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Final Evaluation: “Ending Violence Against Women and Girls in Georgia” Project 2020-2023

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September 30, 2023

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Acknowledgements

The evaluation process and this report occurred between May 2023 and August 2023. The Evaluation Team is grateful to the more than 50 stakeholders and partners, participants and beneficiaries, UN Women and UNFPA Georgia leaders and the Project Team for their gracious hospitality and the rich quality of their contributions.

We are especially indebted to Project Team members Salome Ichkiti, Ia Giorgadze and Mariam Kurdadze for the time they dedicated to supporting the evaluation process.

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September 30, 2023

Abbreviations and Figures

List of Acronyms

CEDAW	United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil society organization
DV	Domestic violence
DV NAP	National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and Measures to be Implemented for the Protection of Victims (Survivors)
DVL	Law of Georgia on the Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection and Support of the Victims of Domestic Violence
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation to Georgia
EVAWG	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls
EVAWGG	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls in Georgia (the Project)
GBSS	Gender-Biased Sex Selection
GBV	Gender-based violence
GEOSTAT	National Statistics Office of Georgia
Inter-Agency Commission	Inter-Agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
Istanbul Convention	Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence
MT	Management Team
OECD DAC	Organization for Economic Cooperation Development Assistance Committee
SC	Steering Committee
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ToC	Theory of Change
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNFPA EECA RO	UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UN Women ECA RO	UN Women Europe and Central Asia Regional Office

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Executive Summary

Context and Approach

This Report presents the main findings, lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations of the final evaluation of the three-year Project “Ending Violence Against Women and Girls in Georgia” (2020-2023) (“the Project”), which was implemented as a partnership between UN Women and UNFPA in Georgia, with financial support from the EU Delegation in Georgia. The Project aimed to support the creation of an enabling environment to eliminate violence against women and girls, especially sexual and domestic violence in Georgia through a three-pronged approach that improves legislation and policies, enhances the capacities of service providers and raises public awareness.

Project Background: While the legislative and policy framework related to violence against women and domestic violence has been steadily improving in Georgia, program implementation remains challenging for service deliverers, particularly against the backdrop of negative gender stereotypes, social norms and harmful practices that are pervasive in Georgia.

Project Description: The Project began in November 2020 and ran until October 2023, with UNFPA’s components occurring in a 27-month timeframe, and a total budget of €1,684,517. The Project was implemented at the central level for legislative and policy activities that had nation-wide impact and locally in Tbilisi and the regions of Kvemo

Kartli and Guria. The demographic scope of the Project was work with duty-bearers at the highest possible level (including the Parliament of Georgia and its Gender Equality Council, the Prime Minister’s Office, the Inter-Agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, and line ministries and service providers), women’s rights defenders and civil society organizations at the grass-roots level, women survivors of violence or those at risk of violence, ethnic minorities in Georgia, youth, men and boys.

The overall objective of the Project was that women and girls in Georgia live a life free from violence. The specific objectives were:

1. Legislation, policies and institutional capacities are in place to effectively prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, including domestic violence.
2. Negative gender stereotypes, social norms and attitudes that condone violence against women and harmful practices are transformed to enable respect for women’s rights and gender equality in project target communities.

Approach and Methodology: The evaluation was conducted by two independent evaluators (one international and one national) and was completed between May 2023-September 2023. The objectives of the evaluation were set out as:

- Contribute to building of the evidence base on effective strategies of empowerment of women, combatting violence against women and girls and transforming negative gender stereotypes;
- Facilitate the participating UN agencies (UN Women and UNFPA)

strategic reflection, learning and further planning for programming in the areas of empowerment of women, ending violence against women and girls and promotion of respect for women's rights and gender quality; and

- Strengthen national stakeholders and structures with the aim to increase sustainability of the results beyond the project.

The evaluation used the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, gender equality and human rights, and sustainability to assess the performance of the Project interventions. The evaluation used theory-based and contribution analysis approaches to understand the linkages between the Project activities and the outputs and outcomes achieved, and to produce findings, lessons learned, and recommendations.

The evaluation used a mixed methods approach to collect quantitative and qualitative data, including document review, semi-structured interviews, focus groups and surveys, and analytical approaches to understand complexity of the processes and structures and gender relations in them. Gender equality and empowerment of women and human rights were integrated in the approach. The evaluation adhered to UN Women and UN Evaluation Group standards and policies. More than 62 documents, including project documents, research, legal and policy documents, and project products, were reviewed and 79 respondents took part in interviews, focus groups and surveys.

Lessons Learned



Lesson 1: Women and girls in hard to reach regions will benefit from creative and persistent efforts from UN agencies and their partners.

The Project targeted the region of Guria, a region that is economically depressed and geographically isolated. The Project team and partners encountered a paucity of supports and resources for women and girls in the area, with very few groups or places that women and girls could go to take part in the community life. Consequently, it was challenging to find partner organizations or even beneficiaries to receive the Project programming. However, the Project team and partners persisted in finding creative ways to resolve this issue with impactful results: starting a Girl Scout troop where no girls group existed, working with the local librarian to host community events, bringing the local radio station staff into the journalism training. Each of these efforts, while small in scope, was able to advance GEWE in an underserved region.



Lesson 2: As more women and girls engage in social norms change, it is necessary to ensure that there is a social framework in place to support them.

The Project engaged women and girls in social norms activities that created potential vulnerabilities for the women and girls. The challenge for the Project, which it met at least in part, was to make the links between the social norms work and the work done at other levels to ensure that, as women and girls made themselves vulnerable (or indeed even as controversial messaging was being imparted), there were adequate societal

supports in place. In other words, it is critical to ensure that people empowered to bring about social change are supported by changes in legislation, policy and service delivery. For example, women and girls who hear messaging about early marriage or are encouraged to speak out about early marriage need a safe place to go if they experience harm or backlash. This Project found some helpful ways to give service providers a better understanding of vulnerabilities but there is still work to be done to ensure women and girls can engage in social norms change in a safe and active manner.



Lesson 3: Although intensive training yields results, it requires a lot of resources.

The Project had positive results when it provided school resource officers with a significant amount of training that encompassed both traditional classroom-style training and engaging in immersive experiential training. However, this kind of training was heavily resource-intensive – not only did it require that resource officers use two weeks of their vacation time but it required repetitive amounts of trainer resourcing, even using a train-the-trainer model for the classroom elements. The lesson is to seek an appropriate balance that finds the most impactful approach to training with a reasonable amount of resource expenditure.

Findings and Conclusions

Relevance: The Project's evidence-based design ensured that it was doing the right things.

Strengths: The Project was directly and intentionally aligned to international and national priorities and commitments and it supported the core corporate and country priorities of each agency. It drew upon existing evidence to identify key target groups/regions and understand the specific needs and contexts of the women and girls in those regions. The Project Team engaged the donor and partners in activity design and discussions and, where possible, encouraged creative activities at the grassroots level.

Weaknesses: The Project design had a lack of specific approach to inclusion of women and girls with disabilities, a critical element of the mandate of both UN agencies.

Evaluation Result: The Project had a highly aligned design with data-backed choices. This approach compelled partner ownership and commitment to a positive outcome, and ensured that the Project could be responsive to contextual challenges like COVID-19 and political unrest. The principle of evidence-based decision making was continued throughout decision-making in the Project.

Coherence: The Project fit well with the mandate of the two UN agencies and created synergies with national partners.

Strengths: The design of the Project and the activities chosen directly advanced the corporate strategic priorities of UN Women and UNFPA, the SDG indicators that both agencies steward, and the UNSDCF in Georgia cooperation commitments. The selected activities drew on previous work and the technical and relationship strengths of each agency. The Project formed partnerships with new organizations, enhanced existing relationships and built bridges between organizations, furthering strengthening GEWE in the civil society.

Weakness: Both agencies played to their strengths in this Project and they have a

history of successful joint programming. There was perhaps a missed opportunity to find more creative ways to work together to attack systemic challenges to both of their mandates, such as the pervasive negative attitudes of the media.

Evaluation Result: Overall, this Project was a cohesive part of the programming of each agency, both in terms of the alignment with past work and the way in which each agency brought their technical strengths and positive partner relationships to bear on the work. Indeed, the two agencies are so strong that there is potential for them to be even more powerful in addressing what are currently fragile gains in GEWE in Georgia.

Effectiveness: The Project was successful in achieving the outputs and outcomes it set for itself. It also created unexpected outcomes and benefits.

Strengths: The Project met the intended targets even in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and social unrest. With government partners, it provided international advice and advocacy support, and facilitated participatory consultation practices that increased the credibility and the impact of the initiatives. With service providers, it enhanced training with immersive experiences that meant that providers were able to relate their work to the experiences of the people they serve in a more responsive and helpful manner. With beneficiaries and civil society organizations, it stimulated grassroots-led approaches to developing common narratives and building safe spaces for women and girls. Activities were shared across target groups, creating a 'cross-pollination' whereby service providers and beneficiaries increased the benefits by being exposed to capacity building in multiple ways.

Weaknesses: Some of the training approaches were overly resource-intensive. Project activities in Guria were less successful than in Kvemo Kartli or Tbilisi and an examination of the specific barriers in Guria is warranted.

Evaluation Result: The Project team developed a strategic approach to implementation across the array of interventions and desired outcomes by supporting and enhancing the strengths of partners. This approach enabled it to not only achieve the targets it set but to find additional transformative impact by combining different sets of service providers and beneficiaries in overlapping activities, creating a multiplier effect of benefits. The Project expanded the agencies' reach by finding new partners, particularly those that pushed the agencies' efforts into new geographic areas (such as the Girl Guides in Guria) or beyond conventional GEWE areas (such as the Charter of Journalistic Ethics).

Efficiency: The Project made reasonable use of resources but could have been more ambitious with its measurement framework.

Strengths: The Project was able to use its relatively small resource envelope (both in terms of human and financial resources) to achieve the targets through smart approaches to re-using programming and partners that were already in place from previous projects. The Project Team itself was small but skilled and maintained/enhanced the strong relationship between the agencies and with stakeholders.

Weaknesses: The measurement framework, while reasonably well constructed, was hampered by the corporate expectations of both agencies and did not facilitate the capture of some of the transformative impacts of the Project.

Evaluation Result: The Project was strategically crafted to make efficient use of existing materials, past successes and strong partners in order to stretch the budget. Smart management of the human resources contributed to ensuring that the Project was on time, in scope and on budget. The agencies and the donor are urged to consider more creative means of capturing transformation in the corporate measurement frameworks, as those gains were not meaningfully measured in this Project.

Sustainability: The Project created long lasting benefits by using and deepening the evidence base on GEWE in Georgia and by strengthening partners. However, some of these gains are tenuous.

Strengths: A major success of this Project was the focus on the evidence base for GEWE and EAW in Georgia. In addition to ensuring that the gains made in interventions were grounded in evidence, which means their continuation is justifiable, the Project invested in developing new sources of data on EAW that built on current census knowledge about the behaviours of the public and created a new line of understanding about the behaviours of the justice system in respond to criminal domestic violence and gender-based violence. The Project's focus on the capacity of its partners meant that they can continue to function as effective advocates and service providers.

Weaknesses: Some government partners remain dependent on UN Women for funding, technical support and advocacy.

Evaluation Result: By relying on and increasing the evidentiary base, the Project to continue to make the case for gender equality work in Georgia, particularly as it relates to EAW. However, partners in

government and in the civil society remain dependent on the agencies and at risk, as the current period of unrest and retrenching of conservative values in Georgia creates a fragility for gender equality, for civil society and for the advancement of women.

GEWE/HR: The Project successfully used transformative approaches to serve target areas of underserved women and girls. However, as the Project found ways to discuss social norms in a public setting, the beneficiaries experienced some risks to their safety.

Strengths: The Project's strong targeting of women and girls in the ethnic minority in Kvemo Kartli, with a 'wrap around' approach to conducting interventions that simultaneously tackled institutional/legislative barriers, increased service provision, and social norms, including in their language, was effective in supporting women and particularly girls in the region. Interventions were creative and challenging and drew all members of the community (women and girls, men, community leaders, teachers, etc) into the larger effort of transformation.

Weaknesses: As noted above, the Project was less intentional with programming for women and girls with disabilities and made less impact in the economically underserved area of Guria. While the Project can be credited for making use of online technology and public activities, some women and girls experienced threats to their safety through participation, which the Project had not contemplated or prepared for.

Evaluation Result: The Project's best practices and creative approaches to putting targeted women and girls in the centre of programming and addressing their needs in a cross-cutting manner created

transformation in Kvemo Kartli that had immediate and long term benefits. The agencies must be intentional in their approach to all underserved target groups going forward. The agencies missed a Do No Harm principle by not addressing the safety risks to girls who make themselves vulnerable through online tools.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Ensure all future project design includes outcomes, outputs and activities that specifically advance GEWE for women and girls with disabilities.

- Use the disaggregated data in the GEOSTAT National Study of (VAW) and other national and international studies to develop a concept note on the realities of women and girls with disabilities in Georgia, including a specific focus on the EAVW experiences of these women.

Recommendation 2: Ensure that critical project target groups and subject areas are addressed in other programs.

- Ensure that the results of the GEOSTAT survey and Supreme Court research are shared publicly and are easily accessible
- Strengthen the partnership with the Girl Scouts and other similar partners as a means of continuing to reach underserved regions such as Guria
- UN Women and UNFPA should adopt the 'holistic' approach to interventions across their portfolios and continue to identify ways to engage specific regions in cross-

cutting programming, including continuing to support ethnic minorities in Kvemo Kartli

- Both agencies at the corporate level should continue to find ways to understand and capture the benefits of transformative work in the measurement frameworks

Recommendation 3:

UN Women and UNFPA must ensure the safety of beneficiaries engaging in online and other public fora.

- Introduce online safety conversations into educator training
- Develop online safety preparedness toolkits for partners
- Prepare communications to support beneficiaries who are targeted online or in communities

Recommendation 4:

UN Women should continue its support to partners, including finding creative ways to increase their independent sustainability.

- Continue a focus on the Ministry of Education, especially with respect to ensuring that a gender lens is applied across Ministry training and curriculum
- Continue to work with the State Care Agency on the plan to transition shelters to the civil society
- Continue to work with the Ministry of Internal Affairs to find creative means of engaging police in domestic violence matters
- Continue to advocate at the highest levels for a strong and sustainable civil society for gender equality and women's empowerment and human rights

Final Report

1. Context and Programme Overview

1.1 Context

Georgia is a Transcaucasian country covering approximately 70,000 square km and located on the southeastern shores of the Black Sea and on the southern foothills of the Greater Caucasus Mountains. It is bordered by Russia to the north, Turkey to the south-west, Armenia to the south and Azerbaijan to the south-east. Georgia has a population of 3.7 million (2023) down by 0.2% since 2020, 53 % women and 47 % men.¹ The country has long been ethnically heterogeneous (Georgians – 86.8%; Azerbaijanis – 6.3%; Armenians – 4.5 % and others – 2.3%).² The majority of the population (58 %) lives in urban areas. 83,4 % of the Georgian population identified themselves as Orthodox Christians, 10.7 % Muslim, 3.9 % Armenian Apostolic, and 0.5 % Catholic.³ The official language is Georgian, with additional use of Azeri, Armenian and Russian. It is noted that a majority of the Armenian and Azerbaijani ethnic minority population live in the Kvemo Kartli, Kakheti, and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions.

In addition to the slow demographic growth of Georgia, the country has high rate of emigration. Between 1990 and 2020, more than one million inhabitants left the country.

Since the break-up of the Soviet Union, independent Georgia has undergone drastic changes: civil wars, collapse of the economy, inflation, raise of unemployment, corruption, armed conflicts and the loss of the country's fifth part of territory.

According to UNDP Human Development Index (HDI), calculated based on assessment of three key dimensions: life expectancy, mean years of schooling and gross national income per capita, Georgia's HDI value for 2022 is 0.812, which put the country in the high human development category, positioning it at 63 out of 191 countries.⁴ Between 2000 and 2018, Georgia's HDI value increased from 0.669 to 0.786. (cite UNDP). As well as continuing to increase, from 2018 to 2022, there was an increase of 0.026. At the same time, poverty remains one of the challenges in the country. As of around 17.5% of the country is living in poverty.

Georgia is party to international and regional human rights treaties. Georgia has ratified the core international instruments for human rights, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Convention on the Rights of a Child (CRC), Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In 1995, Georgia was a signatory to the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), which sets strategic objectives and targets for governments in 12 critical gender equality areas, including poverty, education, violence against women, economic participation, and power and decision-making.

¹ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=GE>

² <https://www.indexmundi.com/georgia>

³ <https://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/georgia-population>

⁴ <https://www.undp.org/georgia>

Georgia's reporting on SDG5 indicates that early marriage (before 18) for women 20-24 was at 13.9% in 2018. However, early marriage (before 15) for women 20-24 was at 0.3% in 2018.

Violence against women — physical, sexual, and psychological – remains a widespread human rights' violation and public health issue in Georgia. Despite significant progress in the policy realm in recent years, the prevalence data, while still not capturing the full scope of the issue, reveal the magnitude of the problem. Adverse social norms and discriminatory attitudes are underlying causes of violence against women.

Gender inequality causes this serious violation of women's rights. It should be mentioned that the government of Georgia has made decisive steps to address the problem, among others, through the ratification of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention, but more work is still ahead of us.

Women and girls in Georgia suffer from various forms of GBV. However, the violence remains underreported, due to prevailing traditional gender norms and attitudes of non-disclosure, as well as the lack of social support and trust in law enforcement, health care and other relevant systems.

According to the *National Study on Violence against Women in Georgia*⁵:

- 10 per cent of women (aged 15-64) reported having experienced some form of physical, sexual and/or psychological intimate partner violence (IPV) in their lifetime;

- 3.2 per cent of women experienced psychological abuse;
- 2.8 per cent experienced economic abuse; and
- 1 per cent experienced physical and/or sexual violence by a partner within the preceding 12 months.

26.2 % of women aged 15-64 (equivalent to over 317,000 women) in Georgia have experienced at least one form of:

- non-partner sexual violence;
- child sexual abuse;
- sexual harassment.

When looking at the types of non-intimate partner violence, sexual harassment is most common, followed by sexual abuse as a child, repeated stalking, and non-partner sexual violence.

Evidence shows that as a result of son preference, reduced fertility and access to ultrasound technology, the male-to-female SRB has become increasingly skewed in Georgia and reached its highest point between 2004 and 2005: 115 male births per 100 female births (whereas normal levels amount to 104-106 male births).⁶

While significant gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) progress has been made in Georgia over the past few years, including legislative, policy and service delivery changes, the country continues to wrestle with high rates of gender-based violence, domestic violence, harmful practices including early marriage and gender-biased sex selection, and negative gender stereotypes.

⁵ <https://www.geostat.ge/en/single-archive/3329>

⁶ From ProDoc

Despite these efforts, Georgian women and girls still face violence in their private and public lives due to pervasive social and economic inequality, limited political participation of women, entrenched discriminatory social norms, stigma and deeply rooted harmful stereotypes.

Sexual violence in Georgia persists, not least due to slow shifts in public attitudes. Almost one third of the Georgian population still blame women rape victims for inviting the attacks by their behavior. This is preventing many women from seeking help. Reporting of sexual violence crimes remain extremely low.

Women and girls from vulnerable social groups, including communities affected by conflict and people with disabilities, are facing an increased risk of violence, deepened by the economic and social crisis brought on by the pandemic.

Compounding these challenges during the period of the Project, COVID-19 presented additional risks for women and implementation barriers for the Project. A new challenge arose during the final year of the Project, as Georgia faced a backlash on advancing gender equality and on attempts by government to restrict the social participation of civil society and media.

1.2 Programme Overview

The Ending Violence against Women and Girls in Georgia project (“EVAWGG” or “the Project”) was an EU supported project led by UN Women. The Project aimed to support the creation of an enabling environment to eliminate violence against women and girls, especially sexual and domestic violence in Georgia through a three-pronged approach

that improves legislation and policies, enhances the capacities of service providers and raises public awareness.

