



Appendix

Learning from Practice: Community Mobilization to prevent violence against women and girls

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Appendix A: Selection and description of projects

The 10 projects included in this synthesis review were selected because all had PBK in their final UN Trust Fund reports relating to community mobilization for VAWG prevention. There are interesting similarities but also diversity in the selected projects and the PBK emerging from the documents. The projects were selected to ensure diversity in terms of geographical region (East Africa (2), West Africa (1), Asia (1), Eastern Europe (1), Latin America (1), Asia Pacific (2) and the Middle East (1)); size of the grant received; timespan of the grant; and evaluation ratings as assessed by the UN Trust Fund.

The projects worked across a range of settings, from marketplaces to schools, and urban and rural locations. The projects used a diversity of mobilization strategies including social media, drama, radio and community dialogues. Many projects worked at the continuum of VAWG prevention and response, and with informal and formal service providers and faith and traditional leaders. Different forms of VAWG were addressed, including IPV, FGMC, early forced marriage, sexual exploitation, trafficking and child sexual abuse. The broad scope of this collection of 10 projects allows rich reflections on lessons learned from practice on applying community mobilization for VAWG prevention.

Appendix B: Selection and description of projects

Grantee, country, year, project title	Primary community participants	Primary objectives of programme (including types of violence to address)	Primary uses of community mobilization	Highlighted project results
<p>Breakthrough Trust India, 2014–2016 <i>Preventing violence – Change starts now</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$540,739</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth from colleges and communities, front-line health workers, teachers, principals, community structures, police, journalists and local bodies in 15 districts across six states and in the city of Delhi, India 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase mobility, access to legal services and participation in decision-making for women and girls Decrease domestic violence, sexual harassment, and physical and sexual violence faced by women and girls in public places Mobilize men and boys to say “no” to VAWG Generate greater institutional response to and accountability for VAWG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness-raising campaigns (including social media campaigns) and digital activism led by mobilized youth groups (after 15-day training programme) Marches, discussion forums, theatre, games and film screenings, including use of a video van followed by intergenerational dialogues Intensive community dialogues and reclaiming public transport to reflect what constitutes a safe space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased knowledge of VAWG among women and girls, men and boys and other NGOs, CBOs and duty bearers Youth were able to take part in conversations about their issues and make their voices heard through the expanded level of dialogue Action was taken against VAWG by young change agents in public spaces, homes and school settings <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>Raising Voices Multi-country (Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda), 2010–2013 <i>National and regional scale-up of the SASA! approach to prevent violence against women and HIV</i></p> <p>Multi-country (Haiti, Kenya, Tanzania), 2016–2019 <i>Strengthening SASA! implementation through learning and guidance</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$999,999</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intervention communities and organizational partners adapting and implementing SASA! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equip partners to implement SASA! effectively in their communities to build a critical mass to prevent violence against women (VAW) and HIV infection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage community women, men and young people, local governments, health-care providers, religious leaders and other informal leaders to become activists through creative community-based activities such as quick chats, community conversations, dramas, and discussion groups, moving from awareness-raising to behaviour change Technical assistance including training, on-site and remote support, and exchange visits to learn important skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships based on mutual respect facilitated knowledge acquisition and personal and professional positive changes in skills and attitudes, and increased confidence in improving VAW prevention programming Experiences demonstrate that SASA! is adaptable in diverse settings and can promote personal and organizational reflection, shift harmful attitudes and behaviours, and prevent VAW in diverse communities
<p>MADRE Nicaragua, 2016–2019 <i>Combating violence against women in Waspsam, Nicaragua</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with local indigenous women’s organization Wangki Tangi Miskito indigenous women, girls and key stakeholders in 63 communities in Waspsam, Nicaragua 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women and girls experience lower levels of violence, live with greater financial security and have increased access to a more effective justice system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radio programme to reach remote communities and promote community-led organizing, including among youth Community campaigns incorporating art, theatre, songs, dance and other key aspects of indigenous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generated awareness of women’s and girls’ rights and causes and consequences of VAWG Stronger local collective response to VAWG Increased accountability of judiciary to respond to VAWG

