Gender Based Violence in Conflict and Post Conflict Intersectoral Cooperation

Africa Technical Preparation Meeting for the World Congress Against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents
Dakar
September 2008
Why Gender Based Violence?

• Deep-rooted gender inequality;

• Awareness and capacity related limitations to enforce existing laws;

• Traditional beliefs and harmful practices.
Gender Based Violence in Conflict and Post Conflict

The same challenges of Gender inequality; Limited capacity to enforce existing laws, and Traditional beliefs and harmful practices exist in conflict and post conflict.

Additional challenges include:

- General insecurity and violence
- Lack of access to Basic Services
- Destruction of infrastructure and communication systems
What are We Doing?
Global Advocacy and Policy Promotion on Gender Based Violence

- UNSG’s campaign on VAW
- IASC Guidance on GBV, HIV and Gender
- UN Action to End Sexual Violence in Conflict
- Humanitarian Reform: IASC Clusters; GBV sub Clusters
- SC Res. 1325, 1612 and 1820
SG Campaign

Policy benchmarks for the Campaign to be achieved by all countries by 2015

• National laws in place and enforced to address and punish violence against women and girls.
• Multi-sectoral National Plans of Action adopted.
• Data collection and analysis systems institutionalized, and periodic surveys undertaken on prevalence of various forms of violence against women and girls.
• National /local campaigns launched and social mobilization.
• Sexual violence in conflict situations systematically addressed.
• Men and boys are engaged throughout prevention and response efforts.
Effective Tools and Resources on Gender Based Violence

• IASC Guidance on GBV, HIV and Gender
• WHO Ethical and Safety Standards
• Caring for Survivors

How are these tools adding practical value to GBV prevention work being done in local communities?
SC Res 1820

Calls on all parties to conflict to prevent rape
Calls on states to apply targeted measures against individuals and states who commit rape
Calls on states and humanitarian stakeholders to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers, humanitarian workers.
Calls for monitoring of incidence and trends in sexual violence in conflicts on SC’s agenda.
UN Action Against Sexual Violence

Three programmatic pillars:
Support to UN System action at country level
Knowledge
Advocacy
Criteria:
Strategic
Catalytic
Building capacity
Support to country level

Senior advisor on SV seconded by UN Action to DRC:
  Coordination and collaboration
  Communication
  Capacity Development
Support to country level

Comprehensive strategy on sexual violence for DRC

It is envisaged that the strategy will have four components:
- Combating Impunity
- Protection and Prevention
- Security Sector Reform and Sexual Violence
- Multi-sectoral assistance: health, psycho-social support and reintegration
In summary:

SC Res 1612 - Unanimously adopted by UN Security Council – a series of measures, including the establishment of a comprehensive Monitoring and Reporting mechanism, to ensure the protection of children exposed to armed conflict (July 2005)
SC Resolution 1612: Monitoring and Reporting on Child Rights Violations in Conflict, including Sexual Violence

Six core violations:

- Killing and maiming of children;
- Abduction of children;
- Attacks of schools and hospitals;
- Sexual violence perpetrated against children;
- Recruitment of child soldiers;
- Denial of humanitarian access to children.
Humanitarian Reform and GBV Sub Clusters: Examples of effective coordination

Uganda: agency coordination - UNICEF and UNFPA leadership, outlined agency specific roles, systematic use of common tools/approaches in line with current best practice.

GBV strategy developed for conflict affected area of northern Uganda. Strategy emphasized need to build capacity of national governments to ensure effective transition in post crisis recovery and reintegration.
GBV Sub Clusters: Examples of effective coordination

Kenya: Establishment of the GBV sub cluster increased advocacy and awareness raising of the pre-existing crisis of sexual violence.

High level of local NGO and government participation in Cluster

Technical support: adapting standard operating procedures for GBV response to meet specific needs of child survivors;

creating a safe environment for children preparing for medical examination with the health sector,

guidance for family and community to support child survivors within the psychosocial sector, and

helping police work with children in the justice/legal sector.
Examples of GBV Programmes in Action

**Somalia:** integration of HIV prevention, treatment and care into GBV prevention and response efforts.

**DRC:** 40,000 survivors of sexual violence assisted since 2003 with psychosocial support, capacity building for partners and advocacy

**Sierra Leone:** “Rainbo Center”; comprehensive health, legal and psychosocial support and care to victims and their families, development of a National GBV Policy.

**Ethiopia:** one-stop centers for survivors of rape based on the Thutezela Care centers in South Africa

**Zambia:** comprehensive legislation to address gender based violence

**Liberia:** legal protection project - protective environment for children and women against sexual and gender-based violence in schools and communities
Partnership with the African Union: Gender Justice Colloquium follow up

Africa-wide task team to be established, with AU-linked secretariat

Develop continental GBV and VAWC operational plan, M and E framework, compiling and disseminating from AU Africa-wide data on key indicators, review of existing legislation, and existing data,

Country network to coordinate compilation of plans and reports on progress, to be reviewed in subsequent colloquia.

Africa-wide communication strategy to promote African solidarity on progress against GBV and VAWC linking good practice between countries, supporting national task teams that need technical support and sharing information on progress.

Roll Out Good Practices in Africa, including the Thuthuzela Care Centre Model of South Africa; and other Good Practices identified in Africa.
GBV Strategic Framework:

Multi-level approach, including:

Structural reform: laws and policies

Systemic reform: improved inter- intra-sectoral capacity to monitor and respond to GBV

Direct services reform: prompt and compassionate response to survivors

Multi-sectoral approach,

Community Mobilization
### Examples of multi sectoral approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Law/Policy</th>
<th>Systems</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Community</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Create policies ensuring health response</td>
<td>Training for health care providers, standards, protocols</td>
<td>Screening, case management (including forensic exams), referral</td>
<td>Integrate GBV into HIV/AIDS and RH community-based education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice</td>
<td>Substantive and procedural law reform</td>
<td>Training for judiciary and lawyers</td>
<td>Free legal assistance to survivors</td>
<td>Rights education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Institute legal protections, develop policies for police response</td>
<td>Integrate GBV response into all levels of law enforcement</td>
<td>Ensure privacy, personal safety, and confidentiality during investigations</td>
<td>Community policing initiatives, community liaisons with police</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social welfare</td>
<td>Social welfare policies with provisions for most vulnerable</td>
<td>Enable local NGOs to provide psychosocial services</td>
<td>Supportive counseling and case management</td>
<td>Community awareness on accessing services for vulnerables</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Recommendations and Commitments from African Stakeholders?

- Civil Society
  - 1
  - 2
- Governments
  - 1
  - 2
- Humanitarian Community
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
- Donors
  - 1
  - 2