While UN Women was the lead organization responsible for the overall implementation of the Project, UNFPA was a partner organization contributing to transforming negative gender stereotypes, norms and attitudes, especially with regards to son preference and early marriage. It was responsible for implementing components related to preventing son preference and increasing the early prevention of violence by targeting men, youth, the media, and the general population with a special focus on ethnic minorities.

The Project began in November 2020 and ran until October 2023, with UNFPA’s components occurring in a 27-month timeframe.

The overall objective of the Project was that women and girls in Georgia live a life free from violence. The specific objectives were:

1. Legislation, policies and institutional capacities are in place to effectively prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, including domestic violence.
2. Negative gender stereotypes, social norms and attitudes that condone violence against women and harmful practices are transformed to enable respect for women’s rights and gender equality in project target communities.

The Project logic model (high level outcomes and outputs) was:

Outcome 1: Legislation, policies and institutional capacities are in place to

effectively prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, including domestic violence

Outputs:

1.1 VAW and DV laws and policies are based on evidence and further improved to meet international standards

1.2 VAW and DV services are further improved to meet international standards

Outcome 2: Awareness raising and mobilization of communities and institutions on gender equality, women's rights and zero tolerance for violence against women (with special focus on men and boys) results in more respectful relationships and the transformation of the negative stereotypes, social norms and attitudes that condone such harmful practices and violence.

Outputs:

2.1 Social norms and negative stereotypes that condone harmful practices and VAW are tackled through awareness initiatives with grass-roots communities and media

2.2 Improved prevention and increased messages and actions of zero tolerance towards VAW and DV through engagement of youth, men and education system

The Project centred its activities the two outcomes:

- Activities such as working on a EVAW National Action Plan and working with individual ministries to make

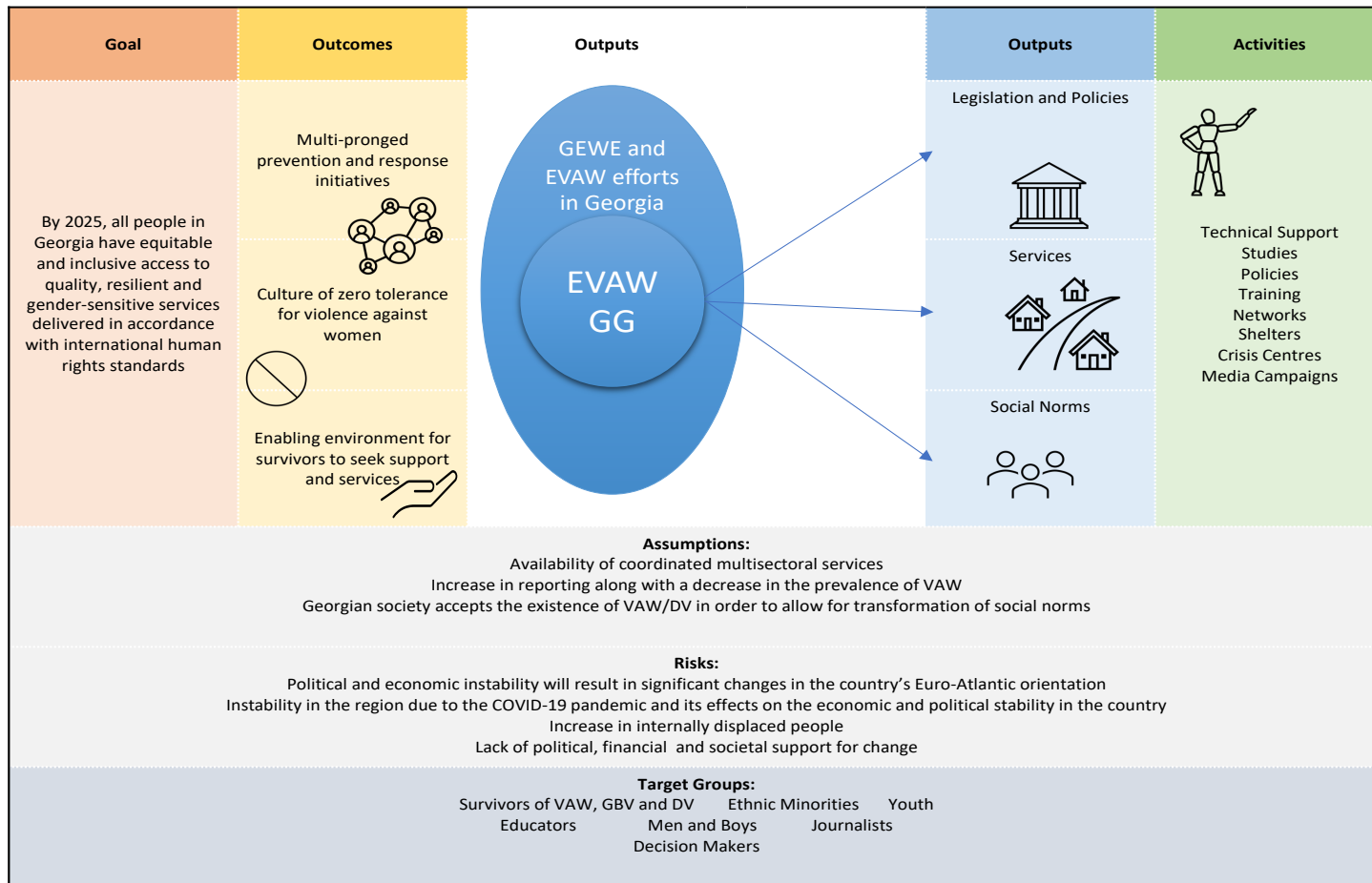
legislative/policy changes and implementation plans for issues such as compensation for victims, police practices, shelter and crisis centre services, and gender mainstreaming. This pillar was exclusively UN Women's activities.

- Working with educators and journalists to shift public discourse and creating opportunities for beneficiaries to gain information and supports. This pillar had activities from both UN Women and UNFPA.

The geographic scope of the Project was nationwide in Georgia, with specific interventions in Tbilisi and the regions of Kvemo Kartli and Guria. A small amount of awareness raising was also targeted to Abkhazia. The demographic scope of the Project was work with duty-bearers at the highest possible level (including the Parliament of Georgia and its Gender Equality Council, the Prime Minister's Office, the Inter-Agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, and line ministries and service providers), women's rights defenders and civil society organizations at the grass-roots level, women survivors of violence or those at risk of violence, ethnic minorities in Georgia, youth, men and boys.

The Project's Theory of Change was reconstructed in the Inception Phase of the evaluation based on discussion and an Inception Workshop with the Project Team and is presented below in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Reconstructed Theory of Change, prepared by the Evaluation Team



1.3 Human and Financial Resources

The Management Team of the Project was responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the Project. The team structure for the Project was

Management Team

- UN Women Programme Analyst on EAVW (30% of time)
- UN Women EAVW Project Analyst (100% of time)
- UN Women Communications (20% of time)

Project Supports:

- UN Women Administrative Assistant (100% of time)
- UN Women Driver (60% of time)
- Operations Manager (30% of time)*
- Finance Associate (20% of time)*
- Deputy Country Representative (30% of time)*
- UNFPA Project Assistant (100% of time)
- Other UNFPA colleagues as required

* These contributions funded by UN Women.

The Steering Committee for the Project was responsible for key decision-making on the

Project. It was comprised of representatives from the Delegation of the European Union to Georgia, the UN Women Country Representative, the UNFPA Head of Office in Georgia and the Adviser to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and Gender Equality.

The total budget for the Project was €1,684,517, with contributions from the EU (€1,500,000), UN Women (€169,517), and UNFPA (€15,000).

1.4 Stakeholder Analysis

The Project Team targeted and engaged a broad range of stakeholders and partners (both duty bearers and rights holders) at international, national, regional and grassroots levels, across government, civil society, education, the private sector, and media. The map at Figure 2 shows the array of stakeholders that engaged in the Project, including the activities in which they were involved.

Figure 2: Stakeholder Map, prepared by Project Team

	Type of Stakeholder	Stakeholder's Project Activity
UN Women		
EU Delegation	Donor	
Prime Minister, Inter-agency Commission on GE, VAW and DV	Government	1.1.1
Human Rights Secretariat	Government	1.1.1
Ministry of Internal Affairs	Government	1.1.4
Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Defence	Government	
Ministry of Ed and Science	Government	2.2.4
Office of Resource Officers of Education Institutions	LEPL	2.2.5, 2.2.6
Teachers House	LEPL	2.2.5, 2.2.6
Agency for State Care and Assistance for Victims of Human Trafficking	IP	1.2.2-1.2.7
National Statistics Office	IP	1.1.6
Equality Now	IP	1.1.5
Global Rights for Women	IP	1.1.4, 1.2.1
WeResearch	IP	1.1.6
Georgian Girl Scouts Association	IP	2.2.2

Women's Information Centre	IP	2.1.3
Charter of Journalistic Ethics	IP	2.1.4, 2.1.5
Consultant		1.2.2
UNFPA		
NCCE	IP	2.1.6
Union Sapari	IP	2.1.7
Marneuli Cultural Centre	Partner	2.1.8
<u>On.ge</u>	Partner	2.1.8
Charter of Journalistic Ethics	IP	2.1.9
Care Together	IP	2.2.3
Marneuli Municipality	Local government	2.1.8
Kvemo Kartli State Governor's Office	Local government	2.1.8
Tegeta Holding	Partner (private industry)	2.2.3

A list of stakeholders consulted by the Evaluation Team is attached at Annex A.

2. Evaluation Purpose, Scope and Uses

2.1 Purpose and Scope

The requirement for a final evaluation was set out in the Project Document⁷, to be conducted for accountability and learning purposes. The evaluation was conducted as a summative and formative project evaluation to support UN Women and UNFPA Country Offices' and national stakeholders' strategic learning and decision-making for the next planning process.

The objectives of the evaluation were set out as:

- Contribute to building of the evidence base on effective strategies of empowerment of women, combatting violence against women and girls and transforming negative gender stereotypes;
- Facilitate the participating UN agencies (UN Women and UNFPA) strategic reflection, learning and further planning for programming in the areas of empowerment

of women, ending violence against women and girls and promotion of respect for women's' rights and gender quality; and

- Strengthen national stakeholders and structures with the aim to increase sustainability of the results beyond the project.

The geographic scope of the evaluation aligned with the Project - nationwide in Georgia, with specific interventions in Tbilisi and the regions of Kvemo Kartli and Guria. The evaluation covered almost the full implementation period of the Project, using results reported up to June 2023 and, where possible, amended up to August 2023.

2.2 Uses

The evaluation was designed to meet the uses outlined in the evaluation Terms of Reference: accountability and learning purposes and is expected to support the UN Women and UNFPA Country Offices' and national stakeholders' strategic learning and decision-making for the subsequent

⁷ Document described as Annex I: Description of the Action, 26/10/2020

planning process. The Evaluation Terms of Reference are at Annex E.

The main users of the evaluation are UN Women Country Office in Georgia, UNFPA in

Georgia and the European Union delegation in Georgia. Targeted state and non-state agency stakeholders will also be targeted for learning and greater adoption.

Figure 3: Intended Users and Uses of the evaluation, prepared by the Evaluation Team based on Evaluation TOR

Intended User	Strategic Learning	Accountability	Lessons Learned	Strategic decision making
UN Women Georgia Country Office	X	X	X	X
UNFPA Georgia	X	X	X	X
European Union	X	X	X	X
Targeted stakeholders	X		X	X

3. Evaluation Methodology

3.1 Methodology overview

Considering the mandate of both UN Women and UNFPA to incorporate human rights and gender equality in all work, and the UN Women and UNFPA evaluation policies that promote the integration of women’s rights and gender equality principles and human rights-based principles, these principles were incorporated into the evaluation methodology across all OECD-DAC evaluation criteria.⁸ The evaluation followed the principles of gender-responsive evaluations by incorporating a systematic approach to the analysis that included:

- The broader human rights context within the region and its impact on the design and implementation of the programme;
- Disaggregation of data between groups of stakeholders to identify trends, commonalities and differences of experience;
- Assessing the extent to which rights holders, including those experiencing multiple and

intersecting forms of discrimination, participated in intervention planning, design, implementation and decision-making in the programme;

- Assessing the extent to which sustainability was built into the intervention through empowerment and capacity building of women and men, and groups of rights holders and duty bearers; and
- Assessing the extent to which a human rights-based and gender-responsive approach was incorporated into the design, monitoring and reporting of Project interventions.

An evaluation matrix was developed during the Inception Phase that created Project-specific questions corresponding to the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance (Is the intervention doing the right things?), coherence (How well does the intervention fit?), effectiveness (Is the intervention achieving its objectives?), efficiency (How well are the resources being used?), and sustainability (Will the benefits last?). An additional criterion of gender equality and women’s empowerment and human rights

⁸ The Evaluation Team was guided by the following documents, among others: Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in 26 Evaluations –Towards UNEG Guidance; UNEG Handbook for Integrating Human Rights and Gender

Equality Perspectives in Evaluations in the UN System; UNEG Norms and Standards for Evaluation, Ethical Guidelines and Code of Conduct

was added as both a stand alone criterion (Are GEWE and HR principles advanced by the intervention?) and as cross-cutting across the entire matrix. The evaluation matrix ensures that not only is the evaluation asking the right questions but that there is an understood baseline for evaluation (indicators), a means of data triangulation (verification) and an identified set of sources for the answers. The evaluation matrix, incorporating these concepts, is at Annex B.

A mixed methods approach using both qualitative and quantitative data including numeric data (baseline and annual reporting numbers, numbers generated by Project activities) provided by the Project Team, data provided by informants and responses to surveys, was used to triangulate and verify data, increasing the internal reliability and consistency of findings.

The evaluation used a participatory approach to ensure the perspective and voices of stakeholders and beneficiaries were included, paying particular attention to the inclusion of women, individuals and groups who experience multiple or intersecting vulnerabilities, including women and youth from ethnic minority communities. The Evaluation Team engaged other direct beneficiaries, including youth, journalists, community members and educators.

3.2 Ethical Approach

The evaluation followed the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Ethical Guiding Principles⁹ including consideration of the

following: 1) respect for dignity and diversity; 2) right to self-determination; 3) fair representation; 4) ethical protocols for vulnerable groups; 5) redress; 6) confidentiality; and 7) avoidance of harm.

The evaluation's data collection protocol, developed in the Inception Phase and followed throughout the data collection process, included protocols for confidentiality and anonymity of informants, transparency of process, an informed consent checklist that included special provisions for vulnerable populations or especially sensitive topics, and a process for safe storage of collected data. The protocol was informed by and aligned to the UN Women Information Security Policy¹⁰ and UNEG guidance with respect to gender-responsive and human rights approaches to data collection and quality assurance.

In accordance with the WHO Guidelines for researching violence against women,¹¹ the Evaluation Team did not interview women survivors of violence but was able to glean information about their experiences from those civil society organizations and service providers who support them. The Evaluation Team did meet with women beneficiaries in other contexts, including educators, and trainers, and so the Evaluation Team included safety and confidentiality safeguards. These safeguards included building an Evaluation Team of members with specialized respect to the purpose, use, storage, and confidentiality protocols for the information; and questions that focused on beneficiary engagement with

⁹ <http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/2866>

¹⁰ <https://www.unwomen.org/en/information-security#:~:text=UN%20Women%20is%20committed%20to,also%20to%20protect%20its%20stakeholders.>

¹¹ Ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women. Building on lessons

from the WHO publication: *Putting women first: ethical and safety recommendations for research on domestic violence against women*. Geneva: World Health Organization, February 2016.

the interventions and not on their personal experiences or traumas.

3.3 Data Collection

Data collection included document review, structured and semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions, field visits and observation at selected programme sites in Kvemo Kartli and Guria, and surveys targeting Project participants from the media and the youth network.

Together with the Project Team, the Evaluation Team prepared a list of stakeholders. The relatively small nature of the Project meant that the stakeholder list during the Inception Phase included almost all of the Project's key partners and a broad approach to beneficiaries, with an intended sample of 169 individuals.

The final sample totalled 79 respondents, with the difference accounted for in the low response rate to the youth survey.

Documents: Over 62 documents were reviewed, including Project documents and reports to donors, Project products, and secondary sources. This element of data collection provided evidence with respect to the reporting structure of the Project, the products produced in individual interventions, the foundational documents that underpinned the logic for the Project design, and the resource usage in the Project. A list of documents is at Annex C.

Interviews and Focus Groups:

Individual interviews provided evidence that triangulated the documentary evidence, provided valuable insights into the qualitative impact of the activities and revealed gaps or concerns through the

nature of the probing questions. Focus groups allowed participants to share information with the Evaluation Team and each other, which increased the comfort level of some participants and allowed for a comparative analysis of the experiences of participants. As a part of data collection, the Evaluation Team travelled to Marneuli, in Kvemo Kartli, to meet with Project participants, including crisis centre workers, a representative of the municipality, and the team at the Marneuli Cultural Centre. This site was selected because it supported the Evaluation Team's inquiry into the effectiveness of the Project's targeted regional focus, including allowing the Team to meet with individuals who may not have been otherwise interviewed. Marneuli was the location for a number of activities, allowing a one-day visit to be as expansive as possible.

52 individuals were interviewed (48 women, 4 men) in either focus groups or key informant interviews:

- Four focus groups were held with a total of 17 people (16 women, 1 man)
- Two focus groups were held with educators (8 women)
- One focus group was held with Girl Scout leaders from Guria (4 women)
- One focus group was held with In Her Shoes trainers, leaders and journalist participants (4 women, 1 man)
- The remaining 35 people (32 women, 3 men) were interviewed in key informant interviews.

Surveys:

Surveys are used as an evaluation tool to triangulate evidence and access feedback from a broader array of program participants than can be conducted through field visits and interviews. As a result of the relatively

small nature of the Project, the Evaluation Team was able to meet with most of the Project partners, eliminating the need for partner surveys. Likewise, the small number of program staff inside the agencies meant that all staff and agency leadership were interviewed directly. Based on discussions with the Project Team, two groups of program participants were identified for surveying. It was identified at the outset that the survey for the youth would not likely result in a large number of responses, as the Evaluation was being conducted in the summer months. The survey results can be found at Annex D.

- Survey 1: Journalists and media 22/50 respondents (44% response rate)
- Survey 2: Youth Network members 5/80 respondents (6% response rate)

3.4 Data Analysis Methods

The evaluation’s focus was on outcome-level results and capturing key lessons learned from the implementation of the Project. Consequently, the evaluation applied a theory-based analysis and a participatory approach that could incorporate outcomes mapping. This approach allowed for opportunities for learning while still ensuring accountability for outcomes and identifying options for future decision-making and new project initiatives.

Data received was analyzed against OECD-DAC criteria and the reconstructed Theory of Change to assess the performance of the Project based on its stated assumptions about how change happens, including challenging, validating, and expanding on the assumptions.

Project approaches and outputs were assessed against transformational frameworks designed to understand the long term impacts related to gender-based violence and domestic violence.

Two spotlights were prepared to support planning for future programming and to provide insight into the application of some of the corporate objectives of UN Women and UNFPA in Georgia. The topics were discussed at the Inception Workshop and in subsequent team discussions, with the criteria that spotlights should (a) meaningfully advance the planning and discussion for future planning and/or (b) provide guidance on a topic/corporate objective that the two agencies are interested in beyond this specific Project.

3.5 Evaluation Management Arrangements

The evaluation management arrangements were made by the Project Team and set out in the evaluation Terms of Reference found at Annex E.

