23	415
T/A Mkanda ( Central MW)	157	301	17	475
T/A Simphasi ( Central MW)	153	317	27	497
Mponela (Central MW)	157	397	21	575
T/A Kansonga ( Central MW)	85	479	41	605
T/A Ganya ( Eastern MW)	974	1769	266	3009
Kankawo ( Southern MW)	69	117	19	205
Sawali ( Southern MW)	97	315	63	475
Ntaja ( Southern MW)	117	875	28	1020
T/A Chamba (Southern MW )	152	201	22	375
Mpherembe ( Northern MW)	225	95	50	370
Luzi (Northern MW)	95	130	40	265
Chitimba (Northern MW)	150	160	90	400

Bolero (Northern MW)	120	180	80	380
Nyungwe(Northern MW)	40	121	19	180
Ngelenge (Northern MW)	168	297	21	486
Total	6206	15369	6756	28311

Sources: Project reports

### 5.1.1.2 Capacity Building of Justice Actors

WOJAM also conducted trainings with judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers on GBV related laws, gender and rights-based approaches to ensure that women and girls are safe and comfortable to access the courts. In total, the project trained 282 participants: 188 judicial officers, 62 police prosecutors/ investigators/VSU coordinators and 32 research officers. Training of the judges focused on gender sensitive courts and gender bias and stereotypes that affect sentencing of SV. The evaluation noted that before the project interventions, the criminal justice actors would focus on the perpetrators of SV instead of survivor of SV. The shift that this project created in training the criminal justice actors to focus on survivor of SV was relevant and created an atmosphere that encourage women and girls to access formal justice system.

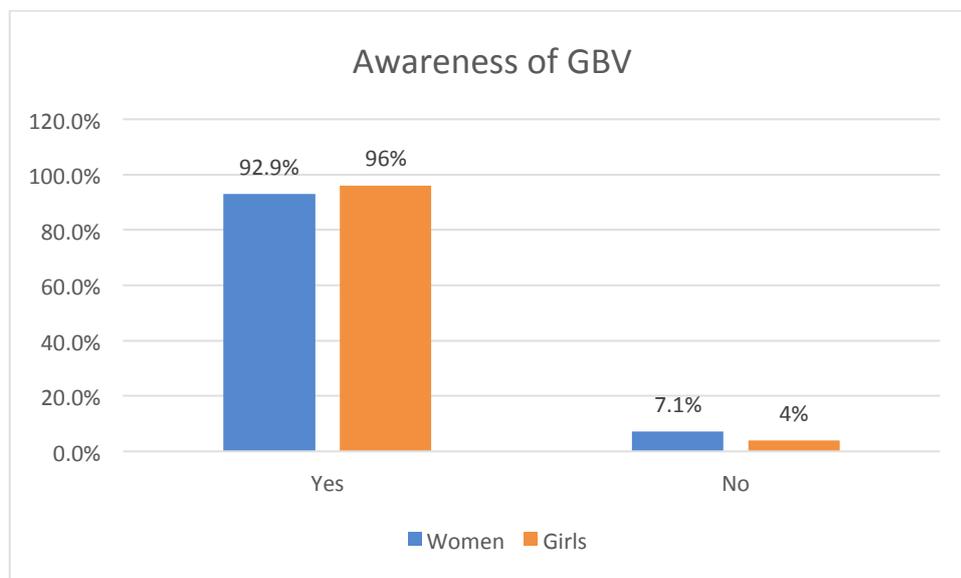
The above outcomes were relevant because it contributed to ensuring that justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate and sentence sexual perpetrators, and treat victims humanely by the end of the project. The training of justice actors contributed positively in mitigating and controlling SV.

### *5.1.2 Relevance of Project Strategies and Activities to Women and Girl's needs.*

#### 5.1.2.1 Awareness of GBV

The evaluation noted that the project conducted a number of awareness meetings on GBV and SV. The evaluation sought to assess the changes in the awareness levels among women and girls on GBV and SV. About 89.3% of women engaged through the individual questionnaire indicated that they have heard about GBV while 10.7% of women indicated that they have not heard about GBV. Findings from women's FGDs noted 143/154 (92.9%) are aware of the GBV, while 145/151 of girls (96%) are aware of GBV, as indicated in figure 1.

Figure 1: Awareness of GBV



Source: Women and girls FGDs

Women were asked to indicate the sources of information on GBV in the individual questionnaire and about 39.7% of the women indicated that they had heard about GBV from WOJAM awareness activities as indicated in table 5. Findings from FGDs revealed that people who attended awareness meetings were also sensitizing other members of the community about issues related to sexual violence and the need for victims to report to the judicial system. This could explain why a higher proportion of women mentioned friends as a source of information

Table 6: Sources of GBV information

Sources of information	%
Family	28.5%
Radio	46.8%
School	7.1%
Friends	50.6%
Church	2.3%
WOJAM activities	39.7%

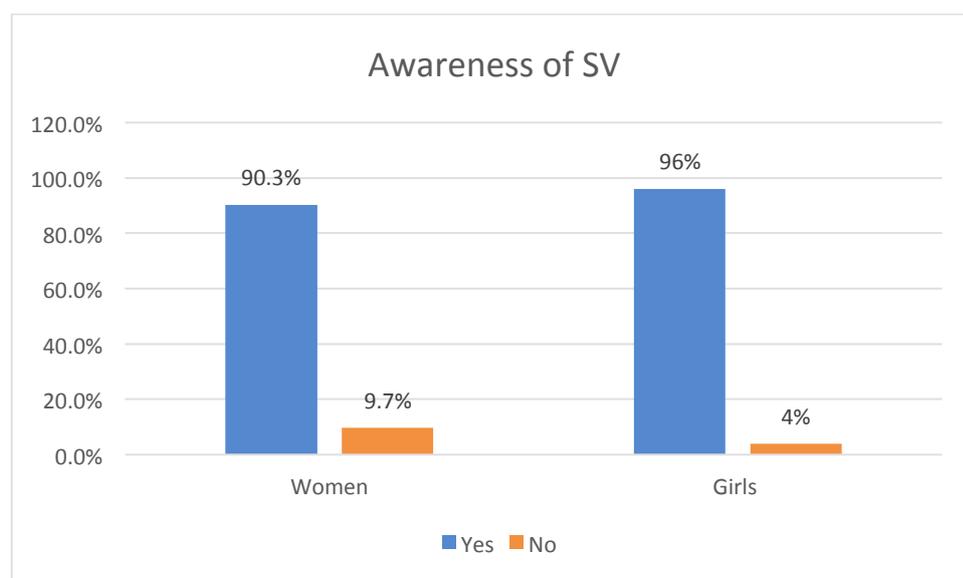
Source: Individual questionnaire, Multiple responses<sup>4</sup>

During the FGDs, women and girls were asked if they participated in the WOJAM awareness meetings; results show that 100/154 (74.1%) of women participated in the awareness meetings, while 100/151 (66.2%) of girls indicated that they participated in the awareness meetings and that has been a major source of information about GBV and SV for them.

<sup>4</sup> Women were at liberty to indicate more than one source of information, as such the percentage is more than 100 percent.

The evaluation sought to understand if women were aware of different types of GBV and what contributed to the change in the awareness of GBV and SV information. The FGDs reveal that one of the contributing factors to the change in the knowledge on GBV and SV was the awareness meetings that were done in the communities. Before the project conducted the awareness workshops, women and girls indicated their understanding of SV and GBV was limited while a few women and girls were aware. The results of the evaluation found that about 77.1% of the women interviewed mentioned sexual violence while 78.1% mentioned physical violence, 45.5% mentioned psychological violence, and 42.9% indicated neglect as a type of gender-based violence. The evaluation also sought to establish if women were aware of different types of sexual violence; the results showed that 82.9% of women mentioned rape, 54.5% defilement, and 27.1% touching of sensitive parts of the body as types of sexual violence. Results from FGDs noted that 90.3% of women and 96% of girls are aware of SV, as reflected in figure 2. About 143 of 154 (92.9%) women in the FGDs and 145 of 151 (96%) girls in the FGDs demonstrated awareness of gender-based violence and an appreciation of the need to eliminate it. Participants were able to distinguish between physical, economic, sexual and psychological violence and their effects on their welfare. Some testified that personal experience of rape had affected them through unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS. About 100 of 154 women (74.1%) and 100 of 151 girls (66.2%) in the FGDs indicated that they had participated in awareness programs on prevention of sexual violence. All the school girls (74/74) in the FGDs responded that sexual violence is an issue not only in their school, but also in their community. The findings confirm that the awareness sessions focused on how to manage SV incidences and that addressed needs of women and girls who are victims of such incidences.

Figure 2: Awareness of SV

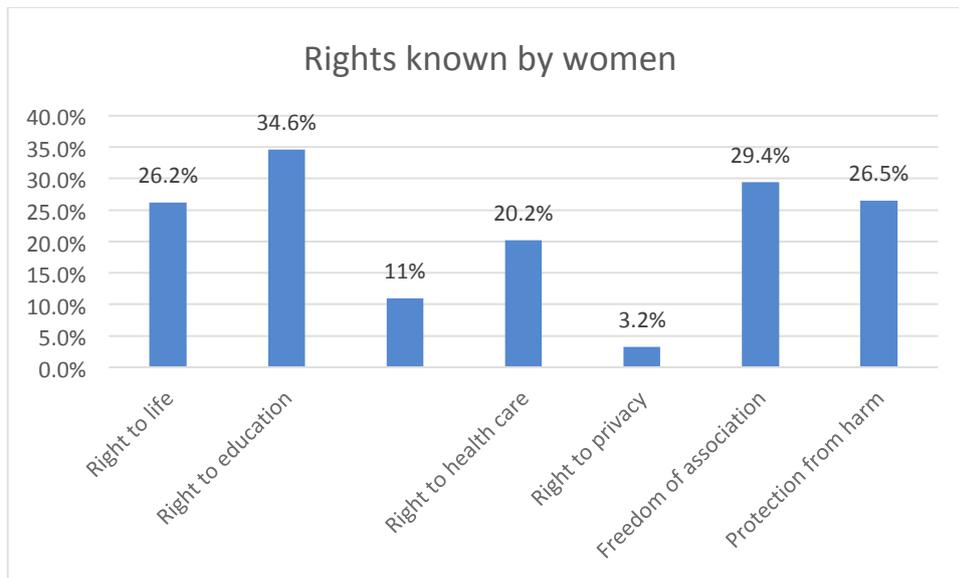


Source: Women and girls FGD

A higher percentage of women interviewed (72.9%) indicated that they were aware of women and girls' rights, compared to 27.1% who indicated that they were not. However,

women interviewed demonstrated limited knowledge of the specific women's and child rights as indicated in Figure 1 below. About 26.5% of women mentioned protection from harm, which can be linked with sexual violence. This demonstrates a need to continue to promote awareness of women and girls' rights to deepen knowledge of these rights.

Figure 3: Awareness of Women and Girls' Rights



Source: Women Individual Interviews

### 5.1.2.3 Perception of women and girls on project interventions

In all 32 FGDs with women and girls, participants acknowledged that the project interventions to address sexual violence were relevant as the activities addressed women and girl's needs.

#### i) Created Openness in discussing SV

The evaluation noted that FGDs for women indicated as a result of awareness meetings that were done in the communities, most people are now open to discuss SV. For instance, participants in the women's FGD in Bolero indicated that the culture in their district previously fueled sexual violence. People were not willing or able to talk about SV openly; the awareness raising conducted by the project empowered people to start talking about SGBV and referring cases to relevant officials in the judicial system.

#### ii) Exposed a culture that promote child marriages

Girls FGDs findings noted that in most communities, there is a culture that fuels child marriages once a girl reaches puberty. The awareness session conducted by the project exposed such cultural practices and they contribute to SV. Participants in the FGD for girls in Machinga (6/11) indicated that most of the girls were previously forced into early and child marriages. For instance, "A grade 7 girl (thirteen years old) (Standard 8 in Malawi) was told by her own parents that they were not going to pay for her school fees if she reaches lower secondary education or high school (Form 1 in Malawi), and that she was supposed to be married. When the girl insisted that she wants to proceed with her education, it happened that

upon finishing her primary school the parents refused to pay her schools fees and she finally got married at the age of fifteen” (*Woman FGD participant in Machinga*).

For instance, “Sexual violence is an issue in this area because most of the parents force their girl children to get married so that they can stop supporting them financially and they also discourage their children from going to school because they say that school cannot provide them with their immediate daily needs” (Girl FGD participant in *Luwani*).

During the FGD with girls in Machinga, 6 out of 11 (54.5%) participants indicated that most girls in the area are still being forced into child marriage and they still need the intervention of NGOs to continue with their education. This means that the project was very relevant as its intended to address the SV challenges being felt by women and girls in the communities.

### iii) Reporting SV cases to police

The evaluation noted that with the awareness on SV that was done by the project, people have now realized the importance of reporting SV to police. Participants in the FGD conducted with school girls in Chiradzulu (6/9) indicated most sexual violence cases were previously not reported to the police or prosecuted in a court of law. The cases were being handled by traditional leaders, but after the awareness raising almost all known cases were referred to the police and courts.

In one example, in Machinga a grade 5 girl (aged 12 years) said that, “another incident occurred in my village where a standard 7 girl (grade 5) was being sexually harassed by her step father who used to touch her sensitive sexual parts, the case was investigated and he was arrested” (*Girls FGD in Machinga*). The above example demonstrates that the awareness raising which was done by the project helped women to report the cases to police and seek justice through the courts.

On the other hand, many of the girls continue view that some police officer are corrupt and do no handle SV cases professionally. For example, “one of the girls (aged 13 years) was about to write her standard 8 exams (grade 7) and the parents forced her to get married. The girl refused and the issue was reported to police but the police were not helping because there was a good relationship between them and the parents of the girl (*Girls FGD in Machinga*).

During the Key Informant Interview with a social welfare officer, it was reported that, “Sexual violence is one of the biggest problems in Malawi today which is affecting girl’s education, health, rights and quality of life in general. Women and girls are the main victims of sexual violence cases especially rape, incest, defilement, early marriage and forced marriage. There is a link that a girl or woman who is being defiled or raped is at risk of sexually transmitted infection. Some girls who were survivors of defilement were found to be HIV positive during a follow up medical test. These days, because we carried out awareness in all traditional authority areas, we found that many people especially neighbors, girls and women are now reporting freely about the incidence of sexual violence” (*KII, Social Welfare, Male*).

iv) Frequent SV Incidences

In the refugee camp in Dzeleka, it was reported that cases of SV occur more frequently. FGDs from traditional leaders, women, girls and boys mentioned that defilement and rape happen so often. “Rape was the common sexual violence here at Dzaleka camp to the extent that we cannot stay for a month without hearing a case of rape” (*Women’s FGD, Dzaleka camp*). At the camp, new refugees arrive almost every month and most of the women and girls do not know how to manage SV incidences. As such the awareness meetings on SV were relevant but needs to be conducted on frequent basis.

v) Wrong Myths Fuel SV Incidences

Participants in the FGD with traditional leaders in Mchinji indicated that rape used to be common in their area. “Some men believe that one can be cured of HIV through having sex with a child so as such they end up in defiling a child. The awareness meetings challenged such wrong myths and fuel SV.

vi) Dominant cultural norms

Findings from the traditional authority FGDs indicate that there is a perception among couples that women are not supposed to deny sex to their spouses when it is demanded. When some women refuse, men are free to seek sex from other women. “Some women have a tendency of refusing to have sex with their husbands so as a result other men opt at defiling young girl in their homes whether a relative or even a step daughter” (*Traditional leaders FGD, Mchinji*). This mean that a woman’s right to choose whether or not to have sex with her husband is considered a cause of increased incidences of rape. However, the awareness sessions that were done by the project sensitized communities on women and girls rights.

vii) Involvement of local leaders in awareness increased buy in

The evaluation noted that involvement of CBOs and local leaders in the awareness activities was relevant and helped to localize the issue of sexual violence and helped the communities identify themselves with the issues being discussed. The approach neutralizes the concept of “Them and Us” when the people doing the awareness are all from outside the catchment area.

#### 5.1.2.4 Relevance of the capacity building interventions

All 18 police prosecutors (100%) agreed that the project was relevant because it helped them to become conversant on how to deal with sexual violence cases. Through the project they were sensitized that cases of sexual violence are criminal in nature and must be resolved through the courts. Prior to the project most parents used to refuse consent to their children to report sexual violence cases. However, with the project’s awareness raising, parents are

encouraging their children to report cases of sexual violence (KII, Police Prosecutor Mzimba).

All 4 judges (100%) and all 12 magistrates (100%) noted that the project was relevant because the awareness meetings conducted addressed dominant social norms that used to perpetuate sexual violence. Such norms were present both in the community and in the judicial system. In the community, for instance, when a couple is about to get married, they used to be counseled that “banja ndi kupilila” (in marriage they need to endure); such norms encouraged the culture of suffering in silence and not reporting cases of SV, explained one of the judges. However, through the awareness meetings, such norms were being challenged in reference to existing laws.

There were a number of challenges to the judicial system addressed by the project. The following is feed-back the evaluators received from criminal justice actors regarding existing obstacles to justice:

- **Discrepancies in sentencing between female judges and magistrates and male judges and magistrates on sexual violence cases:** “Male magistrates would give lenient sentences while female judges would give stiffer sentences. Even when high court judges would review sentences from the lower courts, female judges would give stiffer sentences and male judges would give lenient sentences. Hence there was need to bring objectivity and a gendered understanding in judgments in sexual violence cases.” (KII, Female Judge, Mzuzu District and Lilongwe).
- **Gender stereotypes and prejudice:** “In most cases judges and magistrates would bring their personal gender stereotypes and prejudices to SV cases. One judge acknowledged that when he was young, defiling cousins was not a serious matter even if it was reported to guardians, because it was regarded as part of growing up. With such understanding, he would bring his gender bias when reviewing cases from the lower court. Instead of reviewing the cases based on laws he will allow his social upbringing to influence the judgment.” (KII, Court Registrar, Lilongwe).
- **Hostile environment for women and re-victimization:** “Most SV cases attract interest from community members. In fact, normally the courts are full with observers. In such an environment, women and girls find it uncomfortable to give evidence and this causes re-victimization.” (KII, Male Magistrate, Mchinji).

However, through the project, judges and magistrates have been sensitized on how they can minimize gender bias and prejudice, and ensure that the courts are client centered. The whole concept of having judges and magistrates take an active part in the awareness meetings with the communities was relevant and assisted to change community perceptions about the courts. Communities normally associate judges and magistrates with punishing offenders and having them interact with community members created friendlier perceptions of the courts.

### *5.1.3 Multiple stakeholders who take steps in addressing SV cases.*

The evaluation noted that during WOJAM awareness meetings a number of stakeholders such as chiefs, police, social welfare officers, medical personnel and magistrates, judges and CBOs were given the chance to share about GBV. During the awareness meetings, each stakeholder would speak on an area or theme based on their specialty in fighting sexual violence. For example, chiefs will talk about dominant community social norms that promote sexual violence and the need to change such norms. The police would talk about the process of dealing with investigations and evidence management. Medical personnel would talk about medical examinations and treatment that victims are given when they are at clinic, while magistrates would talk about judgment and sentencing of sexual offenders. Such an approach ensured that the issues of GBV were addressed in a holistic manner. The only challenge was that these awareness meetings were only conducted on a single occasion. During the awareness meetings, information on SV related laws, how to report SV cases, procedures of managing SV cases in court was shared. For community members to fully understand such information through one meeting is difficult. Such information would need to be repeated and repetition is key to learning as it helps to transition information to practice. However, the involvement of multiple stakeholders in the awareness of SV was relevant because it created a platform that provided women and girls access to information on SV in their respective communities. The awareness enlightens women and girls' different pathways of managing SV. The involvement of multiple stakeholders in the awareness of SV was in line with the theory of change to the project. A well-coordinated and more consistent SV response will increase to community confidence in the justice actors' effectiveness and the ability to protect the rights of women and girls to be free from SV.

The other observation made by the evaluation team is that the survivors of sexual violence (girls and women) were not given the chance to speak at such events. Involvement of survivors of sexual abuse could have given opportunity for stakeholders to appreciate the manner in which SV affects them. Girls in schools suffer in silence and during such awareness meetings, girls would expose the tendencies of teachers who abuse girls sexually. The evaluation also noted that beyond the awareness meetings, clear action plans were not developed. Whilst the awareness in itself is the first step to address sexual violence, stakeholders could have used the platform to develop an action plan to establish accountability mechanisms for dealing with sexual violence.

### *5.1.4 Perspective of trained participants on the ToT (who report that ToT was helpful in SV approach).*

When designing the training for the project, the focus addressed gender norms, court decorum, engendering the court set up, understanding gender related laws, and reviewing sentencing patterns. The project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 188 judicial officers, 62 police prosecutors/investigators/VSU coordinators, and 32 research officers. Such an approach was relevant and enabled transfer of skills among justice actors to manage SV. The Training of Trainers (ToT) for judges took two days, while for magistrates it took three days

to allow more interaction. The evaluation found court registrars, magistrates, police prosecutors and judges indicated that awareness of gender bias and stereotypes regarding sexual violence was very helpful. One key interviewee, a judicial official, offered this comment:

After Malawi amended the age of marriage from 16 to 18, many of us legal practitioners and the communities were not aware of the defilement cases, sentencing mechanisms and reporting mechanisms. The awareness that WOJAM facilitated brought to us knowledge and awareness on such elements and types of defilement. (KII 4, Court Registrar, Female)

By design, WOJAM planned to train judges, magistrates and police prosecutors and not court research officers. However, after noting that the court research officer plays a critical role, working closely with judges in conducting research, documenting evidence to help judges pass sentences, they were later included as participants to be trained by the project. The research officers indicated that the training was very useful and helped them to address gender stereotypes, common in the courts. The training helped to restore the integrity of the judicial decisions and ensure that the judges are impartial in their judgments.

All 4 judges and all 12 magistrates who were trained and interviewed during the evaluation rated the training to be helpful and useful. One of the magistrates indicated that:

“The focus of making a client centered court was an eye opener because usually they focus on the perpetrator of sexual violence and not appreciate the challenges that victims go through as they give testimonies in court. In most sexual violence cases, there are more people who come to listen to the case and that used to put pressure on the victim and woman. Some would change the evidence because of the court set up. However, with the training that we have undergone, it has helped us to consider dignity of the victim during court session (*KII, Female, High Court, Lilongwe*).

#### 5.1.5 Conclusion of project relevance

The evaluation noted that the project was relevant in terms of its designed goal and outcomes and the interventions and activities employed. The set project goals and outcomes were relevant to the needs of women and girls in the four judicial districts. The project goal aimed at ensuring that women and girls are free and protected from SV. The project further sought that Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate and sentence sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project and that Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice. The evaluation noted that the project the above goals and outcomes were relevant and achieved through awareness meetings and capacity building with justice actors.

The project conducted awareness session that reached a total of 6206 men, 15369 women and 6756 boys and girls. The awareness sessions were conducted in hard to reach areas and areas with high incidences of SV as well as schools targeting girls. The choice of the places and target audience for the awareness meeting responded to the right group. The majority were women and girls who are victims of SV. The awareness sensitized the communities that SV are criminal in nature and such cases are supposed to managed by formal justice actors. The evaluation noted that the awareness sessions that were done by the project were relevant because they targeted more people in one session and a number of stakeholders participated in raising awareness.

The project conducted trainings with judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers on GBV related laws, gender and rights-based approaches to ensure that women and girls are safe and comfortable to access the courts. The project conducted the capacity building of 282 criminal justice actors. Training of the criminal justice actors focused on gender sensitive courts and gender stereotypes and sentencing of SV. The evaluation noted that previously the criminal justice actors would focus on the perpetrators of SV instead of survivor of SV. The shift that this project created in training the justice actors to focus on survivor of SV was relevant to encourage women and girls to access formal justice system in managing SV. This enabled the project to contribute to the achievement of its set goal, of ensuring that justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate and sentence sexual perpetrators, and treat victims humanely by the end of the project. The involvement of judges to lead the capacity building was relevant and in line with the theory of change that enhanced the buy in of the proposed changes and contributed positively in mitigating and controlling SV.

The evaluation also noted that project interventions and activities were relevant to the needs of women and girls in the four judicial districts. The evaluation assessed the changes in the awareness levels among women and girls on GBV and SV. About 89.3% of women engaged through the individual questionnaire indicated that they have heard about GBV while 10.7% of women indicated that they have not heard about GBV. Findings from women's FGDs noted 143/154 (92.9%) are aware of the GBV, while 145/151 of girls (96%) are aware of GBV. The results of FGDs show that 100/154 (74.1%) of women participated in the awareness meetings, while 100/151 (66.2%) of girls indicated that they participated in the awareness meetings and that has been a major source of information about GBV and SV for them. The evaluation sought to understand if women were aware of different types of GBV and what contributed to the change in the awareness of GBV and SV information. The FGDs reveal that one of the contributing factors to the change in the knowledge on GBV and SV was the awareness meetings that were done in the communities. Before the project conducted the awareness, women and girls indicated their understanding of SV and GBV was limited and few women and girls were aware.

The results of 32 FGDs with women and girls, participants acknowledged that the project interventions to address sexual violence were relevant as the activities addressed women and

girl's needs. The highlights from the results reveal that the awareness sessions conducted by the project resulted in the following:

- viii) **Created an environment of Openness to discussing SV:** People were not willing or able to talk about SV openly; the awareness raising conducted by the project empowered people to start talking about SGBV and referring cases to relevant officials in the judicial system.
- ix) **Exposed a culture that promote child marriages:** In the communities, parents were forcing their girl children into child marriages.
- x) **Reporting SV cases to police:** Previously, cases of SV were being handled in the communities by chiefs instead of reporting to police for proper investigation and sentencing
- xi) **Frequent SV Incidences:** In the camp, new refugees arrive almost every month and most of the women and girls do not know how to manage SV incidences. As such the awareness meetings on SV were relevant but needs to be conducted on frequent basis.
- xii) **Wrong Myths Fuel SV Incidences:** Some men believe that one can be cured of HIV through having sex with a child so as such they end up in defiling a child. The awareness meetings challenged such wrong myths and fuel SV.
- xiii) **Dominant cultural norms:** Findings from the traditional authority FGDs indicate that there is a perception among couples that women are not supposed to deny sex to their spouses when it is demanded. When some women refuse, men are free to seek sex from other women. This mean that a woman's right to choose whether or not to have sex with her husband is considered a cause of increased incidences of rape. However, the awareness sessions that were done by the project sensitized communities on women and girls rights.
- xiv) **Involvement of local leaders in awareness increased buy in:** The evaluation noted that involvement of CBOs and local leaders in the awareness activities was relevant and helped to localize the issue of sexual violence and helped the communities identify themselves with the issues being discussed. The approach neutralizes the concept of "Them and Us" when the people doing the awareness are all from outside the catchment area.

However, the evaluation noted that the survivors of sexual violence (girls and women) were not given the chance to speak at such events. Involvement of survivors of sexual abuse could have given opportunity for stakeholders to appreciate the manner in which SV affects them. Girls in schools suffer in silence and during such awareness meetings, girls would expose the tendencies of teachers who abuse girls sexually. The evaluation also noted that beyond the awareness meetings, clear action plans were not developed. Whilst the awareness in itself is the first step to address sexual violence, stakeholders could have used the platform to develop an action plan to establish accountability mechanisms for dealing with sexual violence.

The evaluation also noted that capacity building conducted to judges' magistrates was relevant because the awareness meetings conducted addressed dominant social norms that

used to perpetuate sexual violence. Such norms were present both in the community and in the judicial system. The evaluation noted the following challenges to the judicial system that were addressed by the project:

- iv) **Discrepancies in sentencing between female judges and magistrates and male judges and magistrates on sexual violence cases:** Male magistrates would give lenient sentences while female judges would give stiffer sentences. Even when high court judges would review sentences from the lower courts, female judges would give stiffer sentences and male judges would give lenient sentences.
- v) **Gender stereotypes and prejudice:** In most cases judges and magistrates would bring their personal gender stereotypes and prejudices to SV cases.
- vi) **Hostile environment for women and re-victimization:** Most SV cases attract interest from community members. In such an environment, women and girls find it uncomfortable to give evidence and this causes re-victimization

However, the trainings that the project conducted with justice actors helped to respond to the above challenges thereby addressing some of the challenges that women and girls used to face in seeking justice on SV. This reveal that the project activities and interventions were relevant.