<p>Grant Amount: \$497,111</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic empowerment activities for local female farmers • Masculinity workshops implemented with men and male community leaders 		<p>culture to raise awareness of VAWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community action plans to engage key stakeholders, including community leaders • Engage and support activists to lead community dialogues on issues around VAWG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community action plans identified local needs and priorities in terms of responding to VAWG <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>Voice for Change Papua New Guinea, 2013–2016 <i>Advocacy programme on ending violence against women</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$252,5000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial and local governments and civil society in Jiwaka Province, Papua New Guinea • Members of local rugby team trained as public ambassadors for ending VAWG • Female market vendors, business owners, elected officials and police • Women’s human rights defenders trained and supported to advocate for women’s and girls’ rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase accountability of provincial and local governments and civil society to promote gender equality and protect women’s human rights • Provincial and local government approve, adopt and implement by-laws to prevent and respond to VAW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community action plans • Survey to promote conversations about GBV • Self-help groups in vegetable production and marketing as a source of income; groups disseminated messages on the rights of women and promoting safer homes and communities • Gender, human rights and ending VAW training method and toolkit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant increase in protection of and respect for women • Increased accountability of government and key institutions to promote gender equality, protect women’s rights and adopt laws to prevent and respond to violence <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>Center for Girls Serbia, 2017–2020 <i>Actively and publicly combating discrimination – Gender-based violence</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$358,600</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young high school women from rural and urban areas, and girls from ethnic minorities • Parents and teachers to ensure enabling school environments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase young women’s awareness of risks of GBV, including physical, sexual, psychological and emotional violence in the family and violence in the community • Increase capacity of young women to identify and respond to violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with high school girls to change understanding of and attitudes to VAWG and equip women and girls with information, power and skills to counter violence • Broad awareness-raising campaigns using diverse channels including printed materials, posters, cards, social and traditional media, radio jingles, television and performances followed by participatory discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High school girls were empowered to recognize the risks of GBV and be able to react against such violence • Some girls became community leaders, promoting zero tolerance to violence and discrimination against women and girls • Teachers participated in project activities and were informed about VAWG <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>Equality for Growth Tanzania, 2015–2017 <i>“Give payment not abuse”: Protecting informal women traders in Dar es Salaam from violence against women</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$350,440</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female market traders at two districts in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania • Market traders, paralegals, law enforcers, legal community supporters, market committees, municipal leaders, officials and GBV survivors across six markets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female traders have greater freedom from sexual, verbal, physical and political violence and better protection and support when violence does occur • Market traders have better awareness of VAW and its impact on women in the marketplace • Markets adopt guidelines for handling and tracking VAW in marketplaces • Enhanced collaboration between law enforcers, market committees, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of legal aid, designing best practice guideline on handling GBV cases, use of tracking system model for VAW cases in markets, organizing female market traders into savings groups and providing training and development opportunities • Use of market radio, theatre, community campaigns and publicity materials, and market meetings and seminars to campaign against VAW and raise awareness of women’s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness and knowledge of gender rights among female traders • Changed attitudes and behaviours of market traders resulting in market environments that are free from VAW • Emerging economic empowerment of female market traders • Established link between market-based efforts and law enforcers, especially on VAW management • Large majority of female traders feel free to trade in