The roles and responsibilities for the management of the evaluation are:

<p>Evaluation Reference Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitated participation of relevant stakeholders in the design and scope of the evaluation, supported information and data collection, quality assurance through the process and dissemination of the results. Reviewed the draft evaluation report and participated in validation meeting of the final report, including a validation of the recommendations. • Composed of state and non-state stakeholders¹²
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¹² The Evaluation Reference Group membership is: representatives from UN Women and UNFPA Georgia, Maka Peradze, Head of Human Rights Secretariat at the Administration of Government of Georgia; Meri

Maglaperidze, Director of the Agency for State Care and Assistance for the Statutory Victims of Human Trafficking; Elene Rusetskaia, Director Women’s Information Centre; Mariam Gogsashvili, Charter of Journalistic Ethics of Georgia;

Evaluation Task Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversaw the day-to-day management of the evaluation and ensured the evaluation was conducted in accordance with relevant guidelines and policies • UN Women Georgia Monitoring and Evaluation Focal Point
Evaluation Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed evaluation methodology, conducted data collection and prepared final evaluation report, in accordance with UNEG and other relevant best practices and with guidance/oversight from the Evaluation Task Manager and ERG • Composed of one international and one national evaluation consultant (see bios at Annex F)

3.6 Methodological Limitations and Risks

At the Inception Phase, the Evaluation Team identified some risks and mitigation measures. Those are reproduced here, along with the outcomes.

Foreseen Risks	Mitigation Strategies	Outcomes
COVID-19 global pandemic: The COVID-19 pandemic has implications that potentially limit mobility inside Georgia international travel, and in-person interviews.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Evaluation Team has extensive experience conducting entirely virtual evaluations during the pandemic and has a variety of tools to increase virtual engagement and participation. We were prepared to switch to a virtual approach if required. • The Evaluation Team includes a national consultant, so that even if global travel was not permitted, local engagement could still occur in-person. • At the time of the Inception Report, this risk was assessed at low to moderate. 	COVID-19 did not prove to be a limiting factor in data collection. In-person data collection occurred as planned.
There are potential language barriers in the regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Kvemo Kartli where the greatest number of regional activities took place, some of the targeted members of the ethnic minorities speak Azerbaijani, rather than Georgian, Russian or English (the languages of the Evaluation Team). • The Evaluation Team discussed this risk with the Project Team and, if necessary, a Project Team member was prepared to support with interpretation or translation. • At the time of the Inception Report, this risk was assessed at low to moderate. 	Language did not prove to be a limiting factor in data collection. Azerbaijani speakers were part of larger focus group discussions and in each group, a Georgian/Azerbaijani speaker supported understanding between the languages. No Project Team members took part in any interviews.
The timing for data collection was in the summer vacation season, potentially impacting participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Evaluation Team discussed this risk with the Project Team and escalated the timing for data collection to the last week in June. In addition, the Evaluation Team was prepared to conduct either in-person data collection with the national consultant or virtual interviews with the international consultant. • At the time of the Inception Report, this risk was assessed at moderate. 	Timing did play a factor in some parts of data collection. A small number of stakeholders were not available for in-person interviews but were able to be interviewed either in-person or virtually by the Evaluation Team members after the in-person mission. In addition, while the survey with journalists had a high response rate (44%) despite the summer period, the survey with youth had a low response rate (6%). This was somewhat expected (due to timing and to the age of the respondents) and was offset by interviews with a variety of stakeholders that worked with the youth.

Kakha Khandolishvili, Head of Strategic Planning and International Relations Department, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia; Natia Sirdadze, Project Manager, Network of Centres for Civic Engagement.

4. Findings

The Evaluation Team concludes that this is a highly successful Project that was designed and implemented with a foundation in evidence and an eye to supporting and strengthening partners. There are positive lessons to learn from the Project's targeted approach to wrap-around interventions in Kvemo Kartli, the cross-pollination approach to stakeholder participation and the Project's broader holistic design that was interwoven with other activities across the country. There are opportunities to use these successes to explore even more transformation in Georgia.

As noted above, the findings are grounded in the OECD-DAC criteria of relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and gender equality and women's empowerment/human rights. The findings respond to the questions covered in the evaluation matrix at Annex B.

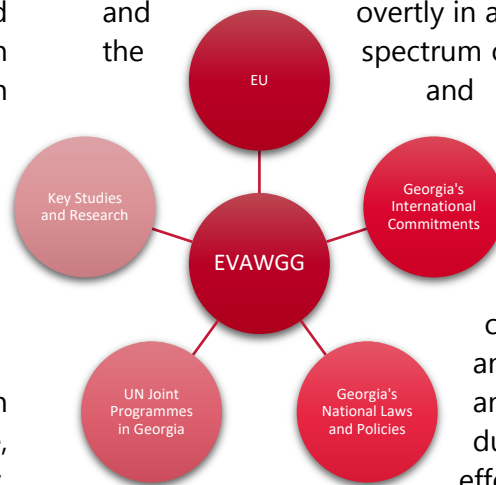
4.1 Relevance

Finding 1: The project design is well aligned to past and current other work by both agencies, partner priorities and mandates, international obligations, and the evidence base about beneficiary needs. Strategic alignment at the design phase ensured that the project capitalized on and built on existing work and knowledge.

Responds to Evaluation Questions:

1. To what extent was the intervention aligned with international, regional and national agreements and conventions on GEWE?
2. How did the project design match with the complexity of national structures, systems and decision-making processes?
3. Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?
4. Was the Theory of Change underlying the intervention logic sound, coherent and relevant to the context?

This project was designed to be intentionally and overtly in alignment with the spectrum of ERAW work and commitments in Georgia – to be



complimentary and/or additive and to avoid duplication of effort.¹³ The

project draws appropriately heavily on the large body of work already done or underway in Georgia, including past and current work by both UN agencies, EU programmes and strategies, Georgia's international and national commitments and the growing body of evidence about the realities and needs of women and girls in Georgia. The Project's Theory of Change, reconstructed at p16 was crafted to ensure the Project advances these strategies and commitments, particularly by nesting the Project in the context of current existing information and initiatives. Figure 3 identifies the influence that key documents and strategies currently in place in Georgia and globally played in the Project and its design.

¹³ Project Document, Document described as Annex I: Description of the Action, 26/10/2020, p5-6

Figure 4: Project alignment, prepared by Evaluation Team from Project Document

EU	<p>Domestic Violence Gap Assessment in Georgia 2014 Unite to Fight Violence against Women, final evaluation 2019 Eu4Human Rights Programme (Component 2, Expected Result 2.2) EU Gender Equality Strategy (2020-2025) EU External Relations Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women – GAPII Georgia’s Association Agreement with the EU</p>
Georgia’s International Commitments	<p>UN SDCF 2021-2025 Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention, 2011), UN Declaration to End Violence against Women 1993 CEDAW General Recommendation 19 (1992) and 35 (2017) Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and review processes Agreed Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women 57th Session 2013 Georgia-specific Recommendations through the Universal Periodic Review Procedure (2015) and CEDAW Committee (2014)</p>
Georgia’s National Laws and Policies	<p>Law of Georgia on the Elimination of Domestic Violence, Protection and Support of the Victims of Domestic Violence (2006) Law of Georgia on Gender Equality (2010) Law of Georgia on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination (2014) National Strategy of Human Rights (2014-2020) National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and Measures to be Implemented for the Protection of Victims (Survivors) (2018-2020) National Action Plan on Gender Equality (2014-2016)</p>
UN Programmes in Georgia	<p>Unite to Fight Violence Against women (EU/UN Women) EU4Gender Equality: Challenging Gender Stereotypes and practices in the EaP countries (EU/UN Women/UNFPA) UN Joint Programme for Gender Equality (UNDP/UN Women/UNFPA)</p>
Key Research and Studies	<p>National Study on Violence against Women in Georgia (2017) National Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Georgia (2010) Social Economic Policy Analysis with Regard to Son Preference and Gender-biased Sex Selection in Georgia (2020) Rapid Gender Assessment of COVID-19 Situation in Georgia Teacher Reporting of Violence against Children and Women (2020) Study on the Needs and Priorities of Ethnic Minority Women in the Kvemo Kartli Region (2014) Study on Violence against Women in Abkhazia Report on Monitoring Results for Services of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence Victims (2019)</p>

This strategic design resulted in a number of advantages:

- Using research products, the project used existing knowledge to hone in on the ethnic minorities in the region of Kvemo Kartli and the economically depressed region of Guria, with a clear understanding of the specific challenges presented to women and girls in those regions. However, it is to be noted that

the Project did not specifically target activities for women and girls with disabilities.

- Working with EU best practices and experiences, the project identified international programming such as In Her Shoes and Voices against Violence and then, using the Georgia-specific experience of the agencies and partners such as Women’s Information Centre,

adapt those programmes to the Georgian context.

- The project aligned with other work already underway in each of the agencies and through joint programming to compliment existing efforts, such as introducing the Panjara platform in the Azerbaijani language, while a similar project is underway in another region in Armenian.

"We tested this training module in the previous program with UNFPA, then we edited and updated the modules and hired a consultant to adjust it to the target group, the ethnic minorities, and also updated with the TOT to give more exercises and make it bigger." (Project government partner)

"There was a parallel project in another region for Armenians and we used it in Kvemo Kartli for the Armenian minorities, so we could cover Georgians, Azerbaijanis and Armenians in Kvemo Kartli." (Project civil society partner)

- The project design identified issues where there was an insufficient evidence base and began with an assessment of the existing model, such as psychological training for shelter workers or the socio-economic rehabilitation model in shelters, and then made programming decisions based on the assessment.

"The project provided the money and technical support for the assessment and recommendations. Before we had a very low success rate– victims would frequently just drop out – so we already had the relationship but not great functionality. The assessment helped us to understand victim needs better and change our approach." (Project service provider partner)

- In evaluation interviews, 100% of partners readily identified the alignment between their own organizational mandates, the needs of their beneficiaries and the work of this project.

"The project is important to us, UN Women is our long-term partner for the Ministry, and the project is in line with our priorities – EU perspective, gender mainstreaming are all aligned." (Project government partner)

4.2 Coherence

Finding 2: The Project capitalized on strengths in the mandates of UN Women and UNFPA, and increased synergies between the agencies and the EU, their partners and stakeholders.

Responds to Evaluation Questions:

5. *To what extent did the project adhere to the corporate strategic priorities of UNFPA, UN Women?*
6. *Has the project achieved synergies between the larger portfolio of the implementing UN agencies and the work of the broader UNCT, as well as other development partners, especially funded by the EU?*
7. *Has the project achieved synergies between the work of UN Women, UNFPA and key national stakeholders including national governments and CSOs?*

This project was structured as a partnership agreement between the European Union (as the donor), UN Women and UNFPA. Both the agencies and the EU noted that the Project supported increased achievement of EU goals, including the continuation of GBSS work with UNFPA,¹⁴ and increasing implementation of the legislative framework through UN Women. It is noteworthy that the strength of the relationship between the two agencies and the EU in Georgia at the end of the Project resulted in strategic dialogue about the best way to continue to work

¹⁴ The UNFPA component was relatively small and was integrated into the UN Women project at the request of the donor, in order to continue work on GBSS started in a previous component of the UNDP Global Programme Phase 1. Funding

was administered through UN Women and an internal transfer agreement with UNFPA, and the two agencies reported to the EU jointly. (Project Document)

together using new priorities identified by the EU.

This model was successful in adhering to and advancing the corporate strategic priorities of each agency¹⁵, including UNCT priorities¹⁶. Indeed, the Project's outcomes directly support these priorities. It allowed each agency to capitalize on its areas of expertise. UN Women worked actively at the legislative and policy normative level, where UNFPA's engagement was focused on targeted activities related to GBSS and son preference. Each agency's community and beneficiary activities took place in the project target regions, with heavy focus on Kvemo Kartli, increasing the overall impact of the project in that region.

Internally, these two agencies in Georgia have a history of positive joint engagements, communicating well and overcoming some of the bureaucratic barriers of the joint programme modality. The staff and leadership of each agency indicated that this project continued to build synergy between their portfolios, with an easy flow of project planning, communications, and reporting. The EU, as donor, was equally positive about the successful shared reporting and combined impact of each agency's activities.

¹⁵ UN Women Strategic Plan 2022-2025 Impact 3: Ending Violence Against Women and UNFPA Strategic Plan Outcome 3: By 2025, the reduction in gender-based violence and harmful practices has accelerated. Both strategic plans share common indicators and related SDG targets: SDG 5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual, or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age, and 3.4 SDG 5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18. https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/board-documents/DP.FPA_2021.8_-_UNFPA_strategic_plan_2022-2025_-_Annex_1_-_Integrated_results_and_resources_framework_-_FINAL_-_2Aug21.pdf

The Project engaged existing international EU initiatives such as In Her Shoes, thereby expanding the reach of these programs and bringing international best practices to Georgia. It also brought in international expertise, such as the US-based NGO Global Rights for Women to support assessment of legislative and policy development with the Ministry of Internal Affairs. In turn, this work created new international relationships for Georgian partners.

4.3 Effectiveness

Finding 3: The Project successfully achieved its expected outputs and outcomes.

Responds to Evaluation Questions:

8. *What has been the progress made towards achievement of the expected outputs and outcomes?*

The Evaluation took place in June and July 2023, with the ability to update information in August and September, nearing the end of the Project. In addition to the evidence gathered in the field and through previous reports, the Evaluation Team had the benefit of the draft version of the Semi-Annual Report to the Donor prepared in 2023. By June 2023, the Project had achieved or was on track to achieve all of its intended outcomes as set out in the initial Project Logframe. The full Project reporting on outputs and outcomes from June 2023 can be found at Annex H. The Evaluation Team

<https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/Library/Publications/2021/UN-Women-Strategic-Plan-2022-2025-Annex-01-Integrated-results-and-resources-framework-en.pdf>

¹⁶ United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Georgia 2021-2025, Cooperation Framework Outcome 2: By 2024, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive access to quality, resilient and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards. https://georgia.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/GEORGIA-UNSDCF-%202021-2025_web_0.pdf

was not able to independently verify all of the numeric outputs (although many Project partners did confirm the numbers and no There were two situational realities that impacted the Project’s approach to achieving the target results – the COVID-19 pandemic and political unrest in Georgia. The COVID-19 pandemic started in March 2020 and so restrictions and adjustments to the way activities were conducted were already in place at the start of the Project. Some activities, particularly those related to training and to public events were delayed until in-person activities could resume or were held as hybrid events. A no-cost extension was granted to UNFPA by the Donor to complete some activities, although all activities for both agencies were still completed within the overall timeframe of the Project.

During the period of the Project, and in particular the second half of the Project, there was a significant retrenching of conservative values in Georgia, including in the Georgian Parliament and in the public discourse. There were broad implications to this that made Project activities more important, including with respect to supporting civil society partners who were threatened by the proposal of a law restricting foreign funding and with respect to the impact on ethnic minority women and girls of the far-right political parties who held support in the Azerbaijani population.¹⁷ Specific Project implications included delay in having significant gender-based legislative pieces passed, including the VAW/DV NAP. The Project understandably did not have specific activities that detailed advocacy by agency leadership to decision-makers but that

one disputed them), but the Team was able to verify the achievement of the activities and the qualitative impacts described. would be a critical element of responding to these political challenges.

The challenging circumstances in which this Project operated amplify the benefits of the successes. The Project’s focus on strengthening the implementation of the legislative framework, the capacity of civil society partners and the social relationships in ethnic minority communities was valuable. The Evaluation Team observed specific evidence of this for example in interviews with government partners who indicated that they would not be able to advance gender issues without UN Women, and Project partners who indicated that prior to the Project there was no programming for girls in their area.

Finding 4: UN Women’s best-practices approach to supporting its government partners achieved rapid and impactful legislative and policy changes that contributed to enhancing global norms and standards for EVAWGG in Georgia.

Responds to Evaluation Questions:

9. *What contributions were – if any – the participating UN agencies making to implement global norms and standards for GEWE in Georgia in the framework of EVAWGG?*

10. *Has the project achieved any unforeseen results, either positive or negative? For whom? What were the good practices and the obstacles or shortcomings encountered? How were they overcome?*

13. *What – if any – types of innovative good practices have been introduced in the action for the achievement of GEWE results?*

This project actively contributed normative gains in the area of violence against women and domestic violence. Georgia already has a relatively robust legislative framework related to VAW/DV, allowing this project to focus on affirming and strengthening the

¹⁷ Project Semi-Annual Report to Donor, June 2023 DRAFT

national strategy and to hone in on specific aspects. UN Women was able to use its sophisticated relationship with and understanding of its government partners to effectively support change and implement global norms and standards, by providing information and expertise to empower partners to make decisions. The results were rapid, comprehensive and effective normative change across multiple government ministries. There are three Project initiatives in which UN Women collaborated with government partners that illustrate the significant results of UN Women's approach.

Enhancing the National Action Plan: Collaboration with the Inter-Agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

Approach: As part of the development of the NAP, UN Women provided two international experts, and facilitated extensive and inclusive consultations with government entities, relevant municipalities and civil society organizations. UN Women ensured that special attention was paid during the development of the NAP to lessons learned in the implementation of previous NAPs, findings of independent monitoring and consultations with civil society. As part of the implementation process, UN Women supported a conference attended by over 100 individuals to present and discuss the implementation of the NAP.

Result: A new 2022-2024 National Action Plan (NAP) and was approved by the Government of Georgia in October 2022.

Domestic Violence Risk Assessment Tool: Collaboration with the Human Rights Protection and Investigation Quality

Monitoring Department, Ministry of Internal Affairs

Approach: The partners identified a problem area in a program previously started where UN Women had supported the acquisition of tracking devices to be placed on accused perpetrators of domestic violence at the point of arrest. In the first year of the program, only 44 devices were actually placed. To identify the source of the issue, develop a solution and ensure it was implemented, UN Women returned to their approach of international best practices, evidenced-based decisions, and participatory engagement, including consultation, socialization and trainings.

Result: UN Women and the Ministry staff designed a Risk Assessment Tool for police, providing them with guidance on when to introduce the tracking devices. The legislative amendment came into force on May 1, 2023 and, in May and June, 80 devices were placed by police.

Victim/Survivor Compensation: Collaboration with the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

Approach: UN Women collaborated with the MoLHSA to assess international best practices by providing an international expert, and consulted across Georgia through a UN Women facilitated participatory engagement. UN Women also provided technical support through its own expert staff and leadership advocacy.

Result: Within 20 months of the start of this initiative, legislation was passed, procedures were introduced and the policy had been applied in three cases, with payments already made to 2 victim families. See Spotlight 1.

Spotlight 1: Victim/Survivor Compensation

What is it?

In 2022, UN Women worked with the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia (MoLHSA) to introduce legislative amendments and corresponding procedures to provide compensation to victims/survivors of violence against women/domestic violence. The amendments entered into force on 1 December 2022.¹ The Agency for State Care and Assistance for the (Statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking was designated as the implementing authority.

What was UN Women's contribution?

UN Women actively facilitated the process, including providing a national expert, conducting a participatory process with stakeholders and directly providing technical and advocacy support.

What was the outcome?

Within approximately 20 months, an unexpectedly rapid timeframe, the Ministry was able to bring about legislative and policy change, and implement the process in three cases. The legislative and policy change took place within 2022 and between January and June 2023, payment had already been rendered in two cases. This work is responsive to recommendations from the GreVio committee and to removing the only reservation that Georgia had when ratifying the Istanbul Convention.

What are the lessons from this success story?

There are a number of elements that allowed this process to succeed:

- The nature of the technical assistance – UN Women provided the Ministry with a national expert to support the process. This expert brought examples from more than 10 countries, allowing the Ministry to select a process that could suit the Georgian context. In other words, the expert advice made it easy for the government partner to feel empowered to make choices from an array of options that could meet international best practices.
- The participatory process – After the government had reviewed the international options, UN Women facilitated a participatory engagement process with a wide array of stakeholders from across government and civil society to ensure input from organizations that would be part of the implementation process and who represented the end beneficiaries.
- The active partnership – The partners at MoLHSA noted the value added approach of UN Women in the project, with technical support, shared advocacy and an expert understanding of the government process and the needs of the Ministry. UN Women noted the commitment of Ministry staff and the government to advancing this work and to meeting international obligations and best practices in a context best suited to Georgia.

Next Steps and Future Considerations:

This is a relatively new process and, up to August 2023, had only been applied in three cases, two of femicide, and one of a physical injury. In the small sampling of discussions during the evaluation process, it did not yet appear to be well understood among those who work with victims/survivors or in a broader context. This presents a future opportunity for training.