## 5.2 Project Effectiveness

This section presents findings of the evaluation that responded to the two evaluation questions: (i) To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs achieved and how? and (ii) To what extent has the project reduced barriers to access justice among sexual violence survivors and how? This section therefore provides findings in line with project goal, outcome and output indicators.

### 5.2.1 Perspectives of women and girls on safety and access to justice

In order to understand the perspectives of women and girls on safety and access to justice a number of questions were asked of women and girls through individual interviews and FGDs.

#### Opinion on forms of sexual violence experienced in the communities

The evaluation asked participants in 32 FGDs for women and girls (16 women and 16 girls FGDs) to express their opinions of the forms of SV that are common in their communities. Participants in all the FGDs conducted rated high incidences of defilement and rape in their communities. Twelve of the 16 FGDs conducted with girls mentioned defilement while 10/16 FGDs conducted with women mentioned defilement. Eight of the 16 FGDs with girls mentioned rape and 7 FGDs of women rated rape as common, while only 2 FGDs of women and girls mentioned touching of private body parts as common. Only one FGD with women indicated watching pornography as common form of SV. In trading centers, there are video shows where at times the owners show pornographic films. Normally after watching

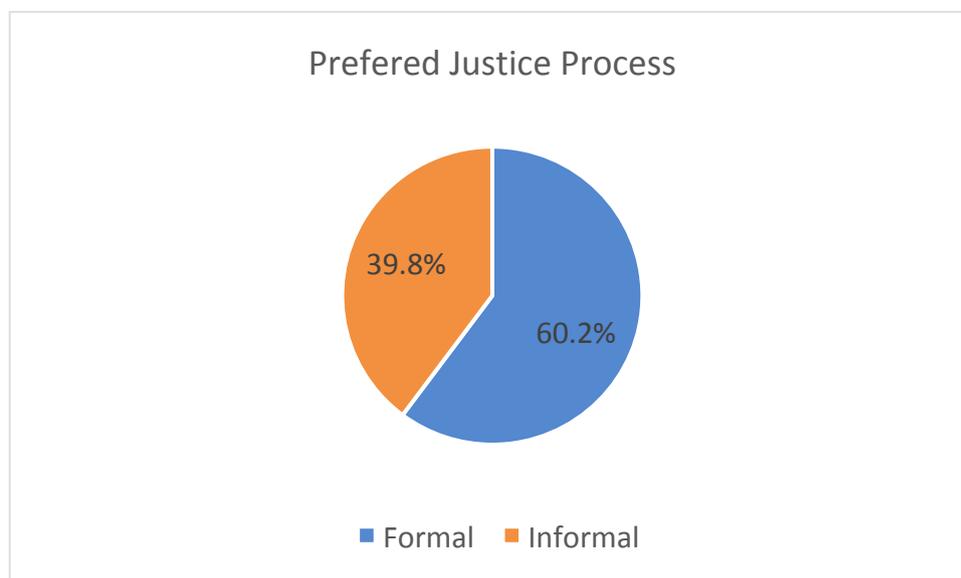
the pornographic films men take advantage of women and girls to practice what they had viewed in the films<sup>5</sup>.

From the girls and women groups, examples of incidents of rape and defilement were shared. One participant stated, “men sleep with young girls by simply promising them to be able to provide for them for their needs, for example an elderly man promised a girl a smart phone with WhatsApp in exchange for sex” (Women FGD participant in Mchinji). Another indicated that, “men who want to become rich go to witch doctors who advise them to have sex with a young girl. Stepfathers also defile their step daughters just because they are not their biological children. Such incidences are common” (Girls FGD in Mchinji).

#### Awareness of justice processes

Women were asked if they were aware of justice processes (formal and informal justice) that are used to handle SV cases. The results of the individual questionnaire noted that about 87.3% of women indicated that they are aware, while 12.7% indicated they are not aware. Of the women who indicated that they were aware of the process, the evaluation sought to establish which process was preferred to manage SV cases, formal or informal. The results showed that a higher proportion (60.2%) of women interviewed preferred the formal justice system compared to 39.8% who preferred an informal process as reflected in Figure 6.

*Figure 4: Preferred justice process by women*



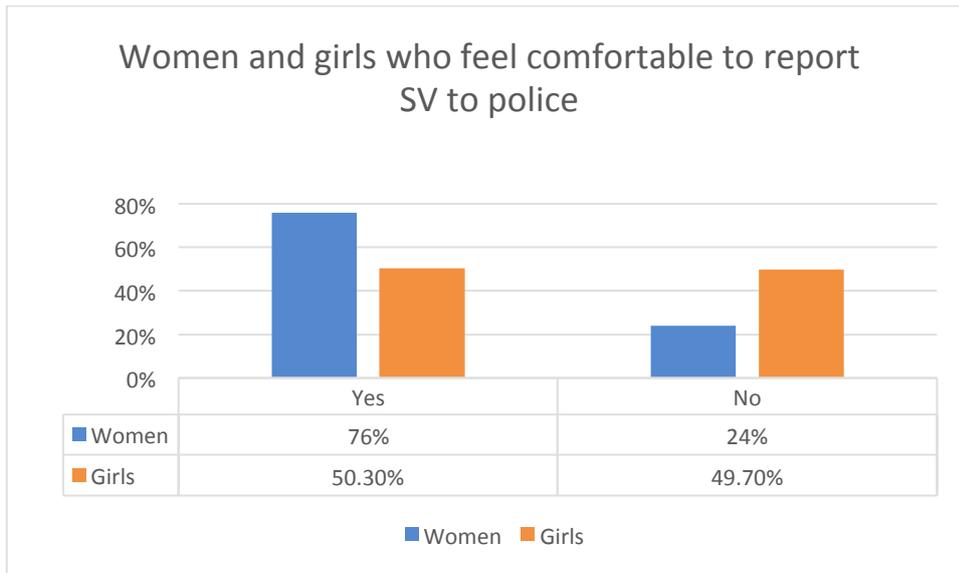
Source: Women Individual questionnaire

#### Knowledge of what needs to be done in case of SV

<sup>5</sup> However, beaming of pornographic films in Malawi is illegal and such video shows do beam such films in secret.

Women interviewed through the individual questionnaire were asked if they are aware of actions that need to be taken when they experience SV; 80.7% indicated that they are to report to police while 19.3% were not aware of what to do. The results from FGDs noted that all women (154) and girls (151) are aware that cases of SV are to be reported to police. However, when the women and girls were asked if they are comfortable reporting cases of SV to police, about 117/154 (76%) of women indicated that they are comfortable while 76/151 (50.3%) of girls indicated that they are comfortable, as indicated in figure 9 below

Figure 5: Women and Girls who feel comfortable to report SV to police

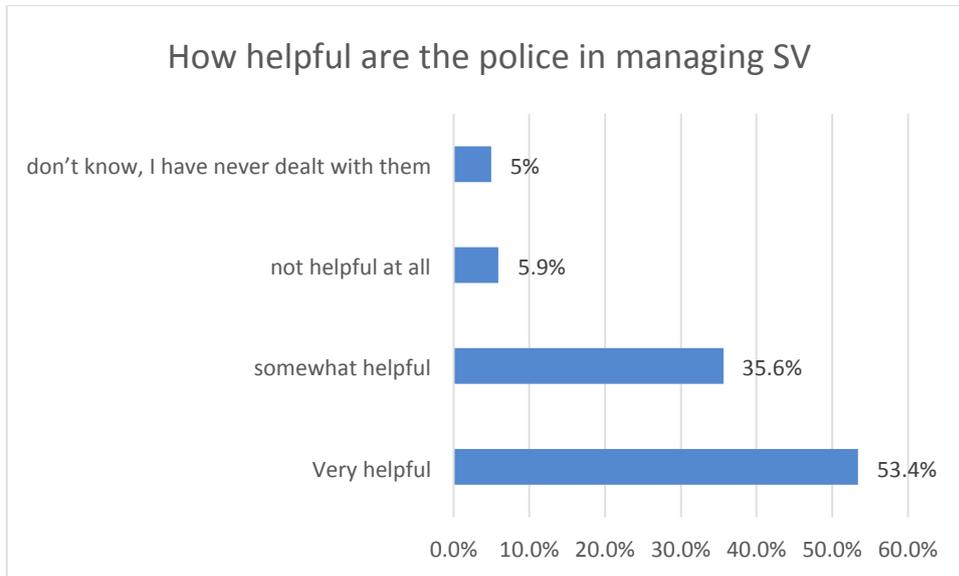


Source: Women and girls FGDs

### Women and girls perceptions of police effectiveness

In the individual questionnaire, women were asked how helpful the police are in managing SV cases and 53.4% indicated that the police are very helpful as indicated in the figure below.

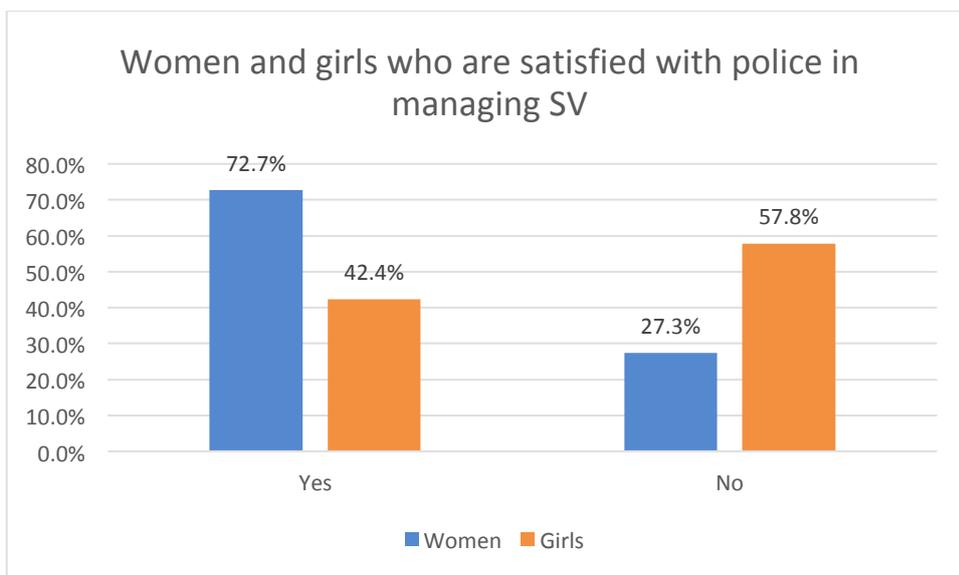
Figure 6: How helpful are the police in managing SV cases



Source: Women Individual Questionnaire

The evaluation sought to establish the perspectives of women and girls towards the police as a key structure in the administration of justice on sexual violence during focus group discussions. During FGDs, women and girls were asked if they were satisfied with help from police in managing SV; about 112/154 (72.7%) of women indicated that they were satisfied while 64/151 (42.4%) of girls indicated they were not satisfied.

Figure 7: Women and girls who are satisfied with police in managing SV



Source: Women and girls FGD

Those groups that indicated that police are helpful also indicated that the police take cases of SV to court for proper sentencing. One participant indicated that, “In some cases, the police

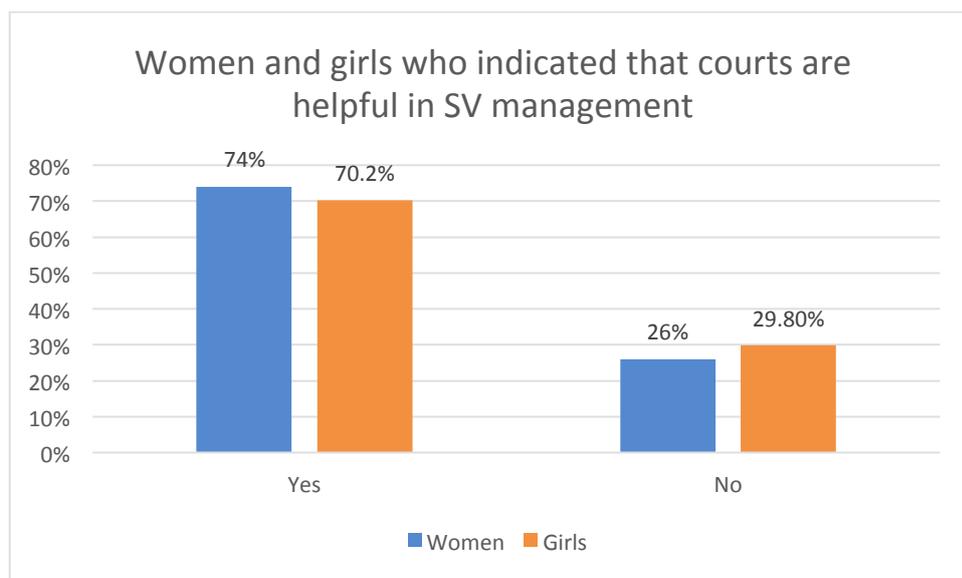
are helping in fighting sexual violence. I remember a certain case in Kawale village where a man had defiled his two step daughters aged 12 and 9 years, and was caught by his wife and was reported to police. The police arrested him and currently he is in prison serving his sentence” (Women FGD in Mchinji).

Girls stated that police are corrupt and get bribes from perpetrators of SV to tamper with evidence so that the cases are dismissed from court. One girl participant indicated that a man touched her breast and she reported the case to police which referred her to a victim support unit. The police officer just said, “aahhh, *titaye thawi chifukwa chogwilidwa bele, khulukani basi*” (Should we waste time discussing because someone touched your breast, just forgive).

### Women’s perceptions on the effectiveness of the courts

Women and girls were asked about their perceptions on the effectiveness of the courts in administering justice on SV during FGDs. About 121/154 (78.6%) of women indicated that they are comfortable reporting cases to court directly as a common practice in rural district in Malawi, while 113/151 (74.8%) of girls indicated that they are comfortable reporting SV cases to court. When they were asked if they find the courts helpful in managing SV cases, 114/154 (74%) of women and 106/151 (70.2%) of girls indicated that courts were helpful in managing SV as indicated in the figure below. Most women feel reporting a matter directly to court guarantees that a case will be properly managed than to the police. However, procedurally, SV cases are reported to police first and it is the responsibility of the police to investigate and bring the case to court. This is an area that requires further engagement with community to appreciate the criminal justice system and procedure and build confidence in the players of the system.

Figure 8: Women and girls who indicated that courts are helpful in SV management



Source: Women and girls FGDs

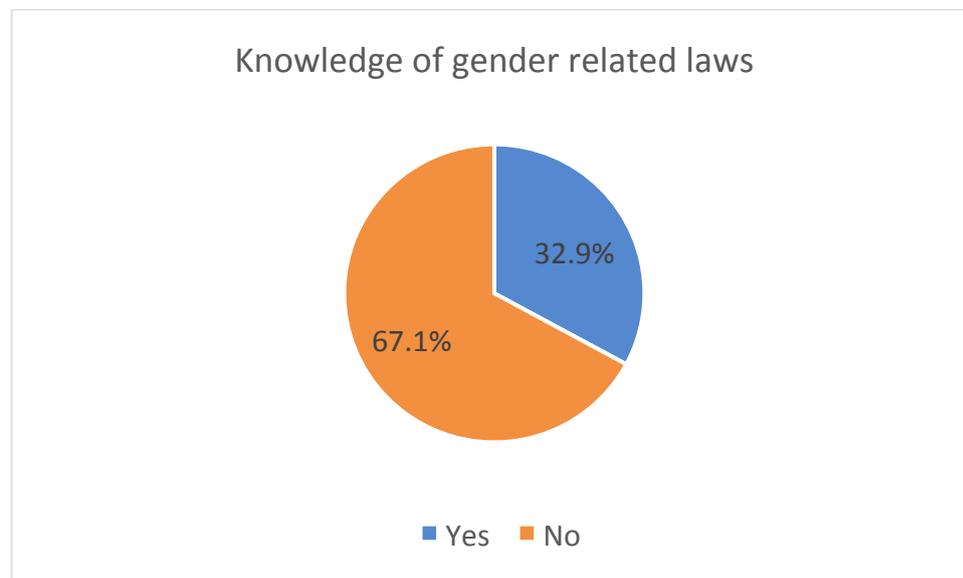
Some of the reasons why women indicated that the courts are not helpful include delays in concluding cases and lenient judgments for perpetrators of SV. On the other hand, the women who indicated that the courts are helpful mentioned that the courts are not giving lenient punishments to perpetrators of SV. As one respondent noted, for example, a step father who defiled his step daughter was given a 14-year jail term (women FGD participant, Mzimba). Another indicated that, “Recently we had noted that the courts come to community to make judgments on cases of rape and defilement, such practices deter men from continuing with SV. In the previous community court where the magistrates came close to the community, the offender of defilement was given 12 years imprisonment. We felt justice was done on the perpetrator (Women FGD participant, Chiradzulu).

Participants in the girls FGDs indicated that the courts were helpful because they are not lenient in their sentencing of SV perpetrators.

Knowledge about gender related laws

The evaluation assessed if women were aware of gender related laws, and only 32.9% of the women interviewed through the questionnaire indicated that they were aware of gender related laws, while 67.1% of the women were not aware of the gender related laws, as indicated in figure 12.

*Figure 9: Knowledge of gender related laws*



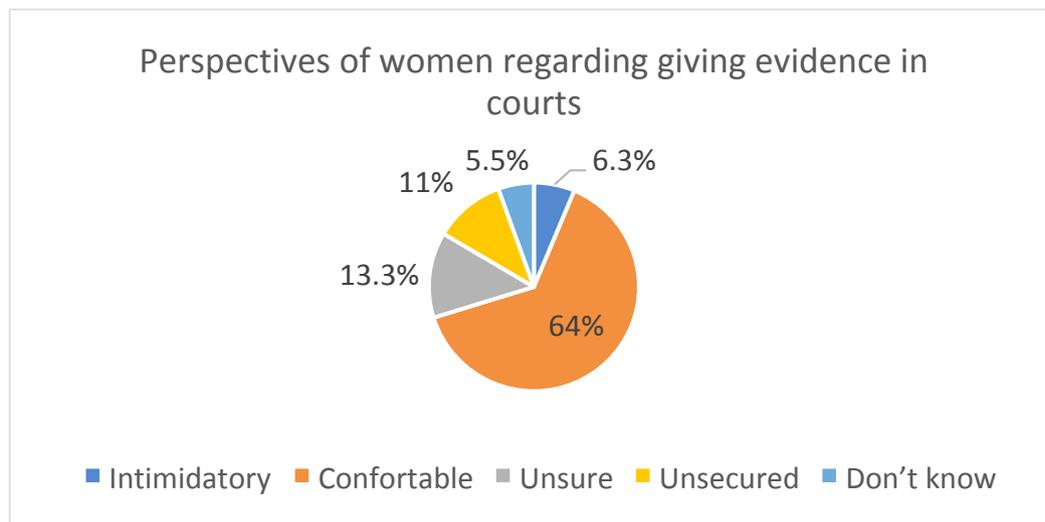
Source: Individual Questionnaire

Perspectives of women regarding giving evidence in courts

Women were asked through individual questionnaires how they felt about giving evidence in court in a sexual violence case. A higher percentage of women (64%) indicated they felt comfortable to testify in court and 11% indicated that they felt insecure to testify in court. The higher percentage of women who indicated that they felt comfortable to give testimony in court could be attributed to the awareness meetings that the project conducted that

highlighted the importance of giving evidence in order for perpetrators of SV to be properly prosecuted and sentenced. The results from women and girls FGDs indicate that the courts are helpful in managing SV and this acts as a motivation to give evidence in court. About 114/154 (74%) of women and 106/151 (70.2%) of girls indicated that courts are helpful in managing SV cases. See Figure 13 below.

Figure 10: Perspectives of women regarding giving evidence in courts



Source:

Individual questionnaire

In summary, the results from women and girls FGDs show that there is good perception about the justice system. The results show that women have better knowledge regarding justice process as evidenced by 87.3% of women who indicated that they are aware of justice process and 60.2% prefer formal justice system to manage SV. The results further noted that 76% of women and 50.3% of girls are comfortable to report SV to police. On the other hand, 78.6% of women and 74.8% of the girls in the FGDs indicated that they are comfortable to report to the courts. The above findings indicate that women and girls have a good perspective about the formal justice system, which was in line with goal that Malawian women and girls should feel confident and empowered to access the justice system.

### 5.2.2 Changed perspectives of women and girls of their rights, the remedies available to them, and steps they can take to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable

The evaluation found that through awareness activities on SV, the project empowered women's and girls' to seek formal justice when they encounter SV. This relates to outcome 2. As indicated in an earlier section of this report on project under relevance, a higher percentage of women interviewed (72.9%) indicated that they were aware of women and girls' rights to report SV to formal courts, compared to 27.1% who indicated that they were not aware of what to do. This means that outcome two and output 2.1 were achieved. However, women interviewed demonstrated limited knowledge of the specific women's and

child rights with only 26.5% of women mentioning protection from harm, 29.4% freedom of association, 20.2% right to health care and 11% protection from discrimination, while 26.2% mentioned right to life and 34.6% right to education.

The evaluation noted that a higher percentage of women interviewed are aware of where to report cases of SV, with 80.7% of women mentioning police compared to 19.3% who did not know where to report. While findings from FGDs indicate that all women (154) and girls (151) are aware that SV are to be reported to police, the higher percentage of women who know that SV cases need to be reported to police demonstrates greater knowledge of remedies available to them to hold sexual perpetrators accountable. This means outcome 2 and output 2,1 was addressed. Similarly, output 2.2 of the outcome 2 was not being effectively addressed because the women in FGDs in Mchinji and Rumphu and KII from Chief Resident Magistrate in Mzuzu and Mchinji indicated that cases were dragging and discontinuing especially whenever the distance to courts is long and wherever the survivor has limited resources to foot travel costs to attend court sessions.

#### Knowledge of steps of holding SV perpetrators accountable

The evaluation noted different pathways that are most commonly used for holding sexual perpetrators accountable, between women and girls. There was a consensus in all the FGDs with women and girls on pathways for holding sexual perpetrators accountable. Girls first report to their parents if SV happens in the community, but when it happens at school, they first report to teachers. The parents then report the incident to the chiefs who issue a referral letter to the police. The police then make the arrest and investigate the case. They also refer the SV survivors to hospital for medical examination, and the collection of evidence that is used in court. When the SV occurs at school, the head teacher refers the issue to the NGOs working in the fight against SV who in turn report to the police. The police then make the arrest and prosecute the offenders (girls FGDs).

In cases in which the SV was perpetrated against a woman, she normally reports to community police<sup>6</sup> who refer the matter to the chiefs who then issue a referral letter to police and the police arrest the offender/s. This process was reported in almost all the FGDs for women and girls. This reflects that this communication pathway is institutionalized.

Out of 8 magistrates who responded to the question on changes that have occurred as result of WOJAM intervention, 6 magistrates (75%) indicated that there has been an increase in reporting of GBV cases, especially sexual violence on girls, women and family neighbors. This means awareness raised by WOJAM may have helped to inform the communities on what constitutes defilement, the stakeholders that should be involved, and how cases should be reported.

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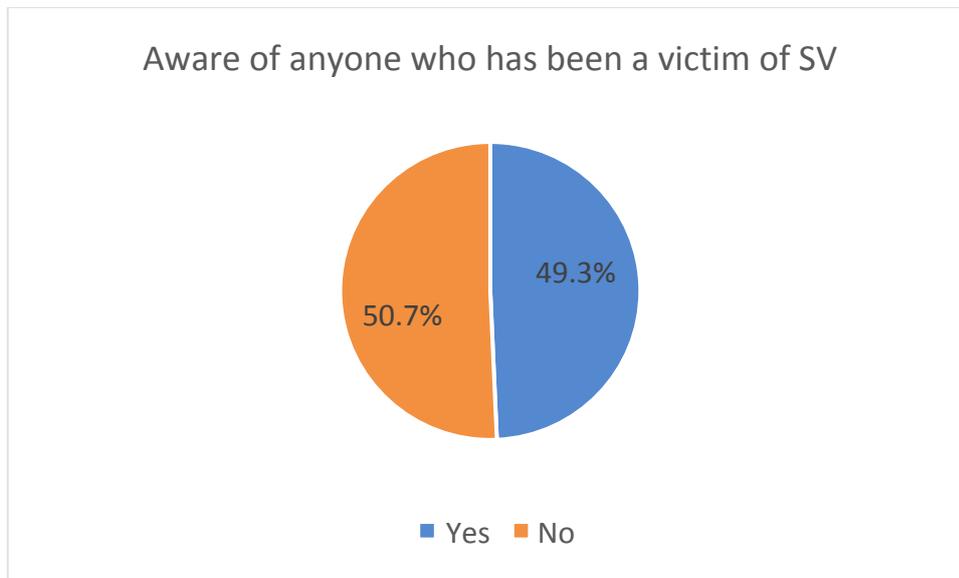
<sup>6</sup> Community police are members who were oriented by the police on how to deal with offenders of the law and they collaborate with the police. They are recognized by the community and the police in their work.

In summary, the above results show that 72.9% of women are aware of women and girls' rights are in line with the project output of ensuring that Malawian women and girls have improved understanding of their rights. However, the depth on knowledge on women and girls' rights need strengthening. The results show that 80.7% of women interviewed are aware that SV are to be reported to police. While findings from FGDs indicate that all women (154) and girls (151) are aware that SV are to be reported to police, the higher percentage of women who know that SV cases need to be reported to police demonstrates greater knowledge of remedies available to them to hold sexual perpetrators accountable. The results from FGDs show that both women and girls are aware of pathways for reporting SV.

### 5.2.3 Number of sexual violence incidents reported by women and girls

Due to the sensitivity of the subject of SV, during the evaluation women and girls were not asked to share their experiences if they were survivors of sexual violence to avoid re-traumatizing them. Only women were asked if they know someone who experienced SV. About 49.3% of the women interviewed indicated that they know a survivor of SV.

Figure 11: Proportion of women who are aware of a victim of SV



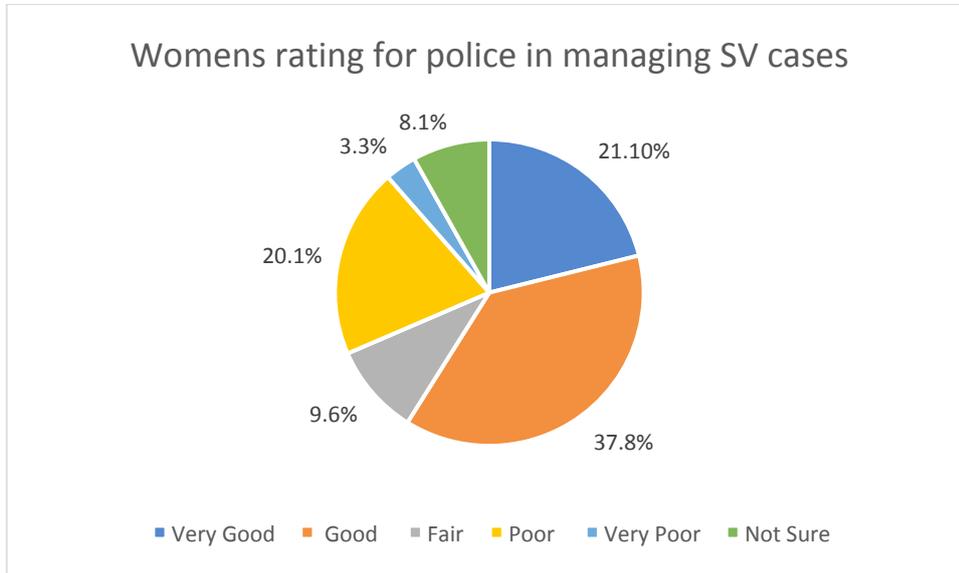
Source: Women Individual questionnaire

Of the women who indicated that they know someone who was a victim of SV, about 78.4% indicated that incident was formally reported to the police. However, the evaluation was not able to validate this information. In the absence of baseline information, the evaluation did not conclude that there increased and decreased reporting on SV cases. However, the fact that women in the community can recall of incident of SV that was reported to the police is indicative that the project awareness workshops that were done by the project empowered women to report.