		municipal leaders, officials and traders to effectively address VAW in markets	rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational sessions for female market traders 	the markets (ultimate goal of the project) <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>Kvinna till Kvinna Lebanon, 2017–2020 <i>Women human rights defenders’ holistic approach to end violence in a challenging context in Lebanon</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$500,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refugee camp settings in Beirut and Bekaa, Lebanon Two local organizations of women’s human rights defenders: Kafa and Association Najdeh Survivors and perpetrators of GBV and community men and boys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the capacities and skills of the two local organizations to provide consistent support to GBV survivors and GBV preventative activities for men and boys to encourage less violence, healthier communication, and better relationships with spouses, children and other family members Rehabilitation for perpetrators who believe in patriarchal concepts, with the ultimate goal of protecting women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based referral systems in refugee camps and counselling for perpetrators of violence, prevention activities for men and boys and training for organizations incorporating leadership, interactive theatre and drama therapy Handbook on sex trafficking and prostitution aimed at educating youth in general and men and boys on sex trafficking and sexual exploitation Outreach activities for women Individual and group awareness-raising sessions with men and women to enhance awareness of patriarchal masculinities and rehabilitate men’s aggressive behaviours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong impacts on organizational development, staff personal and professional capacity and skill-building, service enhancement and improved quality support for rights-holders Improved physical and mental well-being, social relationships, decision-making and self-expression abilities, increased agency, and feelings of positivity and optimism from female participants <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>Family Support Center Solomon Islands, 2017–2019 <i>Transforming communities to end sexual and gender-based violence</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$119,266</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women and men trained as volunteers in Honiara, Temotu and Isabel Provinces, Solomon Islands Advocacy engagement with schools, key stakeholders, youth, chiefs, church leaders and gender ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better access to services for women and girls, and awareness among the wider community to report SGBV cases and assist women experiencing SGBV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counselling, paralegal support and referral network of local volunteers Sensitization dialogues in communities and schools where volunteers called for men, women and children to host community dialogues Written brochures Awareness campaigns through school-based programmes and drama performances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater awareness that domestic violence is a crime and changes in perpetrators’ attitudes and use of violence Chiefs and church leaders are more open to supporting women in terms of referrals and psychosocial aid Trained volunteers are recognized for their roles by local and national stakeholders Better support for women and girls <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>Sexual Offences Awareness & Victims Rehabilitation Initiative (SOAR) Nigeria, 2017–2019 <i>Mobilising communities to end sexual-based</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults, youth and children across two communities and six schools in Abuja, Nigeria Targeted diverse members of the communities including traditional chiefs and their councils, male religious leaders, members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address SBVAG aged 8–18 years, including unwanted sexual touching, unwanted attempted sex, pressured sex in a non-physical way and physically forced sex committed by adults or other minors, family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness-raising and skills training interventions for girls and adults on SBVAG Kids Club in each community as a safe space for children to meet Masculinity training with men and boys to change harmful practices, attitudes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults, youth and children reported increased knowledge of SBVAG and survivor services Changes among community members regarding more gender-equitable attitudes and behaviours around SBVAG

<p><i>violence against girls in local district of Abuja Municipal Area Council, Nigeria</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$115,412</p>	<p>of different religions and tribes, female mentors, school staff and police</p>	<p>members or non-family members</p>	<p>and behaviours towards women and girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCPC in each community comprising men, women, youth, children and community leaders. They held anti-SBVAG events and provided safe places for community members to discuss SBVAG and report abuse 	<p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>
<p>International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) Kenya, 2016–2018 <i>Stop violence against women and girls in Samburu, Marsabit and Isiolo counties in Northern Kenya</i></p> <p>Grant Amount: \$750,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women, girls, community leaders, religious leaders, women’s groups, school heads, community elders, circumcisers, health-care workers, activists, law enforcers, men and boys in Samburu, Marsabit and Isiolo counties, Kenya 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect women and girls from SGBV and other harmful cultural practices and improve access to services and support for survivors • Create an enabling environment for greater gender equality and commitments to action to reduce SGBV, specifically FGMC, early forced marriages, beading for sexual exploitation and other forms of domestic violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGBV materials, videos and radio shows • Community conversation facilitators conducted dialogues with communities • School-based clubs, meetings and debates • Community forums with religious and traditional leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members are more aware of harmful effects of SGBV and are more willing to change their attitudes towards abandonment of FGMC, beading and child marriages • Communities have greater knowledge of contributing factors and consequences of SGBV and existing national and international legal frameworks on gender equality and SGBV • SGBV survivors have improved access to support services and women and girls are better protected from SGBV and other harmful cultural practices <p>For more on the results, see the project evaluation here.</p>

Appendix C: Methodology

In August 2020, the UN Trust Fund commissioned a synthesis review of PBK on VAWG prevention arising from 89 UN Trust Fund-funded projects. During the first phase of the synthesis review, 10 key **pathways towards prevention** emerged from the PBK data from these projects as particularly relevant to VAWG prevention evidence building, with PBK envisaged as a compass that helps projects navigate these different, interrelated pathways in practice (Le Roux and Palm, 2020). In the second phase of the review, each pathway was explored in more detail, by focusing on 10 projects that showed particularly relevant PBK for that pathway.