A longer-term analysis of the application and use of this process will be required. There are barriers to a widespread application – in that it requires victims/survivors to take the perpetrator to civil court, and it is a limited and capped amount of money (10,000 GEL is not a small amount but does not represent a long term income, is the maximum rather than the default amount, and in the case of child survivors of femicide may be split between children). However, it is an important component of state support for victims/survivors and should be considered a considerable success.

In terms of the application of the approach, both UN Women and the government partner indicated that the success of this initiative increased the capacity of the partner to advance legislative change in a timely manner.

Finding 5: The project provided increased knowledge and practical skills to a broad array of service deliverers and beneficiaries, directly enhancing the capacities of both duty-bearers and rights-holders.

Aligns to Evaluation Questions:

10. Has the project achieved any unforeseen results, either positive or negative? For whom? What were the good practices and obstacles or shortcomings encountered? How were they overcome?

11. To what extent have capacities of relevant duty-bearers and rights-holders been strengthened?

13. What- if any – types of innovative good practices have been introduced in the action for the achievement of GEWE results?

As part of both the work to increase institutional capacities and the work to shift

social norms with respect to VAWG and domestic violence, the Project placed a significant emphasis on capacity building for service deliverers and end beneficiaries. The Project utilized an array of training approaches including classical skills-based and more innovative experiential training.

Figure 4 assigns the Project’s capacity building initiatives to the categories of training approaches, including the resource officers and journalists who received both kinds of training, and indicates the number of people who participated in the initiatives.

Figure 6: Training Approaches and Selected Results, prepared by Evaluation Team from interviews and Project reports (#s of participants confirmed by Project Team)

Skills-based training	Combination	Immersive and experiential
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers, principals, resource officers (more than 2,224 participants) Journalists (201 participants, 160 women and 41 men) Psychologists, social workers and other shelter workers (number not confirmed) 	<p>Resource Officers Journalists</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members and service deliverers in Kvemo Kartli and Guria through In Her Shoes (1259 participants) Men through MTM in Kvemo Kartli and Tegeta Motors (358 men participants) Youth engaging in social media and local community initiatives (996 participants) Voices against Violence (429 participants)

The Project’s evidence-based approach to determining initiatives is clear in the selection and conceptualization of the capacity building initiatives, including initiatives for shelter workers, educators, and journalists.

Training for Psychologists, Social Workers and Others in Shelters and Crisis Centres

Approach: Following recommendations from the Public Defenders’ Office, UN Women conducted an assessment of the effectiveness of the guidelines for shelter workers. The assessment revealed the need to provide enhanced training for the psychologists working in shelters. UN Women worked with the State Care Agency partner to use that assessment to guide the development of new training modules drawn from international best practices, and to roll

out training, with a focus on the workers in Tbilisi, Kvemo Kartli and Guria.

Result: Refreshed guidelines that included additional assessment tools for psychologists and training on cognitive behaviour and trauma-based therapy. While the number of shelter workers trained was not provided and would be low (as there are not many workers overall), the impact of the training was described to the Evaluation Team as high. Interviews with psychologists and social workers in Tbilisi and Kvemo Kartli confirmed that they had been applying the training as a part of broader holistic support to women survivors of domestic violence and gender-based violence.

Training for teachers, principals and school resource officers in Kvemo Kartli, Guria and Tbilisi

Approach: Teachers, principals and school resource officers received training on:

- gender mainstreaming in education, including gender mainstreaming tools such as gender responsive budgeting and other international best practices,
- training on existing national and international legislation related to VAW/DV,
- their legal obligations with respect to reporting on gender-based violence and domestic violence, and
- available services to support children experiencing VAW/DV.

Training modules were developed based on research about the basis for low reporting in schools. For example, the research indicated that teachers were more likely to report if they felt that the reporting would be kept confidential. Teachers were encouraged to take the training and provided incentives such as certificates of completion to help them build their portfolio.

Result for teachers and principals: The result of ensuring that the training was targeted to the interests and needs of teachers was an unexpectedly greater number of teachers participating than was expected. Trainers reported that they expected 15 teachers per session and regularly got 20-25 in attendance. 1387 teachers/principals and 837 resource officers were trained between April 2022-February 2023.

Result for resource officers: At the request of the Office of the Resource Officers of Educational Institutions, more groups of resource officers were trained through a ToT

model and thematic training of an additional 4 days was provided to deepen their understanding of VAW/DV related issues. Resource officers in Tbilisi and Kvemo Kartli also participated in the In Her Shoes immersive training. [See Spotlight 2 for a deeper consideration of the experience of resource officers.] While the training of teachers clearly had meaningful impact, partners reported that it was the more intensive skills training combined with the immersive experience that caused the training of the resource officers to net such significant results. Resource officers were able to identify signs of violence, understood their obligations and felt empowered to act. Reporting/referrals in 2019, 2021 and 2022 averaged 505 cases/ year.¹⁸ In the first 6 months of 2023 (from January-June), 404 cases had already been reported/referred. This increase was attributed by those interviewed by the evaluation team largely to resource officer reporting.

Training for Journalists

Approach: Journalists received a similar combined skills and immersive training (both training on gender-sensitive and ethical guidelines and participation in the In Her Shoes experience). This initiative was based on evidence from previous UN Women efforts indicating that journalism in Georgia continues to propagate negative stereotypes through gender-insensitive reporting, including with respect to domestic violence and gender-based violence.

Results: While the approach was similar to the resource officers, the results are less impressive. 201 journalists took part in training through a train-the-trainer model and 8 organizations agree to follow the

¹⁸ 2020 had much lower reporting as a result of school closures because of the pandemic.

guidelines. Interviewees indicated that the presence of local media, such as local radio stations, would have positive results in the community. Journalists who responded to the evaluation survey largely indicated that they would apply the ethical standards.¹⁹ The Charter for Journalistic Ethics indicated that, while it is difficult to fully monitor the actual outputs, they can indicate that journalists are consulting them more regularly on gender sensitive reporting. They also indicated that the trainers in each organization are also being consulted more frequently by colleagues. This is all positive behaviour but it has not yet provided the end results. The

evaluation interviewees indicated that this is because, while journalists are an important part of the media landscape, they are not the ultimate decision-makers of content. The Charter for Journalistic Ethics reported that they are frequently asked for written opinions on gender sensitive and ethical reporting by reporters to provide to their editors and publishers. Other media experts interviewed by the evaluation team confirmed this challenge and added that online editors (i.e. those who take original content and convert it to digital headlines) also exert control over content.

¹⁹ See Journalists and Media Survey questions 3-5, Annex D

Spotlight 2: Increasing the Capacity of Resource Officers

What is it?

A national collaboration between the Ministry of Education, the Resource Officers Association, and UN Women to train school resource officers on their obligations with respect to domestic violence reporting, as well as to train them to advance positive social norms with respect to gender equality.

What was UN Women's contribution?

UN Women provided the technical expertise and skills to analyze the evidence and identify the need to expand educator training to school resource officers. UN Women supported a pilot of the training, developed learnings from the pilot and incorporated those into the implementation plan for broad training using a train-the-trainer (TOT) model.

What was the outcome?

Within two years, more than 837 resource officers trained at schools across Georgia. Reporting of domestic and gender based violence through schools has increased by a factor of four from years previous to the training, which Ministry staff attribute to increased reporting by resource officers.

What are the lessons from this success story?

1. Evidence-based decision making works: Prior to determining the exact nature of the intervention, the Project consulted a 2019 study about reporting of domestic violence in education institutions in Georgia. Despite a legal obligation to report, reporting rates were very low. UN Women and its partner, the State Care Agency, considered options for increasing reporting and determined that including resource officers was likely to be a successful route.
2. What you put in you get out: The resource officers underwent a greater degree of training than teachers and principals. In addition to the shared 8 hours of training, resource officers took an extra 4 hours of training and participated in the In Her Shoes experience in Kvemo Kartli and Tbilisi. The dramatic increase in reporting following this massive effort can be attributed to the intensity of the training effort.

Next Steps and Future Considerations:

The school resource officers have proven to be engaged, effective and responsible allies for students. There is opportunity here to build on this success by ensuring all resource officers are regularly trained (given the existence of the training materials and the TOT model) and engaging them in a broader array of GEWE activities.

The lessons learned with respect to the approach to resource officer training have been documented and discussed internally in UN Women as well as with the government partner. While the results are positive, the level of effort required presents sustainability challenges.

Finding 6: The Project supported partners with creative approaches to changing social norms that yielded immediate results and strengthened the resilience of the service providers and beneficiaries, particularly those in the target areas.

Responds to Evaluation Questions

10. Has the project achieved any unforeseen results, either positive or negative? For whom? What were the good practices and obstacles or shortcomings encountered? How were they overcome?

11. To what extent have capacities of relevant duty-bearers and rights-holders been strengthened?

12. How adaptably and rapidly did the EVAWGG react to the quick changing country context?

13. What- if any – types of innovative good practices have been introduced in the action for the achievement of GEWE results?

The Project's approach to changing social norms related to GBV/DV, harmful practices and negative gender stereotypes focused on local and regional efforts. This 'grass-roots' model allowed partners to be innovative, creative and directly impactful in their

language, reflecting the particular realities of the people right around them. The results of the initiatives were wide-ranging in their creative scope but they shared a common thread, as the Evaluation Team heard repeatedly from both service providers and beneficiaries, and confirmed by the information gathered by the Project team in annual reporting, that the Project activities caused emotional and personal responses from participants.

One of the most impactful initiatives was the In Her Shoes immersive experience. This interactive performance was provided across the target groups of the Project – to public servants, educators, rural population, men, police officers, ethnic minorities, journalists and families. The Project partner, Women’s Information Centre, conducted 82 sessions over 2 years, reaching 1400 people in Guria and Kvemo Kartli. In evaluation interviews and focus groups, both those who participated and those who conducted the sessions remarked on the personal engagement and outpouring of emotion at the sessions. This evidence was affirmed by the number of beneficiary participants the events drew, as well as the increased skill set of providers such as resource officers (see Finding 5).

“At the final training in Guria, we had 46 participants. This was a shock to me. It included families who experienced violence brought in by the village representative. I saw the couples taking selfies together and the men said they felt bad.” (Project civil society partner)
“We have conducted this through many different training styles and this kind of simulation game really touches the soul of participants -some are victims, some are perpetrators. It has more long-term impact on the participants than just training.” (Project civil society partner)

Further evidence of the Project’s grassroots social norms change results are seen through the Youth for Social Change Network and their partnership with local schools in Marneuli. As a part of this intervention supported by UNFPA, youth were invited to come up with their own activities to promote gender equality in their community. Students held a girls football tournament that started in one school location and was unexpectedly embraced by the wider and surrounding community, including fathers and male community leaders.

*“It was a huge tournament. It was a tiny stadium when they started and by the time they finished people were all coming. It was festive and all the nearby villages were joining. They combined and invited 8 schools from all the villages. I remember the emotions.”
(Project beneficiary)*

The Panjara platform, created by Union Sapari and run entirely in Azerbaijani language, provides a platform for girls to act as bloggers providing posts about sex education, reproductive health and early marriage. Girls have used this platform as a means of seeking support or escape from negative situations, talking openly about topics that are socially difficult and advancing their own skills. The organizers reported that two of the bloggers now have jobs with media organizations.

These targeted social norms changes respond directly to the immediate and evolving needs of girls, particularly those in the target areas. Use of online platforms in their language became even more critical in the isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic and are important tools to reach still-isolated girls and women and help them develop their own skills. Shared community events allow those male leaders who are supportive to

openly express their support for women and girls and to grow their own understanding – deeply important in the current retrenching of conservative social norms in Georgia.

Success Story: Unexpected Outcomes
Across the Project's social norms interventions, Project partners remarked on the unexpectedly large and positive response they received to the activities including: In Her Shoes, participation of young people online, TikTok video that went viral with a small budget, MTM in the rural areas and at Tegeta Motors Georgia, the Puppet Theatre supported by the Marneuli Cultural Centre.

Finding 7: The project successfully capitalized on existing partner strengths to create a shared approach to advocacy, engaged new partners and had cross-pollination between partners and activities, creating a multiplier effect of impact.

Responds to Evaluation Questions

14. To what extent did the joint implementation led by UN Women and UNFPA lead to stronger advocacy with national authorities and improved communication, coordination and information exchange within the United Nations family and development partners at large?

The Project engaged a wide variety of partners across the activities, using a blend of existing and new partners, to positive benefit. Experienced partners noted the benefits of repeat partnerships, including familiarity and ease with EU/UN systems and expectations and a positive working relationship with UN agency staff. For UN Women and UNFPA, using tested partners means confidence in the success of the intervention and, in a number of cases, such as Union Sapari or the State Care Agency, the interventions are replicas of work already completed or underway in other parts of Georgia. Continuing to provide support to feminist civil society organizations is critical given the current political climate in Georgia and joint implementation allowed the agencies to

reiterate that point through advocacy efforts with government partners and across the UNCT.

Likewise, expanding the support to new partners is vital for Georgia. This project engaged a number of new partners (new to UN Women and/or UNFPA), broadening the reach of project interventions and messages and strengthening new arms of the civil society. The project engaged with new women and girls organizations such as the Girl Scouts of Georgia, and with partners in other sectors like the Charter of Journalistic Ethics, the Cultural Centre in Marneuli and ON.Ge.

Success Story: Girls Scouts of Georgia
The project targeted the Guria region – a challenging region with limited resources for women and girls. UN Women worked with the Girl Scouts of Georgia, a new partner, to adapt and introduce Voices against Violence to Georgia. In Guria, this effort involved first creating a Girl Scout troop in the region, a true benefit in a region with almost no youth clubs. Each month, the Girls Scouts planned activities for the new members that allowed them to have community, physical activity, learning and a safe place for discussion. They also planned activities that incorporated boys to allow broader reach for the Voices against Violence training, including a 15 km hike and participation in a local festival. The troop leaders reported not only increased attendance at training and other events but also personal impact stories from girls who were gaining empowerment through participation.

A highlight of the project's efforts to engage and strengthen its partners was a 'cross-pollination' approach to interventions, which saw multiple partners with different interests engage in common activities. For example, In

Her Shoes training conducted by Women’s Information Centre was provided to youth and parents, resource officers and teachers, and journalists. This approach created a common experience across multiple layers of society – including end beneficiaries, service providers, influencers – that supports dialogue on socially difficult topics. It also built relationships between organizations

that could continue independent of UN Women and UNFPA.

Figure 7 indicates the cross-section of experienced and new partners that engaged with UN Women and UNFPA in this Project as well as highlights those initiatives that allowed for the ‘cross-pollination’ of experiences between partners.

Figure 7: Experienced and new partners, and activities that cross-pollinated partners, prepared by the Evaluation Team using project documents, interviews with the project team and with partners, and analysis of the impact of the initiatives

Experienced partners	Union Sapari, MenCare/Care Together, Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Care Agency, Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs, Shelter workers, Ministry of Education and Science, Women’s Information Centre, NCCE, GEOSTAT
New partners	Girl Scouts of Georgia, Charter of Journalistic Ethics, Resource Officers Unit, We Research, the Marneuli Cultural Centre, Ministry of Internal Human Rights Protection and Investigation Quality Monitoring Department, ON.ge
Activities that cross-pollinated	In Her Shoes, Youth for Social Change Network, Men talking to Men, Crisis Centres and Shelters

4.4 Efficiency

Finding 8: The Project Team from both agencies made strategic use of resources and the project management structure to deliver large results with a small envelope.

Responds to Evaluation Questions

15: *Have resources (financial, human, technical, etc) been allocated strategically to achieve the project’s outputs and outcomes?*

16: *Has there been effective leadership and management of the project including the structuring of management and administration roles to maximize results?*

In the context of the work of these two agencies, this Project was not a large Project. With a budget of €1,684,517 and only three fully dedicated team members (two from UN Women and one from UNFPA), the Project required a strategic approach to resource allocation to maximize results. The Evaluation Team analyzed the strategies for resource allocation that contributed to the success of the Project, set out in Figure 8.

Figure 8: Project Resource Management Strategies and Results, prepared by Evaluation Team

Project Resource Management Strategies	Result
Reliance on experienced partners	This approach reduced the time spent by agency staff in working with partners to train them to meet UN and EU expectations, and minimized the amount of active quality control required.
Reuse of materials	The Project repurposed international materials such as Voices Against Violence and In Her Shoes, which were adjusted to resonate with a Georgian audience, and components of nationally-prepared training modules such as elements of the training prepared for teachers, reducing the cost of reinventing materials from scratch and the time spent sourcing these materials.
Returning to tested interventions	The Project made active use of interventions and approaches that were already prepared, tested, and proven in other regions of Georgia, including MTM, and the Panjara platform. In the case of MTM, it was continued in its original form as community-based meetings and expanded into the private sector through a partnership with Tegeta Motors Georgia. Not only

	did this reduce the efficiency burden for the Project Team but it increased the effectiveness of the interventions by sharing common experiences more broadly across the country.
Avoiding duplication of effort	The Project Team members from each agency worked well together, avoiding overlap through their shared reporting structure and individual oversight of partners, and ensuring that their efforts supported the strengths of each agency.
Purpose-driven spending	The Project Team spent money on consultants in key areas to achieve strong results, particularly in supporting government partners to achieve legislative and policy changes. Partners noted the value-add of these consultants, particularly the use of local consultants who understood international best practices and Georgian practices and realities. Procuring this blend of expertise was an efficient use of resources.

There were some areas of resource allocation and project approach in which lessons can be drawn about opportunity for even greater strategic resource allocation. Given the sophisticated nature of these two agencies in Georgia, their positive relationship could have been exploited even further. The nature of the activities and target groups in this Project lend themselves to an exploration of even greater collaboration – in other words, moving from working successfully side-by-side to working on activities in an integrated manner, while still meeting their individual mandates and maintaining their agency autonomy. For example, in this Project, there was a heavy focus on training and community campaigns. Given the shared interests of the target audiences (eg. school resource officers and teachers, shelter workers, young people), the agencies could have explored combined training sessions and shared messaging in campaigns including greater use of online platforms and social media.

Finding 9: The conventional measurement framework employed in this Project did not fully capitalize on the potential to showcase the GBV/DV and GEWE transformation results and support understanding of efforts vs outcomes and in-project decision-making .

Responds to Evaluation Question 17: Did the project have effective monitoring mechanisms in place to measure progress towards results? To what extent was the monitoring data objectively used for management action and decision-making?

As a part of the Inception phase of this evaluation, the Evaluation Team assessed the strength of the Project’s measurement framework using SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time Bound) best practices, summarized in Figure 9 below. Overall, the indicators were rated as adequate-strong, providing sufficient data for measurement but lacking in measurability and specificity in some areas. Some measures were rated lower because the indicator simply did not meet the SMART characteristics.

Figure 9: Summary: Outcomes, outputs, and indicators assessment by level of the results framework, prepared by the Evaluation Team

	Strong	Adequate	Weak
Project Logframe			
Impact Indicators		2	
Outcomes	1	1	
Outcomes indicators	3		1
Outputs	2	2	1
Output Indicators	4	4	

On the whole though, the measurement framework was a reasonable and cautious attempt to capture the Project's contribution to the overall objective "Women and girls in Georgia live a life free from violence". This should not be considered a criticism, as the framework aligns to the expectations of the donor and feeds into the larger corporate measurement frameworks for both agencies. Given the uncertainty of the times at the start of the Project (pandemic, political upheaval in the area), it is logical that the Project would expect implementation challenges and set expectations accordingly. The Project Team was able to use the indicators throughout the Project to signal where focused attention was required to ensure success, such as ensuring that government partners had support to both prepare and implement legislative changes. Both the donor and the agency leadership reported that the indicators were used to support mid-project discussions and these assessments were evident in the Project's annual reports. The indicators were also used to understand impact in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and make mid-Project adjustments to activities.²⁰

The Project reported all indicators On Target in each of the three annual donor reports and by June 2023 had met or exceeded all of its targets. Certainly, this is a sign of a successful project particularly in trying times of COVID-19 and political and social uncertainty.