#### 5.2.4 Percentage of women and girls with increased confidence in justice actors (police and magistrates)

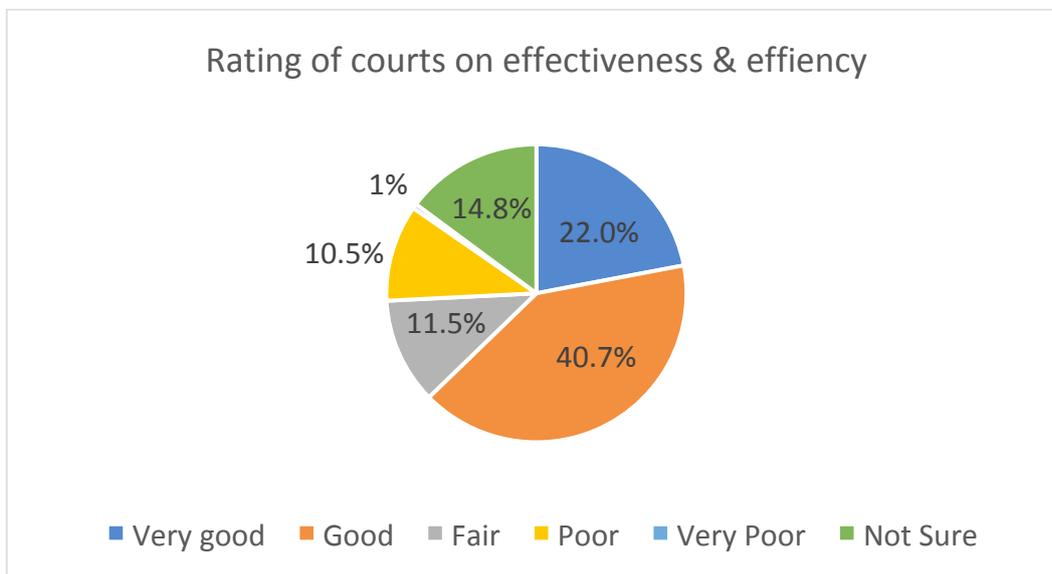
The evaluation interviewed women who went through legal processes with the legal professionals and had participated in project activities, about their perceptions regarding the effectiveness of police and magistrates, to determine if there have been changes after the awareness raising and training that the police and magistrates have received as a result of the project. The women were asked to rate the services of police and magistrates as: very good, good, fair, poor, very poor or not sure. About 37.8% of the women interviewed during individual interviews rated the services of the police good while 21.1% rated the services as very good, while 40.7% and 22% rated the services of the court good and very good, respectively.

Figure 12: Women rating effectiveness of police in managing SV cases



Source: Women Individual Questionnaire

Figure 13: Women rating on the effectiveness of the courts in managing SV cases



Source: Women Individual Questionnaire

The results show that 64% of the women interviewed through individual interview indicated that they are confident to give evidence while 36% indicated that they do not feel confident to give evidence in court. One of the challenges that the project was addressing was to promote more gender sensitive courts so that women are free to access and utilize the courts. However, with the absence of the baseline, it is difficult to ascertain whether this positive

rating is as a result of the project intervention or the result of a project prior and / or simultaneous to the WOJAM project.

#### 5.2.5 Percentage of women and girls who score a minimum of 60% on the post sexual violence assessment

Through individual questionnaires, women's knowledge on how to manage sexual violence incidents was assessed. The assessment focused on three areas:

- i) Knowledge of different forms of SV
- ii) Knowledge of SV reporting
- iii) SV management

Women were asked to indicate either true or false to statements intended to assess their knowledge in the three areas indicated above. Women who score above 60% on the statements demonstrate good understanding on how to manage an incident of SV. The results show that 96.5% of women who responded to the individual questionnaires scored over 60%, which indicates that they know different forms of SV, how to report and how to manage incidents of SV. However, during women specific focus groups, deficiencies were observed when they were probed about legal provisions for mitigation of SV, their individual rights as enshrined in the constitution to report cases involving direct family spouse (as most cases were observed to be reported by neighbors and family friends).

#### 5.2.6 Proportion of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors who report increased awareness and confidence to apply sexual violence laws.

During the KII, police prosecutors were asked if they were aware of gender related laws used in sexual violence cases. Of 18 police prosecutors only three were trained by the project, but all 18 were involved in the awareness meetings. All 3 of those trained (100%) demonstrated increased awareness in and confidence in applying sexual violence related laws. Of the 8 magistrates trained by the project, all (100%) demonstrated knowledge and confidence in dealing with sexual violence related matters. One magistrate was a level 2 magistrate who does not preside over cases of defilement or rape, who also demonstrated comprehensive understanding of the applicable legal framework. All the judges (100%) interviewed demonstrated increased awareness of laws applying to sexual violence. Judges, magistrates and police prosecutors indicated relevant laws that are used to deal with GBV. They mentioned the penal code and cited relevant sections in this and other laws:

- Section 160 (b)
- Section 138 which provides guidance on defilement cases
- Section 137 which provides guidance on indecent assault cases
- Section 33 which provides guidance on rape
- Child Care, Protection and Justice Act No 22 of 2010
- Prevention of Domestic Violence Act No 5 of 2006 which provides guidance on marriages cases

To ascertain the level of awareness and confidence of judges, magistrates and police prosecutors to apply sexual violence related laws, a knowledge assessment was administered where they were asked to indicate either true or false to specific statements. The statements focused on four areas:

- i) safety of victims of sexual violence,
- ii) gender bias,
- iii) understanding of GBV related laws and
- iv) management of SV cases.

About 83.3% of the police prosecutors interviewed scored 100% and all of the magistrates and judges got scored 100%. This confirms that the criminal justice actors have increased awareness to apply sexual violence laws. The results are in line with the project output that sought to have Malawian criminal justice stakeholders demonstrate an increase in knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting, adjudicating and sentencing sexual violence perpetrators.

#### 5.2.7 Perspectives of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity

Barriers that affected women and girls' access justice in the courts included the attitude that justice actors exhibited and the environment of the courts, whether or not friendly to women. During the evaluation, judges, magistrates and police prosecutors were presented with statements to assess if they are aware of the importance of exhibiting gender sensitivity. Two of the three trained police prosecutors scored all correctly, while all 4 judges and all 8 magistrates all scored all correctly.

The project trained more magistrates and judges on gender approach in dealing with SV, through training of trainers (ToT) approach. The participants trained as trainers were drawn from four judicial divisions, and were responsible to train and orient more judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, and court research officers in the districts and judicial divisions. The project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 282 officers. However, the project did not develop mechanism to assess the quality of training that were facilitated by trained ToT and mechanism of results of training in the actual delivery in courts.

The evaluation noted that in most of the cases of SV, efforts and emphasis is on the perpetrators of sexual violence to ensure that they are properly sentenced. Survivors of SV are essential in ensuring that the perpetrators are properly sentenced under the law. However, survivors of sexual violence suffer a lot of psycho-social challenges that require support. Some of the survivors of the SV have sexually transmitted diseases and in other cases are made pregnant, and support to manage such scenarios is limited. WOJAM through the department of judicial community services would like to scale up services for survivors of SV based on the gaps observed. There is need to develop training and curriculum for SV

survivor advocates ensuring that victims of SV are properly supported. Some of the topics to be included in the curriculum include: court procedure and process, evidence giving and psychosocial counseling.

#### 5.2.8 Number of protocols on sexual violence cases

As indicated earlier, the project developed a curriculum to address gender bias in the court in dealing with SV cases. The project succeeded in development of training materials which will continue to be useful to judges, magistrates and other criminal justice actors. The project facilitated the establishment of the Gender Justice Task Force which lobbied the Chief Justice to issue protocols on sexual violence cases. However, at the time of the project closure the protocols were not yet issued by the Chief Justice. Nevertheless, based in part on the work of the Gender Justice Task Force, the Chief Justice issued a judicial circular in August 2018 addressing high court judges, magistrates, magistrates of child courts, the registrar of the high court and Supreme Court of Appeal, Director of Public Prosecutions, Inspector General of Police, Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Services, and the Malawi Human Rights Commission on the management of witnesses in GBV and Sexual violence cases. The copy of the Judicial Circular has been attached as an Annex.

#### 5.2.9 Conclusion on effectiveness

The project sought to ensure that women and girls have good perspective about formal justice system and should feel confident and empowered to access justice. The project trained judges, magistrates, and police prosecutors on the importance of being gender sensitive and on GBV related laws, to ensure that as criminal justice actors they provide an environment conducive to women and girls to access and utilize the courts, and at the same time provide relevant sentences to perpetrators of SV. The results from women and girls FGDs show that there is good perception about justice system. Women have better knowledge regarding justice process as evidenced by 87.3% of women who indicated that they are aware of justice process and 60.2% prefer formal justice system to manage SV. The results further noted that 76% of women and 50.3% of girls are comfortable to report SV to police. On the other hand, 78.6% of women and 74.8% of the girls in the FGDs indicated that they are comfortable to report to the courts. About 64% of the women expressed comfort in giving evidence in court. On the other hand, the majority of girls described police as corrupt and expressed the belief that they take bribes from SV perpetrators in order to get lenient sentences in court. However, both women and girls in the FGDs were aware of the process of reporting SV cases. The evaluation also noted that women interviewed through the questionnaire had limited knowledge of GBV related laws, and only 32.9% of the women interviewed indicated knowledge of the same. The above finding is an indicative that such outcome of ensuring that women and girls have good perspective about formal justice system and should feel confident and empowered to access justice has been achieved to a greater extent.

The results of the evaluation show that 72.9% of women interviewed through questionnaire are aware of women and girls' rights are in line with the project output of ensuring that Malawian women and girls have improved understanding of their rights. However, the depth on knowledge on women and girls' rights need strengthening. The results show that 80.7% of women interviewed are aware that SV are to be reported to police. While findings from FGDs indicate that all women (154) and girls (151) are aware that SV are to be reported to police, the higher percentage of women who know that SV cases need to be reported to police demonstrates greater knowledge of remedies available to them to hold sexual perpetrators accountable. The results from FGDs show that both women and girls are aware of pathways for reporting SV.

In line with project outcome that sought to have the Malawian criminal justice stakeholder demonstrate an increase in knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting, adjudicating, and sentencing sexual violence perpetrators, the evaluation noted that the all the trained (4) judges, (8) magistrates demonstrated confidence in dealing with sexual violence related laws. The evaluation further noted that that perspective of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity was good. This was done through assessment of their knowledge and skills based on a series of practical statements. The results showed that all 4 trained judges and 8 magistrates scored all the statements correct while 2 out 3 police prosecutors scored all statements correct. This is an indicative that the criminal justice actors recognize the importance of gender sensitivity in handling SV cases.

The project trained more magistrates and judges on gender approach in dealing with SV, through training of trainers (ToT) approach. The participants trained as trainers were drawn from four judicial divisions, and were responsible to train and orient more judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, and court research officers in the districts and judicial divisions. The project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 282 officers. However, the project did not develop mechanism to assess the quality of training that were facilitated by trained ToT and mechanism of results of training in the actual delivery in courts.

The evaluation noted that the project sought to influence the development of clear protocols on sexual violence cases and disseminate to Malawian criminal justice actors. On the other hand, the project also aimed at ensuring that the criminal justice system is informed about its response to sexual violence through the Gender Justice Taskforce. The evaluation has noted that at the end of two years, the project has succeeded in influencing the Chief Justice to develop and issue a circular on management of witnesses in GBV and SV cases. The project has succeeded in setting up the Gender Justice Taskforce with clear scope of work. However, the Gender Justice Taskforce is yet to fully influence the criminal justice system on its response to sexual violence. The Gender Task Force has since developed the curriculum of managing SV cases that will continue to inform the criminal justice actors in dealing with SV cases.

### 5.3 Project Efficiency

To assess project efficiency, the consultants interviewed WOJAM officials who were involved directly in the planning and coordination of the project activities, and the IAWJ and UNTF project focal persons. These findings noted that the project was implemented in an efficient manner, but also experienced some challenges. The evaluation focused on responding to the following questions:

- To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?
- To what extent were the human and financial resources utilized in the project?

The evaluation assessed the efficiency of the project from systems and operations perspectives.

#### 5.3.1 Implementation of project activities within stipulated planned time

##### Changes in staff providing project oversight from IAWJ

The design of the project was that IAWJ would assign a project manager who would work closely with WOJAM, and the manager would support and provide oversight functions in the implementation of the project. During the two-year period of the project implemented, IAWJ has experienced three changes in the project manager to provide support to the project. This delayed the project take off in the first year of project implementation and affected feedback that was needed to ensure smooth implementation of the project. Some of the community awareness sessions, stakeholder meetings with formal and informal justice actors and head of education institutions were delayed. Besides the change of staff, the evaluation further noted the process of developing the curriculum took more time than anticipated and that affected the rolling out of other project activities. The development of training curriculum was a joint activity between IAWJ and WOJAM and with the changes of staff at IAWJ the finalization of the process took long than anticipated.

##### Financial management

The evaluation noted a few challenges in the financial planning and management during the implementation of the project. The financial report submitted in September 2018, for example, shows a number of budget lines that were overspent. Much as the over expenditures are justifiable, with good planning, prior authorization and budget revisions could have been sought with the funding partner. From the UN Trust Fund perspective, it is important to note that in a number of cases, prior approval was not sought for over expenditure. This was counter to UN Trust Fund policy and in these cases, the UN Trust Fund could have opted to have determine these expenses to be ineligible and thus requested return of funds. The evaluation noted that IAWJ management noted that the challenges of financial management of its sub grantee (WOJAM) and management is in the process of updating and streamlining the financial policies which include administration of grant funds. The evaluation noted

delays in resolving the administrative work of such over expenditure, also contributed to delays in funds transfer, which affects the implementation of subsequent planned activities. IAWJ was also delayed in providing financial feedback to WOJAM so that they could align to the donor requirement.

### 5.3.2 Implementation of project activities based on existing human resources

#### Use of Judges based on their specialty

WOJAM collaborated with IAWJ to develop curriculum to address gender bias and stereotypes in dealing with SV in courts. The process of developing the curriculum of engendering the court process and procedures was based on the experiences of the judges who were already working on criminal justice department. Their personal experiences in dealing with criminal matters enabled the curriculum to address real needs and gaps in the judicial system. For instance, the involvement of one prominent judge in the trainings based on their experience in dealing with criminal cases and reviewing sentencing from lower courts helped in designing a very practical and relevant training curriculum. The involvement of judges in conducting awareness session also influenced the other stakeholders involved in the awareness session positively. This was in line with the key project theory of change; improving the criminal justice sector's response to SV is a change that is best led from within the justice sector to ensure institutional buy in and sustainability. Judges are highly respected not only by the community at large, but also key formal and informal justice actors, such as police, prosecutors, lawyers, traditional leaders and chiefs.

#### Use of Training of Trainers to scale up Capacity Building

As part of ensuring that more magistrates and judges were trained in the gender approach in dealing with SV, WOJAM designed a ToT training approach. The participants who were trained as trainers were drawn from four judicial divisions, and were responsible to train and orient more judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, and court research officers in the districts and judicial divisions. The approach of using ToT was efficient and cost effective to ensure that more people were trained in a short space of time. For example, the project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 188 judicial officers, 62 police prosecutors, investigators and VSU coordinators, and 32 research officers. In total, 282 officers were trained by ToT. WOJAM conducted two training session for ToT while the ToT used 6 interactive sessions to 282 officers.

The project by design also included the Head of Training Unit in the judiciary as ToT. The involvement of the head of the training unit increased the likelihood of using the gender training materials to influence more judges and magistrates.

#### WOJAM staffing

WOJAM does not have an established secretariat with committed staff to coordinate its activities and instead uses existing judicial staff. In cases where the judicial staff are unavailable due to core business, the planning and coordination of WOJAM activities is compromised. For instance, the current project coordinator, was transferred from Lilongwe to Blantyre. While he was in Lilongwe, he was close to the project focal individuals, lead judge on gender training and lead judge on community awareness. As a result, proximity, they could engage on a frequent basis. The transfer minimizes interactions between and among key WOJAM members.

### Monitoring and evaluation of the project

The project introduced good initiatives that required close monitoring and documentation. For example, a number of judges and magistrates were trained but there was no monitoring to track what has changed as a result of the training. On the other hand, the project conducted over 35 awareness sessions and involved a number of stakeholders. The project needed good monitoring to track other initiatives that followed as a result of the awareness. This would shift the awareness from being an event to a process of initiating behavioral change. One of the key outcomes of the project was to ensure that there are consistencies in the judgments made in courts as result of the training. However, after the training, the project missed the opportunity of developing case studies and resources to demonstrate the effects of the training.

Overall, the evaluation noted that behavior change is a slow process and requires adequate time. RDC concludes that this nature requires time, and the two-year duration of this project is too short a time to sustain the change that has been initiated.

#### 5.3.3 Work plan documenting the multi stakeholder collaboration on sexual violence cases.

By design WOJAM, does not have a full-time secretariat staff but works with judiciary staff to implement its activities. Most of judiciary staff attend WOJAM activities over the weekend because during the week they are committed to core judicial tasks. The evaluation noted that as a result of such design, WOJAM develop a detailed work plan to ensure that the judicial staff planned their activities properly. Almost all the awareness activities of the project were done over the weekend to ensure that core judicial tasks in courts were not affected. Stakeholders in the districts were also engaged in the planning of the activities. In districts where there are networks to deal with sexual violence, WOJAM engaged the networks in the planning of the awareness sessions. This was noted in Mchinji and Dowa districts, for example.

Good planning was also noted in the manner in which trainings for judges and magistrates were conducted. The training that involved judges and magistrates was conducted during court recess. The Malawi judicial system has four recess periods in a year and WOJAM planned its trainings during this time.

### 5.3.5 Conclusion on efficiency

The evaluation noted that there were delays in project take off in year one. The delay was due to changes in staff on the side of IAWJ to oversee the implementation of the project. On the other hand, the evaluation noted the process of developing the curriculum took more time than anticipated and that affected the rolling out of other project activities. The development of training curriculum was a joint activity between IAWJ and WOJAM and with the changes of staff at IAWJ, the finalization of the curriculum took long than anticipated. The evaluation noted that some challenges in complying with financial management and that resulted in delay in funds transfer, which in turn affected implementation of other activities.

The evaluation also noted that implementation of use training of trainers (ToT) was an efficient strategy to reach out to more criminal justice actors. The project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 282 officers through interactive training sessions. However, the project lacked good monitoring and evaluation plan to document the results of the training and awareness meetings. For example, a number of judges and magistrates were trained but there was no monitoring to track what has changed as a result of the training. One of the key outcomes of the project was to ensure that there are consistencies in the judgments made in courts as result of the training. However, after the training, the project missed the opportunity of developing case studies and resources to demonstrate the effects of the training.

On the other hand, the project conducted over 35 awareness sessions and involved a number of stakeholders. The project needed good monitoring to track other initiatives that followed as a result of the awareness. This would shift the awareness from being an event to a process of initiating behavioral change.

The project succeeded in working with judges with an expertise in the subject matter. WOJAM collaborated with IAWJ to develop curriculum to address gender bias and stereotypes in dealing with SV in courts. The process of developing the curriculum of engendering the court process and procedures was based on the experiences of the judges who were already working on criminal justice department. Their personal experiences in dealing with criminal matters enabled the curriculum to address real needs and gaps in the judicial system. The involvement of judges in conducting awareness session also influenced the other stakeholders involved in the awareness session positively. This was in line with the key project theory of change; improving the criminal justice sector's response to SV is a change that is best led from within the justice sector to ensure institutional buy in and sustainability.

### 5.4 Project Sustainability

As part of the evaluation, RDC assessed how positive changes that have been initiated by the project in the lives of women and girls will be sustained beyond the life of the project. Based on the results of the FGDs with local leaders and KII with stakeholders in the project a

number of interventions were noted to play a critical role in the sustainability of the project outcomes.

#### 5.4.1 Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loop

The evaluation found that there are a number of steps that have been initiated by individual stakeholders to improve practices that address sexual violence as a result of awareness outreach. For example, district level Technical Working Groups (TWGs) on GBV that promote the prevention and management of Child Protection and GBV has been strengthened in the districts. KIIs with social welfare officers in Mchinji and Dowa districts indicated awareness meetings conducted by WOJAM revamped and strengthened these TWGs. Through the awareness meetings facilitated by the project, TWGs in GBV in the districts have been strengthened and are discussing ways to improve prevention and management of SV cases and are developing a data management mechanism to track new, outstanding and ongoing cases of SV. In these TWGs, magistrates, police, NGOs, medical officers, community development and other sectors are represented. However, such initiatives still require good leadership and this is an area that could be strengthened in the future.

#### Increased awareness raising by justice stakeholders

The KII with magistrates in Mzuzu noted that after WOJAM training, the trained magistrates used Mother's Day celebration events to conduct follow up sensitization meetings with women. The recent meeting had about 200 women in attendance.

The evaluation also noted through all the 8 FGDs with traditional leaders that there has been increased referral of SV cases to police through provision of referral letters. The traditional leaders and CBOs, after the attending WOJAM awareness meetings, are also conducting awareness of SV in their respective communities. During FGDs with women and girls it was noted that a high proportion mentioned friends as source of information on GBV and SV. When probed, it was noted that women and girls who attended WOJAM awareness meetings also share information with their friends in the communities.

#### 5.4.3 Number of initiatives to address sexual violence and access to justice

The evaluation noted that a few community based initiatives have been established and some strengthened as a result of the awareness that were made by the project. These initiatives were influenced by the awareness sessions that were facilitated by WOJAM. WOJAM did not directly design the initiatives but rather triggered their inception after stakeholders were enlightened about SV by WOJAM. Members in the districts embraced the initiatives as they pose the capacity to fight against SV. These initiatives are likely to continue after the project.

**Children corners in schools:** In Mchinji, for example, in select schools there are children corners where the school children discuss and report cases of sexual abuses. The issues

discussed by children are then referred to the head teacher for action. However, RDC suggests documenting the process in such children corners for lessons learning and replication, and raises concerns about sensitivity with minors.

**School and community awareness meetings:** The evaluation noted that CBOs in the districts conduct awareness meetings on sexual violence. What was observed is that some of the CBOs need further training to articulate issues related to laws that are used to deal with sexual violence. The project has developed Information Education Communication (IEC) materials on sexual violence, which could be shared with such CBOs and schools to enhance information dissemination.

**GBV reporting box in schools:** In select primary schools there are sexual violence reporting boxes where children report incidents of sexual violence. The boxes are opened on a specific day and a few stakeholders are present to open the box for accountability's sake. The stakeholders include the head teacher, chiefs, social welfare officers and at times the police. Based on the nature of cases reported, an action plan is developed.

**Mobile courts:** The evaluation noted that the judiciary has re-introduced mobile courts in areas where there are no courts. This helps to reduce distances that SV survivors have to travel to courts to seek justice. It was noted that some SV cases are not concluded because of the long distances that the survivors have to travel. During the project wrap up meeting in Blantyre, one of the magistrates indicated that some SV survivors, once they report to police, do not come back to give evidence in court because of distance. However, the challenge with this good initiative is availability of government funding. The experiences of WOJAM project contributed to the re-introduction of mobile courts.

#### *3.4.4 Sustainability enablers*

The evaluation noted the following sustainability enablers through the project:

- i) **Use of existing structures to promote awareness of SV:** The team noted that WOJAM in conducting its awareness interventions collaborated with existing structures that were already working to fight against sexual violence. WOJAM used these structures to conduct community mobilization. WOJAM added the judicial aspect and interpretation of the law to the awareness meetings. Such structures already work in collaboration with the police and Social Welfare Officers, which are government structures and officers. At the community level, there are Community Victim Support Committees and community police initiatives that already exist to deal with SV. The knowledge of the GBV related laws will continue to be shared through these structures beyond the life of the project.
- ii) **Availability of IEC materials:** Through the project, a number of IEC materials were developed on how to deal with gender-based violence, especially SV. These

materials were shared with community structures and CBOs, and will continue to be used to raise awareness about SV beyond the life of the project.

- iii) **Capacity building:** One of the significant aspects of the project was the investment made on capacity building of the judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers in dealing with SV. The knowledge and skills gained will continue to be utilized by the officers beyond the life of the project. The project has developed a number of training materials that will continue to be utilized by judges and magistrates. The Head of Judicial Training Unit indicated the materials developed by the project will be useful in strengthening the training content for judicial staff.
- iv) **Involvement of judicial staff:** Most of the interventions implemented by the project involved judicial staff, such as judges, magistrates, registrars, research officers and the judicial community service officers whose core function is to provide justice. These officers will use the skills gained through the project to fight SV in their core duties.
- v) **Institutionalization of the Gender Justice Task Force:** The project has championed the establishment of the Gender Justice Task Force with specific Terms of Reference which include:
  - a. Designing research questions on barriers to effective implementation of SV laws.
  - b. Developing recommendations to address gaps identified through research.
  - c. Preparing and issuing recommendations to the Chief Justice to develop practice directions for all 280 magistrates and judges in Malawi and to share these recommendations with multi-stakeholders to help future initiatives and make programmatic adjustments.

The establishment of the Gender Justice Task Force will go a long way in ensuring that the justice system is looking at SV management through a gender lens. However, the gender task force is a new structure that will require support to perform its function properly.

**Transfer of trained staff:** The evaluation further noted that some of the trained police prosecutors were transferred to other districts and there is no guarantee that where they have been transferred, they will continue to advocate for the gender sensitivity in managing SV.

**Once off awareness session event:** The evaluation noted the project conducted one good awareness session in each district. Though the awareness sessions were more participatory, the evaluation noted that some of the concepts that were being shared such understanding of SV related laws require more time and need more engagement. Conducting of awareness once pose a challenge in sustaining the awareness at community level.

### 3.4.5 Conclusion on sustainability

RDC noted that the project contributed to positive changes in raising awareness of justice system in managing SV but also built the capacity of criminal justice actors on the importance of gender sensitivity in managing SV survivors and perpetrators. The evaluation noted that a number of activities have the potential to be sustained. Through the project awareness meetings, a number of district stakeholders were involved such as social welfare officers, police prosecutors, CBOs, chiefs who could continue with the awareness meetings. In districts where there are existing TWG on GBV could continue with awareness meetings based on the commitment from other stakeholders working in the districts. The staff from judiciary and police who are members in the TWG could play a critical role in ensuring that such initiatives are sustained. The project also noted that as a result of awareness meetings a number of initiatives have been introduced that will require support of the project to be established and consolidated. This is an area where the project will require extension to institutionalize the initiatives.

The evaluation noted through all the 8 FGDs with traditional leaders that there has been increased referral of SV cases to police through provision of referral letters. The traditional leaders and CBOs after the attending WOJAM awareness meetings, they are also conducting awareness of SV in their respective communities. During FGDs with women and girls it was noted that a high proportion mentioned friends as source of information on GBV and SV. When probed, it was noted that women and girls who attended WOJAM awareness meetings also share information with their friends in the communities. The knowledge gained by community leaders, members and CBO will likely continued to be shared beyond the life of the project. The evaluation however noted the need for more engagement with CBOs to have good understanding on SV related roles.

The project built the capacity of police prosecutors, magistrates and judges whose core duties is to provide justice. The skills and knowledge gained through the project will continue to benefit women and girls in the districts. On the other hand, the evaluation further noted that some of the trained police prosecutors were transferred to other districts and there is no guarantee that where they have been transferred, they will continue to advocate for the gender sensitivity in managing SV.

On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project such as Gender Task Force will need more time to bear fruits and influence judicial procedures and protocol. Gender Task Force once institutionalize will have some long-term benefits in ensuring that women and girls get better access to justice. The Gender Task Force aim is to collaborate with Chief Justice to influence policy direction.

One of the significant aspects of the project was the investment made on capacity building of the judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers in dealing with SV. The knowledge and skills gained will continue to be utilized by the officers beyond the life of the project. However, the evaluation noted that not all judge and magistrates have been trained.

The project has developed a number of training materials that will continue to be utilized by judges and magistrates. The Head of Judicial Training Unit indicated the materials developed by the project will be useful in strengthening the training content for judicial staff.