PBK is the process of “experiential learning by doing”, including critical reflection on place-based practice. PBK is particularly suited to complex causal systems and environments, including VAWG prevention and community mobilization. There is a need to move beyond practice-based insights of an anecdotal nature only, by improving rigour and robustness in collecting, analysing and synthesizing, sharing and applying this important source of knowledge (Palm and Clowes, 2019). Formal evaluations and project reports can be sources of PBK; this includes practitioner reflection, in which informal learning can be shared on *why* and *how* things were done in practice, including challenges encountered and adjustments made along the way (Kwok, 2016), and how programmes were shaped by wider events and how actions of programme participants, field staff and other local actors shaped programme processes and outcomes (Faris and Jayaserkara, 2019).

Documenting and analysing PBK can also help to track the ongoing consequences of programme activities – both intended and unintended – especially in terms of shifting power relations, beliefs, behaviours and norms (Faris and Jayaserkara, 2019). This may include community-level consequences, such as resistance or backlash, rapid changes that are not sustainable or positive ripple effects that were not expected. Such information can lead to more adaptive, agile and strategic decision-making, and offer important insights into how to replicate, adapt and scale promising interventions and practices.

This synthesis review makes an important contribution by extracting and synthesizing existing PBK embedded in diverse contexts from multiple projects with a specific focus on community (engaging in community mobilization to prevent VAWG). The synthesis review draws on multiple insights across space (10 UN Trust Fund projects, listed in appendix A) and time (multiple time points within projects) and from diverse perspectives (grantees, evaluators, author briefs, peer review, etc.) to provide an understanding of how and why community mobilization efforts work and in which contexts. The following aspects were prioritized:

- critical reflection by implementors and participants and lessons learned
- why and how strategies were used within specific contexts
- challenges projects faced in practice and if and how they were overcome
- similarities and differences that were seen to resonate between diverse contexts.

The first step in the research process was a rapid literature review, focusing on existing evidence on community mobilization for VAWG prevention and what is known about how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting this work. Academic literature focusing on low- and middle-income country contexts was prioritized, although grey literature was also included.

PBK related to community mobilization was mined from selected monitoring and evaluation reports for each project, including annual reports submitted by grantees to the UN Trust Fund and the final external evaluation. An inductive, thematic analysis was conducted to identify the key issues and themes

emerging. The documents were coded using the qualitative data analysis software NVivo 11. Coding was informed by the codes developed in the first phase, comprising the core ideas, including training, sensitization, survivor services, law and policy reform, engaging people, methodology, strategy, future, sustainability, collaboration, religion and culture, empowering women, success, failure, and internal and external challenges. After a rapid review of the data, additional codes were added that were specific and relevant to this synthesis review, including agency, backlash, enabling environment, engaging activists, engaging community members and social norms.

Key themes emerging from the data informed development of the interview guide for the FGDs, to which all 10 project grantees were invited to participate. The FGDs were empirical data collection exercises, where additional PBK on community mobilization to prevent and respond to VAWG was sourced from practitioners. The FGDs allowed:

- further exploration into key themes identified during the analysis of report data
- the “filling of gaps” where report data were limited or incomplete and further information was needed
- specific exploration of how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on current activities and what adaptations were made to project programmes.

Representatives from 7 of the 10 projects participated, either by attending one or both of the FGDs or (where they were unable to attend the sessions) by providing written answers to the FGD questions. FGD sessions were recorded and detailed notes were made.