However, the corporate measurement construct of both agencies does not truly allow for the capture of the exciting results that this Project has generated, including the strengthening of the civil society, the generation of grass roots movements,

increased engagement online, and the impact of intense targeting in Kvemo Kartli. The UN Women and UNFPA offices in Georgia are among the most sophisticated in the region, able to conduct more transformative conversations with the donor and attempt 'stretch' measures. There is ongoing work in both agencies to attempt to understand longer term social norms transformation, particularly in the context of violence and harmful practices, that could have been pulled in to find ways to have the measurement framework match the ambition of the Project. This is a challenge for the country offices and their corporate counterparts.

4.5 Sustainability

Finding 10: The project generated significant new data that will contribute to the advocacy capacity of rights holders and duty bearers and will allow both UN agencies and national partners to understand the need for ongoing and future efforts on GEWE in Georgia.

Responds to Evaluation Questions

18: To what extent did the intervention succeed in building sustainable individual and institutional capacities of rights holders and duty bearers?

19: How effectively has the project been able to contribute to the generation of national ownership of the project outputs?

20: What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time after the project phase out?

A significant part of this project (Result 1) focused on research and evidence:

- using existing evidence to design project interventions (see Finding 1),
- conducting current state assessments of policies, procedures and tools before determining resolution (see Finding 4)

²⁰ Project Annual Report for 2021

- engaging experts to bring new and international information into Georgia (see Finding 4), and
- choosing interventions that add to the existing evidence base on violence against women and the experiences of women and girls in Georgia (see Findings 4-6).

That evidence-based approach meant that the initiatives themselves would be more sustainable.

The Project also prioritized the generation of new sources of information and justifications for the future rounds of GEWE activities. There are two research projects that were undertaken by the Project and its partners that have potential for wide-reaching and sustained impact as both increase the body of information in Georgia about the experiences of women and girls and provide tools for advocates to make stronger arguments. The researchers in each of these projects noted the expectation of UN Women for adherence to gender best practices with respect to disaggregated data and ethical data collection approaches.

The National Study on Violence against Women in Georgia

Approach: UN Women partnered with GEOSTAT (the National Statistics Office of Georgia) to implement a second round of the National Study on Violence against Women in Georgia. UN Women provided technical assistance, including an international expert who was well received by the partner, and a qualitative approach conducted by WeResearch to supplement the quantitative data.

Result: The result of the work was an updated methodology and trained staff aligned to international best practices and standards. The survey was launched in 2022 to 4,400 respondents (1100 men and 3300 women), complemented by qualitative investigation (300 focus groups with stakeholders, service providers, government, NGOs, doctors, marginalized groups, sexual minorities and disabled people) by WeResearch.²¹ The results of the survey, not yet available at the time of the evaluation, will be publicly available and provide needed data on the prevalence of violence against women and domestic violence in Georgia, as well as updated information on social norms and attitudes about violence against women. This information will inform decision making regionally, nationally and for international agencies and donors. It will provide important evidence to legislators and to civil society organizations and allow increased education to the public. Critically, as the second round of this study, it will provide information about changes to the baseline data, including about the impact of GEWE interventions and the changing social morays.

Trends in Jurisprudence on Certain Articles of the Criminal Law

Approach: UN Women supported a study conducted by the Research Branch of the Supreme Court of Georgia, analyzing 544 cases dealing with 3 articles of Georgian criminal law (stalking, forced marriage and kidnapping) that were before all levels of courts between 2018-2022. The work studied the impact of changes to the laws as a result of Georgia's adoption of the Istanbul Convention.

²¹ Sources: GEOSTAT and WeResearch interview and confirmed in Project 2022/23 Annual and Midyear Reports

Result: This work provided a broad new evidence base in Georgia – it showed the application of international legal conventions in Georgian law, it publicly revealed judicial decision making trends (previously unavailable to the public), and it provided information to judges, public prosecutors and defenders, and to victims/survivors on precedent in gender-based violence cases.²² This work will also assist Georgia in responding to the Grevio committee’s previous criticisms, particularly with respect to prior expectations that a psychological report be required in domestic violence cases.

It is reasonable to anticipate that UN Women, UNFPA and their UN partner agencies, as well as national government actors and civil society organizations will be able to use the new data generated by these pieces of research to advocate and create initiatives in targeted ways that directly contribute to future GEWE advances. Equally importantly, it can be hoped that this information will be distributed in a way that is publicly accessible, allowing end beneficiaries, including women and girls, to make decisions in their own interests.

Success Story: Unexpected Outcome
The research revealed the impact of international training interventions for judges, as local and regional decisions applied international legal conventions and there was more widespread understanding and application of the gendered implications of violence.
(interview with Supreme Court)

Finding 11: While a number of the Project interventions appear to be independently

sustainable, there is still work to do to support key government and civil society partners and advance GEWE in underserved regions.

Responds to Evaluation Questions

18: To what extent did the intervention succeed in building sustainable individual and institutional capacities of rights holders and duty bearers?

19: How effectively has the project been able to contribute to the generation of national ownership of the project outputs?

20: What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time after the project phase out?

At the time of the evaluation, the Project’s interventions were largely completed – either fully completed as a one-time effort such as the research study by the Supreme Court or the training plan for teachers, or running independently such as the risk assessment tool for the police by the Ministry of Internal Affairs or the Panjara website by Union Sapari.

“It became a youth voice and it is still happening even without our funding.”
Project civil society partner

Those interventions not yet completed were close to completion, such as the National Study on Violence against Women in Georgia by GEOSTAT scheduled for release in Fall 2023 or the new women’s shelter in Tbilisi, scheduled to open in Fall 2023. As discussed in findings 4-6 and 12, many of these interventions had both immediate impact and long term potential to be transformative.

The challenge presented to the two agencies is less about sustaining the specific interventions in this Project and more about ensuring the longer-term sustainability of the partners themselves. The Project had a range of partners and consequently, there are a range of partner needs. Some CSO partners, such as Union Sapari, Care Together,

²² Sources: Interview with Research Branch, Supreme Court of Georgia and confirmed in Project 2022/23 Annual and Midyear Reports

Women's Information Centre and NCCE, have collaborated with UN Women and/or UNFPA for many years, are sophisticated advocates for GEWE in Georgia and independently able to carry on interventions that may have begun in partnership. These partners do not necessarily need immediate technical support from the agencies but do rely on them for ongoing funding. Other CSO partners, such as Charter of Journalistic Ethics or Girl Scouts of Georgia, are new to collaboration with the two UN agencies or new to working on GEWE projects and may require both funding and technical support to continue to work in the GEWE space in Georgia.

Similarly, the Project's government partners have a range of needs. At the national level, the government partners, including the State Care Agency, the Ministry of Education and Science, the MoLHSA, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, are all long-term partners with extensive experience working with UN Women. While they do not rely on funding from the agencies for their existence, some ministries view the agencies as a necessary change agents, with some indicating to the Evaluation Team that they remain dependent on UN Women to implement new concepts, including advocacy, technical support, financial support and training.

*"The role of UN Women is huge. We can't imagine life without UN Women."
(Project government partner)*

This is particularly true with respect to the State Care Agency, a division of the MoLHSA, a massive ministry with many priorities and commitments for its limited resources. That agency indicated that any growth or change in the shelter system, including keeping aligned to international commitments, continues to require UN Women's

involvement. A key element for future sustainability of shelters was secured during the Project, the state programme "Social Rehabilitation and Childcare", which considers the possibility of outsourcing the existing VAW/DV shelters.

4.6 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and Human Rights

Finding 12: The Project's holistic 'wrap-around' approach to strengthening GEWE and GBV/DV awareness in Kvemo Kartli had immediate impact and long-term transformative potential for targeted women and girls, although with less focus on women with disabilities.

Responds to Evaluation Questions

21: To what extent was GEWE advanced as a result of the intervention?

23: To what extent did the project incorporate target groups across the interventions, in line with the principles of LNOB and with the UN agencies corporate mandates regarding the inclusion of women and girls with disabilities?

24: Were there changes in attitudes and behaviours leading to fairer social relations among stakeholders?

The Project concentrated interventions in three regions of Georgia – Tbilisi, Guria and Kvemo Kartli. Each of these regions had specific target rationale – Tbilisi, as the capital is where the normative work occurs along with the majority of the population; Guria is a significantly economically depressed region that is especially challenging for women and girls; and Kvemo Kartli is a region that has the largest population of Azerbaijanis, an ethnic and religious minority in Georgia.

The targeted work done in Kvemo Kartli represents a holistic approach to addressing GBV/DV, negative gender stereotypes, and harmful practices. The Evaluation Team observed a number of positive aspects to the approach that contributed to GEWE and long-term transformation:

- The approach is people-centred –the Project team used evidence about the specific experiences of women and girls in the region and in particular those belonging to the ethnic minority to select interventions.²³
- The approach aligns with current sociological models examining how social norms related to violence against women and girls are transformed through challenging norms at the personal, interpersonal, institutional and societal level.²⁴ See Figure 5.
- The approach responds to the core principle of Leave No One Behind. The interventions were targeted at the ethnic minority population in the region, a group frequently left out of larger social change by virtue of language and other forms of isolation. The Project was careful to ensure that all outputs (printed and online materials, training, outreach campaigns, social groups such as MTM) were prepared and conducted in the Azeri language. Interventions occurred both in local regional urban centres such as Marneuli and Gardabani as well as in smaller villages and rural areas.

²³ The interventions pulled in members from all aspects of society (men, women, youth, political leaders, educators, members of the Georgian majority, etc) and highlight the experiences of the women and girl, engaging society in solution-building.

²⁴

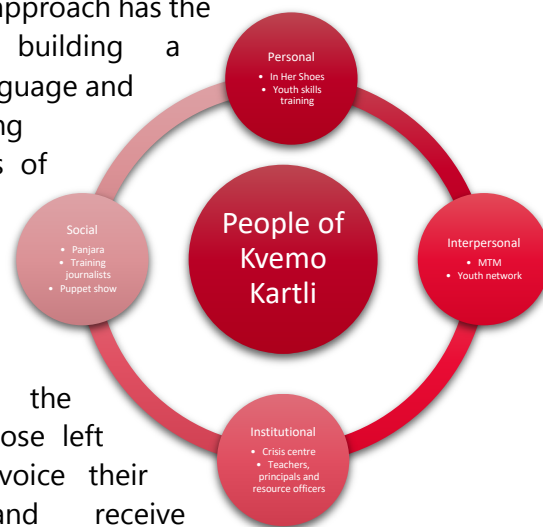
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0140>

Figure 10: Transformational perspective of the project, prepared by the Evaluation Team

This kind of approach has the effect of building a common language and understanding across levels of society (and begins to generate agreement),

increasing the ability of those left behind to voice their realities and receive support. The Evaluation Team heard numerous stories of new voices in the region, from a girl in the audience at the Gardabani form theatre who was brave enough to engage in the process to change the narrative and argue with a male actor, to young girls writing posts about reproductive health, to girls reaching out through an online platform to seek help out of their early marriage.

However, the Project was less targeted and ultimately less impactful with respect to its approach to women and girls with disabilities. While Project interventions, especially the interventions related to social norms, were not specifically designed to increase the inclusion of women with disabilities (as noted in Finding 1), UN Women’s government partners highlighted their increased focus on women with



[673614616834 The Lancet Vol 385](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(14)61683-4), Issue 9977, 18-24 April 2015, Pages 1580-1589: “From work with men and boys to changes of social norms and reduction of inequities in gender relations: a conceptual shift in prevention of violence against women and girls” Jewkes, Flood, Lang

disabilities in their Project activities, including:

- State Care Agency: Adjustments made at shelters and crisis centres to accommodate women with disabilities. In its visit to the newly constructed shelter in Tbilisi, the Evaluation Team noted specific physical accommodations designed to support women with mobility challenges.
- Ministry of Internal Affairs: Trainings for more than 100 police officers on responding to violence against women with disabilities.
- Ministry of Education and Science: Gender mainstreaming inside the Ministry included a focus on the intersection of gender and disability inclusion.

Finding 13: While the Project's initiatives supported positive and active engagement with beneficiaries, particularly engagement with targeted women and girls in Kvemo Kartli, there were some hazards to that participation that can be addressed in future interventions.

Responds to Evaluation Questions

22: To what extent did rights holders participate in the various states of the intervention in an active, free and meaningful manner?

The Project promoted a number of interactive activities that engaged women, and particularly girls, in public activities related to increasing gender equality and, for the most part, Project partners reported that these activities were successful for the girls. For example, participation in the football tournament in Marneuli, joining Girl Guides in Guria, and school-based activities across Kvemo Kartli.

However, some of the activities more directly addressed issues of domestic violence and early marriage, issues that come with some risk to girls and women. As a result, extra care is required to support their safe participation. For example, the Women's Information Centre, the partner who conducted the In Her Shoes experience, noted that there were community supports, such as social workers, present at public presentations.

The Project supported the creation and/or enhancement of a number of online platforms and other fora in which young people engaged in content about gender-based violence and harmful practices. The Evaluation Team heard stories about young women and girls using those fora to self-identify as victims of harmful practices or violence, to speak out against cultural stereotypes, and otherwise create potential vulnerability for themselves. In at least one instance, the Evaluation team heard from the Project partner about young bloggers being targeted by religious zealots, including with threats to their safety. There were no Project-based instructions or supports available to beneficiaries or, indeed, specific training for Project partners on how to respond to these concerns.


This Project serves as a lesson that young women are willing and able to engage in risk-taking behaviour online. It is necessary that the agencies incorporate risk assessments, safety planning and other tools into future work with online and community platforms that supports partners and beneficiaries and prevents, where possible, increasing danger to women and girls.

5. Lessons Learned



Lesson 1: Women and girls in hard to reach regions will benefit from creative and persistent efforts from UN agencies and their partners.

The Project targeted the region of Guria, a region that is economically depressed and geographically isolated. The Project team and partners encountered a paucity of supports and resources for women and girls in the area, with very few groups or places that women and girls could go to take part in the community life. Consequently, it was challenging to find partner organizations or even beneficiaries to receive the Project programming. However, the Project team and partners persisted in finding creative ways to resolve this issue with impactful results: starting a Girl Scout troop where no girls group existed, working with the local librarian to host community events, bringing the local radio station staff into the journalism training. Each of these efforts, while small in scope, was able to advance GEWE in an underserved region.

 *Lesson 2: As more women and girls engage in social norms change, it is necessary to ensure that there is a social framework in place to support them.*

The Project engaged women and girls in social norms activities that created potential vulnerabilities for the women and girls. The challenge for the Project, which it met at least in part, was to make the links between the

social norms work and the work done at other levels to ensure that, as women and girls made themselves vulnerable (or indeed even as controversial messaging was being imparted), there were adequate societal supports in place. In other words, it is critical to ensure that people empowered to bring about social change are supported by changes in legislation, policy and service delivery. For example, women and girls who hear messaging about early marriage or are encouraged to speak out about early marriage need a safe place to go if they experience harm or backlash. This Project found some helpful ways to give service providers a better understanding of vulnerabilities but there is still work to be done to ensure women and girls can engage in social norms change in a safe and active manner.



Lesson 3: Although intensive training yields results, it requires a lot of resources.

The Project had positive results when it provided school resource officers with a significant amount of training that encompassed both traditional classroom-style training and engaging in immersive experiential training. However, this kind of training was heavily resource-intensive – not only did it require that resource officers use two weeks of their vacation time but it required repetitive amounts of trainer resourcing, even using a train-the-trainer model for the classroom elements. The lesson is to seek an appropriate balance that finds the most impactful approach to training with a reasonable amount of resource expenditure.

6. Conclusions

This section contains the Evaluation Team's conclusions, based on the findings and lessons learned and responding to the core questions of the evaluation criteria:

- Relevance: Is the intervention doing the right things?
- Coherence: How well does the intervention fit?
- Effectiveness: Is the intervention achieving its objectives?
- Efficiency: How well are the resources being used?
- Sustainability: Will the benefits last?
- GEWE/HR: Are GEWE and HR principles advanced by the intervention?

CONCLUSION 1 RELEVANCE: THE PROJECT'S EVIDENCE-BASED DESIGN ENSURED THAT IT WAS DOING THE RIGHT THINGS.

Strengths: The Project was directly and intentionally aligned to international and national priorities and commitments and it supported the core corporate and country priorities of each agency. It drew upon existing evidence to identify key target groups/regions and understand the specific needs and contexts of the women and girls in those regions. The Project Team engaged the donor and partners in activity design and discussions and, where possible, encouraged creative activities at the grassroots level.

Weaknesses: The Project design had a lack of specific approach to inclusion of women and girls with disabilities, a critical element of the mandate of both UN agencies.

Evaluation Result: The Project had a highly aligned design with data-backed choices. This approach compelled partner ownership and commitment to a positive outcome, and ensured that the Project could be responsive

to contextual challenges like COVID-19 and political unrest. The principle of evidence-based decision making was continued throughout decision-making in the Project. (Finding 1)

CONCLUSION 2 COHERENCE: THE PROJECT FIT WELL WITH THE MANDATE OF THE TWO UN AGENCIES AND CREATED SYNERGIES WITH NATIONAL PARTNERS.

Strengths: The design of the Project and the activities chosen directly advanced the corporate strategic priorities of UN Women and UNFPA, the SDG indicators that both agencies steward, and the UNSDCF in Georgia cooperation commitments. The selected activities drew on previous work and the technical and relationship strengths of each agency. The Project formed partnerships with new organizations, enhanced existing relationships and built bridges between organizations, furthering strengthening GEWE in the civil society.

Weakness: Both agencies played to their strengths in this Project and they have a history of successful joint programming. There was perhaps a missed opportunity to find more creative ways to work together to attack systemic challenges to both of their mandates, such as the pervasive negative attitudes of the media.

Evaluation Result: Overall, this Project was a cohesive part of the programming of each agency, both in terms of the alignment with past work and the way in which each agency brought their technical strengths and positive partner relationships to bear on the work. Indeed, the two agencies are so strong that there is potential for them to be even more powerful in addressing what are currently fragile gains in GEWE in Georgia. (Finding 2)

CONCLUSION 3 EFFECTIVENESS: THE PROJECT WAS SUCCESSFUL IN ACHIEVING THE OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES IT SET FOR ITSELF. IT ALSO CREATED UNEXPECTED OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS.

Strengths: The Project met the intended targets even in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and social unrest. With government partners, it provided international advice and advocacy support, and facilitated participatory consultation practices that increased the credibility and the impact of the initiatives. With service providers, it enhanced training with immersive experiences that meant that providers were able to relate their work to the experiences of the people they serve in a more responsive and helpful manner. With beneficiaries and civil society organizations, it stimulated grassroots-led approaches to developing common narratives and building safe spaces for women and girls. Activities were shared across target groups, creating a 'cross-pollination' whereby service providers and beneficiaries increased the benefits by being exposed to capacity building in multiple ways.

Weaknesses: Some of the training approaches were overly resource-intensive. Project activities in Guria were less successful than in Kvemo Kartli or Tbilisi and an examination of the specific barriers in Guria is warranted.

Evaluation Result: The Project team developed a strategic approach to implementation across the array of interventions and desired outcomes by supporting and enhancing the strengths of partners. This approach enabled it to not only achieve the targets it set but to find additional transformative impact by combining different sets of service providers and beneficiaries in overlapping activities, creating a multiplier effect of benefits. The

Project expanded the agencies' reach by finding new partners, particularly those that pushed the agencies' efforts into new geographic areas (such as the Girl Guides in Guria) or beyond conventional GEWE areas (such as the Charter of Journalistic Ethics). (Findings 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

CONCLUSION 4 EFFICIENCY: THE PROJECT MADE REASONABLE USE OF RESOURCES BUT COULD HAVE BEEN MORE AMBITIOUS WITH ITS MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK.