## 5.5 Project Impact

The broader impact of the project was to contribute to the ending of violence against women and girls to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment. However, for a project to influence a reduction of SV it will require a longer period, since behavior change is a slow process. Through the evaluation, the team reviewed police records to determine if there has been any reduction of cases of sexual violence and how SV cases are being managed. During the project wrap up meeting, stakeholders in the project noted the following as key impacts of the project.

### 5.5.1 Reduced number of sexual violence incidents reported by women and girls

RDC reviewed the records from police on incidents of sexual violence. The national police headquarters consolidates data on all cases of SV that were reported in police stations from the districts. Based on this data set, overall incidents of sexual violence appear to be decreasing from 2016-2018, as indicated in the Table 6 below.

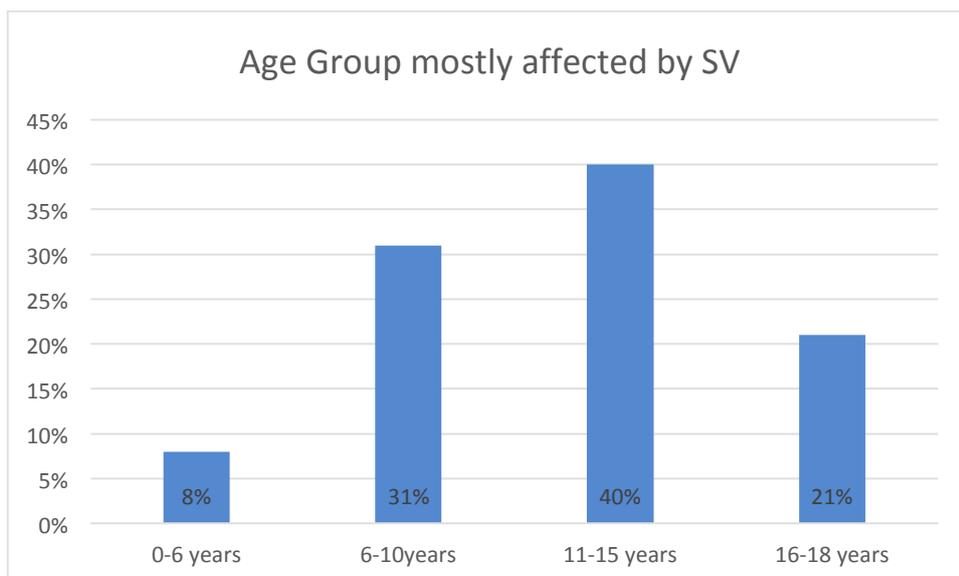
*Table 7: Reported cases per year and category*

Category of offence	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL
Defilement	1054	896	860	2810
Rape	112	110	106	328
Indecent Assault Boys	38	19	28	85
Indecent Assault Girls	120	116	76	312
Indecent Assault Men	54	30	18	102
Indecent Assault Women	108	71	34	213
Sodomy	36	4	12	52
Totals	1522	1246	1134	3902

Source: National Police Headquarter Records

According to police records, 86.3% of received cases were taken to court and about 13.7% were dismissed due to insufficient evidence, while 64% of the cases taken to court secured convictions. Most of the SV occurred with minors below 18 years as indicated in the figure 9 below.

*Figure 14: Age groups most affected by SV*



Source: National Police Headquarters records

However, during the KII interviews with the sampled magistrates, 6 of 8 (75%) of the respondents, indicated that there has been increased reporting of SV in the districts as a result of the awareness done by the project. Similarly, 14 of 18 (77.7%) of sampled police prosecutors indicated the same. One likely reason for this discrepancy in data between KIIs and police records is the reportedly poor documentation of SV cases across Malawi.

#### Increased awareness reach and geographical coverage

The project conducted more than 35 awareness sessions in all of the four judicial divisions of Malawi with a total of 15,369 women, 6206 men and boys, and 6756 girls. The number that was reached through the project awareness exceeded the projected number at the design stage.

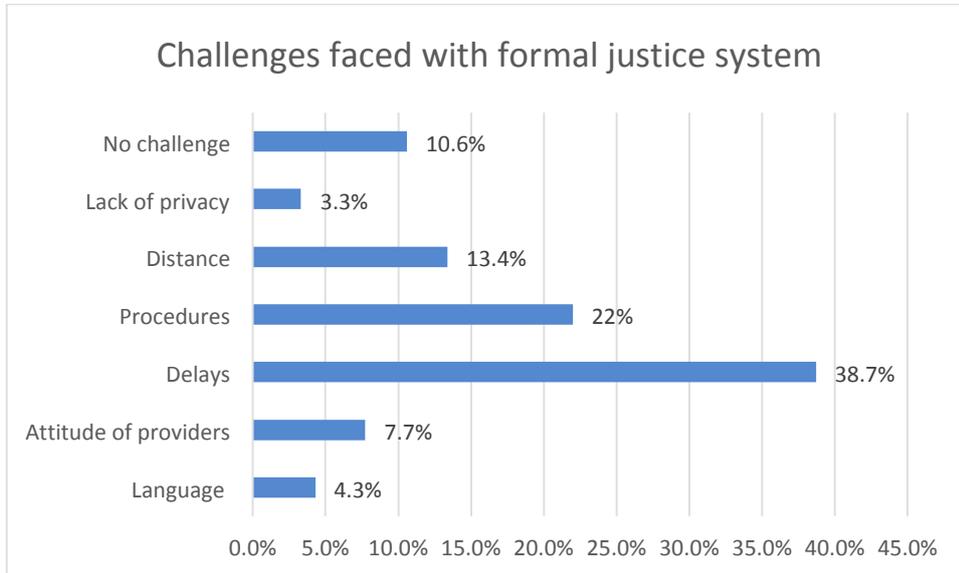
#### 5.5.2 Perspective of Malawian women and girls on criminal justice system

As indicated earlier, about 114 women interviewed indicated that they were aware of the formal justice process for SV. The evaluation noted that 60.2% of women interviewed preferred the formal justice system compared to 39.8% who preferred informal process. Of those who preferred formal justice system, 42.1% preferred the justice system because it is accessible, 85.2% indicated that it is reliable, 16.7% indicated that its affordable and only 6.2% mentioned that it is user friendly. The higher percentage of women who regard criminal justice as reliable has the potential of attracting more women to refer their cases to court.

The evaluation asked women who prefer using the formal justice system about the challenges they face to access justice; 43.3% of the women interviewed through the individual questionnaire mentioned delays in concluding cases while 22% indicated procedures that are used to have cases concluded. The process and procedure of giving evidence coupled with medical reports is some of the challenges mentioned by women. Women find the procedure

cumbersome and complicated. During WOJAM’s project closure meeting in Blantyre, magistrates also indicated that most women think once a case is reported to police, they do not need to come back to give evidence in court, and this perception is reinforced when a case is adjourned to a later date.

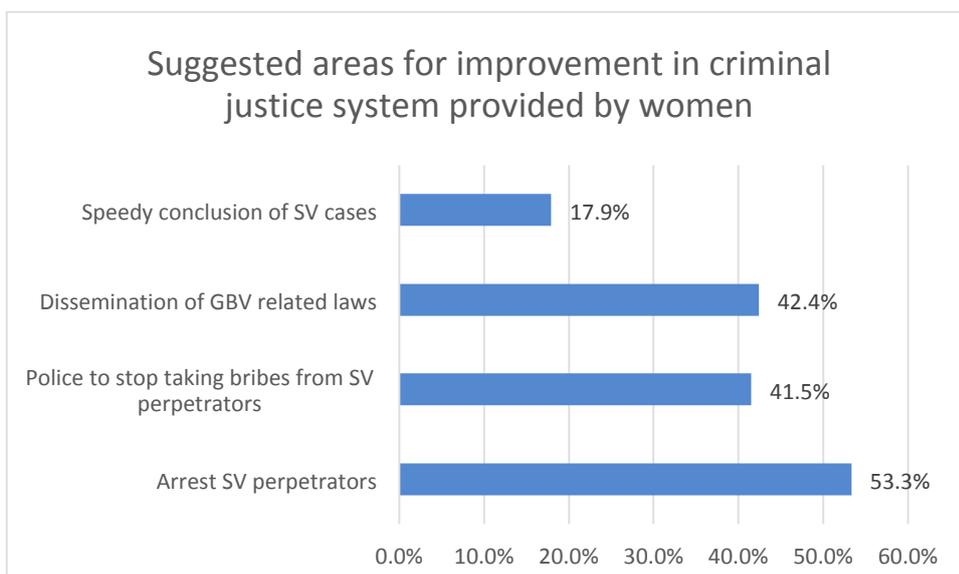
Figure 15: Challenges faced with formal justice system



Source: Women questionnaire

Women interviewed through the questionnaire were asked to share their views on what needs to be improved in the management of the criminal justice system especially in dealing with SV cases. The results from the women showed that 53.3% would like to have perpetrators of SV arrested, while 41.5% would like to see police stop taking bribes from perpetrators of SV as indicated in figure below.

Figure 16: Suggested improvements in criminal justice system provided by women



Source: Women individual questionnaire

### *5.5.3 Perceived impact of the training*

The evaluation noted that after the training on gender sensitive courts addressing issues of gender bias and stereotype, the high court has not yet set a date to review sentences from the lower courts. Without evidence of the review of sentencing patterns on SC cases it is difficult to ascertain the impact of the training conducted to judges and magistrates. This is an area where further study and research is needed to examine the changes that have resulted from the training. The Gender Justice Task Force should pursue this to ascertain the overall impact of the project.

### *5.5.4 Conclusion on Impact*

The project conducted more than 35 awareness sessions in all of the four judicial divisions of Malawi with a total of 15,369 women, 6206 men and boys, and 6756 girls. The number that was reached through the project awareness exceeded the projected number at the design stage.

As a result of awareness meetings, the project has contributed to an increase in SV reporting as noted by the police prosecutors and magistrates. The results of the evaluation noted that 60.2% of women interviewed preferred the formal justice system compared to 39.8% who preferred informal process. Of those who preferred formal justice system, 42.1% preferred the justice system because it is accessible, 85.2% indicated that it is reliable, 16.7% indicated that its affordable and only 6.2% mentioned that it is user friendly. The higher percentage of women who regard criminal justice as reliable has the potential of attracting more women to refer their cases to court.

Nevertheless, some women through the individual questionnaire also complained about delays in concluding SV cases and complicated procedures that are followed in managing SV cases. About 43.3% of the women interviewed through the individual questionnaire mentioned delays in concluding cases while 22% indicated procedures that are used to have cases concluded. The process and procedure of giving evidence coupled with medical reports is some of the challenges mentioned by women. Women find the procedure cumbersome and complicated.

## **5.6 Knowledge Generation**

The evaluation under this section responded to question: To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners? The evaluation noted a number of strategies that were used in the project to contribute towards the reduction of SV. The section therefore, presents the lessons learned in the project and new knowledge gained as a result of the project implementation.

### 5.6.1 Lessons Learned through the project

#### i) Involvement of multi stakeholders in the awareness meetings has potential to achieve better results on the communities and leveraging of resources

Through the project, WOJAM used women judges to mobilize stakeholders at national and district level to conduct awareness meetings targeting women and girls to have deeper understanding of criminal justice system. In most communities, judges and magistrates are associated with sentencing and punishing offenders of the law. Through the project, judges interacted with stakeholders to promote SV preventions and clarify GBV related laws outside the court set up. Such an approach in itself has the potential to encourage women and girls to access the criminal justice. The interaction through the project by stakeholders in promoting the fight against SV has the potential of leveraging resources and potential for sustainability.

#### ii) Use of Judges in developing training materials and facilitating capacity building increased buy in from the criminal justice actors

The project utilized the judges from the criminal division of the court to develop training materials for training judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officer. The same judges facilitated the capacity building of the criminal justice actors. In developing the training materials, the judges applied real gaps and experiences in addressing gender sensitive issues in the administration of justice on SV cases. The involvement of the judges even in the capacity building of judges on criminal justice actors increased the buy in because they facilitated the trainings from an informed position based on experience.

#### iii) Use of cascading training approach increased reach

The training approach that was used by the project allowed that more officers are reached through Training of Trainers approach. The project trained 28 judges and magistrates who in turn trained over 282 people. The ToTs were mobilized from the judicial divisions and the officers trained participants from their region. This was cost effective approach and good for transfer of skills.

#### iv) Management of refugees and the displaced communities on SV

During the interviews at Dzaleka Refugee Camp a number of challenges were noted. First, almost every month there are new refugees arriving at the camp who require orientation on SV. The project conducted awareness raising once there, and some of the people who attended the awareness meeting have since relocated to other countries. The refugee camps are managed by the UN, and the refugees rarely have knowledge of the existing laws that govern SV in Malawi. The project developed IEC materials, but language is another challenge. The project needs to develop a separate model to deal with SV at the refugee camps.

## 5.6.2 Promising/ emerging practices

- c) Involvement of judges and magistrates in SV awareness and capacity building:** the evaluation noted that judges and magistrates took a leading role in community awareness sessions which involved other stakeholders. Ordinarily, judges and magistrates are viewed as people who are responsible for punishing law offenders but their involvement in community awareness provided an opportunity to clarify the law so that community members are empowered to seek court redress in situation where they feel that have been sexually victimized. This is approach has been tested and worked through this project and has greater potential to influence positive influence in fighting SV.
- d) The shift from focusing on SV perpetrators to SV survivors:** the evaluation noted that the project has initiated shift in approach in managing SV in the judicial system. Prior to the project implementation, the judges and magistrates and court system emphasized more on having perpetrators of SV properly sentenced. The survivors of SV were viewed as instrumental in providing evidence to ensure that perpetrators are sentenced. Little attention was given to the needs and concerns of the survivors of SV. However, the project has brought the shift in being affirmative to pay attention to the survivors of SV in court processes. The project conducted needs assessment, developed training material and trained criminal justice actors on gender sensitive courts with special attention on survivors of SV. The project has exposed to need to make the courts gender sensitive.

## 5.7 Gender equality and human rights

The evaluation assessed the extent to which human rights based and gender responsive approaches have been incorporated throughout the project. The evaluation used the PANEL approach which promotes:

- Participation,
- Accountability,
- Non-Discrimination,
- Equality and
- Linkages to Human rights.

**Participation:** The evaluation team noted that the project incorporated the concept of participation to a large extent in the implementation. This was observed through the awareness meetings that the project promoted in all of the four judicial divisions. WOJAM did not implement the awareness sessions alone, but rather with a number of stakeholders who participated in the design and implementation of the awareness sessions. The awareness session involved judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, health officials, social welfare officers, traditional leaders, mother groups, CBOs and teachers. The only group that was not given space to participate was the women and girls themselves. Given the fact that most of

the SV perpetrated against girls is not reported it would be ideal in future awareness sessions that girls be involved and given the space to participate to become beneficiaries of the results of the intervention. In creating such a space and platform the project should ensure that the girls are protected and secured so that in creating a platform for girls to participate in the project, it must not result in infringing on other rights.

The project developed comprehensive training materials to deal with gender bias, stereotypes and prejudices in dealing with SV. The development of the materials involved judges and experts in gender issues. Findings from judges and magistrates revealed that the training was very helpful.

**Accountability:** Throughout its implementation, the project worked with different stakeholders. A good basis for showing accountability was involvement of stakeholders in the planning of activities. This is a successful component of this project. The project implementation lead team was also in constant communication with IAWJ and periodically submitted reports to the funders.

**Non-Discrimination:** The evaluation noted that the implementation of the project included hard-to-reach areas where courts are far from communities. The project also included schools and refugee camps. The mix of areas to conduct awareness meetings is a sign that the project employed a nondiscrimination approach.

**Equality:** The whole design of the project aimed at promoting equality in accessing justice on SV cases. The project noted inconsistencies between female and male judges in passing sentences related to SV. Female judges would give stiffer punishments while male judges would give lenient sentences based on gender differences and bias. The way the court proceeding was handed would favor males as compared to females. As such the project was designed to address such gender gaps. The project created Gender Task Force which was supposed to lobby the Chief Justice to issues practice guidelines to address such barriers and ensure equity in justice delivery. However, the protocol has not been issued yet rather the chief justice issues judicial circular which touched on some of the components addressed by the project.

**Linkage to Human Rights:** The project interventions are in line with the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and principles of human rights.

## **5.8 Conclusion on Knowledge Generation**

The evaluation noted the two-year period of project implementation has generated key lessons and new knowledge in managing SV among women and girls. Key lessons that have been learned include but not limited to:

- v) Involvement of multi stakeholders in the awareness meetings has potential to achieve better results on the communities and leveraging of resources

- vi) Use of Judges in developing training materials and facilitating capacity building increased buy in from the criminal justice actors
- vii) Use of cascading training approach (ToT) increased reach
- viii) Management of refugees and the displaced communities on SV:

The evaluation also noted some promising practices in the management of SV. These include:

**Involvement of judges and magistrates in SV awareness and capacity building:** the evaluation noted that judges and magistrates took a leading role in community awareness sessions which involved other stakeholders. Ordinarily, judges and magistrates are viewed as people who are responsible for punishing law offenders but their involvement in community awareness provided an opportunity to clarify the law so that community members are empowered to seek court redress in situation where they feel that have been sexually victimized. This approach has been tested and worked through this project and has greater potential to influence positive influence in fighting SV.

**The shift from focusing on SV perpetrators to SV survivors:** the evaluation noted that the project has initiated shift in approach in managing SV in the judicial system. Prior to the project implementation, the judges and magistrates and court system emphasized more on having perpetrators of SV properly sentenced. The survivors of SV were viewed as instrumental in providing evidence to ensure that perpetrators are sentenced. Little attention was given to the needs and concerns of the survivors of SV. However, the project has brought the shift in being affirmative to pay attention to the survivors of SV in court processes. The project conducted needs assessment, developed training material and trained criminal justice actors on gender sensitive courts with special attention on survivors of SV. The project has exposed to need to make the courts gender sensitive. The project experience is building on the gap that was noted by advocates of fighting SV from the judicial perspective. Who noted that most of the courts place more emphasis on perpetrators of SV as opposed to survivors of SV<sup>7</sup>

Lastly, the evaluation noted that the project implementation was in line with the principles of rights-based approach.

**Participation:** The evaluation team noted that the project incorporated the concept of participation of stakeholders to a large extent in the implementation. The only group that was not given space to participate was the women and girls themselves. Given the fact that most of the SV perpetrated against girls is not reported it would be ideal in future awareness sessions that girls be involved and given the space to participate to become beneficiaries of the results of the intervention.

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<sup>7</sup> [www.theconversation.com](http://www.theconversation.com)

The project developed comprehensive training materials to deal with gender bias, stereotypes and prejudices in dealing with SV. The development of the materials involved judges and experts in gender issues. Findings from judges and magistrates revealed that the training was very helpful. However, it would be good to develop a tool to get feedback from court users including women on how the courts are addressing gender barriers.

**Accountability:** Throughout its implementation, the project worked with different stakeholders in conducting its activities.

**Non-Discrimination:** The evaluation noted that the implementation of the project included hard-to-reach areas where courts are far from communities.

**Equality:** The whole design of the project aimed at promoting equality in accessing justice on SV cases. This was addressed through capacity building to address gender stereotypes and bias among criminal justice actors.

**Linkage to Human Rights:** The project interventions are in line with the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and principles of human rights.

## **6.0 Conclusion**

The project was designed after recognizing the challenges that women and girls face in Malawi to access justice despite the Government of Malawi's commitment to implement national and international laws promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls. Women and girls face challenges to access courts and are victims of harmful cultural practices and beliefs. Women and girls are ignorant of laws and policies governing SGBV. WOJAM and IAWJ partnered to implement a project whose overall goal was to ensure that women and girls in all the four judicial divisions of Malawi are safer and better protected from sexual violence. The project had two outcomes: (i) Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project; and (ii) Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

Towards the end of the two-year project, IAWJ commissioned an external evaluation to assess the project in terms of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact. The evaluation also planned to generate lessons learned and identification of promising practices for learning.

### Project Relevance

The evaluation noted that the project was relevant largely in two dimensions. Firstly, the set project goals and outcomes were relevant to the needs of women and girls in the four judicial districts. Based on the findings discussed in this report, the evaluation concludes that the project the set project goals and outcomes were relevant to the needs of women and girls. The goal focused on ensuring that women and girl are safer and better protected from sexual violence. The project further focused on ensuring that Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, sentence violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project and that women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice. The focus on both criminal justice actors and women and girls in the project helped address factors that would promote safety and protection of women. The project conducted awareness session that reached more people; 15369 people. The awareness sessions were conducted in hard to reach areas and areas with high incidences of SV as well as schools targeting girls. The choice of the places and target audience for the awareness meeting responded to the right group. The majority were women and girls who are victims of SV. The awareness sensitized the communities that SV are criminal in nature and such cases are supposed to be managed by formal justice actors and properly sentenced. The evaluation noted that the awareness sessions that were done by the project were relevant because they involved a number of stakeholders who addressed women and girls needs holistically.

Secondly the project interventions and activities were relevant to the needs of women and girls in the targeted districts. WOJAM conducted trainings with judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers on GBV related laws, gender and rights-based approaches

to ensure that women and girls are safe and comfortable to access the courts. The project conducted the capacity building of 282 criminal justice actors. Training of the criminal justice actors focused on gender sensitive courts and gender stereotypes and sentencing of SV. The evaluation noted that previously the criminal justice actors would focus on the perpetrators of SV instead of survivor of SV. The shift that this project created in training the justice actors to focus on survivor of SV was relevant to encourage women and girls to access formal justice system in managing SV. This enabled the project to contribute to the achievement of its set goal, of ensuring that justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate and sentence sexual perpetrators, and treat victims humanely by the end of the project. The involvement of women judges to lead the capacity building was relevant and in line with the theory of change strategies: training justice actors will contribute positively in mitigating and controlling SV.

The evaluation also noted that capacity building conducted to judges' magistrates was relevant because it exposed dominant social norms that affected management of SV cases and sentencing of perpetrators of SV. The evaluation noted that the project addressed the following challenges that affected women and girls: **i) Discrepancies in sentencing between female judges and magistrates and male judges and magistrates on sexual violence cases:** Male magistrates would give lenient sentences while female judges would give stiffer sentences. Even when high court judges would review sentences from the lower courts, female judges would give stiffer sentences and male judges would give lenient sentences; **ii) Gender stereotypes and prejudice:** In most cases judges and magistrates would bring their personal gender stereotypes and prejudices to SV cases, and **iii) Hostile environment for women and re-victimization:** Most SV cases attract interest from community members. In such an environment, women and girls find it uncomfortable to give evidence and this causes re-victimization

However, the trainings that the project conducted with justice actors helped to respond to the above challenges thereby addressing some of the challenges that women and girls used to face in seeking justice on SV. This reveal that the project activities and interventions were relevant.

The evaluation also noted that project interventions and activities were relevant to the needs of women and girls in the four judicial districts. The evaluation has noted that women and girls have gained knowledge on GBV and women and girls rights. The results of FGDs show that 100/154 (74.1%) of women participated in the awareness meetings, while 100/151 (66.2%) of girls indicated that they participated in the awareness meetings and that has been a major source of information about GBV and SV for them. Before the project conducted the awareness, women and girls indicated their understanding of SV and GBV was limited and few women and girls were awareness.

The results of the evaluation noted that project has exposed challenges that were affecting women and girls related to SV which include: i) Lack of Openness to discussing SV ii) Exposed a culture that promote child marriages, iii) Non-reporting SV cases to police, iv)

Wrong Myths that Fuel SV Incidences, v) Dominant cultural norms and vi) limited involvement of local leaders in fighting SV.

The evaluation however, noted that the survivors of sexual violence (girls and women) were not given the chance to speak during awareness meetings. Involvement of survivors of sexual abuse could have given opportunity for stakeholders to appreciate the manner in which SV affects them. Girls in schools suffer in silence and during such awareness meetings, girls would expose the tendencies of teachers who abuse girls sexually. The evaluation also noted that beyond the awareness meetings, clear action plans were not developed. Whilst the awareness in itself is the first step to address sexual violence, stakeholders could have used the platform to develop an action plan to establish accountability mechanisms for dealing with sexual violence.

### Project Effectiveness

The project sought to ensure that women and girls have good perspective about formal justice system and should feel confident and empowered to access justice. The project trained judges, magistrates, and police prosecutors on the importance of being gender sensitive and on GBV related laws, to ensure that as criminal justice actors they provide an environment conducive to women and girls to access and utilize the courts, and at the same time provide relevant sentences to perpetrators of SV. The results from women and girls FGDs show that there is good perception about justice system. Women have better knowledge regarding justice process and a higher proportion prefer to use the formal justice system to manage SV incidents. The results further noted that a higher proportion of women and relatively small proportion of girls are comfortable to report SV to police. On the other hand, a higher proportion of both women and girls in the FGDs indicated that they are comfortable to report to court.

On the other hand, the majority of girls described police as corrupt and expressed the belief that they take bribes from SV perpetrators in order to get lenient sentences in court. However, both women and girls in the FGDs were aware of the process of reporting SV cases. The evaluation also noted that women interviewed through the questionnaire had limited knowledge of GBV related laws.

The above finding is an indicative that such outcome of ensuring that women and girls have good perspective about formal justice system and should feel confident and empowered to access justice has been achieved to a greater extent.

In line with the project output of ensuring that Malawian women and girls have improved understanding of their rights, the evaluation noted a higher proportion of women are aware of women and girls' rights are. However, the depth on knowledge on women and girls' rights need strengthening. The results also noted that a higher proportion of women and girls know that SV cases need to be reported to police that demonstrates greater knowledge of remedies

available to them to hold sexual perpetrators accountable. The results from FGDs show that both women and girls are aware of pathways for reporting SV.

In line with project outcome that sought to have the Malawian criminal justice stakeholder demonstrate an increase in knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting, adjudicating, and sentencing sexual violence perpetrators, the evaluation noted that all the trained (4) judges, (8) magistrates demonstrated confidence in dealing with sexual violence related laws. The evaluation further noted that that perspective of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity was good. This was done through assessment of their knowledge and skills based on a series of practical statements. The results showed that all 4 trained judges and 8 magistrates scored all the statements correct while 2 out of 3 police prosecutors scored all statements correct. This is an indicative that the criminal justice actors recognize the importance of gender sensitivity in handling SV cases.

The project trained more magistrates and judges on gender approach in dealing with SV, through training of trainers (ToT) approach. The participants trained as trainers were drawn from four judicial divisions, and were responsible to train and orient more judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, and court research officers in the districts and judicial divisions. The project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 282 officers. However, the project did not develop mechanism to assess the quality of training that were facilitated by trained ToT and mechanism of results of training in the actual delivery in courts.

The evaluation noted that the project sought to influence the development of clear protocols on sexual violence cases and disseminate to Malawian criminal justice actors. On the other hand, the project also aimed at ensuring that the criminal justice system is informed about its response to sexual violence through the Gender Justice Taskforce. The evaluation has noted that at the end of two years, the project has succeeded in influencing the Chief Justice to develop and issue a circular on management of witnesses in GBV and SV cases. The project has succeeded in setting up the Gender Justice Taskforce with clear scope of work. However, the Gender Justice Taskforce is yet to fully influence the criminal justice system on its response to sexual violence. The Gender Task Force has since developed the curriculum of managing SV cases that will continue to inform the criminal justice actors in dealing with SV cases.

### Project Efficiency

The evaluation noted and concluded that there were delays in project take off in the year one. The delay was due to changes in staff on the side of IAWJ to oversee the implementation of the project. On the other hand, the evaluation noted the process of developing the curriculum took more time than anticipated and that affected the rolling out of other project activities. The development of training curriculum was a joint activity between IAWJ and WOJAM and with the changes of staff at IAWJ, the finalization of the curriculum took long than anticipated. The evaluation noted that some challenges in complying with financial

management and that resulted in delay in funds transfer which in turn affected implementation of other activities.