Drawing on the codes and FGD data, a conceptual framework (Campbell and Cornish, 2010; Mannell and Dadswell, 2017) was applied to synthesize the recurrent themes from the different projects. This framework served as a guide for writing the synthesis review. Because of the limited time available, and a desire for the synthesis reviews to be consistent in their methodology, formal university-level ethical clearance was not sought. However, ethical consent forms and processes were adhered to.

A core principle of PBK is decentring existing, often implicit, knowledge hierarchies and creating feminist, decolonized ways of creating new knowledge and being accountable. This has shaped the methodology and the report writing process, but also the review process, in which various stakeholders were involved. All 10 project grantees received the draft report and were invited to give input. The UN Trust Fund’s internal and external advisory groups were also invited to review the synthesis review.

Appendix D: Focus group discussion guides

Introduction: Your project was included in the community mobilization synthesis review given that it in some way used community mobilization as a strategy to prevent or respond to VAWG.

FGD #1

1. If you look back on the UN Trust Fund-funded project that you did, can you give me a concrete example of how and why you used community mobilization to reach your aim to prevent VAWG?
 - a. *Can you tell me a story that shows why community mobilization was useful, or a necessary part, of your programme's aim to prevent VAWG? Did you, along the way, learn anything specific about what makes community mobilization more or less effective?*
2. Can you share best practices and any lessons learned to ensure that, with community engagement, no one gets left behind?
3. Now I want you to think about the other side. Can you give us a concrete example from your project on the challenges or limitations of using community mobilization to prevent VAWG? Please feel free to be honest. We can often learn as much from each other around what did not work as from what did work.
 - a. *How did you address this? Why in that way? Did you learn things along the way that helped you and that you can share with others?*
4. Is any of your programming from this grant continuing in 2020? If so, can you tell us how your VAWG prevention work has had to be adapted due to COVID-19?
 - a. *How did you adapt it? Why did you adapt it that way? What have you learned in the process? Would you recommend this approach to others?*

FGD #2

1. If your programmes have not continued, are there any tips from your programming experiences you can give to those who *are* using community mobilization for VAWG prevention and response in COVID-19 times that could help them adapt better to these realities?
 - a. *Why this specific tip? How do you think this can help?*
2. Community mobilization approaches are often considered to be a VAWG prevention strategy, but many of your projects used mobilization approaches to also enhance the response to VAWG. Can you comment on why this was important and share any lessons you learned from working across VAWG prevention and response?
 - a. *For those who did not focus on the response to VAWG, do you think it would have been helpful to do so? Why?*
3. More recent attention has been given to the role of community mobilization in addressing the institutional context, such as advocating or holding government accountable for gender policies and laws. Did your project work at this level? If so, how and why did you do this?

4. Do you think the type of organization can make a difference in terms of how effective organizations are at implementing community mobilization to prevent VAWG?
5. We are hoping that other practitioners can learn from your experiences about how and why to use community mobilization to prevent and respond to VAWG, including what to do but also what NOT to do. We want to finish off this discussion by asking each of you the following question: based on your own recent experiences in the field, what is it that you really want other practitioners who are working to prevent VAWG and are considering using community mobilization to know?

Appendix E: Consent form

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

You are invited to participate in research collecting practice-based knowledge (PBK) around community mobilization to prevent violence against women and girls. You are invited because you or an organization that you work or worked for implemented a community mobilization project funded by the UN Trust Fund.

I am asking you, as a representative of your organization, to take part in two online focus group discussions (FGDs), to share PBK, lessons learned and your experiences of community mobilization projects. Each FGD will take one hour. The discussion will be audio-recorded and notes will be taken.

Everything that you share will remain anonymous, and your name will not be included in the reporting. You will not receive any payment for taking part in the study.

Taking part in this study is entirely voluntary, meaning you decide if you want to take part in the study. There is no penalty if you choose not to take part or if you want to stop taking part at any time. If you have any questions about this study, you may contact the researcher Erin Stern at erin.a.stern@gmail.com

If you are willing to participate in this study, please sign the attached Declaration of Consent and email it to the researcher.

DECLARATION BY PARTICIPANT

By signing below, I agree to take part in this research study on community mobilization to prevent violence against women, conducted by Erin Stern.

Signed on (date)

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Signature of participant