Strengths: The Project was able to use its relatively small resource envelope (both in terms of human and financial resources) to achieve the targets through smart approaches to re-using programming and partners that were already in place from previous projects. The Project Team itself was small but skilled and maintained/enhanced the strong relationship between the agencies and with stakeholders.

Weaknesses: The measurement framework, while reasonably well constructed, was hampered by the corporate expectations of both agencies and did not facilitate the capture of some of the transformative impacts of the Project.

Evaluation Result: The Project was strategically crafted to make efficient use of existing materials, past successes and strong partners in order to stretch the budget. Smart management of the human resources contributed to ensuring that the Project was on time, in scope and on budget. The agencies and the donor are urged to consider more creative means of capturing transformation in the corporate measurement frameworks, as those gains were not meaningfully measured in this Project.

(Findings 8, 9)

CONCLUSION 5 SUSTAINABILITY: THE PROJECT CREATED LONG LASTING BENEFITS BY USING AND DEEPENING THE EVIDENCE BASE ON GEWE IN GEORGIA AND BY STRENGTHENING PARTNERS. HOWEVER, SOME OF THESE GAINS ARE TENUOUS.

Strengths: A major success of this Project was the focus on the evidence base for GEWE and EAW in Georgia. In addition to ensuring that the gains made in interventions were grounded in evidence, which means their continuation is justifiable, the Project invested in developing new sources of data on EAW that built on current census knowledge about the behaviours of the public and created a new line of understanding about the behaviours of the justice system in response to criminal domestic violence and gender-based violence. The Project's focus on the capacity of its partners meant that they can continue to function as effective advocates and service providers.

Weaknesses: Some government partners remain dependent on UN Women for funding, technical support and advocacy.

Evaluation Result: By relying on and increasing the evidentiary base, the Project to continue to make the case for gender equality work in Georgia, particularly as it relates to EAW. However, partners in government and in the civil society remain dependent on the agencies and at risk, as the current period of unrest and retrenching of conservative values in Georgia creates a fragility for gender equality, for civil society and for the advancement of women.

(Findings 10, 11)

CONCLUSION 6 GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS: THE PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY USED TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES TO SERVE TARGET AREAS OF UNDERSERVED WOMEN AND

GIRLS. HOWEVER, AS THE PROJECT FOUND WAYS TO DISCUSS SOCIAL NORMS IN A PUBLIC SETTING, THE BENEFICIARIES EXPERIENCED SOME RISKS TO THEIR SAFETY.

Strengths: The Project's strong targeting of women and girls in the ethnic minority in Kvemo Kartli, with a 'wrap around' approach to conducting interventions that simultaneously tackled institutional/legislative barriers, increased service provision, and social norms, including in their language, was effective in supporting women and particularly girls in the region. Interventions were creative and challenging and drew all members of the community (women and girls, men, community leaders, teachers, etc) into the larger effort of transformation.

Weaknesses: As noted above, the Project was less intentional with programming for women and girls with disabilities and made less impact in the economically underserved area of Guria. While the Project can be credited for making use of online technology and public activities, some women and girls experienced threats to their safety through participation, which the Project had not contemplated or prepared for.

Evaluation Result: The Project's best practices and creative approaches to putting targeted women and girls in the centre of programming and addressing their needs in a cross-cutting manner created transformation in Kvemo Kartli that had immediate and long term benefits. The agencies must be intentional in their approach to all underserved target groups going forward. The agencies missed a Do No Harm principle by not addressing the safety risks to girls who make themselves vulnerable through online tools.

(Findings 12, 13)

7. Recommendations

This section provides recommendations that correspond to the findings and conclusions. The recommendations have been drafted following a consultative approach with the Project Team and agency leadership. Each recommendation is tied to corresponding findings and conclusions and identifies a priority level (urgent, high, medium) and a suggested timeline (immediate, within 1 year, within 3 years).

The recommendations are based in the understanding that the Project in its current form will not be continuing. Consequently, there are no recommendations directed at the Project team as if there would be a Phase 2. Rather recommendations are directed more generally to UN Women and UNFPA in Georgia as they will be seeking to continue key programming through other projects and avenues. However, each recommendation has a subset of suggestions that relate to specific Project activities. These suggestions are for consideration only.

Recommendation 1: Ensure all future project design includes outcomes, outputs and activities that specifically advance GEWE for women and girls with disabilities.

Builds on Findings 1, 12 Conclusions 1, 5	
Priority: Urgent	Timeline: Immediate

The Project did not incorporate inclusion of women and girls with disabilities into the design of the Project at any level of the framework. Results achieved that were specific to women and girls with disabilities were adjacent results, rather than intentionally resulting from the design. The agencies should use the evidence-based approach that was brought to the Project

design to determine targeted needs and realities for women and girls with disabilities in future programming.

Suggestions

- Use the disaggregated data in the GEOSTAT National Study of (VAW) and other national and international studies to develop a concept note on the realities of women and girls with disabilities in Georgia, including a specific focus on the EAW experiences of these women.

Recommendation 2: Ensure that critical project target groups and subject areas are addressed in other programs.

Builds on Findings 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12 Conclusions 1, 3, 4, 5	
Priority: High	Timeline: Within 1 year

The alignment of Project activities with national and international commitments and the evidence about the needs of the targeted groups and areas presented a strong argument for the continuation of programmatic support in these areas. The donor priorities have shifted in terms of programmatic structure but the two UN agencies are encouraged to find other ways to provide EAW programming that sustains the benefits gained in this project and addresses those groups/areas that continue to be underserved.

Suggestions

- Ensure that the results of the GEOSTAT survey and Supreme Court research are shared publicly and are easily accessible
- Strengthen the partnership with the Girl Scouts and other similar partners as a means of continuing to reach underserved regions such as Guria
- UN Women and UNFPA should adopt the 'holistic' approach to interventions across

their portfolios and continue to identify ways to engage specific regions in cross-cutting programming, including continuing to support ethnic minorities in Kvemo Kartli

- Both agencies at the corporate level should continue to find ways to understand and capture the benefits of transformative work in the measurement frameworks

Recommendation 3:

UN Women and UNFPA must ensure the safety of beneficiaries engaging in online and other public fora.

Builds on Findings 13 and Lesson 2, Conclusion 5	
Priority: Urgent	Timeline: Immediate

It is critical that UN agency programming designed to prevent gender-based violence and harmful practices not inadvertently increase harm to women and in particular to young women by lacking an understanding of the way that young people use social media and online platforms to communicate. UN Women and UNFPA must build a modern safety approach, including training for partners and beneficiaries, into its programming.

Suggestions

- Introduce online safety conversations into educator training
- Develop online safety preparedness toolkits for partners
- Prepare communications to support beneficiaries who are targeted online or in communities

Recommendation 4:

UN Women should continue its support to partners, including finding creative ways to increase their independent sustainability.

Builds on Findings 1, 2, 11 Conclusion 2, 4	
Priority: High	Timeline: Within 3 years

UN Women is a trusted partner for government ministries providing service to women and girls. These are positive relationships in which UN Women’s approach supports ministry empowerment to make significant legislative and policy changes to the betterment of women and girls in Georgia. However, the evidence in this evaluation showed that some ministries are dependent on UN Women for critical support and ensuring programming is targeted to gender equality. It will be important in coming years to ensure that the ministries, particularly those providing front line services, are able to thrive from a GEWE perspective through a partnership with UN Women that is based less in financial and technical dependence. Equally, civil society partners, even those that are well established will require the funding and advocacy that the UN agencies bring.

Suggestions

- Continue a focus on the Ministry of Education, especially with respect to ensuring that a gender lens is applied across Ministry training and curriculum
- Continue to work with the State Care Agency on the plan to transition shelters to the civil society
- Continue to work with the Ministry of Internal Affairs to find creative means of engaging police in domestic violence matters
- Continue to advocate at the highest levels for a strong and sustainable civil society for gender equality and women’s empowerment and human rights

Annexes

Annex A: Consulted Stakeholders List

Organization	Individuals by position (disaggregated by gender)
UN Women Georgia	EVAW Lead (F) Project Lead (F) Project Support (F) Deputy Director (F)
UNFPA Georgia	Country Representative (F) Project Lead (2F) Communications (F)
EU Delegation in Georgia	Project Liaison (F)
State Care Agency	LEPL Agency Head (1F) Project representative (1F)
Government of Georgia	Head of Human Rights Secretariat (1F)
State Care Agency (Tbilisi Shelter)	Shelter Head (F) Social Worker (F) Psychologist (F)
Ministry of Education and Science	Consultant (F) Ministry Project representative (F) Teachers Association representative (F) Resource Officers Association representative (F)
Women's Information Centre	Director (F) In Her Shoes Project Director (F) Trainer (M)
Charter for Journalistic Ethics	Director (F)
NCCE	Project Manager (F) Kvemo Kartli facilitator (F)
GEOSTAT	Lead researcher (M)
WeResearch	Lead researcher (F)
Girls Scouts of Georgia	Project leads (2F) Scout troop leaders Guria (2F)
Marneuli Crisis Centre	Director (F) Lawyer (F)
Municipality	Gender Focal Point (F)
Marneuli Cultural Centre	Director (F) Communications (F)
Teachers and Resource Officers	Consultant (F)

	School Principal (F) Head, Office of Resource Officers of Educational Institutions of Georgia (1F) Trainer (1F)
Supreme Court of Georgia	Head, Research Department (F) Researchers (2F)
Ministry of Internal Affairs	Head, Human Rights Department (F) Lawyers (1F, 1M)
Union Sapari	Project lead (1F) Project assistant (1F)
ON.ge	Head of Strategic Development (F)
Men Care Georgia	Founders (1F, 1M)

Annex B: Evaluation Matrix

The Evaluation Matrix was prepared by the Evaluation Team during the Inception Phase and informed the processes of data collection and analysis.

#	Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Means of Verification	Sampling/ Sources
Relevance				
1	To what extent was intervention aligned with international, regional and national agreements and conventions on GEWE?	# of project markers aligned to international, national and regional strategies	Project Documents	EVAWGG team Regional Office EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
2	How did the project design match with the complexity of national structures, systems and decision-making processes?	% of informants who indicate alignment between project design and national structures # of project activities that engage decision-makers	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
3	Were the programmatic strategies appropriate to address the identified needs of beneficiaries?	% of informants who indicate beneficiary participation or engagement % of programme or intervention documents that indicate beneficiary participation or engagement # of programme markers aligned to beneficiary needs	Project Documents Interviews Focus Groups	EVAWGG team Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
4	Was the Theory of Change underlying the intervention logic sound, coherent and relevant to the context?	% of ToC components and assumptions aligned to actual programme activities % of informants who agree that the ToC was relevant to the context	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
Coherence				
5	To what extent did the project adhere to the corporate strategic priorities of UNFPA, UN Women?	# of alignment between project interventions and the regional/corporate programmes and goals of UN Women and UNFPA	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team Regional Offices
6	Has the project achieved synergies between the larger portfolio of the implementing UN agencies and the work of the broader UNCT, as well as other development partners, especially funded by the EU?	% of informants who indicate positive synergy # of alignment between project outputs and UNCT and other partner objectives	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
7	Has the project achieved synergies between the work of	% of informants who indicate positive synergy	Project Documents	EVAWGG team EU

	UN Women, UNFPA and key national stakeholders including national governments and CSOs?	# of alignment between project outputs and national partner objectives	Interviews	Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
Effectiveness				
8	What has been the progress made towards achievement of the expected outputs and outcomes?	% of programme results indicators' targets achieved % of informants who indicate results	Project Documents Interviews Focus Groups Surveys	EVAWGG team EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
9	What contributions were – if any – the participating UN agencies making to implement global norms and standards for GEWE in Georgia in the framework of the EVAWGG?	# of alignment between project outputs and global norms and standards for GEWE in Georgia	Project Documents	EVAWGG team Regional Offices
10	Has the project achieved any unforeseen results, either positive or negative? For whom? What were the good practices and the obstacles or shortcomings encountered? How were they overcome?	# of mitigation strategies used to respond to unforeseen results # of lessons learned documented from unforeseen results	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
11	To what extent have capacities of relevant duty-bearers and rights-holders been strengthened?	% of partners and participants that report positive participation in the programme % of partners and participants that report enhanced capacity # of activities focused on strengthening partner capacity % of CSOs as project partners and stakeholders	Project Documents Interviews Focus Groups Surveys	EVAWGG team Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
12	How adaptably and rapidly did the EVAWGG react to the quick changing country context?	% of programme resources diverted to emerging needs # of changes to the programme in response to emerging needs % of informants who indicate positive response to need	Project Documents Interviews Surveys	EVAWGG team EU Regional Offices Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
13	What – if any – types of innovative good practices have been introduced in the action for the achievement of GEWE results?	% of informants who indicate innovative experience # of programme activities that specifically	Project Documents Interviews Focus Groups Surveys	EVAWGG team EU Regional Offices Implementing Partners and Stakeholders

		incorporated an innovation approach # of pilot attempts Extent to which pilots were documented and monitored		End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
14	To what extent did the joint implementation by UN Women and UNFPA lead to stronger advocacy with national authorities and improved communication, coordination and information exchange within the United Nations family and development partners at large?	% of informants indicating the success of advocacy efforts # of instances of joint or otherwise stronger advocacy	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team EU Regional Offices Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
Efficiency				
15	Have resources (financial, human, technical, etc) been allocated strategically to achieve the project's outputs and outcomes?	% of financial resources allocated based on intended and actual impact of intervention % of human resources allocated based on intended and actual impact of intervention	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
16	Has there been effective leadership and management of the project including the structuring of management and administration roles to maximise results?	% of informants indicating effective management structure and approach % of money allocated to project management	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team RO EU
17	Did the project have effective monitoring mechanisms in place to measure progress towards results? To what extent was the monitoring data objectively used for management action and decision-making?	% of informants that indicate effectiveness of monitoring mechanisms # of project decisions made using monitoring data # of project measures that are SMART	Project Documents Interviews	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
Sustainability				
18	To what extent did the intervention succeed in building sustainable individual and institutional capacities of rights holders and duty bearers?	% of informants that indicated that their organization was strengthened through project engagement # of partners that have been able to sustain or increase their activities beyond the project as a result of the project	Project Documents Interviews Surveys Focus Groups	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries

		# of activities focused on strengthening partner capacity % of CSOs as project partners and stakeholders		
19	How effectively has the project been able to contribute to the generation of national ownership of the project outputs?	# of interventions with phase out plans for national ownership % of informants that indicate national/local ownership or other sustainability plan	Project Documents Interviews Surveys	EVWAGG team EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders
20	What is the likelihood that the benefits from the project will be maintained for a reasonably long period of time after the project phase out?	% of activities that have maintenance, replication or scaling plans in place/as part of programme design % of informants that indicate sustainable benefits or ongoing adoption of project activities/teachings	Project Documents Interviews Surveys Focus Groups	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
Gender Equality and Human Rights				
21	To what extent was GEWE advanced as a result of the intervention?	# of project markers aligned to HR and GEWE principles % of informants that indicate GEWE results	Project Documents Interviews Surveys Focus Groups	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
22	To what extent did rights holders participate in the various stages of the intervention in an active, free and meaningful manner?	# of activities that included rights holders participation % of beneficiaries that report positive and safe experiences with interventions	Project Documents Interviews Focus Groups Surveys	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
23	To what extent did the project incorporate target groups across the interventions, in line with the principles of LNOB and with the UN agencies' corporate mandate regarding the inclusion of women and girls with disabilities?	% of project activities that specifically included target groups, including women and girls with disabilities	Project Documents Interviews Focus Groups Surveys	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
24	Were there changes in attitudes and behaviours leading to fairer social relations among stakeholders?	% of informants indicating personal or observed changes in attitudes and behaviours # of project markers/data points indicating change	Project Documents Interviews Surveys Focus Groups	EVAWGG team RO EU Implementing Partners and Stakeholders

				End Users/Rights Holders/Beneficiaries
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Annex C: Documents

Donor Reports

1. EAWGG Annual Narrative Report December 2021
2. EAWGG Semi Annual Narrative Report June 2021
3. EAWGG Annual Report December 2022
4. EAWGG Semi Annual Narrative Report June 2022
5. EAWGG Semi Annual Narrative Report June 2023 (draft)

Key Milestones

6. Final Draft Report on VAW DV case analysis
7. Minister's Decree on establishment of the Gender Mainstreaming Platform
8. MOU Signed
9. Platform on Gender Mainstreaming
10. Training Module for School Personnel
11. Report on State Services
12. GRADA Assessment
13. Beneficiaries Stories
14. Compensation Rule (Georgian and English)
15. Additional Documents in Georgian
16. Training Handbook – Ethical and Sensitive Reporting
17. Training Agenda– Ethical and Sensitive Reporting
18. GEO Advocacy Toolkit
19. GEO Voices Against Violence
20. Youth for Social Change curriculum

ProDoc

21. AGREEMENT Annex I Appendix A Logframe
22. AGREEMENT Annex I Description ARES
23. AGREEMENT Annex II
24. AGREEMENT Annex IIa
25. Amendment 1 to UN2UN
26. Annex VI Communication and Visibility Plan EAWGG
27. EU Contribution Agreement
28. UN2UN ENI2020

Project Products

29. GEO04GTP Gender Transformative Programming
30. Media Story on Marketer
31. MTM Business Concept Note
32. Men Talking to Men Video
33. Meeting with local NGOs
34. Recommendations Youth 4 Social Change
35. Media Story

36. Girls Football Video
37. Facilitator Temur Sukahvili NCCE Video
38. Emotions NCCE Video
39. Published Article INDIGO task 1
40. Concept and Agenda ToT Youth4SC Bakuriani
41. ToT Report Bakuriani
42. Documents in Georgian
43. Youth for Social Change CN 2020
44. Annex 1 Call for CSOs Youth for Social Change
45. Exploring Panjara Platform
46. What is Panjara Platform
47. Digital Strategy Bilingual Platform Development
48. Panjara Platform General Info
49. Awareness Raising through Puppet Show
50. Disseminating Children's Book on Gender Equality
51. Signing the MoU with Marneuli Cultural Center
52. Puppet Show Final Report 2023
53. Progress Report Equality Corners in Kvemo Kartli
54. EC in Maradisi
55. EC in Tetrtskaro
56. EC in Vakhtangisi
57. Awareness Raising on Son Preference
58. Training for Media Reps on Harmful Practices
59. Media Monitoring Report
60. Communication Report 2021 GBSS & EVAWGG
61. Stakeholder List (EVAWGG) – UNFPA Component

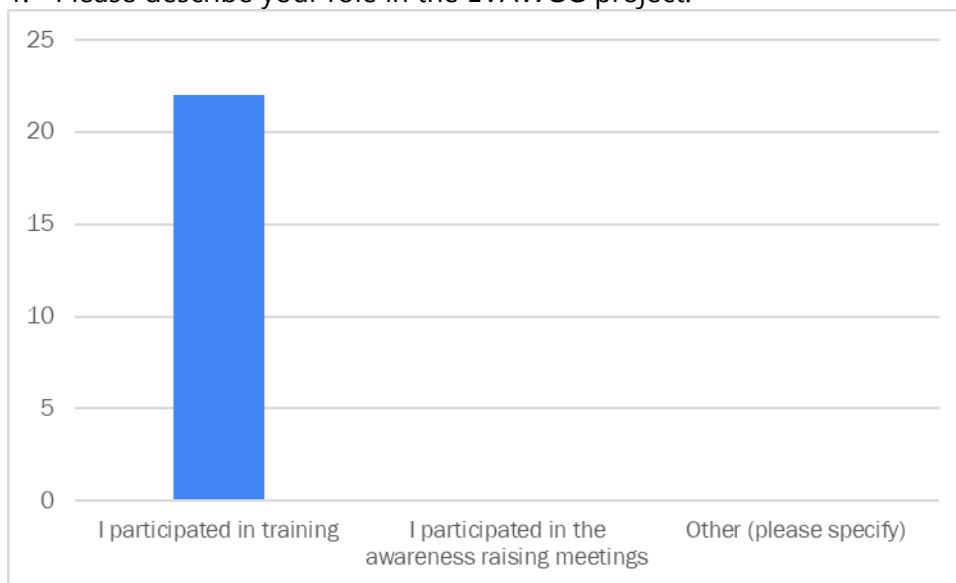
Annex D: Survey Results

As part of the data collection, the Evaluation Team conducted two surveys of targeted beneficiaries in July 2023. Both surveys were conducted in the Georgian language, sent to beneficiaries through UN Women and/or UNFPA but collected directly by the Evaluation Team. All responses were anonymous, with no identifying data collected.