On the training approach, the evaluation concludes that the use training of trainers (ToT) was an efficient strategy to reach out to more criminal justice actors. The project trained 28 trainers who in turn trained 282 officers through interactive training sessions. However, the project lacked good monitoring and evaluation plan to document the results of the training and awareness meetings. For example, a number of judges and magistrates were trained but there was no monitoring to track what has changed as a result of the training. One of the key outcomes of the project was to ensure that there are consistencies in the judgments made in courts as result of the training. However, after the training, the project missed the opportunity of developing case studies and resources to demonstrate the effects of the training.

The evaluation also concludes that the awareness approach reached more people. The project conducted over 35 awareness sessions and reached 15369 people. The project introduced a number of good initiatives to address SV among women and girls as a result of awareness session but the project needed good monitoring to track other initiatives that followed as a result of the awareness. This would shift the awareness from being an event to a process of initiating behavioral change.

The project succeeded in using judges based on expertise. WOJAM collaborated with IAWJ to develop curriculum to address gender bias and stereotypes in dealing with SV in courts. The process of developing the curriculum of engendering the court process and procedures was based on the experiences of the judges who were already working on criminal justice department. The involvement of judges in conducting awareness session also influenced the other stakeholders involved in the awareness session positively. This was in line with the key project theory of change; improving the criminal justice sector's response to SV is a change that is best led from within the justice sector to ensure institutional buy in and sustainability.

### Project Sustainability

RDC noted that a number of aspects that point to sustainability of the interventions and initiative triggered by the project. Through the project awareness meetings, a number of district stakeholders were involved such as social welfare officers, police prosecutors, CBOs, and chiefs who could continue with the awareness meetings. In districts where there are existing TWG on GBV could continue with awareness meetings based on the commitment from other stakeholders working in the districts. The staff from judiciary and police who are members in the TWG could play a critical role in ensuring that such initiative are sustained.

The evaluation noted through all the 8 FGDs with traditional leaders that there has been increased referral of SV cases to police through provision of referral letters. The traditional leaders and CBOs after the attending WOJAM awareness meetings, they are also conducting awareness of SV in their respective communities. During FGDs with women and girls it was noted that a high proportion mentioned friends as source of information on GBV and SV.

When probed, it was noted that women and girls who attended WOJAM awareness meetings also share information with their friends in the communities. The knowledge gained by community leaders, members and CBO will likely continued to be shared beyond the life of the project. The evaluation however needs for more engagement with CBOs to have good understanding on SV related roles. The project also noted that as a result of awareness meetings a number of initiatives have been introduced that will require support of the project to be established and consolidated. This is an area where the project will require extension to institutionalize the initiatives.

One of the significant aspects of the project was the investment made on capacity building of the judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and research officers in dealing with SV. The knowledge and skills gained will continue to be utilized by the officers beyond the life of the project. However, the evaluation noted that not all judge and magistrates have been trained.

The project has developed a number of training materials that will continue to be utilized by judges and magistrates. The Head of Judicial Training Unit indicated the materials developed by the project will be useful in strengthening the training content for judicial staff.

On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project such as Gender Task Force will need more time to bear fruits and influence judicial procedures and protocol. Gender Task Force once institutionalized will have some long-term benefits in ensuring that women and girls get better access to justice. The Gender Task Force aim is to collaborate with Chief Justice to influence policy direction.

On the other hand, the evaluation further noted that some of the trained police prosecutors were transferred to other districts and there is no guarantee that where they have been transferred, they will continue to advocate for the gender sensitivity in managing SV.

### Project Impact

The project conducted more than 35 awareness sessions in all of the four judicial divisions of Malawi with a total of 15,369 women and 6756 girls. The number that was reached through the project awareness exceeded the projected number at the design stage.

The evaluation noted that the project has contributed to an increase in SV reporting as noted by the police prosecutors and magistrates. The higher percentage of women regard criminal justice as reliable has the potential of attracting more women to refer their cases to court. Nevertheless, some women through the individual questionnaire also complained about delays in concluding SV cases and complicated procedures that are followed in managing SV cases. The process and procedure of giving evidence coupled with medical reports are some of the challenges mentioned by women. Women find the procedure cumbersome and complicated.

### Promising Practices

The evaluation noted that the two-year period of project implementation has generated key lessons and new knowledge in managing SV among women and girls. Key lessons that have been learned include but are not limited to:

- a) Involvement of multi stakeholders in the awareness meetings has potential to achieve better results on the communities and leveraging of resources
- b) Use of Judges in developing training materials and facilitating capacity building increased buy in from the criminal justice actors
- c) Use of cascading training approach (ToT) increased reach
- f) Early reporting of SV cases ensures that evidence is not compromised

The evaluation also noted some promising practices in the management of SV. These include: i) involvement of judges and magistrates in SV awareness and capacity building, ii) the shift from focusing on SV perpetrators to SV survivors.

Lastly, the evaluation noted that the project implementation was in line with the principles of rights-based approach. The project complied with principle of Participation though the evaluation limited participation of girls in awareness meetings and lack of feedback mechanism from court users. The project promoted accountability, throughout its implementation. However, the project did not create a platform where courts users would give feedback on the challenges, they face in accessing justice. The project worked with different stakeholders in conducting its activities. The evaluation noted that the implementation of the project activities did not discriminate certain communities. The interventions included hard-to-reach areas where courts are far from communities. The whole design of the project aimed at promoting equality in accessing justice on SV cases. This was addressed through capacity building to address gender stereo types and bias among criminal justice actors. The project interventions are in line with the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and principles of human rights.

## **7.0 Recommendations**

Based on the results and conclusion of the evaluation, the following recommendations are being proposed for action:

### Project Relevance

The evaluation noted that the project has contributed to increased awareness of women and girls' rights and how to manage SV is an entry point to behavioral change and increasing the SV reporting amongst women and girls which relate to outcome 2 and output 2.1 of the project. The evaluation recommends continuation of awareness raising of specific women's and rights by duty bearers who participated in the awareness meeting by WOJAM. Such stakeholders include: magistrates, police prosecutors, police from VSU, social welfare officers, health personnel, traditional leaders, NGOs and members of the CBOs. The above members have observed the approach which was initiated by the project where a number of stakeholders would participate in the awareness and emphasize on their area of specialty in addressing SV. The awareness will enable more women and girls know about their rights and start demanding access to justice from duty bearers.

The judiciary through the magistrates in the judicial districts should strengthen the TWGs working on SV prevention and management so that they can coordinate the awareness sessions in the districts. The District Commissioner should coordinate the TWG with the technical support from the judiciary who have a better understanding of SV related laws. The evaluation further recommends that in future awareness meetings, stakeholders should be developing an action plan with clear roles and responsibility for Women's rights / women and girls' rights and in awareness raising, or in addressing SV.

The evaluation further recommends that WOJAM should conduct a comprehensive study on the changes in sentencing patterns among judges and magistrates in line with the trainings that they received through as a result of the project. The study will inform whether the trainings initiated by the project has brought change in reversing the sentencing biases that existed between male and female judges and magistrate on SV cases. Based on the outcomes of the above study, WOJAM should review training content to address the gaps that will be informed by the findings of the study.

### Project effectiveness

The evaluation noted that in the districts, the Department of Social Welfare is responsible for mainstreaming gender in the department's operation and work. The study recommends that WOJAM should involve the Department of Social Welfare to explore areas of addressing gender issues that were noted by girls in the project. As a way of improving negative

perception that girls have towards police offices, the stakeholders at district level should introduce accountability mechanism. One way is to involve the community radio stations in the district, to provide updates on the ongoing cases on SV in the districts.

On the limited knowledge of communities about GBV related laws, the evaluation recommends that WOJAM should develop simplified IEC materials on GBV related laws and that could be used by CBOs and TWG on GBV to raise awareness. Increased awareness of GBV related laws by women and girls will give them greater confidence to seek clarification or appeal if not satisfied with sentencing of perpetrators of SV, among other actions.

However, the evaluation noted a one-day awareness session is not sufficient to address all issues concerning GBV. For example, knowledge of GBV related laws cannot be comprehended in single sessions by community members. In addition, the awareness raising did not cover the entire districts. The evaluation therefore recommends that WOJAM should work with district partners to develop a timetable with clear topics to be covered in each session. The sessions should be interactive to allow participants to ask questions and seek clarifications.

#### Project efficiency

WOJAM should develop a scale up plan to reach out to remaining magistrates to ensure that women and girls access gender sensitive courts in all four judicial divisions. The evaluation also noted that the project lacked a good monitoring and evaluation plan and tools to track the changes with judges and magistrates as a result of the training facilitated by the project. It is therefore being recommended that WOJAM should develop mechanism of tracking effects of the training facilitated.

The evaluation noted that the use of a strategic team in conducting the awareness meetings was good and provided an opportunity to present SV prevention, reporting and management to ensure that women and girls access justice.

The evaluation noted that WOJAM did not have a dedicated full-time project person to oversee project implementation. The project utilized judicial staff, who were assigned to provide oversight on the implementation of the project. It is therefore being recommended that in the future, WOJAM should consider having a dedicated project officer to oversee implementation of activities and strict observation of donor requirements.

#### Project sustainability

The evaluation noted that a number of activities have the potential to be sustained. Through the project awareness meetings, a number of district stakeholders were involved such as social welfare officers, police prosecutors, CBOs, chiefs who could continue with the awareness meetings. In districts where there are existing TWGs on GBV they could continue with awareness meetings. The project also noted that as a result of awareness meetings a

number of initiatives have been introduced that will require support of the project to be established and consolidated. This is an area where the project will require extension to institutionalize the initiatives.

The project built the capacity of police prosecutors, magistrates and judges whose core duty is to provide justice. The skills and knowledge gained through the project will continue to benefit women and girls in the districts. On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project such as the Gender Justice Task Force will need more time to bear fruit and influence judicial procedures and protocols. The evaluation therefore recommends an extension of the project to allow more time to strengthen the structures like these. The Gender Justice Task Force once institutionalized will have some long-term benefits in ensuring that women and girls get better access to justice. The Gender Justice Task Force also aims to collaborate with the Chief Justice to influence policy direction.

The project has trained some judges and magistrates in some districts but not all districts. Gender sensitive courts are of national interest; WOJAM needs to explore ways of institutionalize trainings so that more judges can be trained. WOJAM needs to collaborate with the Training Unit in the judiciary and Magistrates and Judges Association of Malawi (MAJAM) to ensure that this is done and that it receives the support it needs.

### Project impact

The evaluation noted that has contributed to increased SV reporting as noted by the police prosecutors and magistrates. On the other hand, the project has also helped women to have a more positive attitude towards the formal criminal justice actors and system. Nevertheless, some women through the questionnaire also complained about delays in concluding SV cases. The evaluation, therefore, recommends that WOJAM and stakeholders further orient women and girls on court procedures for them to better appreciate court processes to avoid delays.

### Knowledge Generation

The project also noted a number of promising practices that need further consolidation and institutionalization and scaling up:

- a) Involvement of judges and magistrates in SV awareness and capacity building beyond administering of justice in the courts
- b) The shift from focusing on SV perpetrators to SV survivors to motivate more women and girls access formal justice system in the fight against SV.

## 8.0 Annexes

Annex 1: Final Version of Terms of Reference (TOR) of the evaluation

End-Project Evaluation of the IAWJ Project: Women Judges Lead the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi (2017-2019)

### A. Background

In 2017, the IAWJ received a two-year grant worth \$500,000 from the United Nations Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence against Women (“UNTF”) to implement the Women Judges Lead the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi in partnership with the Women Judges Association of Malawi (WOJAM).

Context: Malawi is one of the least developed countries in the world with an estimated population of 17,845,570. Even though women and girls constitute 52% of the population, they are amongst the most marginalized citizens and suffer from all forms of violence and discrimination, including domestic violence and sexual violence (SV). A national survey conducted in Malawi in 2013 shows that one out of five females aged 18 to 24 experienced at least one incident of sexual violence (SV) before turning 18; 68.4% of these victims experienced multiple incidents of SV, and less than 25% of the survivors knew where to get help. While Malawi is committed to implementing national and international laws protecting the rights of women and girls, poverty, distance from courts, discrimination, customary norms and procedural, evidentiary, customary and other barriers often leave SV victims without legal remedy. SV victims often face re-victimization, ostracism, lack of shelters, and incompetent or corrupt criminal justice stakeholders when seeking help.

The justice system falls short in addressing these problems. Police prosecutors, magistrates, judges and related personnel have preconceived notions of gender stereotypes and myths surrounding SV, how women should behave and the needs of victims. Many criminal justice actors still misinterpret laws, practices, and evidentiary requirements surrounding SV. The ineffectiveness of the justice sector’s response to SV is exacerbated by inconsistent guidance from higher courts. As a result, SV continues, often with impunity, further perpetuating abuses. The High Courts in Malawi have reported an increased number of appeals related to GBV cases in which subordinate courts failed to provide a remedy for women and girls. On the other hand, some of the magistrates trained by the IAWJ complained of inconsistent judgments from the Higher Courts that leave the magistrates confused as to which case law to apply in their case decisions. The lack of guidance on SV cases between and among the highest courts of Malawi charged with issuing case law and the subordinate courts remains a barrier to effective application of the law.

Theory of Change of the Project: Holding sexual violence (SV) perpetrators accountable for their actions has been proven to deliver a clear message that SV is not tolerated and thereby contributes to SV prevention. Improving the criminal justice sector’s response to SV is a change that is best led from within the justice sector, to ensure institutional buy-in and sustainability. Judges are generally highly respected not only by the community at large, but also by key formal and informal justice actors, such as police, prosecutors, lawyers, traditional leaders and chiefs.

The IAWJ and its local member association, the Women Judges Association of Malawi (WOJAM) believe that women’s leadership within the justice sector will positively influence

SV prevention and response in Malawi. Women judges will lead the fight to demand justice and accountability for sexual violence by raising awareness among women and girls about the legal protections to which they are entitled, by training judges, prosecutors and police on gender stereotypes, on substantive provisions of SV laws, and on procedural and evidentiary issues, through clear and consistent protocols and guidance from higher courts to subordinate courts handling SV cases, by bringing justice sector stakeholders together with other multi-stakeholders to promote a better coordinated and more consistent SV response, and by bringing criminal justice actors into dialogue with SV victims, and women and girls who lack access to courts. Addressing these weaknesses in the SV prevention and protection chain will, in turn, increase community confidence in the justice sector's effectiveness and ability to protect the rights of women and girls to be free from SV.

### Project Goals, Outcomes, Activities

The overall goal of the project is to ensure that women and girls in the four judicial districts of Malawi (Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba and Mzuzu) are safer and better protected from sexual violence.

The project is designed to promote two primary outcomes and their accompanying outputs.

1. Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, and sentence sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project.

Output 1.1 Malawian criminal justice stakeholders demonstrate an increase in knowledge and skills in investigating, prosecuting, adjudicating and sentencing sexual violence perpetrators.

Output 1.2 Development and dissemination of protocols on sexual violence cases, to Malawian criminal justice actors.

Output 1.3 The criminal justice system is informed about its response to sexual violence through the Gender Justice Task Force.

2. Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.

Output 2.1 Malawian women and girls have improved understanding of their rights and greater knowledge of resources to report sexual violence.

Output 2.2 Mechanisms and resources to address sexual violence are established among targeted individual beneficiaries and institutional actors.

To achieve these outcomes, IAWJ and WOJAM will have carried out the following activities.

1. Dissemination of sexual violence laws. Through WOJAM training, public outreach and GJTF work, WOJAM disseminates copies of relevant laws, including the Gender Equality Act, the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, amendments to the penal and criminal procedure codes, and relevant sections of the Child Care (Justice and Protection) Act, among others. Most stakeholders, including members of the justice sector, have not had copies of the new laws and have therefore been at risk of mistakenly applying old and repealed laws.

2. A 5-day Training of Trainers (TOT) for 20 WOJAM members to develop the capacity of a pool of female judicial trainers who could then train their criminal justice colleagues. IAWJ staff and WOJAM leaders developed and administered a survey on the training needs of judges and magistrates and the application of sexual violence laws. IAWJ's judicial training expert and its training director co-designed a TOT curriculum for WOJAM members that includes adult learning principles, judicial education fundamentals, the identification of gender stereotypes, and substantive, evidentiary and procedural topics pertaining to SV. WOJAM's training director partnered with a second experienced Malawian judicial trainer to carry out the TOT using the new curriculum and training methodology in March 2018.

3. Interactive workshops for criminal justice actors. WOJAM organized six 2-day workshops for 175 judges and magistrates and 50 police prosecutors, using the curriculum and trainers from the TOT.

4. Creation of a Gender Justice Task Force (GJTF) that assesses obstacles to effectively implementing SV laws. The GJTF designed research questions on barriers to effective implementation of SV laws, and is currently developing recommendations to address gaps identified through research. GJTF members were selected from amongst WOJAM members, (judges from civil, criminal and juvenile law), academics from a local law school, the judicial training committee and the Director of Public Prosecutions. The Community Service Directorate of the Malawian Judiciary will be encouraged to sustain the work of the Gender Justice Task Force beyond the life of this project.

5. Public outreach meetings with school girls and in rural communities where sexual violence is rampant, to raise awareness among women and school girls who may be subjected to sexual violence about the legal protections and services to which they are entitled. Public outreach meetings were also conducted in Dzaleka and Luwani refugee camps. WOJAM will have reached primary beneficiaries and provided information about the consequences of sexual violence as well as available remedies, prevention methods, and available support services. These outreach meetings bring together community members and stakeholders, including judges and police, to talk about challenges they face in seeking accountability. Discussion topics on sexual violence are tailored to specific local concerns.

6. Focus Group Discussions: IAWJ and WOJAM hold focus group discussions with women and girls, including sexual violence victims, to collect their feedback and perceptions of barriers that victims encounter in trying to access justice and how they would like to see these addressed. In addition, they collectively identify how stakeholders can work together to address the identified challenges. Focus groups are also used to monitor and evaluate change brought about (or not) by the project activities.

7. Consistent guidance from the Higher Courts on sexual violence issues. This was to include developing and disseminating clear and consistent guidance from Higher Courts to subordinate courts to ensure effective application of SV laws. WOJAM and the GJTF are still promoting guidance in the form of a manual or bench book for submission to the courts. Upon receiving initial negative feedback from the Chief Justice regarding this guidance, the GJTF has determined that it will instead focus on promoting the development of a Survivor Advocates Network that can accompany victims and their families as their cases navigate the criminal justice system, and accompanying guidance on survivor advocacy.

8. Bringing criminal justice sector stakeholders together with other multi-stakeholders to create feedback loops and promote a better coordinated and more consistent SV response. One consultation brings multi-stakeholders together to create more effective cooperation between and among police, prosecutors, judges, social welfare officers, traditional leaders, health care professionals and government officials working on sexual violence. Effective coordination and collaboration between multi-disciplinary stakeholders helps to ensure that the Malawian justice system works more efficiently for SV survivors, that SV victims are protected and receive the services they need, and that perpetrators are held accountable. Another consultation/meeting specifically targets chiefs and other traditional leaders to connect them with magistrates and other formal justice actors to solidify a referral system between the informal and formal justice systems. This is especially important because many magistrates consider chiefs as allies, and traditionally SV related disputes in Malawi have been handled by chiefs and other traditional leaders before they are taken to court or instead of being taken to court. It also helps alleviate the perception among some chiefs that courts are taking their powers away. A third consultation targets head teachers/principal and policymakers in the education sector, to encourage them to adopt policies against the transfer to other schools of teachers who have committed sexual violence.

#### Project Beneficiaries

The primary beneficiaries of the project are many thousands of women and girls from the four target districts. The secondary beneficiaries are justice sector actors, including judges, magistrates, police prosecutors and related others.

#### Geographic Context

The project is being carried out in the four judicial divisions of Malawi: Lilongwe, Blantyre, Zomba and Mzuzu. WOJAM also targets specific districts which have high rates of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including the Dzaleka Refugee Camp, and select traditional authorities, which may include: Chitipa, Karonga, Rumphi, Mzimba, Nkhatabay, Nikhotakota, Kasungu, Ntchisi, Dowa, Mchinji, Salima, Dedza, Ntcheu, Machinga, Mangochi, Balaka, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe, Mulanje, Thyolo and Chiradzulu.

#### Purpose of the Evaluation

This is a mandatory final project evaluation required by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability, and impact of this project.

The results of this evaluation will be used to generate information on the impact in relation to the above-mentioned outputs and outcomes, and to provide insight and recommendations into improving future interventions targeting SGBV.

After the evaluation is completed, IAWJ and WOJAM will use the lessons attained to inform future program development in IAWJ member countries which face similar challenges in implementing SGBV laws, as well as to determine the possibility of future opportunities for building on this project's successes. Related, IAWJ will share insights and learning with key stakeholders of the program, including district authorities, government officials, participants and others in Malawi, to continue to strengthen interventions to address SGBV in the country. Finally, the project will facilitate knowledge and exchange of best practices between and among multi-stakeholders to scale up best practices in Malawi.

## B. Evaluation Objectives and Scope

The evaluation will cover the entire project duration from March 1, 2017 to February 28, 2019.

Geographical coverage: Lilongwe, Mzuzu, Blantyre, and Zomba.

Target groups to be covered: The evaluation will cover the targeted primary and secondary beneficiaries, as well as broader stakeholders, such as traditional chiefs and leaders, school teachers, health care workers and others who participated in project activities.

The overall objectives of the evaluation are to:

- a. Evaluate the entire project in terms of effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability and impact, with strong focus on assessing the results of outcome and project goals
- b. Generate key lessons learned and identify promising practices for learning
- c. Provide feedback as to IAWJ's and WOJAM implementation of the project

## C. Key Questions

The key questions that need to be answered by this evaluation include the following, divided into 5 categories of analysis, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact.

Evaluation Criteria	Mandatory Evaluation Questions
Effectiveness	To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs achieved and how?
Relevance	To what extent were the project strategy and activities that were implemented relevant in responding to the needs of women and girls?
Efficiency	To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?
Sustainability	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after the project ends?
Impact	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and / or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?
Knowledge Generation	To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with 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.

#### D. UN Proposed evaluation methodology

The applicants propose in concise detail the methodological framework they intend to use as a part of their technical and financial proposal. The aim is to engage in a gender responsive evaluation.

The proposed framework should include:

- 1) Proposed evaluation design
- 2) Data sources

An end line assessment will need to be conducted prior to the final evaluation. The results of this assessment are expected to feed directly into the final evaluation and preference will be given to a consultant with the ability to conduct both the end line assessment and the final evaluation as one contiguous piece.

*Additional sources of data may include:* Project reports and other project data, reports from the Victims Support Unit and related police data, and interviews with key stakeholders, including project and partner staff, participants, government officials, representatives from UN Women, and others.

- 3) Proposed data collection methods and analysis
- 4) Proposed sampling methods
- 5) Field visits

The consultant will spend a pre-determined number of days in the project district of Lilongwe, viewing project activities, and meeting with project staff, students, teachers, judges and magistrates and other community actors.

#### Evaluation Ethics

The evaluator/s must put in place specific safeguards and protocols to protect the safety (both physical and psychological) of respondents and those collecting the data to prevent harm. This must ensure that the rights of the individual are protected and participation in the evaluation does not result in further violation of their rights. The evaluator/s must have a plan in place to:

- € Protect the rights of respondents, including privacy and confidentiality
- € Elaborate on how informed consent will be obtained and to ensure that the names of individuals consulted during data collection will not be made public
- € If the project involves children (under 18 years old)<sup>8</sup> the evaluator/s must consider the means to alleviate potential additional risks and the need for parental consent
- € The evaluator/s must be trained in collecting sensitive information and specifically data relating to violence against women and select members of the evaluation team on these issues
- € Data collection tools must be designed in a way that is culturally appropriate and does not create distress for respondents
- € Data collection visits should be organized at the appropriate time and place to minimize risk to respondents

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<sup>8</sup> A child means every human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.

- € The interviewer or data collector must be able to provide information on how individuals in situations of risk can seek support (referrals to organizations that can provided counseling support, for example)

Resources:

- WHO, “Ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women” (2016)
- WHO, “Ethical and safely recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies” (2007)
- WHO/PATH, “Researching violence against women: a practical guide for researchers and activists” (2005)
- UNICEF’s “Child and youth participation guide” (various resources)
- UNEG guidance document, “Integrating human rights and gender equality in evaluations” (2011) Chapter 3

E. Key deliverables of evaluator and timeframe

	Deliverables	Description of Expected Deliverables	Timeline of each deliverable (month/year)
1	Evaluation inception report	<p>The inception report provides the grantee organization and the evaluators with an opportunity to verify that they share the same understanding about the evaluation and clarify any misunderstandings at the outset.</p> <p>The inception report must be prepared by the evaluator before beginning the technical mission and full data collection stage. It must detail the evaluator’s understanding of what is being evaluated and why, showing how each evaluation question will be answered, by way of proposed methods, sources of data and data collection and analysis procedures.</p> <p>The inception report must include a proposed schedule of tasks, activities and deliverables, designating a team member with the lead responsibility for each task or product. The structure must be in line with the suggested structure outlined in Section 3 below.</p>	January 2019
2	Draft evaluation report	<p>Evaluators must submit draft report for review and comments by IAWJ. The report needs to adhere to the structure and meet the minimum requirements specified in the UNTF Guidelines for the evaluation (Annex 3). The grantee and key stakeholders in the</p>	March 2019

		evaluation must review the draft evaluation report to ensure that the evaluation meets the required quality criteria.	
3	Final evaluation report	Relevant comments from key stakeholders must be well integrated into the final document, and the final report must meet the minimum requirements specified in the UNTF Guidelines for the Evaluation (Annex 3).	May 2019

#### F. Evaluation team composition and required competencies

##### Team Composition and Roles and Responsibilities

- The Evaluation Team will consist of one consultant, or a team of consultants with an identified lead evaluator in the team.
- The Evaluation team will be responsible for undertaking the evaluation from start to finish, including the data collection and analysis, and report all drafting and final copy in English.

##### Required Competencies

- Evaluation experience of at least 5 years in conducting external evaluations, with mixed-methods evaluation skills and flexibility in using participatory evaluation methods
- Expertise in gender and human rights-based approaches to evaluation and violence against women and girls.
- Specific evaluation experience in the area of ending violence against women and girls
- Understanding of ethical issues, and approaches to informed consent with regard to collecting information from and about children
- Experience collecting and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data
- In-depth knowledge of gender equality and women's empowerment
- Understanding of education programs—particularly approaches to keeping girls in school and ending school-related gender-based violence—is desirable.
- A strong commitment to delivering timely and high-quality results, including a credible evaluation and report that can be readily utilized
- Strong team leadership and a track record in effective management, as well as interpersonal and communication skills to ensure the evaluation is understood and well used
- Good communication skills, and the ability to communicate with various stakeholders and express concisely and clearly important ideas and concepts
- Regional/country experience and knowledge; in-depth knowledge of Malawi is required.
- Fluency in English is mandatory.