Survey 1: Journalists and Media

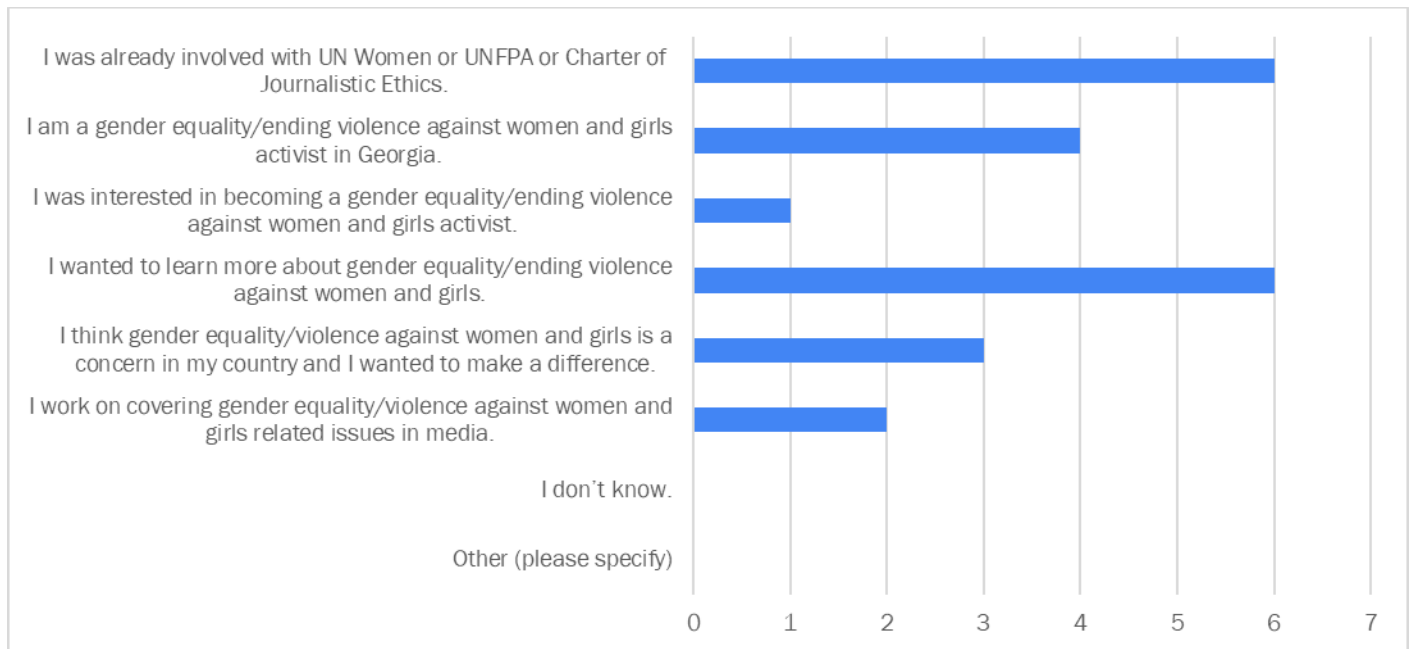
This survey was sent to 50 potential respondents and received 22 responses (44% response rate).

1. Please describe your role in the EVAWGG project.



(n=22)

2. Why did you decide to participate in this project?



(n=22)

3. What were the highlights or successful aspects of the activity you were involved in? (n=21)

- I think this was a good opportunity for an interesting discussion of these issues
- Informing about the news that were unfamiliar to me and raising new knowledge
- I shared the received information and knowledge with my young colleagues, students who are going to work in active journalism in the future.
- I would like to know more about the coverage of these issue in media
- I want more women to be happy, that's why I share my experience with everyone. A woman is a voice, a woman's power is the key to the country's success.
- I actively attend the events that are held in my city, I want to gain more knowledge about gender equality issues.
- I was given the opportunity to share my knowledge and experience with colleagues, which I think was one of the main and successful aspects of my involvement in the project.
- I have shared the received information/news with the editors
- I learned more about how to cover gender issues
- Gender equality empowers us, women to be stronger, which helps us live with dignity and take care of our families, overcoming challenges and having the perspective of safety
- Coverage of gender topics in media
- Understanding more information and preparing journalistic materials with ethical norms
- I learned more about reporting on gender issues ethically.
- We focused on many important details, including international standards in terminology.
- More information, more contacts
- Increasing knowledge about the given issues
- I had a limited experience of working on gender issues as a journalist

- I have a significant theoretical knowledge (two respondents)
- To get more information (two respondents)

4. What are the challenges? (n=21)

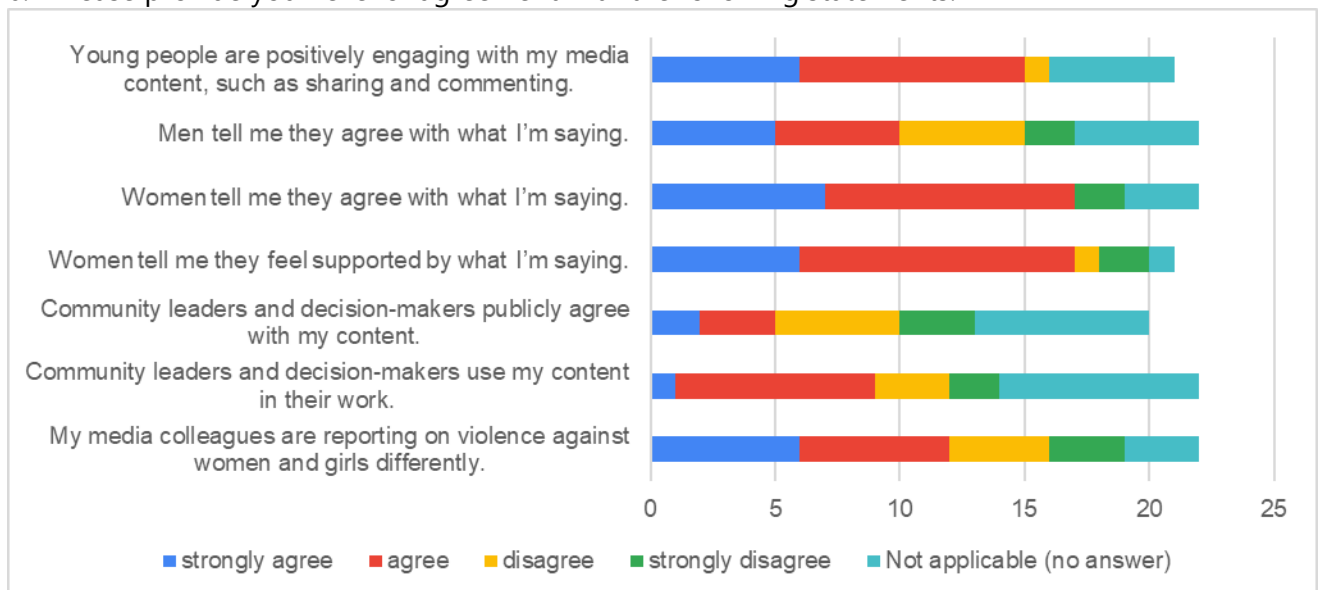
- Public attitudes are always a challenge while covering these topics, but it is important that media products do not encourage the perpetuation of stigma and stereotypes.
- I have discovered that I had a very limited knowledge about the coverage of gender equality issues in media
- I have no experience of covering these type of topics
- Any wrong behavior towards women gives me more strength to fight and be ready for all challenges.
- I have been conducting trainings in the municipality of Marneuli, where the majority of the local population is Azerbaijani-speaking. During the trainings, the problem of the language barrier was revealed, as many of local journalists do not know Georgian well.
- The trainings took place during the working hours
- I pay more attention to the matter
- Challenges really exist and I think there are not enough activities, because discrimination and violence against women and girls, both physical and sexual, is still happening in Georgia.
- I am constantly facing to these challenges when covering these topics, in terms of respondent identification, keeping balance or any other related issues.
- The correct usage of right terminology
- When working on these topics, the knowledge of essential skills are necessary so that, for example, a woman who has been exposed to violence do not retraumatize her, or be very careful when the material may concern minors. It is significant to follow the standards and do not harm their interests, and so at this time it is important to know the ethical standards
- Challenges - less, but I began to pay more attention to ensure that me, as a journalist, maintain the agreed standards in my work material.
- The issue of recording the sources is the most problematic
- I should be more familiar with researches dealing with gender-sensitive issues
- I did not face any of the challenges during the meetings
- I did not face any challenges (four respondents)
- I don't know/can't answer (two respondents)

5. Did you have to change or adapt your plans at all due to these challenges? How so? (n=21)

- I have developed more sensitive approaches to these topics
- I tried to combine the trainings with work, which I was able to do because the trainings were conducted via Zoom, but as a result, I found that I was not sufficiently participating in the trainings.
- After the trainings, I started to appreciate more the importance of gender sensitive media coverage.
- For example, the training is attended by so many "men"

- To change the initial plan, of course, took place, as it became necessary, alongside with receiving the new knowledge and getting familiar with new terminology, to change the workflow process. More attention is paid to caution (for example, if the reporting is devoted to the issues of violence), not to retraumatize the respondent.
- Yes, I am trying to cover these topics with more accuracy and following the ethical standards
- Yes, and I do not regret
- Yes, I had to adapt to these challenges, and when needed, I additionally translated and explained certain terms to the Azerbaijani speaking participants of the training, and also my colleagues helped me to translate into Azerbaijani.
- Yes, I started thinking more about these issues while working on them
- Yes. I wrote an article on one of my recent in-depth research <https://gurianews.com/qalebs-emigratsiashi-mdzime-mdgomareobashi-ukhdebath-mushaoba--ra-problemebs-uqmnis-dedebis-gareshe-tskhovreba-bavshvebs/>
- I haven't changed any plans
- Yes
- No (seven respondents)
- I don't know/can't answer (two respondents)

6. Please provide your level of agreement with the following statements:



(n=21/22/22/21/20/22/22)

7. Please expand on your answer. (n=18)

- I think with the gained knowledge during the training, I have more argumentation and I can talk about these issues in more detail.
- Some media sources do not cover gender-based issues related to violence against women with the norms of behavior and standards, which should be taken into consideration

- More awareness is needed in society; discussing and exchanging ideas about specific facts
 - All media sources cover the facts of violence against women in different ways, however, recently there has been seen a willingness on their part to receive more information and use it in practice while working on such sensitive topics.
 - Women can solve any issue in a positive way
 - Through the trainings, the journalists employed in my mass media, have deepened their knowledge about the process of covering gender sensitive issues and topics related to sexual minorities. Also, the trainings received feedback from the local media sources, which showed the increase of awareness on these topics.
 - This activity did not have any significant effect
 - The most important is that only two editorial offices (newsrooms) have expertise in gender-sensitive reporting. The recommendations, given by the UN Women and UNFPA to the media are shared. We constantly reflect in the editorial office on how public awareness can be changed by our right and appropriate activities
 - More knowledge helped me to analyze deeply these issues
 - I learned how to cover different topics so that the material could be more gender sensitive, which is very significant for me
 - I also shared the knowledge gained during the training with my colleagues, which was very important
 - Awareness of public sector and government organizations about the gender sensitive issues, especially amongst ethnic minorities
 - It is important that there are guidelines prepared by the Charter of Journalistic Ethics, which can be used to cover these topics following the standards of ethics
 - Issues related to gender are still not fully understandable by a large part of the society. Due to the fear of an unfamiliar (but mostly familiar) issue, they often refrain from talking on these issues. Positive changes are being observed, but there is more work to be done in this regard.
 - After completing the trainings and knowledge gained through the activities, allowed me to show to my colleagues the new standards, which are unfortunately often neglected in the media, and apply them to my work as well
 - To eliminate violence against women, I think there is still a lot of work to be done despite the results, but most importantly the process has started and it is noticeable.
 - Regarding the facts of violence against women and girls, there is a category of people who always blames women and girls for being abused.
 - I don't have an answer, because at this stage I am not engaged in journalistic activities
8. What should UN Women and UNFPA do to strengthen support for ending violence against women and girls in Georgia in the next 3 years? (n=21)
- I think this type of projects will help to raise awareness in society, not only for certain people in this field, but I think everyone should hear the recommendations to think about and take them into account in their daily lives.

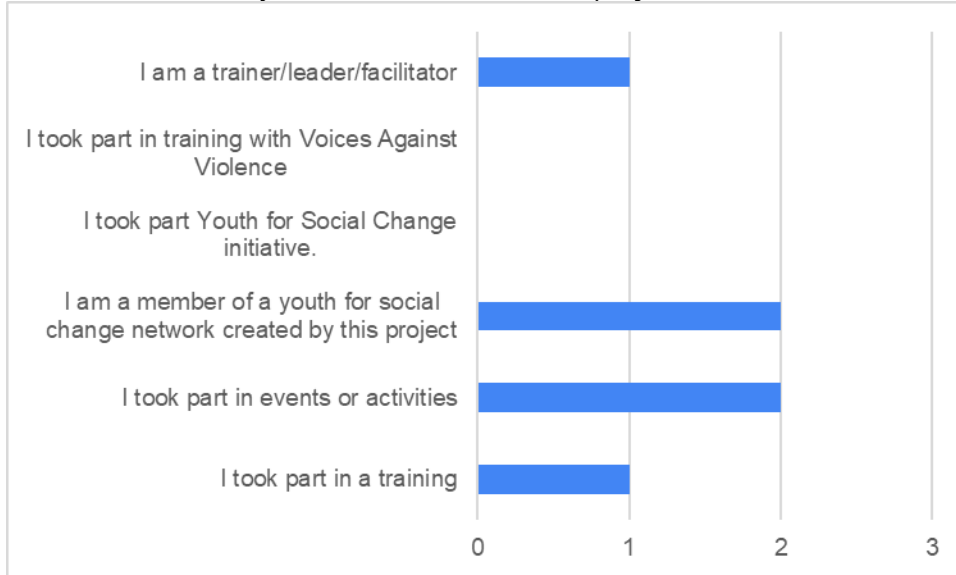
- I think that the provision of educational resources for school-aged kids should be actively started, and it is important to include more social groups throughout the whole country of Georgia.
- I think there should be conducted more similar trainings to increase knowledge and awareness
- These regions are the most vulnerable regions. Therefore, it is necessary to have permanent meetings of reliable and respectful people with the local population in the regions, more openness, more conversations about these topics. It is necessary to involve young people in the processes, because they can influence the representatives of the older generation. It would also be desirable to integrate topics in the serial TV movies, discussions and work with citizens
- The awareness should be raised in this direction, to work in the direction of tightening the law, so that the criminal will have fear. Women should be economically empowered to continue living independently after leaving the shelter or even leaving the abuser.
- More campaigns and trainings in regards of raising awareness
- Actively work with women, girls, men and boys living in rural areas. Men's involvement is the most important
- I think it is important that the UN Women and UNFPA have to continue to work in this direction and initiate/finance more projects aimed at informing the population, especially in regions inhabited by ethnic minorities.
- To work more with the perpetrators themselves and to conduct awareness raising campaigns with representatives of the older generation (50+) more actively.
- As a media representative, I can talk about part of the journalistic activity. I think that media support should be continued in order to combat violence against women and girls, as well as to change gender stereotypes. This is possible through trainings, frequent communication with the media and other sources.
- More trainings and meetings would be better
- It would be better to conduct more trainings for women, to give them more information about their rights. as well as information campaigns to make more people aware of these topics
- More communication, more involvement, especially with the ethnic population, where the traditions alienate minors and have a slavish attitude towards their spouses. I would also like the involvement of men and sons.
- Facilitating more trainings would be important, because theoretical knowledge is good, but every case is individual, so facilitating individual consultations is also very significant
- More information campaigns should be conducted, promoting the empowerment of girls living in rural areas and raising public awareness in gender issues, opening community educational centers and economic empowerment of women.
- Face-to-face meetings with the people living in the regions, more information campaigns
- The rate of employment and professional education amongst women living in rural areas is at a low level in the regions. I think their economic empowerment and development of professional skills will significantly change the existing reality.

- Similar trainings, in which activists, journalists, human rights defenders, etc. will be involved. It should also take into account the direct involvement of people, affected by these issues, so that they can share what they find unacceptable and vice versa.
- 1. Information campaign on challenges; 2. Various programs where women victims of violence will be able to realize their own resources
- According to my opinion, the work in regions and especially in places, inhabited by ethnic minorities should be strengthened. It is important to hold meetings in Armenian and Azerbaijani languages in Kvemo Kartli and Javakheti, which I think will be more efficient and effective.
- In my opinion, awareness should be raised through various activities: screening of films, discussing books, exhibition of paintings. Honest conversations and talks where teachers, journalists working on gender issues, experts, schoolchildren, young people will be presented

Youth Network

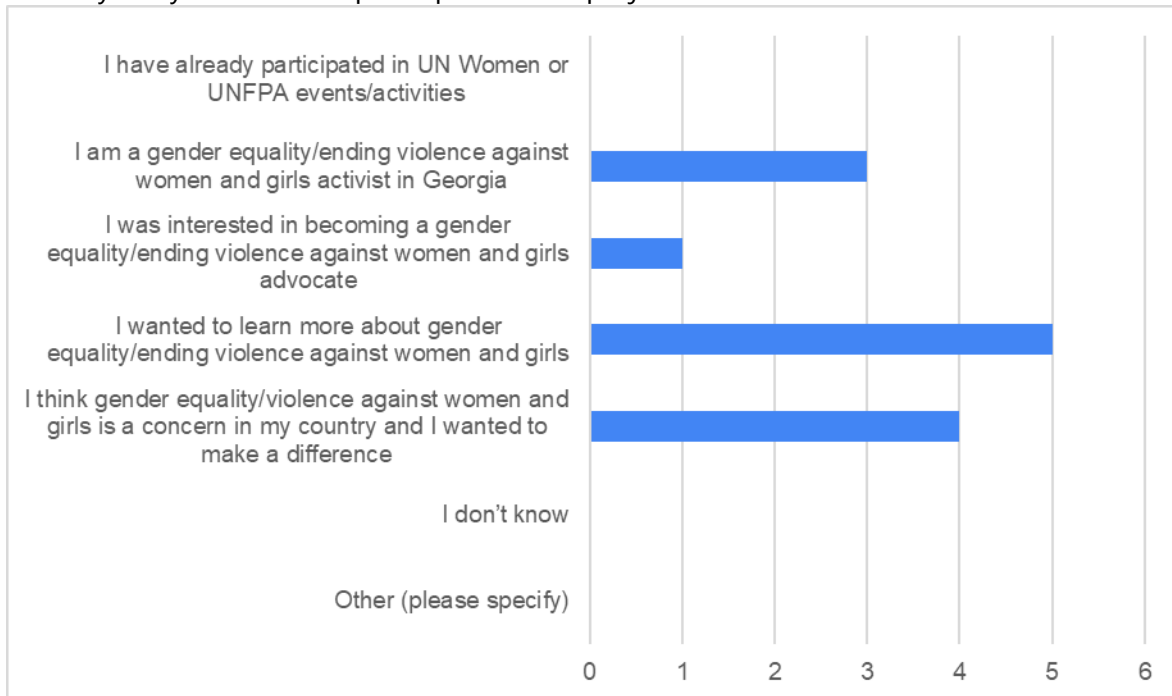
This survey was sent to 80 potential respondents and received 5 responses (0.06% response rate)

1. Please describe your role in the EVAWGG project.



(n=5)

2. Why did you decide to participate in this project?

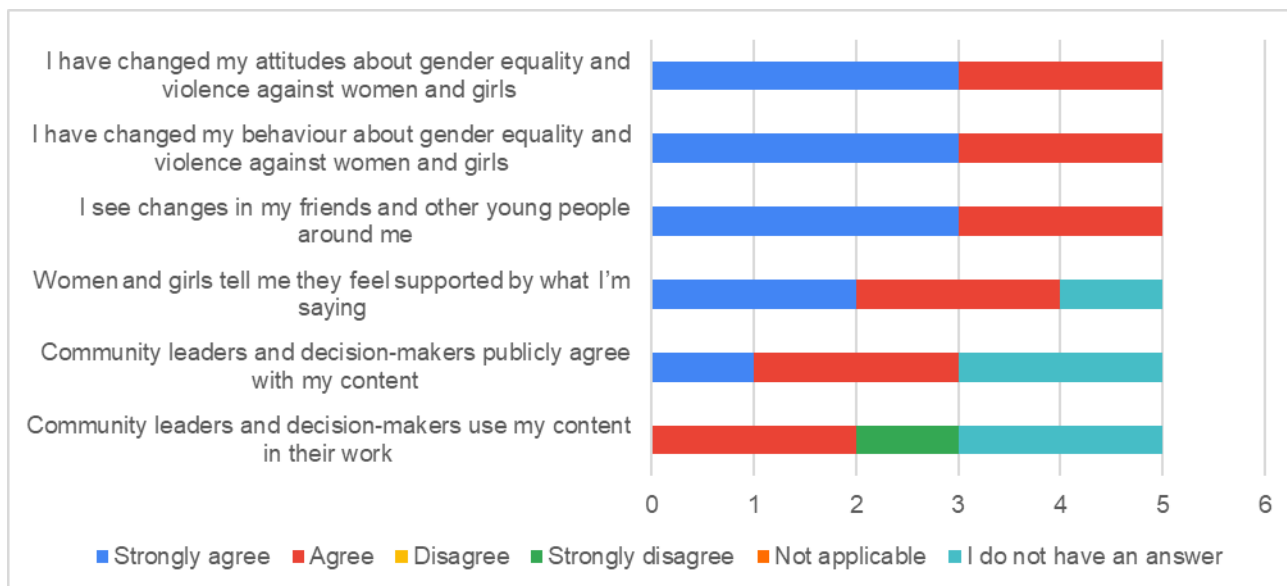


(n=5)

3. What were the highlights or successes of the activity you took part in? (n=5)

- We learned different ways to deal with gender inequality
 - Motivation and support from leaders
 - Within the project, I had to work with groups from three different contexts, Marneuli, Rustavi and Bolnisi. The main aspects were the satisfaction of the participants after the trainings, the thorough understanding of gender equality during the training, and also the active involvement in the implementation of the mini-projects. I would highlight one more detail, namely the willingness of the boys involved in the project to support gender equality.
 - I think I have greatly deepened my knowledge in this regard, in addition to the fact that I received new information and studied more deeply the priority problems of this topic and its defining indicators outside of this issue, I understood how important group work is in relation to stereotypes. The most important thing is that it became clear that it is not only women who face to such problems
 - I got more information about gender equality
4. In your view, what are the challenges? (n=4)
- I personally did not have any special challenges. There was a slight language barrier and openness problem that was overcome.
 - While writing the project, it was difficult for us to pick up a topic which would be helpful to develop it further
 - There were many challenges, for example in group work and even in encouraging activities/games, sometimes it was difficult for us to realize in the community what was the real problem and what was the confusing part
 - People around me looked at gender equality as a funny issue
5. In your view, what are the programme structures/elements that led to these challenges? What structures/elements helped overcome the challenges? (n=5)
- Team building exercises, games and simulations integrated into the program helped us overcome these challenges.
 - The material used in the trainings and the ongoing activities helped us to overcome the challenges.
 - Brainstorming helped us a lot, with its help, more acute problems for a specific topic were identified and we were able to write/implement a project on an already chosen topic.
 - I think the most important thing was the specific teamwork from the representatives of both sides, which not only separated us as trainers and audience, but also made us feel like one whole body, which suppressed nervousness and tension, openness was visible even though there were people in the full team who were meeting for the first time, we were completely and we hoped that if not you, there was someone in your group who would be able to wrestle with the problem that confused you, frightened, and sometimes even disappointed you.
 - Gender equality

6. Did you have to change or adapt your original plans at all due to these challenges? How so?
(n=5)
- Addition of energizers only and slight change of the program.
 - Yes, we had to, and I described all this in detail in the next question.
 - It is logical that we had to change the plan, when we realized that the project on a specific topic would be more suitable for our community, we had to write the already completed project completely from scratch.
 - There were several cases, for example, when we tried to establish our own newspaper that would fit into a specific title, and we could include the activity in which we had to make an armor for an egg so that it would not be damaged when it fell on the floor. At first, it took us a long time to think about what could be done, and we were limited in terms of time and materials, and at the same time, it was a bit difficult to fulfill our first plan.
 - Yes
7. Please expand on your answer. (n=5)
- There was no particular change
 - The challenge was that during the activity we planned, the lights went out and we couldn't run the presentation, but we didn't lose the whole day and still managed to do the activity because we discussed ways to deal with all kinds of challenges during the trainings.
 - Thanks to our trainers, we no longer had the question marks that we had when writing the project or even when choosing a topic. And I will say that the change of plan has had quite a good effect on us, on the project and on our community
 - A lot of ideas came up and there were some comments that this will not work, but we still continued to support each other and partially everyone's ideas were taken into consideration.
 - People around me looked at gender equality as funny, and for a while I thought it was funny, but through trainings, I learned that it is not so.
8. Please provide your level of agreement with the following statements:



(n=5)

9. Please expand on your answers above. (n=5)

- I already had some knowledge in the direction of gender equality. However, this project made my knowledge-experience complete and complex. Now I can confidently conduct trainings in terms of gender equality.
- I see more or less changes in my community and when I look at myself, I am much changed, of course for the better.
- Thanks to the activities of the project, I was firstly more informed about the importance of gender equality, prevention of inequality, facts and statistics of victims. After all this, it is logical that I wanted to contribute to the fight against gender inequality and lay one brick to start a big construction. The information received in the project helped me to communicate with people on specific topics, in debates, etc.
- I mainly thought that the victims of gender inequality were women, but there were many things that made me think and made me realize that men, or rather young males, are victims of such challenges.
- Today I know that there are women

10. What should UN Women and UNFPA do to strengthen support for ending violence against women and girls in Georgia in the next 3 years? (n=5)

- I am thinking of strengthening non-formal education components, more youth programs and awareness campaigns
- In my opinion, awareness of such issues should be raised not only amongst women, but also amongst men, and similar projects should be conducted often, not only for young people, but also for adults.
- In my opinion, similar projects should be continued and young people should be encouraged and educated. Because they are the new future of the country, and if they understand the importance of gender equality from childhood, maybe in 3 years we will really achieve this result.

- I don't know, I think these activities are good, and it would be better to have more large-scale and many similar projects not only for young people, but for people of any age.
- I think more trainings are needed

Annex E: Evaluation Terms of Reference

Link to be added by Project Team

Annex F: About the Evaluation Team

Meredith Brown (Team Lead/International Consultant): Meredith is the owner/partner of CALIBRATE, a feminist consultancy focused on improving access to justice, gender equality, system transformation and human rights. She has conducted numerous evaluations for a wide array of UN agencies. She has a bachelor's degree with a Specialist in International Relations and a Juris Doctor in Law. She spent 17 years with the Ministry of the Attorney General for the Province of Ontario as a labour and employment lawyer and in court administration to tackle the challenges facing that system. She served as Chief Legal Counsel to three Deputy Attorneys General. She was the Executive Director of MAG's Innovation Office introducing a culture of transformation and delivering successful change by working creatively with private sector, judicial, community representatives. She leads evaluations and assessments on justice system functionality and performance, gender equality, human rights, and access to justice.

Medea Badashvili (National Consultant, Georgia): Medea is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences and is the head of Master Program in Gender Studies at Tbilisi State University. With over 15 years' experience with academia and international organizations, she holds a master's degree in Social, Political and Economic Geography and PhD in Human Geography & Gender Studies. Medea concentrates on women's political activism, grassroots mobilization, democracy and democratization, ethnical, religious and sexual minorities, transition, migration, women's sexual and reproductive rights, gender-based violence, and women's economic and political empowerment with a focus on South Caucasus region and post-soviet countries.

Annex G: Data Collection Tools

Note: In all data collection processes, the evaluation team will collect and disaggregate responses and data by gender using male, female, non-binary, choose not to say options. The team will provide explanations of the evaluation process, the purpose of the data collection approach, the confidentiality of the process and the data collection and storage methods.

Key Informant Interview Questionnaires

	Question	EVAWGG team	RO/HQ	Donor	Stakeholders (govt partners, CSOs, implementing partners, etc)
1	In your view, does the design of this project respond to the needs of women and girls in Georgia, specifically with respect to ending violence against women and girls?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	In your view, does the design of this project align with the priorities of your organization (government, CSO, donor, etc)? How so?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Were you or your organization involved in the early stages of the project, i.e. through consultation, workshops, surveys? Have you been involved in any follow-up design changes or adaptations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	How did the project adapt its design to respond to COVID/changes in political and social perspectives?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Do you feel that the project complements or achieves synergy between its work and other programming in your UN agency?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6	Do you feel that the project is complementing or achieving synergy between its work and your organization or other GEWE actors in Georgia?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	What, to your view, are the top successes of the project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	What were the enabling factors that resulted in those successes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	What, to your view, are the challenges that the project faced?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	What were the hindering factors that resulted in those challenges?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Did anything surprise you during the project? If so, was it positive or negative and how did the project respond to it?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	In your view, what elements of the project were innovative?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	In your view, were the resources (human, financial, etc) allocated strategically to achieve the results? In other words, what parts of the project's internal structure were helpful? What parts were challenging?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

14	What parts of the joint programme approach (leadership, technical and process, financial, results, synergy) were positive contributors to the project's success?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
15	What parts of the joint programme approach hindered the project's success?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
16	Did you find the reporting useful? Did you make decisions about the project based on the data provided through monitoring and reporting?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
17	From your experience, did you see the project targeting and meeting the needs of particularly vulnerable groups of women and girls (and men and boys) in Georgia (specific examples including survivors of GBV, ethnic minorities)? How so?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Do you feel that women's organizations (CSOs, etc) in Georgia have benefitted from this project? How so?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	From your experience, did the project have ways to seek and respect the views of the end beneficiaries? Did it have measures in place to protect beneficiaries?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20	In your view do you feel that the project has built partnerships or created ownership with national or in-country partners that will last after the project ends?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21	Do you feel that the project has shared its lessons and built knowledge among partners?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	Have you seen or experienced changes in behaviour or attitudes, particularly with respect to violence against women and girls, as a result of the activities in this project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
23	What would be your recommendations for the next phase of the project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Beneficiary Focus Group Questionnaire

	Questions
1	In your view, is the project (or activity you took part in) aimed at addressing your needs?
2	In your view is the project (or activity) aimed at the needs of women and men in Georgia, especially with respect to ending violence against women and girls?
3	What, in your view, are the key successes of this project/activity? What about the challenges?
4	Why do you think it was a success? What are the reasons/causes of success or challenges?
5	How do you think the project is contributing to changing attitudes or behaviours related to violence against women and girls in your area?
6	What do you think the project should do in the next phase?

Survey 1: Journalists and Media, approx. 50 respondents

Introduction: Under the EU funded EVAWGG project, UN Women, in close cooperation with the Georgian Charter of Journalistic Ethics has developed a media guideline and training module on ethical and gender sensitive reporting. Through these trainings/workshops, the Charter has reached over 200 media representatives in Georgia. You were one of them. Would you please respond to the following questions related to that experience?

Notes: Your responses to this survey are anonymous. This survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

#	Question	Answer Type
1	Please describe your involvement in the EVAWGG project.	Choose as many as apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I participated in training • I participated in the awareness raising meetings • Other (please specify)
2	Why did you decide to participate in this project?	Choose as many as apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was already involved with UN Women or UNFPA or Charter of Journalistic Ethics. • I am a gender equality/ending violence against women and girls activist in Georgia. • I was interested in becoming a gender equality/ending violence against women and girls activist. • I wanted to learn more about gender equality/ending violence against women and girls. • I think gender equality/violence against women and girls is a concern in my country and I wanted to make a difference. • I work on covering gender equality/violence against women and girls related issues in media. • I don't know. • Other (please specify)
3	What were the highlights or successful aspects of the activity you were involved in?	Long answer
4	What were the challenges?	Long answer
5	Did you have to change or adapt your plans at all due to these challenges? How so?	Long answer
6	Please provide your level of agreement with the following statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people are positively engaging with my media content, such as sharing and commenting. • Men tell me they agree with what I'm saying. • Women tell me they agree with what I'm saying. • Women tell me they feel supported by what I'm saying. • Community leaders and decision-makers publicly agree with my content. • Community leaders and decision-makers use my content in their work. 	Likert scale: strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree, not applicable

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My media colleagues are reporting on violence against women and girls differently. 	
7	Please expand on your answer.	Long answer
8	What should UN Women and UNFPA do to strengthen support for ending violence against women and girls in Georgia in the next 3 years?	Long answer

Survey 2: Youth Network, approx. 80 respondents

Introduction: The EU funded EVAWGG project engaged with youth through a variety of activities. UN Women in close cooperation with Georgian Girls Scouts Association "Dia" conducted a series of trainings using the Voices Against Violence Module. UNFPA partnered with NCCE to implement Youth for Social Change initiatives. You were involved in some of these activities. Would you please answer the following questions about your experience?

Notes: Your responses to this survey are anonymous. This survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

#	Question	Answer Type
1	Please describe your role in the EVAWGG project.	Choose as many as apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a trainer/leader/facilitator • I took part in training with Voices Against Violence • I took part Youth for Social Change initiative. • I am a member of a youth for social change network created by this project
2	Why did you decide to participate in this project?	Choose as many as apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have already participated in UN Women or UNFPA events/activities. • I am a gender equality/ending violence against women and girls activist in Georgia. • I was interested in becoming a gender equality/ending violence against women and girls activist. • I wanted to learn more about gender equality/ending violence against women and girls.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I think gender equality/violence against women and girls is a concern in my country and I wanted to make a difference. I don't know. Other (please specify)
3	What were the highlights or successes of the activity you took part in?	Long answer
4	In your view, what are the challenges?	Long answer
5	In your view, what are the programme structures/elements that led to these challenges? What structures/elements helped overcome the challenges?	Long answer
6	Did you have to change or adapt your original plans at all due to these challenges? How so?	Long answer
7	Please expand on your answer.	Long answer
8	Please provide your level of agreement with the following statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have changed my attitudes about gender equality and violence against women and girls. I have changed my behaviour about gender equality and violence against women and girls. I see changes in my friends and other young people around me. Women and girls tell me they feel supported by what I'm saying. Community leaders and decision-makers publicly agree with my content. Community leaders and decision-makers use my content in their work. 	Likert scale: strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree, not applicable
9	Please expand on your answers above.	Long answer
10	What should UN Women and UNFPA do to strengthen support for ending violence against women and girls in Georgia in the next 3 years?	Long answer

Observation Protocol:

It is possible that during the in-country visits, the evaluation team will visit sites, such as schools and crisis centres, where programming is in session. The purpose of site visits is to triangulate documentary and interview evidence, including to generate more evidence with respect to accountability to beneficiaries, to gain knowledge from programme delivery personnel, to understand the process of the intervention and how the programming is delivered by programme partners, etc. The protocol for the site visits is as follows:

- The evaluation team will:
 - View materials, curricula and other documents at the site as applicable

- Meet with the site/programme lead and/or programme delivery personnel
- Meet with programme participants if a pre-arranged beneficiary focus group is included in the visit
- The evaluation team will not:
 - Sit in on any in-progress programming
 - Take photos of any individual beneficiaries
 - Interview beneficiaries in an ad hoc manner

Annex H: Project Logframe with Results, June 2023

Figure 5 Project progress, prepared by Evaluation Team directly from draft Semi-Annual Report June 2023 prepared by Project Team

Outcome 1: Legislation, policies and institutional capacities are in place to effectively prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and related project outputs			
Indicators	Baseline	End of Project	On/Off Target
1.a. Percentage of women and girls who experience violence and seek help from formal institutions	26% (2017)	36% (2023)	On Target GEOSTAT concluded the fieldwork for the National VAW Study, which is planned for release in 2023
1.b. The status of legislation and policies in Georgia vis-à-vis the international standards on violence against women	Partially aligned (2020)	Fully aligned (2023)	On Target The procedure for granting compensation to the victims of domestic violence (up to GEL 10,000) was adopted by the Government
Output 1.1: Violence against women and domestic violence laws and policies are based on evidence and are further improved to meet international standards			
1.1.a. Share of recommendations generated by the action to improve policies that have been considered by the Government	0%	70%	On Target The project supported the development of a procedure for granting compensation to the victims of domestic violence, adopted by the Government in December 2022
1.b. The status of legislation and policies in Georgia vis-à-vis the international standards on violence against women	Not since 2017	Yes (2023)	On Target GEOSTAT concluded the fieldwork for the National VAW Study, which is planned for release in 2023
Output 1.2: Violence against women and domestic violence services are further improved to meet international standards			
1.2.a. Share of recommendations generated by the action to improve services that have been considered by the Government	0%	60%	On Target <u>GRW recommendations:</u> 1) Move to the social justice approach – in progress 2) Review of Psychological Rehabilitation Manual – concluded 3) Revision of internal policies and procedures – in progress 4) Outsourcing of VAW/DV shelters – in progress <u>EVAWGG ProDoc:</u> 5) Update of hotline software – concluded 6) Development of Socio Rehabilitation Programme – in progress
1.2.b. The status of another State-run VAW/DV shelter in Tbilisi	Not existing (2020)	Existing/added (2023)	On Target The building for the new shelter is being renovated
Outcome 2: Awareness-raising and mobilization of communities and institutions on gender equality, women's rights and zero tolerance for violence against women (with special focus on men and boys) results in more respectful relationships and the transformation of the negative gender stereotypes, social norms and attitudes that condone such harmful practices and violence			
2.a. Percentage of people who think it is never justifiable for a man to beat his wife, by sex	78% of women and 69% of men (2017)	83% of women and 74% of men (5% increase by 2023)	On Target GEOSTAT concluded the fieldwork for the National VAW Study, which is planned for release in 2023

2.b. Percentage of people who think domestic violence is a private matter and others should not intervene, by sex	33% of women and 50% of men (2017)	28% of women and 45% of men (5% decrease by 2023)	On Target GEOSTAT concluded the fieldwork for the National VAW Study, which is planned for release in 2023
Output 2.1: Social norms and negative gender stereotypes that condone harmful practices and violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, are tackled through awareness-raising and mobilization initiatives with grass-roots communities and the media			
2.1.a. Number of women and men that report increased sensitivity to violence against women and domestic violence as a result of the project intervention	0 (2020)	400 women and 400 men	On Target Reporting Period: 1,145 (815 women and 330 men) Project Duration: 4,730 (3,814 women and 914 men)
2.1.b. Number of media organizations that join self-regulatory standards to enhance respect for women's dignity	0 (2020)	5 (2023)	On Target 8 media organizations have committed to the self-regulatory standards developed under the EVAWGG project
Output 2.2: Improved prevention and increased messages and actions of zero tolerance towards violence against women and domestic violence through active engagement of youth (boys and girls), men and education system partners			
2.2.a. Number of girls that report zero tolerance for violence against women and domestic violence as a result of the project intervention	0 (2020)	400 girls	Achieved Reporting Period: 121 girls Project Duration: 442 girls
2.2.b. Number of boys and men that report zero tolerance for violence against women and domestic violence as a result of the project intervention	0 (2020)	200 men and 200 boys	On Target Reporting Period: 75 men and 15 boys Project Duration: 567 men and 131 boys