#### G. Management arrangement for the evaluation

Name of Group	Role and Responsibilities	Actual name of staff responsible
Evaluation Team	External evaluator/s to conduct an external evaluation based on contractual	External evaluators

	agreement and the Terms of Reference (TOR), under the day-to-day supervision of the Evaluation Task Manager	
Evaluation Task Manager	<p>Staff from the grantee organization, such as the project manager and/or M&amp;E officer, to manage the entire evaluation process, under the overall guidance of senior management, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead the development and finalization of the evaluation TOR in consultation with key stakeholders and senior management</li> <li>• Manage the recruitment of external evaluators and the collection of key documents and data to be shared with the evaluators at the beginning of the inception stage</li> <li>• Liaise and coordinate with the Evaluation Team, the Reference Group, the commissioning organization and the advisory group throughout the process, to ensure effective communication and collaboration</li> <li>• Provide administrative and substantive technical support to the Evaluation Team, and work closely with the Evaluation Team throughout the evaluation</li> <li>• Lead the dissemination of the report and follow-up activities after finalization of the report</li> </ul>	<p>Jane Charles-Voltaire, Project Manager, IAWJ</p> <p>Lynn Fredriksson, Senior Advisor, IAWJ</p>
Commissioning Organization	<p>Senior management of the organization that commissions the evaluation (IAWJ) – responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Allocating adequate human and financial resources for the evaluation;</li> <li>* Guiding the Evaluation Manager;</li> <li>* Preparing responses to recommendations generated by the evaluation</li> </ul>	<p>Anne Goldstein, Human Rights Education Director, IAWJ</p> <p>Lynn Fredriksson, Senior Advisor, IAWJ</p> <p>Lisa Davis, Executive Director, IAWJ</p>
Reference Group	<p>Include primary and secondary beneficiaries, partners and stakeholders of the project who provide necessary information to the Evaluation Team, and who review the draft report for quality assurance</p>	<p>Albert Phikani, WOJAM</p> <p>Justice Fiona Mwale, WOJAM</p> <p>Anna Alaszweski, UNTF Portfolio Manager</p> <p>Jane Charles-Voltaire,</p>

		IAWJ Lynn Fredriksson, Senior Advisor, IAWJ
Advisory Group	Must include a focal point from the Regional Office of UN Women and the UN Trust Fund Portfolio Manager, to review and comment on the draft TOR and the draft report, for quality assurance and to provide technical support if needed	Daniele Elizaire, Monitoring and Evaluation, UNTF Habiba Osman, UNW Focal Point

## Application Details

Please submit an Expression of Interest by December 7th, 2018 to [lfredriksson@iawj.org](mailto:lfredriksson@iawj.org) outlining exact availability in line with the approximate timeline. The expression of interest should contain:

### A. Technical Offer:

- Up-to-date CV of the consultant
- Technical proposition detailing proposed methodology and resources needed (max. # 5 pages)
- An example of a report from similar work that demonstrates evidence of skills and experience required

### B. Financial Offer:

- A list of all expenses expected to be incurred by the consultant, including a daily rate. Please note that any per diems for time in the field will be paid in line with IAWJ's policies, and that accommodation and transport arrangements will be managed by Jane Charles-Voltaire, Senior Program Officer.

### H. Annexes

- 1) Key stakeholders and partners to be consulted
- 2) Documents to be consulted
  - Project Proposal
  - Project Results Framework
  - Project Budget and Modifications
  - Submitted progress and annual project reports
- 3) Required UNTF Guidelines

Annex 2: Evaluation Matrix

Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Source and Data Collection Methods
<b>Relevance</b>	To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?	<b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of multiple stakeholders who take steps in approach to SV action to address SV cases <sup>9</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FGDs with traditional leaders,</li> <li>- FGDs women and girls</li> <li>- KII<sup>10</sup> with medical professionals,</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors,</li> <li>- KII with judges</li> <li>- KII social welfare workers</li> <li>- FGDs with men and boys</li> <li>- Project reports, training reports</li> </ul>
		<b>Output 1.1.1:</b> Perspective of trained participants on the ToT (who report that ToT was helpful in SV approach)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with judges</li> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> </ul>
		<b>Output 1.1.2 :</b> Number of interactive training seminars on sexual violence laws and gender stereotypes conducted by ToT trained judges for male and female judicial officers and police prosecutors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with WOJAM staff</li> <li>- KII with judges</li> </ul>
<b>Effectiveness</b>	To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs (project results) achieved and	<b>Project goal Indicator 1:</b> Number of sexual violence incidents reported by women and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII for police prosecutors,</li> <li>- FGDs for traditional leaders</li> <li>- KII with</li> </ul>

<sup>9</sup> This is a project defined indicator that will assess steps and actions developed by traditional leaders, medical professionals, justice sector actors, institutional actors, government officials and others to fight SV.

<sup>10</sup> Key Informant Interview (KII)

	how?		<p>magistrates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Records at police and courts</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Project goal Indicator 2:</b> Perspective of women and girls on the safety and access to justice</p> <p><b>Project Goal indicator 2.1.</b> Changed perspectives of women and girls of their rights, the remedies available to them and steps they can take to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Individual questionnaire</li> <li>- FGD for women and girls</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Output indicator 2.1:</b> Proportion of women who score a minimum of 60% on the post-sexual violence quiz</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Individual questionnaire</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Outcome indicator 1.1:</b> Proportion of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors who report increased awareness and confidence to apply sexual violence laws</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with judges</li> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Outcome Indicator 1.2:</b> Perspective of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitive attitude.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with judges</li> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> </ul>
<b>Efficiency</b>	To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?	<p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Work plan documenting multiple stakeholders' collaboration on sexual violence cases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with WOJAM officials</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Output indicator 1.2:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with WOJAM</li> </ul>

		Number of protocols on sexual violence cases developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with judges</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> </ul>
		Proportion of project activities planned within stipulated time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project work plan and reports</li> </ul>
		Proportion of activities implemented within planned budget lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project reports</li> </ul>
		Proportion of activities implemented within planned technical and financial resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project reports</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainability</b>	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?	<b>Outcome indicator 2.2.1:</b> Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> <li>- KII with medical officers</li> <li>- KII with social welfare officer</li> <li>- FGD with traditional leaders</li> <li>- KII with judges</li> </ul>
		<b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of mechanisms created (feedback loops, referral systems, adoption of policies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> <li>- KII with medical officers</li> <li>- KII with social welfare officers</li> <li>- FGD with traditional leaders</li> <li>- KII with judges</li> </ul>
		<b>Output indicator 1.3:</b> Number of initiatives to address sexual violence and access to justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> <li>- KII with medical officers</li> <li>- KII with social welfare officers</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FGD with traditional leaders</li> <li>- KII with judges</li> <li>- FGD with women and girls</li> <li>- FGDs with men and boys</li> </ul>
<b>Impact</b>	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?	<b>Project goal indicator 1:</b> Reduced number of sexual incidents reported by women and girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Court records</li> <li>- Police records</li> <li>- FGDs with traditional leaders</li> <li>- FGD with men and boys</li> <li>- FGD with women and girls</li> <li>- Police and court records</li> </ul>
		<b>Outcome indicator 2.1:</b> Proportion of women and girls who are aware of their rights and are confident to use the resources available to them to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Individual questionnaire</li> <li>- FGDs with women and girls</li> </ul>
		<b>Outcome indicator 2.2:</b> Perspectives of women and girls of their rights, the remedies available to them and steps they can take to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Individual questionnaire</li> <li>- FGDs with women and girls</li> </ul>
		<b>Outcome indicator 2.3:</b> Perspective of Malawian women and girls on criminal justices' system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Individual questionnaire</li> <li>- FGDs with women and girls</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge generation</b>	To what extent has the project generated knowledge, including promising or emerging	<b>Outcome indicator 2.2.1:</b> Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> </ul>

	practices in the field of Ending Violence Against Women /Girls (EVAW/G) that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?	practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with medical officers</li> <li>- KII with social welfare officers</li> <li>- FGD with traditional leaders</li> <li>- KII with judges</li> </ul>
		<b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of mechanisms created (feedback loops, referral systems, adoption of policies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> <li>- KII with Medical officers</li> <li>- KII with social welfare officers</li> <li>- FGD with traditional leaders</li> <li>- KII with judges</li> </ul>
<b>Gender Equality and Human Rights</b>	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.	<b>Indicator 1.2:</b> Perspectives of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitive attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- -KII with judges,</li> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> </ul>
		<b>Outcome indicator 1.2.1:</b> Criminal justice actors' understanding and knowledge of gender sensitive attitudes in approach to sexual violence cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KII with Judges</li> <li>- KII with magistrates</li> <li>- KII with police prosecutors</li> </ul>
		<b>Output 2.1:</b> Malawian women and girls have improved understanding of their rights and greater knowledge of resources to report sexual violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Individual questionnaire</li> <li>- FGDs for women and girls</li> </ul>

**Individual Questionnaire for Women**

**END OF PROJECT EVALUATION: WOMEN JUDGES LEAD THE FIGHT TO DEMAND JUSTICE AND ACCOUTABILITY FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am working with the consulting firm that is evaluating the program that Woman Judges Association of Malawi (WOJAM) and its partners were carrying out in the district. You have been selected randomly. I would like to ask you some questions related to yourself and the community where you stay. Participation in the survey is voluntary, and you can choose not to take part. You are also at liberty not to answer any question you do not feel comfortable to answer. In the course of discussion, if you feel you do not wish to continue, you are free to let me and to stop. All the information you give will be confidential. The information will be used to prepare general reports, but will not include any specific names. There will be no way to identify that you are the one who gave this information. Our discussion will take approximately 30 minutes.

During the interview or after, if you need any psychosocial support, please let me know; we have government officers available to provide counseling or we can refer you to other relevant specialists who could support you and your psychosocial needs.

If you have any questions about the survey, you can ask me or my survey field supervisor who is here with the survey team. At this time, do you have any questions about the survey? Can I proceed with the interview?

0	Do you consent to be interviewed?	1 = Yes 2 = No	Signature
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<b>VILLAGE</b>	
<b>GVH</b>	
<b>T/A</b>	
<b>DISTRICT</b>	

Starting Time \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION A: BASIC DATA OF RESPONDENT**

1	How old are you?	Years	
2	Gender	1= Male 2= Female 3= Identify as other	
3	Education level If still in school, which class are you in?	1= Lower Primary 1 2 3 4 2=Upper primary school 5 6 7 8 3=Lower secondary school Form 1 2 4= Upper secondary school	

		3 4 5= Never been to school	
4	Are you or have you ever been married?	1= Yes I am married 2= I was once married, but not now 3= No I have never been married 4= Divorcee	

**SECTION B: KNOWLEDGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**

5	Have you ever heard about violence against women and girls?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
6	What was the source of information on violence against women and girls?	1=Family 2=Radio 3=School 4=Friends 5=Church 6=NGOs 7=Social Worker 8=WOJAM 9=Newspaper 10=TV 11= Specify other	
7	What types of violence against women and girls are you aware of?	1 = Psychological violence (threats, humiliation, witnessing family violence) 2 = Physical violence (beating, torture) 3 = Neglect (inattention, denial of rights, ignoring) 4 = Sexual abuse (sexual touching, defilement, exposure to sexual content) 5 = Don't know any violation against girls 6= Specify other	
8	What are some examples of physical violence against women and girls?	1= Beating 2= Torture 3= Slapping 4= Specify other	
9	What are some examples of sexual violence?	1= Touching of sensitive parts of the body 2= Defilement 3= Watching pornographic materials 4=Rape 5= Specify other	

<b>10</b>	What are some examples of emotional/psychological violence?	1= Restricting girl's movement 2= Denigration 3= Ridicule 4=Threats 5=Intimidation 6=Discrimination 7=Rejection 8= Other non-physical forms of hostile treatment	
<b>11</b>	Are you aware of institutions that address issues of sexual violence against women and girls?	1=Yes 2=No	
<b>12</b>	What needs to be done if a woman or girl experiences any form of sexual violence?	1 =Do nothing 2 = Report to social worker 3 = Report to traditional leaders 4 =Report to neighbors 5 = Report to police 6 = Report to relatives 7 = Report to mother group 8 =Report to NGOs working on violence against girls 9= Report to religious leaders 10=Report to specified other	
<b>13</b>	Do you think these institutions are doing their work effectively in addressing issues related to violence against women and girls?	1=Yes 2=No	
<b>14</b>	How accessible or helpful are these structures?	1 = Very helpful 2 = Somewhat helpful 3 = Not helpful at all 4 = Don't know, I have never dealt with them 99 = NA, don't know any	
<b>15</b>	Have you heard of women and girls rights?	1 = Yes 2 = No	
<b>16</b>	Where do you get information about women and girls rights?	1 = Home 2 = Radio 3 = TV 4 = Brochures 5 = School 6 = Family, friends, neighbors 7 = Billboards 8 = Church/Religious leader 9 = Newspaper 10 = Traditional leaders 11=WOJAM 12 = Government Social Worker 13 = NGOs	

		14 = None 15=Specify other	
17	What women and girls rights do you know?	1 = Right to life 2 = Protection from discrimination 3 = Right to education 4 = Right to health care 5 = Right to privacy 6 = Right to freedom of expression 7 = Right to freedom of association 8 = Protection from harm, abuse, exploitation and neglect 9 = Right to recreation and entertainment 10= Don't know any women and girls' rights 12 = Specify other 99 = NA	Do not read out. Multiple allowed [list top three]
18	From your experience, who are the major perpetrators of sexual violence for women and girls in this village?	1 = Men 2 = Women 3 = Parents 4 = Adopted parents 5 = Teachers 6 = Employers 7 = Friends/peers 8 = Siblings 9 = Strangers 10 = Don't know 11= Specify other	Do not read out. Multiple allowed [list top two]

**SECTION C: ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTIONS TOWARDS SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**

Please indicate whether the following statements are 'true' or false.' [INTERVIEWER: Read the list below and let the respondent indicate whether he or she agrees or not.)
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#	Question	True	False
19	Women/girls have the freedom to ask for sex from their spouse.		
20	Women/girls are supposed to accept sexual advances at all the times from their spouses.		
21	Rape also happens in marriage.		
22	Men are free to demand sex from women at all the times even when the woman does not want it.		
23	It is not a problem for a man/boy to touch girls/women' sensitive parts.		
24	Women or girls who deny men or boys sexual advances are primitive.		
25	It is good to conceal information about sexual violence when the perpetrator is a relative.		
26	Girls and women are supposed to keep quite in cases of sexual violence in order not to be embarrassed or cause embarrassment.		

	Total responses		
	Percentage correct		

**SECTION D: KNOWLEDGE OF SV CASE MANAGEMENT**

27	Do you know of any woman or girl who has been a victim of gender-based violence	1 = Yes 2 = No	
28	If yes, what kind of violence did they experience?	1 = Physical violence 2 = Sexual violence 3 = Emotional violence 4 = Economic violence 5 = Social violence	
29	When did this happen?	1= within last 6 months 2= within last month 3 = within last year 4 = more than one year ago	
30	Do you know of anyone who has been a victim of sexual or gender-based violence (GBV)	1 = No 2 = Yes	If no skip to 41
31	If yes, what kind of violence did they experience?	1 = Rape 2 = Defilement 3 = Emotional violence 4 = Touching of sensitive parts 4 = Social violence	
32	Who was the abuser by relationship?	1 = Neighbor 2 = Close relative 3 = Friend 4 = Intimate partner 5 = Stranger 6= Specify other	
33	What was the immediate action taken?	1= Nothing 2 = Reported to someone	
34	If reported to someone, who was first reported to?	1 = Friend 2 = Parent/guardian 3 = Specify other	
35	How long did it take to report after the incident?	1= Immediately 2 = More than one day 3 = More than a week 4 = More than a month	
36	If it was not immediate, what was the reason for delay in reporting?	Specify reason	
37	What support did the survivor receive?	1= Counseling	

		2= Referred to hospital 3=Referred to Victim Support Unit 4 = Specify other	
38	Do you know if the survivor was satisfied with the support?	1 = No 2 = Yes 3= Don't know	
39	If answer to the above question (38) was "No" what was the expectation?	Name expectation	
40	If the case was referred to other institutions, where was the case referred to?	<u>Informal (where)</u> 1 = Marriage advocates 2= Traditional leader 3= Faith based organization 4 = Community based Organization 5 = Traditional Counselor (Initiator) 6 = Mothers' group 7 = Specify other	<u>Formal (where?)</u> 1 = Court 2 = Police/VSU 3 = District Commissioner 4 =Social Welfare Ministry 5= Community Service Organization 6= Specify other
41	Between formal and informal justice systems, which one do you prefer?	1 = Formal 2 = Informal	
42	Explain reasons for your preference.	1 =Accessibility 2 = Reliability 3 = Affordability 4 = Restorative ability 5 = Friendliness 6 = Availability	
43	If the case was reported to the formal justice system, what was the outcome of the case?	1 = Pending 2 = Mediation 3 = Compensated 4 = Convicted 5 = Withdrawn 6 = Nothing 7 = Specify other	
44	How would you rate the formal justice system on effectiveness and efficiency of service? 1. Police	1 = very poor, 2 = poor, 3 = fair, 4 = good, 5 = very good	

	2. VSU	1 = very poor, 2 = poor, 3 = fair, 4 = good, 5 = very good	
	3. Court	1 = very poor, 2 = poor, 3 = fair, 4 = good, 5 = very good	
	4. Social Welfare Ministry	1 = very poor, 2 = poor, 3 = fair, 4 = good, 5 = very good	
45	Based on your experiences what challenges did you face with the service provider you interacted with?		
	1. Police	1= Language 2 = Understanding 3 = Attitude of provider 4 = Delays 5 = Procedures 6 = Distance 7 = Gender sensitivity 8 = Privacy	
	2. VSU	1= Language 2 = Understanding 3 = Attitude of provider 4 = Delays 5 = Procedures 6 = Distance 7 = Gender sensitivity 8 = Privacy	
	3. Court	1= Language 2 = Understanding 3 = Attitude of provider 4 = Delays 5 = Procedures 6 = Distance 7 = Gender sensitivity 8 = Privacy	
	4. Social welfare	1= Language 2 = Understanding 3 = Attitude of provider 4 = Delays 5 = Procedures 6 = Distance 7 = Gender sensitivity 8 = Privacy	
46	How do you feel about giving statements and evidence to police and in court?	1 = Intimidated 2 = Comfortable 3 = Unsure 4 = Insecure 5 = Specify other 6 = Don't know	
47	Are there services to support survivors of sexual	1= Yes	

	violence?	2 =No	
48	If Yes, where are these services located?	1 = Within walking distance (at community level) 2 = Far away (specify)	
49	How efficient are the courts in your area?	1 = Not efficient 2= Efficient	
50	If not efficient, explain how.	Explain how.	
51	Have you ever heard of gender-related laws that promote women and girls rights?	1= Yes 2 = No 3 = Not sure	
52	If Yes, which laws do you know?	Constitution Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (PDVA) Gender Equality Act Trafficking in Persons Act Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act Wills, Inheritance and Protection Act, Child Care Justice Protection Act (CCJAP); Specify other.	
53	How would you want the police and courts to improve service delivery for women and girls?	1= arrest the perpetrators 2 = stop corruption 3 = speedy adjudication	

### **Post exposure knowledge assessment quiz for women**

**I will read a couple of statements and I would like you to indicate whether they are true or false.**

<b>#</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>
54	When a close relative touches a woman or girl on sensitive parts of their body it is not sexual violence but if a stranger does it is.		
55	To maintain one's dignity it is important not to disclose to anyone an incident of sexual violence.		
56	When a woman or girl has been sexually assaulted it is not necessary to go to a health facility for an examination unless the person feels pain.		
57	Counseling of the victim of sexual violence by a professional provider is only necessary when the victim shows signs of trauma.		
58	Girls under 17 years are free to have sex as long as they have given consent.		
59	Once a woman or a girl has been treated by a medical practitioner, there is no need to report the matter to the police.		
60	When a person has committed sexual violence against a woman or a girl and commits to marry the victim, it is not necessary to pursue the matter with the police and courts.		

61	Touching the sensitive parts (including the posterior of a girl or woman does not warrant the time of the court to intervene, it is part of Malawian culture.		
62	Sexual violence is a sign that the woman or girl is considered beautiful.		

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.

Finishing Time \_\_\_\_\_

## Focus Group Guide for Women and Girls

End of Project Evaluation

### *“Women Judges Lead in the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi”*

Interviewer Name:	Date of Interview:
Name of place:	
District:	Name of Respondent
Number of girls/women being interviewed	

Participants:

Informed consent: Enumerator to read the speech below:

My name is:

“You are invited to participate in a discussion about your engagement with the project that was implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion in order to get your views and opinion on the fight against gender-based violence.

Participation in this discussion is voluntary. You will not receive any compensation for taking part. We will be talking for about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study will provide you with the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

During the interview or after the interview if you need any psychosocial support, please let me know; we have government officers available to provide counseling or we can refer you to other relevant specialists who could support you and your psychosocial needs.

The information that you share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree to participate in the discussion, we will start taking notes. The notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree to participate in the discussion?”

I \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge  
on behalf of the group that we have voluntarily decided to participate in the discussion for  
this evaluation

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**(For the group of girls apart from consent from the girls, the following statement will be read to the woman guardian who shall participate in the discussions as observer.)**

**Consent for the guardian**

Guardian:

Informed consent: Enumerator to read the speech below:

My name is:

“You are invited to participate in a discussion as observer regarding girls’ involvement in the project that was implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion in order to get your views and opinion on the fight against gender-based violence.

Girls’ participation in this discussion is voluntary. They will not receive any compensation for taking part. The interview will be talking for about 45 minutes. The girls’ participation in the study will provide the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

During the interview or after the interview if the girls need any psychosocial support, please let me know; we have government officers available to provide counseling or we can refer them to other relevant specialists who could support them and their psychosocial needs.

The information that they share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree that the girls should participate in the discussion, we will start taking notes. The notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree that the girls should participate in the discussion?”

I \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge on behalf of the group that we have voluntarily decided to participate in the discussion for this evaluation

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Begin the discussion once the group has given a consent.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CHECKLIST/GUIDE AND NOT A QUESTIONNAIRE.**

1. Have you heard about gender-based violence?
2. What type of gender-based violence do you know?
3. What have been the sources of gender-based violence to the community here?
4. Is sexual violence an issue in this community?
5. What forms of sexual violence are common in this area?
6. Between girls and women who are the most likely victims of sexual violence and why?

7. Who are the main perpetrators of sexual violence?
8. Have you participated in any activities that address sexual violence against women and girls? Please explain.
9. What happens when a case of sexual violence has occurred in the community?
10. Do you think cases of sexual violence against women and girls are treated the same or different? Please clarify.
11. Which structures are used to report cases of sexual violence? Probe for more options/structures
12. How do you rate the effectiveness of such structures in dealing with cases of sexual violence? [Probe for chiefs, police and courts.]
13. In your opinion, do you think people in this area are comfortable to take cases of sexual violence to court? [Probe for reasons.]
14. Do you know of an incident of sexual violence that was reported to police? If yes, how was it resolved?
15. What types of sexual violence should be taken to court and which cases should be resolved in the community by local leaders?
16. In your opinion do you think the courts are providing the necessary and appropriate judgments on sexual violence cases? Please explain the responses
17. Apart from the court, do you think police are helping in fighting sexual violence? Please explain the responses given
18. Do you think the chiefs are helping in fighting sexual violence? Please explain the responses
19. Would you please describe the changes you have observed and what has brought those changes about in the last 18 months?
20. What initiatives have been put in place by other stakeholders in the district in dealing with sexual violence in the last 18 months?
21. What has been your involvement in the WOJAM project in the fight against sexual violence?
22. Do you think the interventions have been effective in reducing sexual abuse?
23. What project interventions were relevant in the fight of sexual violence?
24. Do you think you will continue with interventions that promote the fight against sexual violence for women and girls? Which interventions? Why do you think you will continue with such interventions?

## Focus Group Discussion Guide for men and boys

End of Project Evaluation  
***“Women Judges Lead in the Fight to Demand Justice & Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi”***

Interviewer Name:	Date of Interview:
Name of place:	
District:	Name of Respondent
Number of men/ boys being interviewed	

Participants:

Informed consent: Enumerator to read the speech below:

My name is:

“You are invited to participate in a discussion about your engagement with the project of that was being implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion in order to get your views and opinion on the fight against gender-based violence.

Participation in this discussion is voluntary. You will not receive any compensation for taking part. We will be talking for about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study will provide you with the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

The information that you share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree to participate in the discussion, we will start *taking notes*. The notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree to participate in the discussion?”

I \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge on behalf of the group that we have voluntarily decided to participate in the discussion for this evaluation

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CHECKLIST/GUIDE AND NOT A QUESTIONNAIRE.**

Begin the discussion once the group has given consent.

1. Have you heard about gender-based violence?
2. What type of gender-based violence do you know?
3. What has been the sources of gender-based violence to the community here?
4. Is sexual violence an issue in this community?
5. What do you think is the main reason why there is sexual violence in this community?
6. What forms of sexual violence are common in this area?
7. What has been your involvement as men or boys in addressing sexual violence
8. Who are the main perpetrators of sexual violence?
9. Have you participated in any activities that address sexual violence against women and girls, please explain?
10. What happens when a case of sexual violence has occurred in the community?
11. Which structures do you use to report cases of sexual violence?
12. How do you rate the effectiveness of such structures in dealing with cases of sexual violence? Probe for chiefs, police and courts?
13. In your opinion, do you think people in this area are comfortable to take cases of sexual violence to court? Please explain
14. What type of sexual violence are worthy to be taken to court and which cases should be resolved in the community by local leaders? why
15. In your opinion do you think the courts are providing the necessary and appropriate judgment on sexual violence cases? Please explain
16. Would you please describe the changes you have observed and what has brought those changes about. Please explain
17. What initiatives have been put in place by other stakeholders in the district in dealing with sexual violence. Please elaborate
18. What has been your involvement in the WOJAM project in the fight against sexual violence?
19. Do you think the interventions have been effective in reducing sexual abuse? Why do you share that view
20. What project interventions were relevant in the fight of sexual violence. Please explain
21. Do you think you will continue with interventions that promote the fight against sexual violence for women and girls? Which interventions? Why do you think you will continue with such interventions?

## Focus Group Discussion Guide for Local Leaders

End of Project Evaluation

***“Women Judges Lead in the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi”***

Interviewer Name:	Date of Interview:
Name of place:	
District:	Name of Respondent
Number of local being interviewed	

Participants:

Informed consent: Enumerator to read the speech below:

My name is:

“You are invited to participate in a discussion about your engagement with the project of that was being implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion in order to get your views and opinion on the fight against gender-based violence.

Participation in this discussion is voluntary. You will not receive any compensation for taking part. We will be talking for about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study will provide you with the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

The information that you share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree to participate in the discussion, we will start *taking notes*. The notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree to participate in the discussion?”

I \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge on behalf of the group that we have voluntarily decided to participate in the discussion for this evaluation

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CHECKLIST/GUIDE AND NOT A QUESTIONNAIRE.**

Begin the discussion once the group has given consent:

1. Have you heard about gender-based violence?
2. What type of gender-based violence do you know?
3. What has been the sources of gender-based violence to the community here?
4. Is sexual violence an issue in this community?
5. What do you think is the main reason why there is sexual violence in this community?
6. What forms of sexual violence are common in this area?
7. Who are the main perpetrators of sexual violence?
8. Have you participated in any activities that address sexual violence against women and girls, please explain?
9. What happens when a case of sexual violence has occurred in the community and is reported to you? What steps do you follow to seek redress?
10. Which structures do you have in your community do you use to address issues of sexual violence?
11. How do you rate the effectiveness of such structures in dealing with cases of sexual violence? Probe for police and courts?
12. In your opinion, do you think people in this area are comfortable to take cases of sexual violence to court? Please explain
13. What challenges do you think people face in accessing justice in courts on sexual related cases? Probe for reasons
14. Do think women and girls are free to have cases of sexual violence addressed in court? Probe for reasons
15. What type of sexual violence are worthy to be taken to court and which cases should be resolved in the community by local leaders?
16. In your opinion do you think the courts are providing the necessary and appropriate judgment on sexual violence cases?
17. Would you please describe the changes you have observed on sexual violence and what has brought those changes about?
18. What initiatives have been put in place by other stakeholders in the district in dealing with sexual violence? Explain
19. What initiatives have you put in place to address sexual violence? explain
20. What initiatives have been put in place by other stakeholders in the community in dealing with sexual violence? Explain
21. What has been your involvement in the WOJAM project in the fight against sexual violence?
22. Which other stakeholders have you worked with in dealing with cases of sexual violence and how have you worked with them?
23. Do you think you will continue with interventions that promote the fight against sexual violence for women and girls? Which interventions? Why do you think you will continue with such interventions?

## Key Informant Interview guide for Magistrate

### End of Project Evaluation

Interviewer Name:	Date of Interview:
District:	Name of Respondent
Position:	
Sex #:	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">             Male <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text" value="M"/> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">             Female <input style="width: 40px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;" type="text" value="F"/> </div> </div>

Participants:

Informed consent:

“You are invited to participate in a discussion about your engagement with the project that was being implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion because of your position as a magistrate, the role you have played in supporting the fight against sexual violence.

Participation in this discussion is voluntary. You will not receive any compensation for taking part. We will be talking for about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study will provide you with the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

The information that you share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree to participate in the discussion, we will start the recorder *and I will be taking notes as well*. The recording and the notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree to participate in the discussion?”

Begin the discussion once the Magistrate has given verbal consent.

1. Do you think GBV is a serious issue in this district?
2. Roughly how many cases of GBV have you handled in the past six months?

3. What is your involvement in the provision of justice to cases of sexual violence against women and girls?
4. Have you been involved in the provision of justice to the perpetrators of sexual abuse to women and girls?
5. As a magistrate what has been your experience in dealing with cases of sexual abuse among women and girls?
6. In your opinion do you think the courts are providing the necessary and appropriate judgment on sexual violence cases?
7. Can you share some of the legal provisions / laws that you use in determining judgment over sexual violence cases? Probe for specific sections in the Acts.
8. What are some of the gender barriers that have encountered in the fight against sexual violence against women and girls?
9. What has changed in administration justice in sexual violence cases as result of your interventions?
10. Can you share some of the legal provisions / laws that you use in determining judgment over sexual violence cases?

Assessment of gender and rights skills and knowledge

#	Question	True	False
11	For accountability sake, cases of sexual violence involving girls should be held in the open court		
12	In court suspect cannot make intimidating signs to victims of child violence		
13	It is important to allow victims and witness of child sexual violence case to leave the court at the same time when the accused is not in custody		
14	It is necessary to have girls who are giving evidence in court repeat the statements to ensure accuracy of evidence		
15	In most cases women and girls entice men as such there is need to lenience is awarding judgment to sexual violence cases		
16	As long as a girl less than 17 years has given a consent for sex then the man responsible for sexual activity is free under law		
17	Girls younger than 17 years once they have given consent, they are free to get married		
18	Once the person who committed a sexual activity with a girl/ woman is cooperative and commits to marry the woman or girl it is better to mediate the case		
19	Touching the private parts of a girl or woman is not a case demanding time of the court to intervene		
20	Unless there is sex, the other forms of sexual violence can be mediated by chiefs and community leaders		
21	Certain forms of sexual violence against of women and girls are self-created?		

22. In your role as a magistrate you have an overview of sexual violence in the district. Broadly speaking, have you observed change related to sexual violence against women and girls in the district?

Yes                      No

22b. If yes to question 2, please describe the changes you have observed and what has brought those changes about.

Describe:

23. How many cases of sexual violence have been reported to the court in the last 18 months

24. What were the nature of sexual offences?

25. What process or steps do you follow when a case of sexual violence is reported to your office?

26. Have you been trained on sexual violence laws and gender stereotypes?

- a. How many types
- b. Who conducted the training

27. How would you rate the training on sexual violence?

28. How would you rate your capacity to deal with sexual violence?

29. After you have been trained, have you done anything to raise awareness on sexual violence, please elaborate?

30. What have you changed in the administration of justice after the training

31. Do you think the fight against sexual violence in this district will succeed? Why do you think so?

32. What initiatives have you put in place to deal with sexual violence after you were trained

33. What initiatives have been put in place by other stakeholders in the district in dealing with sexual violence

34. Would you please share with me chronologically what needs to be done in court when a case of sexual violence has been presented?

35. What has been your involvement in the WOJAM project in the fight against sexual violence

36. Do you think the interventions have been effective in reducing sexual abuse?
37. What project interventions were relevant in the fight of sexual violence
38. Do you think you will continue with interventions that promote the fight against sexual violence for women and girls? Which interventions? Why do you think you will continue with such interventions?

## Key Informant Interview Guide: Social Welfare Officer

### End of Project Evaluation

#### *“Women Judges Lead in the Fight to Demand Justice & Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi”*

<b>Interviewer Name:</b>	<b>Date of Interview:</b>
<b>District:</b>	<b>Name of Respondent</b>
<b>Position:</b>	
<b>Sex #:</b>	Male <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>

#### **Informed consent:**

“You are invited to participate in a discussion about your engagement with the project that was being implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion because of your position as a social welfare officer, the role you have played in supporting the fight against sexual violence.

Participation in this discussion is voluntary. You will not receive any compensation for taking part. We will be talking for about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study will provide you with the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

The information that you share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree to participate in the discussion, we will start the recorder *and I will be taking notes as well*. The recording and the notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?  
Do you agree to participate in the discussion?”

Begin the discussion once the Social welfare officer has given verbal consent.

#### **1. Have you heard about sexual violence?**



18. Did you know of any case that was taken to court?
19. Would you please share how the cases were resolved? Probe cases that had to do with rape, defilement
20. How would you rate your capacity to deal with sexual violence?
21. Do you have guidelines that you use in dealing with cases of sexual violence
22. Do you think it is necessary to invest in the fight against sexual violence?
23. Do think the fight against sexual violence in this district will succeed? Why do think so?
24. Do you think women and girls are free to report cases/ incidence of sexual violence? Probe for reasons
25. What barriers do you think women and girls used to face to report cases of sexual violence to (i) police and (ii) courts.
26. What has been the change in women and girls in reporting cases of sexual violence to (i) police and (ii) courts
27. What has been your involvement in the in the WOJAM project in the fight against sexual violence
28. Which stakeholders do you work with in the fight against sexual violence?
29. What initiatives have you introduced in the fights against sexual violence as a result of WOJAM project
30. Do you think the interventions have been effective in fighting sexual violence against women and girls and accessing justice through the police and courts?
31. In your opinion, do you think the interventions were relevant to the context of sexual in your areas
32. What interventions do you think will be sustained in the fight of sexual violence beyond the life of the project and why

### Gender and right skills and Knowledge assessment

#	Question	True	False
33	For accountability sake, cases of sexual violence involving girls should be held in the open court		
34	In court suspect cannot make intimidating signs to victims of child violence		
35	It is important to allow victims and witness of child sexual violence case to leave the court at the same time when the accused in not in custody		
36	It is necessary to have girls who are giving evidence in court repeat the statements to ensure accuracy of evidence		
37	In most cases women and girls entice men as such there is need to lenience is awarding judgment to sexual violence cases		
38	As long as a girl less than 17 years has given a consent for sex then		

	the man responsible for sexual activity is free under law		
39	Girls younger than 17 years once they have given consent, they are free to get married		
40	Once the person who committed a sexual activity with a girl/ woman is cooperative and commits to marry the woman or girl it is better to mediate the case		
41	Touching private parts of girl or woman is not a case demanding time of the court to intervene		
42	Unless there is sex, the other forms of sexual violence can be mediated by chiefs and community leaders		

## Key Informant Interview Guide: Police Prosecutors

### End of Project Evaluation

#### *“Women Judges Lead in the Fight to Demand Justice & Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi”*

<b>Interviewer Name:</b>	<b>Date of Interview:</b>
<b>District:</b>	<b>Name of Respondent</b>
<b>Position:</b>	
<b>Sex #:</b>	Male <input type="checkbox"/> M Female <input type="checkbox"/> F

#### **Informed consent:**

“You are invited to participate in a discussion about your engagement with the project that was being implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion because of your position as a social welfare officer, the role you have played in supporting the fight against sexual violence.

Participation in this discussion is voluntary. You will not receive any compensation for taking part. We will be talking for about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study will provide you with the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

The information that you share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree to participate in the discussion, we will start the recorder *and I will be taking notes as well*. The recording and the notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree to participate in the discussion?”

Begin the discussion once the Police prosecutor has given signed consent.

#### **1. Have you heard about sexual violence?**



- a. How many types
  - b. Who conducted the training
21. How would you rate the training on sexual violence?
  22. How would you rate your capacity to deal with sexual violence?
  23. After you have been trained, have you done anything to raise awareness on sexual violence, please elaborate?
  24. Do you think it is necessary to invest in the fight against sexual violence?
  25. Do think the fight against sexual violence in this district will succeed? Why do think so?
  26. Do you think women and girls are free to report cases/ incidence of sexual violence? Probe for reasons
  27. What barriers do you think women and girls used to face to report cases of sexual violence to (i) police and (ii) courts.
  28. What has been the change in women and girls in reporting cases of sexual violence to (i) police and (ii) courts
  29. What has been your involvement in the in the WOJAM project in the fight against sexual violence
  30. Do you think the interventions have been effective in fighting sexual violence against women and girls and accessing justice through the police and courts?
  31. In your opinion, do you think the interventions were relevant to the context of sexual in your areas
  32. What interventions do you think will be sustained in the fight of sexual violence beyond the life of the project and why

### Gender and right skills and Knowledge assessment

#	Question	True	False
33	For accountability sake, cases of sexual violence involving girls should be held in the open court		
34	In court suspect cannot make intimidating signs to victims of child violence		
35	It is important to allow victims and witness of child sexual violence case to leave the court at the same time when the accused in not in custody		
36	It is necessary to have girls who are giving evidence in court repeat the statements to ensure accuracy of evidence		
37	In most cases women and girls entice men as such there is need to lenience is awarding judgment to sexual violence cases		
38	As long as a girl less than 17 years has given a consent for sex then the man responsible for sexual activity is free under law		
39	Girls younger than 17 years once they have given consent, they are free to get married		
30	Once the person who committed a sexual activity with a girl/ woman is cooperative and commits to marry the woman or girl it is better to mediate the case		
31	Touching private parts of a girl or woman is not a case demanding		

	time of the court to intervene		
32	Unless there is sex, the other forms of sexual violence can be mediated by chiefs and community leaders		

**Key Informant Interview Guide: WOJAM and UNTF focal persons**

End of Project Evaluation

Interviewer Name:	Date of Interview:						
District:	Name of Respondent						
Position:							
Sex #:	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td>M</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>M</td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle; margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>F</td> </tr> </table>	M	<input type="checkbox"/>	M	Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	F
M	<input type="checkbox"/>	M					
Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	F					

Participants:

Informed consent:

“You are invited to participate in a discussion about your engagement with the project of that was being implemented by WOJAM in the fight against sexual violence. The discussion is being facilitated by a member of staff from Royal Development Consulting organization. You have been selected to participate in this discussion because of your position as a police officer, the role you have played in supporting the fight against sexual violence.

Participation in this discussion is voluntary. You will not receive any compensation for taking part. We will be talking for about 45 minutes. Your participation in the study will provide you with the opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of the project to date and the possibilities for sustaining the interventions in the future.

The information that you share with us will be kept completely anonymous. If you agree to participate in the discussion, we will start the recorder *and I will be taking notes as well*. The recording and the notes will be kept in a secure place.

Do you have any questions?

Do you agree to participate in the discussion?”

Begin the discussion once the WOJAM member/ UNTF staff has given verbal consent.

**1.** In your assessment what is the status of gender-based violence in Malawi

2. Is sexual violence a big issue worthy investment of time and resources
3. What is your involvement in the provision of justice on cases of sexual violence against women and girls?
4. Have you been involved in the provision of justice to victims of sexual abuse? What has been your involvement?
5. Have you been involved in the provision of justice to the perpetrators of sexual abuse to women and girls?
6. What interventions have been done under the project that WOJAM was implementing to fight sexual violence, probe: awareness, training, etc.?
7. Who was targeted with the interventions and why
8. What were the criteria for selecting people to participate in the project interventions?
9. What were your expectations after implementing the interventions?
10. Did you have any mechanism to follow up if that you had expected is taking place, What is the evidence, any cases studies of interventions that have taken place in the project target areas that has come as a result of your interventions
11. As a project focal person what has been experience in dealing with cases of sexual abuse among women and girls
12. In your opinion do you think the courts are providing the necessary and appropriate judgment on sexual violence cases
13. Can you share some of the legal provisions / laws that you use in determining judgment over sexual violence cases

### Knowledge Assessment

#	Question	True	False
14	For accountability sake, cases of sexual violence involving girls should be held in the open court		
15	In court suspect cannot make intimidating signs to victims of child violence		
16	It is important to allow victims and witness of child sexual violence case to leave the court at the same time when the accused is not in custody		
17	It is necessary to have girls who are giving evidence in court repeat the statements to ensure accuracy of evidence		
18	In most cases women and girls entice men as such there is need to lenience is awarding judgment to sexual violence cases		
19	As long as a girl less than 17 years has given a consent for sex then the man responsible for sexual activity is free under law		
20	Girls younger than 17 years once they have given consent, they are free to get married		
21	Once the person who committed a sexual activity with a girl/ woman is cooperative and commits to marry the woman or girl it is better to mediate the case		
22	Touching private parts of girl or woman is not a case demanding time of the court to intervene		
23	Unless there is sex, the other forms of sexual violence can be mediated by chiefs and community leaders		

**25.** Please describe the role you have played in the project in fighting sexual violence against women and girls.

**26.** In your role as a project person you have an overview of sexual violence in the impact area. Broadly speaking, have you observed change related to sexual violence against women and girls in the district?

Yes No

**27.** If yes to question above, please describe the changes you have observed and what has brought those changes about.

Describe:

**28.** Are you aware of laws that are used/ apply in managing cases of sexual violence?

Yes No

**29.** Can you please elaborate on the laws that are used to manage cases of sexual violence?

**30.** Do you agree that certain forms of sexual violence against women and girls are self-created?

Yes No

Explain?

**31.** Do you have records or mechanism of tracking cases of sexual violence have been reported to the police station in the last 18 months? Please share the statistics preferably by district. What was the nature of sexual offences?

**32.** Are you aware of initiatives that have been put in place to deal with sexual violence after the project interventions? Please elaborate

**33.** Do you think the interventions of the project will contribute towards the reduction of sexual violence?

**34.** Do you think the project interventions were done at the planned time. If not what were the challenges

**35.** Were the project interventions implemented within the agreed budget frame? If not why

**36.** Were the technical resources adequate as designed by the project? What adjustments were made

**37.** What key lessons were learnt in the implementation of the project in addressing SV and gender equality

Key Informant Interview: Judges

End of Project Evaluation

***Women Judges Lead in the Fight to Demand Justice and Accountability for Sexual Violence Survivors in Malawi***

Interviewer Name:	Date of Interview:
District:	Name of Respondent
Position:	
Sex #:	Male <input type="checkbox"/> M Female <input type="checkbox"/> F

**Informed consent:** Enumerator to read the speech below:

Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am working with consulting firm that is evaluating the program that Woman Judges Association of Malawi (WOJAM) and its partners were doing in the district. You been selected randomly. I would like to ask you some questions related to yourself and community where you stay. Participation in the survey is voluntary, and you can choose not to take part. You are also at liberty not to answer any question are not comfortable to answer. In the course of discussions if you feel like not continuing you are free to let me. All the information you give will be confidential. The information will be used to prepare general reports, but will not include any specific names. There will be no way to identify that you are the one who gave this information. Our discussion will take approximately 30 minutes,

Can I proceed with the interview?

I \_\_\_\_\_ have voluntarily accepted to participate in the evaluation and provide information.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Begin the discussion once the judge has given signed consent.

1. What is your involvement in the provision of justice to women and girls who are victims of gender-based violence?
2. Have you been involved in the provision of justice to victims of sexual abuse?
3. Have you been involved in the provision of justice to the perpetrators of sexual abuse to women and girls?
4. As a judge what has been experience in dealing with cases of sexual abuse among women and girls
5. In your opinion do you think the courts are providing the necessary and appropriate judgment on sexual violence cases

### Knowledge Assessment

I will read a couple of statements and I would like you to indicate if the statement is true or false

#	Question	True	False
6	For accountability sake, cases of sexual abuse involving children should be held in the open court		
7	In court suspect cannot make intimidating signs to victims of child abuse		
8	It is important to allow victims and witness of child sexual violence case to leave the court at the same time when the accused in not in custody		
9	It is necessary to have children who are giving evidence in court repeat the statements to ensure accuracy of evidence		
10	In most cases women and girls entice men as such there is need to lenience is awarding judgment to sexual violence cases		
11	As long as a girl less than 17 years has given a consent for sex then the man responsible for sexual activity is free under law		
12	Girls younger than 17 years once they have given consent, they are free to get married		
13	Once the person who committed a sexual activity with a girl/ woman is cooperative and commit to marry the woman or girl it's better to mediate the case		
14	Touching private parts of girl or woman is not a case demanding time of the court to intervene		
15	Unless there is sex, the other forms of sexual violence can be mediated by chiefs and community leaders		
	Total responses		
	Percentage of correct responses		

16 Please describe the role you have played in the project in fighting sexual violence against women and girls that was being implemented by WOJAM.

17. Are you aware of laws that are used/ apply in managing cases of sexual violence?

Yes    No

18. Can you please elaborate on the laws that are used to manage cases of sexual violence?
19. How many cases of sexual violence have been referred to you for review in the last 18 months from the lower courts
20. What is your assessment on the quality of judgment being made by magistrates in line with the provisions in law?
21. What process or steps do you follow when reviewing judgments on case of sexual violence is reported to your office?
22. Have you been involved in training justice actors on sexual violence laws and gender stereotypes?
  - a. How many types
23. How would you rate the training on sexual violence?
24. Was there any mechanism to track change in practice in dealing with sexual violence cases after the trainings through the project?
25. What initiatives have you put in place to deal with sexual violence after your involvement in the project
26. Are you aware of other initiatives that have been put in place by other stakeholders in dealing with sexual violence?
27. Do you think the interventions of the project have been effective in fighting sexual violence, accessing the courts?
28. Do you think the project interventions were relevant to context of sexual violence?
29. Based on your involvement in the project, do think the interventions were implemented in efficient way, please explain in terms utilization of resources, and timing of the activities
30. Which interventions of the project do you think will be sustained beyond the project implementation?

Annex 4: Lists of persons and institutions interviewed or consulted and sites visited

<b>Data Collection Tool</b>	<b>Category</b>
	<b>Central Division- Mchinji District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors
	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer
	<b>Central Division- Dowa District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors
	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer
	<b>Northern Division- Mzimba District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors

	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer
	<b>Northern Division- Rumphi District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors
	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer
	<b>Eastern Division- Machinga District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors
	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer
	<b>Eastern Division- Zomba District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors

	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer
	<b>Southern Division- Chiradzulu District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors
	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer
	<b>Southern Division- Mwanza District</b>
Focus Group Discussion	Women-Non Mother Group
	Women- Mother Group
	Girls in School
	Girls Out of School
	Men and Boys
	Local Leaders
Key Informants Interview	Magistrates
	Judges
	WOJAM Members
	Medical Officers
	Police Prosecutors
	Social Welfare Officer
	District Community Service Officer

Annex 5: List of supporting documents reviewed

<b>#</b>	<b><u>Documents</u></b>
<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>UN Trust Fund Evaluation Guidelines</u></b>
<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>Project related reports</u></b>
<b><u>3</u></b>	<b><u>WHO Ethics and safety recommendations for intervention research on ending violence against Women and Girls, 2016</u></b>
<b><u>4</u></b>	<b><u>Government of Malawi: Rape and Sexual Violence guidelines</u></b>
<b><u>5</u></b>	<b><u>UNEG: Guidance Document “Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation: Towards UNEG Guidance” 2011</u></b>
<b><u>6</u></b>	<b><u>Preliminary Population and Housing Census Report for Malawi (2018), National Statistics Office</u></b>
<b><u>7</u></b>	<b><u>Health Policy Project on Gender Based Violence in Malawi: a literature review for national response</u></b>

## Annex 6: Methodology Template

The methodology template is a key tool for describing the distinct components of the methodological approach the evaluator/s should ensure all elements are included in the Inception Report and the Draft and Final Evaluation Report.

Sub-sections	Inputs by the evaluator(s)
<b>Description of evaluation design</b>	The evaluation used post-test evaluation design. The evaluation measured the changes that have happened to women and girls and justice actors after being targeted with project interventions. This focused on both intended and unintended changes.
<b>Data sources</b>	The evaluation used both primary and secondary data sources. Primary data sources included: women through individual questionnaire, women, girls, men, boys and traditional leaders through focus group discussions, and judges, magistrates, social welfare officers, clinical officers, police prosecutors, WOJAM officials, IAWJ staff and UNTF staff through interviews. Secondary data was gathered from project related reports, national police records and government reports and policies.
<b>Description of data collection methods and analysis</b> (including level of precision required for quantitative methods, value scales or coding used for qualitative analysis; level of participation of stakeholders through evaluation process, etc.)	<p>The evaluation used three data collection tools namely: individual questionnaires, focus group discussion guides and key informant interview guides.</p> <p>The individual questionnaire was administered to women only. The questions on the individual questionnaire were linked to project indicators, outputs and outcomes and were closed questions. The questionnaire was loaded onto mobile phones using an Open Data Kit (ODK) application KOBO. The information from android phones was uploaded into the online secure database. Later the data was exported into a statistical package (SPSS) for cleaning and analysis. Inferential statistical techniques were used to analyze the quantitative data.</p> <p>Qualitative data from focus group discussions and key informant interviews was analyzed based on content and outcomes of the project. Furthermore, key informant interviews were analyzed using quasi-statistical analysis to identify the magnitude of informants sharing particular views.</p>
<b>Description of sampling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area and population to be represented</li> <li>• Rationale for selection</li> </ul>	The evaluation took place in the districts where SV awareness meetings took place. The evaluation sampled eight districts, two in each judicial division. The participants were sampled randomly. The evaluation used project indicators to measure

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanics of selection limitations to sample</li> <li>• Reference indicators and benchmarks/baseline, where relevant (previous indicators, national statistics, human rights treaties, gender statistics, etc.)</li> </ul>	<p>progress. The summary of indicators tracked is as follows:</p> <p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of multiple stakeholders who take steps in approach to SV action to address SV cases<sup>11</sup></p> <p><b>Output 1.1.1:</b> Perspective of trained participants in the ToT (who report that ToT was helpful in SV approach)</p> <p><b>Output 1.1.2 :</b> Number of interactive training seminars on SV laws and gender stereotypes conducted by ToT trained judges for male and female judicial officers and police prosecutors</p> <p><b>Project goal Indicator 1:</b> Number of sexual violence incidents reported by women and girls</p> <p><b>Project goal Indicator 2:</b> Perspective of women and girls on the safety and access to justice</p> <p><b>Project goal indicator 2.1:</b> Changed perspectives of women and girls on their rights, the remedies available to them and steps they can take to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable</p> <p><b>Output indicator 2.1:</b> Proportion of women who score a minimum of 60% on the post-sexual violence quiz</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator 1.1:</b> Proportion of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors who report increased awareness and confidence to apply sexual violence laws</p> <p><b>Outcome Indicator 1.2:</b> Perspective of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitive attitude</p> <p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Work plan documenting multiple stakeholders' collaboration on sexual violence cases</p> <p><b>Output indicator 1.2:</b> Number of protocols on sexual violence cases developed</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator 2.2.1:</b> Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loop</p> <p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of mechanisms created (feedback loops, referral systems, adoption of policies)</p> <p><b>Output indicator 1.3:</b> Number of initiatives to address sexual violence and access to justice</p> <p><b>Project goal indicator 1:</b> Reduced number of sexual incidents reported by women and girls</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator 2.1:</b> Proportion of women and girls who are aware of their rights and are confident to use the resources available to them to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable</p>
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<sup>11</sup> This is a project defined indicator that will assess steps and actions developed by traditional leaders, medical professionals, justice sector actors, institutional actors, government officials and others to fight SV.

	<p><b>Outcome indicator 2.2:</b> Perspective of women and girls on their rights, the remedies available to them and steps they can take to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator 2.2:</b> Perspective of Malawian women and girls on criminal justices’ system</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator 2.2.1:</b> Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loop</p> <p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of mechanisms created (feedback loops, referral systems, adoption of policies)</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator 1.2.1:</b> Criminal justice actors’ understanding and knowledge of gender sensitive attitudes in approach to sexual violence cases</p> <p>The limitation of the evaluation was that baseline for the project was not done; as such, it has been difficult to compare results. One indicator was not collected from the primary sources based on the methodological approach. The evaluation did not ask women and girls to share their experiences on SV; as such, the number of women and girls who report SV was not captured during the evaluation.</p>
<p><b>Limitations of the evaluation methodology used</b></p>	<p>The evaluation used post-test evaluation design but this works best when the project has a good baseline to provide bench marks for comparison. As noted, in this project no baseline was done; as such, it has been difficult to provide a solid basis for comparison.</p>

## Annex 7: Beneficiary Data Template

### TOTAL BENEFICIARIES REACHED BY THE PROJECT

Type of Primary Beneficiary	Number
Female domestic workers	
Female migrant workers	
Female political activists/ human rights defenders	
Female sex workers	
Female refugees/ internally displaced asylum seekers	1339
Indigenous women/ from ethnic groups	
Lesbian, bisexual, transgender	
Women/ girls with disabilities	
Women/ girls living with HIV/AIDS	
Women/ girls survivors of violence	
Women prisoners	
Women and girls in general	15369 women and 6756 girls
Other (Specify here:)	
<b>TOTAL PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES REACHED</b>	-
Type of Secondary Beneficiary	Number
Members of Civil Society Organizations	42 males, 20 females
Members of Community Based Organizations	723 males, 187 females
Members of Faith Based Organizations	321 males, 179 females
Education Professionals (i.e. teachers, educators)	128 males, 40 females
Government Officials (i.e. decision makers, policy implementers)	
Health Professionals (doctors, nurses, medical practitioners)	47 males, 10 females
Journalists / Media	
Legal Officers (i.e. Lawyers, prosecutors, judges)	215
Men and/ or boys	6206
Parliamentarians	6 males 3 females
Private sector employers	
Social/ welfare workers	79 males, 24 females
Uniformed personnel (i.e. Police, military, peace keeping)	62
Other (Specify here:)	
<b>TOTAL SECONDARY BENEFICIARIES</b>	
Indirect beneficiaries reached	Number
Other (total only)	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>31,777</b>

## Annex 8: Findings Template

The findings template may be used to provide direct answers to each evaluation question in the Final Evaluation Report with analysis and concrete evidence. This is an optional template.

Evaluation Criteria	Relevance
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<p><b>Evaluation Question 1</b></p>	<p>To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?</p> <p>The project goal was to ensure that women and girls are safe and better protected from sexual violence. To achieve the goal the project had two outcomes: (i) Malawian criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, sentence sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project. (ii) Malawian women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.</p>
<p><b>Response to the evaluation question with analysis of key findings by the evaluation team</b></p>	<p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of multiple stakeholders who take steps in approach to SV action to address SV cases<sup>12</sup></p> <p>The evaluation noted that the project conducted awareness meetings in local communities on SV prevention and management. Such meetings included a number of stakeholders, including: judges, magistrates, District Community Officers, police prosecutors, social welfare officers, medical staff, CBOs, chiefs, women, men, pastors and NGOs. In such awareness meetings stakeholders played their role and took action to address SV. At least 10 stakeholders per awareness meeting were present.</p> <p>Judges and magistrates clarified different provisions of the laws and court procedures in dealing with SV cases.</p> <p>Police prosecutors talked about arresting SV perpetrators, gathering evidence from victims and other witnesses, and ensuring cases are presented to courts.</p> <p>Police VSU representatives raised awareness about GBV and women and girls’ rights, and offered counselling to victims of sexual violence.</p> <p>Social welfare officers describe how they provide psycho-social support to victims of SV, and follow up cases with police and courts.</p> <p>CBOs raised awareness of GBV and women and girls’ rights.</p> <p>Chiefs raised awareness of negative norms that perpetuate SV and described how they refer perpetrators of SV to police.</p> <p>Medical personnel talked about how they examine victims of SV and provide evidence in court.</p> <p>Women shared experiences of SV and how it affects them.</p>

<sup>12</sup> This is a project defined indicator that will assess steps and actions developed by traditional leaders, medical professionals, justice sector actors, institutional actors, government officials and others to fight SV.

The evaluation noted from interviews with women that awareness raising meetings were very informative and empowering. Women appreciated the SV information pathways and possible actions presented by each stakeholder. The project approach to involve a number of stakeholders in the fight against SV in each meeting was effective and brought joint accountability to stakeholders. The main limitation noted by the evaluation team is that most of the awareness raising was done as a single event not a process. Related, the evaluation did not observe action points that were followed after the meetings, but rather further awareness raising was left to district and community stakeholders. The evaluators observed that behaviour change is slow process and requires closer follow up and more time.

**Output 1.1.1:** Perspective of trained participants on the ToT (who report that ToT was helpful in SV approach)

All ToT trained participants 4 of 4 judges and 12 magistrates indicated that the training was helpful in its SV approach. They confirmed that prior to training their personal experiences would influence their judgements in SV cases, and focus was on perpetrators of SV with little consideration given to victims. The results of the evaluation show that the trainings that were facilitated by the project addressed real needs and gaps. The evaluation team observed that the process of developing the curriculum was based on experiences and information obtained from judges dealing with SV cases and that this enabled the training to be relevant. The use of judges to facilitate also contributed to the relevance of the training.

**Output 1.1.2:** Number of interactive training seminars on sexual violence laws and gender stereotypes conducted by ToT trained judges for male and female judicial officers and police prosecutors

The evaluation noted that 28 TOT trainers were trained and in turn they trained 188 judicial officers, 62 police prosecutors/investigators/VSU coordinators, and 32 research officers. In total 28 ToTs trained 282 participants. The results show that the use of ToT on SV ensured that more justice actors were reached with relevant information. However, the results also show that the number of police prosecutors trained was lower while they play a critical role in ensuring that cases of SV are taken to court and victims of SV are properly managed. It is therefore recommended that the project should explore the possibility of institutionalising content in on-going training programs for police prosecutors. The project should also explore the possibility of training police officers at the district level. In addition, the evaluation noted that there was no proper follow up on judgements that were made by

magistrates after undergoing training, to ascertain the impact/influence of training, so participation in training is not an end itself but rather a means to an end.

Additional Indicators:

**Proportion of women and girls with increased awareness of women and girls' rights**

Results show increased awareness among women, as demonstrated by 89.3% of women answering the questionnaire and 92.9% of women and 96% of girls in the FGDs are aware of GBV, while 72.9% of women answering the questionnaire and 90.3% of women and 96% of the girls in FGDs are aware of SV. About 39.7% of women who were interviewed indicated they are aware of GBV and women and girls' rights through WOJAM. Results from the FGDs noted that 74.1% of women and 66.2% of girls participated in the WOJAM awareness activities. With increased awareness of GBV and women and girls' rights and knowledge of the justice actors, women and girls are in a better position to demand protection and seek redress on SV.

**Proportion of women and girls with increased confidence with justice actors (police and magistrates)**

Women and girls were asked if they are confident to report SV cases to police; the results of the individual questionnaire noted 80.7% of women are confident to report, while 76% of women and 50.3% of the girls in FGDs indicated they are okay to report. About 64% of women interviewed through the questionnaire indicated that they are confident to give evidence in court on SV related cases. One of the challenges confronting the project was the need for gender friendly courts, so that women feel safe and free to give evidence. The result of the evaluation shows that there has been a positive change towards achieving that outcome. However, the negative perception that girls have towards the police requires further engagement, considering that most of the SV is perpetrated against girls.

**Multiple stakeholders who take steps in addressing SV cases**

The results of the evaluation noted that WOJAM worked with a number of stakeholders to raise awareness on SV. The stakeholders included judges, magistrates, police prosecutors, investigators, victim support units, social welfare officers, medical staff, district community officers, chiefs, NGOs, community victim support units, CBOs. Two notable NGOs were YONECO and Plan International.

**Perspective of trained participants on the ToT (who report**

	<p><b>that ToT was helpful in SV approach)</b></p> <p>The evaluation noted that all four judges and 12 magistrates who were trained and interviewed rated the training helpful and useful</p>
<b>Conclusions</b>	<p>Given the aforementioned results, the evaluation therefore concludes that the project was relevant in ensuring that women and girls are better protected from SV. The project has managed to enhance knowledge about SV among justice actors and a number of stakeholders are taking part in raising awareness on prevention of, protection against and management of SV. Overall there is increased confidence by women in the courts and police management of SV, which has the potential to attract women and girls to seek redress in cases of SV.</p>

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	Effectiveness
<b>Evaluation Question 2</b>	To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs achieved and how?
<b>Response to the evaluation question with analysis of key findings by the evaluation team</b>	<p><i>Project Goal Indicator 1:</i> Number of sexual violence incidents reported by women and girls</p> <p>The evaluation asked women above 18 years in individual interviews if they are aware of any victim of SV; 49.1% indicated their awareness of at least one victim of SV. Of those who indicated knowledge, 78.4% indicated that they reported the SV case and 21.6% did not report. A high percentage of reporting of SV is a sign that awareness raising conducted in the communities has motivated some women not to suffer in silence.</p> <p><b>Project goal Indicator 2:</b> Perspective of women and girls on safety and access to justice</p> <p>The results of the evaluation found that 87.3% of women interviewed through the questionnaire are aware of justice actors (both formal and informal) and 12.7% are not aware. Of the women who know justice actors, 60.2% prefer to use formal justice actors while 39.8% preferred informal actors. The results of the evaluation from women interviewed through the questionnaire noted that 37.8% and 21.1% of women rated police good and very good respectively in the dealing with SV cases. While 40.7% and 22% of the women rated 40.7% good and 22% very good respectively on effectiveness of the courts in dealing with SV cases. In FGDs, 72.7% of women and 42.4% of girls were satisfied with police in managing SV. In addition, 78.6% of women and 74.8% of girls are confident to report SV cases to court, while 74% of women and 70.2% of girls indicated that</p>

courts are helpful in managing SV.

**Project Goal indicator 2.1.** Changed perspectives of women and girls on their rights, the remedies available to them and steps they can take to hold sexual violence perpetrators accountable

The evaluation noted that a higher percentage of women interviewed know where to report cases of SV, with 80.7% of mentioning police compared to 19.3% who did not know where to report. Findings from women and girls FGDs noted that all respondents know that cases of SV are to be reported to the police. The high percentage of women who know that SV cases need to be reported to police demonstrates that women are aware of remedies available to them to hold sexual perpetrators accountable.

**Output indicator 2.1:** Proportion of women who score a minimum of 60% on the post sexual violence quiz

The evaluation assessed women on sexual violence after awareness raising, focusing on three areas: knowledge of different forms of SV, knowledge of SV reporting, and SV management. The results from interviews with women found that 96.5% scored above 60%. This shows that women are aware and knowledgeable on post sexual violence management.

**Outcome indicator 1.1:** Proportion of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors who report increased awareness and confidence to apply sexual violence laws

The results of the KIIs revealed that all trained judges (4/4), magistrates (8/8) and police prosecutors (3/3), representing 100%, reported increased awareness and confidence to apply sexual violence laws. The results confirm that judges, magistrates and police prosecutors have increased awareness and confidence to apply SV laws.

**Outcome Indicator 1.2:** Perspective of trained judges, magistrates, police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity

The evaluation used a knowledge quiz to assess the perspectives of trained judges, magistrates and police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity. Two questions were used to

	<p>assess the gender sensitivity: (i) Are certain forms of sexual violence against women and girls self-created? (ii) In most cases do women and girls entice men, meaning there should be lenience is awarding judgment to sexual violence cases?</p> <p>The results show that 2/3 of the police prosecutors got all the two questions right, while all judges (4/4) and magistrates (8/8) got all questions right. The results show that trained judges, magistrates and police prosecutors are demonstrating gender sensitivity in dealing with SV cases.</p>
<b>Conclusions</b>	<p>The results of the evaluation noted that women have increased confidence in formal justice actors. However, girls have negative perspectives about police managing SV cases, demonstrated by the small percentage that indicated they were satisfied with police. The evaluation therefore recommends that the project should advocate for improvements in accountability by police in SV cases. The project should introduce accountability notice boards at police stations, where rulings in SV cases will be posted. The police should also explore working with community radio stations to report convictions in SV cases. The project should also work with police and magistrates to raise awareness on court procedures and appeals of cases in which communities are not satisfied with judgement.</p> <p>The evaluation has noted that the trained magistrates have gained confidence in applying SV laws and also recognised the importance of gender sensitivity in court. WOJAM should explore opportunities for training remaining judges and magistrates across the country.</p>

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Efficiency</b>
<b>Evaluation Question 2</b>	<p>To what extent was the project efficiently and cost effectively implemented?</p> <p>To what extent were human and financial resources utilized in the project?</p>
<b>Response to the evaluation question with analysis of key findings by the evaluation team</b>	<p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Work plan documenting multiple stakeholders' collaboration on sexual violence cases</p> <p>The evaluation noted that WOJAM had a detailed work plan, which showed roles of stakeholders in the implementation of the awareness meetings. The stakeholders were involved in the planning and implementation of the awareness meetings conducted. The work plan showcased the details of the training program, which was good for planning and coordination. However, the evaluation noted that there was no good monitoring to track the effects of training in influencing sentencing patterns on SV or of what happens after the awareness meetings.</p>

	<p><b>Output indicator 1.2:</b> Number of protocols on sexual violence cases developed</p> <p>Through the Gender Justice Task Force the project attempted to collaborate with the office of the Chief Justice to encourage him to issue clear guidelines in the management of SV cases. The evaluation noted that the Chief Justice issued a judicial circular on “treatment of child victim witnesses and child and vulnerable witnesses in sexual and gender-based violence cases.” But this was only one small piece of what was being requested, which protocols on sexual violence management, a compilation of SGBV cases, and a compilation of SGBV related laws. Still, the circular addressed some of the key issues noted by the project especially on making the courts more client centered.</p> <p><u>Number of project activities planned within stipulated time</u></p> <p>In year one, most of the activities got delayed due to changes in IAWJ personnel. Some of the activities that got delayed included awareness meetings, and stakeholder meetings with formal and informal justice actors and heads of educational institutions. However, in year two, project implementation caught up. The evaluation also noted that there were a few challenges with financial planning and management, which resulted in prolonged delays in the transfer of funds while IAWJ and WOJAM worked to remain compliant with donor requirements. The evaluation recommends that in future activities, project staff on the ground should be better oriented on donor requirements to avoid delaying project implementation.</p>
<p><b>Conclusions</b></p>	<p>The evaluation noted that the use of a strategic team in conducting the awareness meetings was good and provided an opportunity to present SV prevention, reporting and management to ensure that women and girls access justice. However, the evaluation noted a one day event is insufficient to address all gaps on GBV related issues. For example, knowledge of GBV related laws cannot be comprehended in single sessions by community members. In addition, the awareness raising did not cover entire districts. The evaluation therefore recommends that WOJAM should work with district partners to expand awareness meetings.</p> <p>The evaluation noted that WOJAM did not have a dedicated full-time project person to oversee project implementation. The</p>

	<p>project did have judicial staff assigned to provide oversight on implementation of the project, but this staff also had other judicial obligations. It is therefore recommended that in the future WOJAM should consider having a dedicated project officer to oversee implementation of activities and strict observation of donor requirements.</p>
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	Sustainability
<b>Evaluation Question 2</b>	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level) be sustained after the project?
<b>Response to the evaluation question with analysis of key findings by the evaluation team</b>	<p><b>Outcome indicator 2.2.1:</b> Kinds of steps individual stakeholders took to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of this initiative's outreach, coordination and feedback loops</p> <p>The evaluation noted that a number of stakeholders have established steps to improve practices to address sexual violence as a result of outreach initiatives, coordination and feedback loops from the project. For example, district technical working groups on GBV have been strengthened as a result of awareness meetings in Dowa and Mchinji districts. In the TWGs, police prosecutors, social welfare officers, medical personnel, magistrates, education workers and other NGOs discuss SV management. About 7 of the 8 FGDs indicated that chiefs are now conducting awareness on GBV in their communities as a result of the awareness meetings. In addition, 4 of 8 social welfare officers indicated that CBOs are now active in conducting community awareness raising as a result of WOJAM awareness meetings, and the social welfare officers are now following up with police and courts on the conclusion of SV cases. All 8 FGDs with traditional leaders indicated that they are conducting awareness meetings in their communities. One social welfare officer in Rumphi indicated that they have introduced children's corners and children's reporting boxes where boys and girls below 18 years can report cases of sexual violence. However, the evaluation also noted that weak monitoring and evaluation by the project compromised documentation and follow up on the initiatives and action plans after awareness meetings. Still, the examples highlighted above show that a number of initiatives were made as a result of WOJAM awareness activities.</p> <p><b>Output indicator 2.2:</b> Number of mechanisms created (feedback loops, referral systems, adoption of policies)</p> <p>The evaluation noted that as a result of the project, local leaders from all 8 FGDs are now referring cases of sexual violence to</p>

	<p>police through referral letters. However, there is still a need to standardize a form that the traditional leaders can use to make referrals to the police as well as feedback mechanisms through which police can acknowledge the referral and report back on court rulings.</p> <p><b>Output indicator 1.3:</b> Number of initiatives to address sexual violence and access to justice</p> <p>The evaluation noted that a collection of all sexual violence related laws and a separate collection of cases is being compiled by the court registrar, and this will help inform the review of judgments made by the courts. The following initiatives have also been noted to promote access to justice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Children’s Corners in schools: In Rumphu, stakeholders have introduced children’s corners where boys and girls can report incidents of SV</li> <li>ii) School and community awareness meetings: CBOs in some districts are conducting community awareness on SV</li> <li>iii) GBV reporting boxes in schools: In select schools there are now boxes where children can report incidents of sexual violence</li> <li>iv) Mobile Courts: The judiciary facilitates mobile courts traveling to remote communities to reduce the burden of travel to access justice. However, such initiatives are currently minimal based on the availability of funding.</li> </ul> <p>The evaluation noted that the above initiatives are useful in addressing sexual violence and access justice but lack sufficient coordination and documentation and proper monitoring and evaluation to ascertain their effectiveness; where there is no clear responsibility such good initiatives often die prematurely. The project needs to invest time and resources to follow up on and strengthen such initiatives using district structures.</p>
<b>Conclusions</b>	<p>The project built the capacity of police prosecutors, magistrates and judges whose core duty is to provide justice. The skills and knowledge gained through the project will continue to benefit women and girls in the districts. On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project, such as the Gender Justice Task Force, will need more time to bear fruit and influence judicial procedures and protocol. The evaluation therefore recommends an extension of the project to allow more</p>

	<p>time to strengthen structures like these. The Gender Justice Task Force once institutionalized is expected to have long-term benefits in ensuring that women and girls get better support in relation to access to justice. The Gender Justice Task Force also aims to collaborate with the Chief Justice to influence policy direction on SGBV.</p> <p>The project trained some judges and magistrates in some but not all of the districts. The issue of gender sensitive courts is of national interest and WOJAM needs to explore ways to institutionalize training so that more judges can be trained. WOJAM needs to collaborate with the training unit in the judiciary to ensure that this process is done and that the process receives the support it needs.</p>
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	Impact
<b>Evaluation Question 2</b>	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women and promoting gender equality and /or women’s empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?
<b>Response to the evaluation question with analysis of key findings by the evaluation team</b>	<p><b>Project goal indicator 1:</b> Reduced number of sexual incidents reported by women and girls</p> <p>Due to the sensitivity of SV, the evaluation did not interview women and girls to share their experiences of SV or ask if they reported cases. The evaluation used records from National Police Headquarters where they consolidate information from the districts. A total of 2380 GBV cases were reported in the past two years (2017 and 2018). A total of 1756 (73.7%) were cases of defilement and 216 (9.1%) were cases of rape. The higher proportion of defilement cases strongly points to the need for more protection of girls. The increased number of cases of defilement may in part be a result of the change of age of majority from 16 to 18 years. To more effectively address cases of defilement, the project needs to strengthen its relationship with medical personnel, as most young girls who become pregnant attend prenatal clinics, and perpetrators of SV could be tracked from this entry point. If it is assumed that most girls who are defiled are still being forced into marriage with their parents’ consent, it remains difficult to force perpetrators to face justice based under the law.</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator 2.2:</b> Perspective of Malawian women and girls on criminal justices’ system</p>

	<p>The evaluation asked women in individual interviews if they prefer the formal justice system; 60.2% stated that they prefer the formal justice system, while 39.8% did not. Of those who prefer the formal justice system, 42.1% prefer it because of its accessibility, 85.2% because it is reliable, 16.7% because it is affordable while 6.2% indicate that it is user friendly. Forty-three percent of women answering the individual questionnaire about challenges with the formal justice system mentioned delays in concluding SV cases.</p> <p>Women were asked during individual interviews if they are aware of GBV related laws; 32.9% indicated that they are aware while 67.1% are not aware.</p>
<b>Conclusions</b>	<p>For a project of two years, it is difficult to ascertain that a reduction in cases of SV is in part the result of awareness meetings. However, the project has contributed to increased SV reporting, as noted by the police prosecutors and magistrates. The project has also helped women to have a more positive attitude towards formal criminal justice actors and system. Still, some women answering the individual questionnaire complained about delays in concluding SV cases. The evaluation, therefore, recommends that WOJAM and stakeholders further orient women and girls on court procedures for them to better appreciate court processes and avoid delays.</p>
<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	Knowledge Generation
<b>Evaluation Question 2</b>	<p>To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, and promoted gender equality and /or women’s empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?</p> <p>What processes were employed by the project to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment to end violence against women?</p> <p>To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?</p>
<b>Response to the evaluation question with analysis of key findings by the evaluation team</b>	<p>The evaluation noted promising practices to be strengthened and scaled up to serve women and girl survivors of SV.</p> <p>i) Sexual Violence Survivor Advocates Initiative: The project noted that in most cases of SV, efforts and emphasis is on the perpetrators of sexual violence to ensure that they are properly tried and sentenced. Survivors of SV are essential in ensuring that perpetrators are properly sentenced under the law. However, survivors of sexual violence also suffer psycho-social challenges</p>

that require support. WOJAM through the department of judicial community services would like to scale up services for survivors of SV based on the gaps observed.

- ii) Documentation of medical evidence for SV: The evaluation noted that there are challenges in the manner of collection and transmission of medical evidence in cases of SV, especially defilement and rape. The challenges in documentation of medical reports affect the decisions that the courts make because of lack clarity. There is a need to engage stakeholders to develop a template that could be used by medical personnel to ensure that there is objectivity in the evidence being provided.
  
- iii) Management of SV among refugees and the displaced: During interviews conducted at Dzaleka Refugee Camp, a number of challenges were noted. First, almost every month there are new refugees arriving at the camp who require orientation on SV. The project conducted awareness raising only once there, and some of the people who attended the awareness meeting have since relocated to other countries. The refugee camps are managed by the UN, and the refugees rarely have knowledge of the existing laws that govern SV cases in Malawi. The project developed IEC materials, but language is another challenge. The project needs to develop a separate model to deal with SV at the refugee camps. In Dzaleka camp, they have a community radio. The project should explore the possibility of partnering with the radio station to raise awareness of SV prevention and management.
  
- iv) Early reporting of SV cases: Through the awareness meetings that were facilitated by the project, communities, including women and girls, were sensitized regarding the need for early reporting of gender-based violence to ensure that evidence is not lost in the process. The awareness meetings prioritized the engendering of the police and courts to ensure that women and girls have safe space to express themselves without being embarrassed or re-victimized. Better awareness of existing GBV laws and corresponding sentencing patterns is a motivating factor for women to report SV to the formal justice system.

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	Gender Equality and Human Rights
<b>Evaluation Question 2</b>	To what extent have human rights based and gender responsive approaches have been incorporated throughout the project?
<b>Response to the evaluation question with analysis of key findings by the evaluation team</b>	The evaluation noted that the project implementation was aligned with principles of a rights based approach, including participation, accountability, non-discrimination, equality and other linkages to human rights.
<b>Conclusions</b>	The project implementation was in line with the principles of a rights based approach. However, future awareness meetings should provide opportunities for girls <sup>13</sup> to share their experiences of SV so that proper action can be taken by stakeholders.

#### Annex 9: Conclusions Template

This template should be used to provide conclusive statements organized per evaluation criteria, in addition to those for overall conclusions. Evaluator(s) may add additional paragraphs/sub-sections in narrative format as needed.

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>
<b>Overall</b>	The project implementation managed to achieve its goal that was to ensure that women and girls are safe and better protected from sexual violence. The evaluation noted progress and improvement in the way criminal justice stakeholders effectively investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, and sentence sexual violence perpetrators and treat victims humanely by the end of the project. The evaluation also noted that women and girls are confident and empowered to access justice.
<b>Effectiveness</b>	The project interventions have been effective and have increased the confidence of judges and magistrates to work with GBV related laws and adjudicate in a gender sensitive manner in SV cases. Women and girls have shown increased confidence to access the courts and even to give evidence in court. The evaluation also noted that traditional leaders have a better understanding of the formal criminal justice system in SV cases. Women and girls have greater understanding of communication pathways in reporting SV cases.
<b>Relevance</b>	The project evaluation has noted that project interventions were relevant to the needs of women and girls and the justice system. Through the project, women and girls have been sensitized on how to report SV, how to access the criminal justice system, and culturally dominant norms that put women and girls at risk have been challenged. Judges, magistrates and police prosecutors have been trained on the importance of being gender sensitive in SV cases. Furthermore, judges, magistrates and police prosecutors have been sensitized on gender bias, stereotypes and prejudices in sentencing perpetrators of SGBV.

<sup>13</sup> Considerations should be made available to have social welfare officers to provide psychosocial support if needed by girls after sharing their experiences.

<b>Efficiency</b>	The evaluation noted that implementation of the project was done efficiently because it used judicial officers whose primary function is to administer justice. The use of a ToT training approach enabled the project to reach more judges, magistrates and police prosecutors on the importance of gender sensitivity in providing justice to women and girls who survive SV. The use of multi-stakeholders in raising community awareness was efficient as a single forum could present most aspects of managing SV by stakeholders based on their specific expertise.
<b>Sustainability</b>	The evaluation noted that there are key factors to ensuring sustainability interventions introduced by the project. Capacity building with judges, magistrates and police prosecutors will remain helpful as they continue to carry out their duties. The project also used existing structures at the district level in awareness raising sessions and that will contribute towards their sustainability.
<b>Impact</b>	The evaluation noted that a project of two years is too short to contribute towards a sustainable reduction of incidents of SV in Malawi. However, the project has contributed to increased reporting of SV cases to criminal justice actors, minimizing a serious problem in the past. The evaluation has also noted some of the project initiatives that are useful in programming protection from SV for women. It noted that most often emphasis in SV cases has been on perpetrators, with little emphasis on support for the survivors.
<b>Knowledge Generation</b>	At this time, survivors of SV are not compensated in any way in Malawi. Some survivors of SV contract sexually transmitted diseases or become pregnant; they have to live with these situations for the rest of their lives. It is therefore noted that it would be very useful to review current laws in regard to compensation for women and girl survivors.

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Relevant Stakeholders (Recommendation made to whom)</b>	<b>Suggested timeline (if relevant)</b>
<b>Effectiveness</b>	The evaluation recommends increased engagement with girls and police in the management of SV to minimize negative perceptions that girls have towards police officers managing SV cases. This could be done through improvements in accountability in SV related cases.	WOJAM should facilitate engagement sessions with police and girls. This could be through girls' empowerment networks.  WOJAM should collaborate with media houses to report SV cases.	Future projects
	On limited knowledge of SGBV related laws, the evaluation recommends that WOJAM should develop simplified IEC materials on SGBV related laws that could be used by CBOs and TWGs on GBV	WOJAM should develop simplified IEC materials and share with district stakeholders for dissemination.	Future projects

	future awareness raising. Increased awareness of GBV related laws by women and girls will give them greater confidence to seek clarification or appeal when not satisfied with court processes and sentencing of perpetrators of SV.		
<b>Relevance</b>	The evaluation noted that increased awareness of women and girls' rights and how to manage SV as entry points to behavioral change.		
	There is need to strengthen the TWGs working on SV prevention and management so that awareness raising continues in the districts.	District TWGs should continue with the SV awareness meetings.	On-going
	The evaluation recommends continuation of awareness raising of specific women's and girls' rights so that more women and girls know about their rights and start demanding access to justice from duty bearers.		
	The evaluation further recommends a comprehensive study on the changes in sentencing patterns among judges and magistrates in line with the trainings that they have attended as a result of the project.	WOJAM should conduct a study on sentencing patterns on SV cases.	Future project
	The evaluation further recommends that WOJAM should review training content based on the results of a study of sentencing patterns to ensure institutionalization of relevant skills of judges and magistrates.	WOJAM should review training curriculum based on the results of the above study.	Future project
<b>Efficiency</b>	WOJAM should develop an expanded plan to reach Malawi's remaining magistrates and judges to ensure that women and girls have access to gender sensitive courts across all four judicial divisions. The project lacked good monitoring and evaluation tools and plans to track changes with	WOJAM should develop and expanded plan with Judicial Training Unit.  WOJAM should develop monitoring tool to track outcomes of the training	Future project

	<p>judges and magistrates as a result of training facilitated by the project. It is therefore recommended that WOJAM should develop mechanisms for tracking the effects of facilitated trainings.</p> <p>The evaluation noted that WOJAM did not have a dedicated project staff person to oversee project implementation. It is recommended that in the future WOJAM should consider having a dedicated project officer to oversee implementation of activities and strict observation of donor requirements.</p>	<p>In future projects, WOJAM should recruit a full time project officer.</p>	
	<p>The evaluation noted that the use of a team in conducting awareness meetings was effective and provided the opportunity to demonstrate SV prevention, reporting and management to ensure that women and girls access justice. However, this approach was carried out in single day events that cannot adequately address all GBV related concerns. Knowledge of GBV related laws cannot be comprehended in single sessions by community members. In, addition, awareness raising did not cover entire districts. The evaluation therefore recommends that WOJAM should work with district partners to expand the reach of awareness raising meetings.</p>	<p>WOJAM should develop an expanded awareness-raising plan for all four districts with stakeholders.</p>	
<b>Sustainability</b>	<p>A number of project activities have the potential to be sustained. Through the awareness meetings, a number of district stakeholders were involved, such as social welfare officers, police prosecutors, CBOs and chiefs who could</p>	<p>WOJAM should consolidate initiatives developed as a result of the project and engage stakeholders for sustainability.</p>	<p>Future project</p>

	<p>continue future awareness meetings. In districts where there are existing TWGs, awareness meetings might also continue. As a result of awareness meetings a number of initiatives have been introduced that will require the support of the project to be established and consolidated. The project will require extension to institutionalize these initiatives.</p>		
	<p>The project built the capacity of police prosecutors, magistrates and judges whose core duty is to provide justice. The skills and knowledge gained through the project will continue to benefit women and girls in the districts. On the other hand, some of the initiatives that have been introduced by the project such as Gender Justice Task Force will need more time to bear fruit and influence judicial procedures and protocol. The evaluation therefore recommends an extension of the project to allow more time to strengthen the structures like these. The GJTF once institutionalized will have long-term benefits by ensuring women and girls receive more support in access to justice. The GJTF also aims to collaborate with the Chief Justice to influence policy direction.</p>	<p>WOJAM should advocate for a phase two to solidify the initiatives established by the project.</p>	
	<p>The project has trained some judges and magistrates in some districts but not all districts. Gender sensitive courts are of national interest; WOJAM needs to explore ways of institutionalize training so that more judges can be trained. WOJAM needs to collaborate with</p>	<p>WOJAM should collaborate with the judicial training unit to formalise gender trainings.</p>	

	the training unit of the judiciary to ensure that this process is realized and supported.		
<b>Impact</b>	As indicated, for a project of two years, it is difficult to ascertain that a reduction in cases of SV is in part due to awareness meetings. However, the project has contributed to increased SV reporting, as noted by police prosecutors and magistrates. The project has also helped women develop a more positive attitude towards formal criminal justice actors. Nevertheless, women still complained about delays in concluding SV cases. WOJAM and stakeholders should orient women and girls on court procedures for them to better understand court processes.	WOJAM should engage stakeholders on awareness raising in relation to court procedures and evidence management.	
<b>Knowledge Generation</b>	<p>The project also noted a number of lessons learned such as The evaluation noted that the two-year period of project implementation has generated key lessons and new knowledge in managing SV among women and girls. Key lessons that have been learned include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Involvement of multi stakeholders in the awareness meetings has potential to achieve better results on the communities and leveraging of resources</li> <li>b) Use of Judges in developing training materials and facilitating capacity building increased buy in from the criminal justice actors</li> <li>c) Use of cascading training approach (ToT) increased reach</li> <li>f) Early reporting of SV cases</li> </ul>	WOJAM should advocate for phase two of the project to pursue new and emerging practices.	

	<p>ensures that evidence is not compromised</p> <p>The evaluation also noted some promising practices in the management of SV. These include: i) involvement of judges and magistrates in SV awareness and capacity building, ii) the shift from focusing on SV perpetrators to SV survivors.</p>		
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