

REPORT ON GENDER EQUALITY IN LEGAL AID



Objectives of the reporting



Assessment of the implementation of gender equality (GE) in legal aid (LA) activities



Specific mandates, solutions and roadmaps will be identified for the implementation of goals, mandates and solutions to ensure GE up to the year 2030 as assigned by the Government to the Ministry Justice and the Justice Sector.

Main content of the report



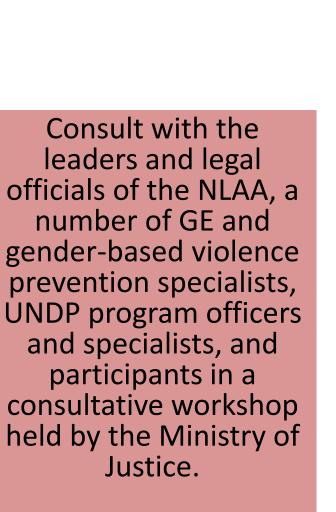
- Part 1: General affairs on ensuring EG in LA;
- Part 2: Analysis and assessment of the status quo of ensuring GE in LA
- Part 3: Proposed goals, targets and mandates in the draft 2021 2030 and proposed solutions to successfully achieve the targets and mandates on ensuring GE in LA.

Research methodology

Review of pieces of legislation in the field of GE and LA

> Refer to information in a number of published GErelated research reports and articles

Refer to information uploaded on the web portals of the NLAA, and of the DoJ in a number of cities/provinces.





Limitations of the report



The status quo of ensuring GE in the organization and provision of LA, which is stated and analyzed in this report is based on information available in other relevant reports The data in this report are neither sufficient nor consistent since they are quoted from the reports and articles on different subject matters in different periods.

MAIN FINDINGS



Organizational structure and LA staffs

- As of October 2020, **645** LA officers nationwide, **365** of whom are female (56.5%.
- Majority of LA Centers have female leaders.
- Each LA Center has 5-7 female staffs

Capacity building

- Professional training and retraining for LA staffs
- Develop training materials on preventing and combating gender-based violence

MAIN FINDINGS



Dissemination on legal aid was promoted through different methods

Mobilize funds for LA activites

Provide LA for victims of gender-based violence (domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual abuse)

Key numbers:



From 2016 to August, 2020: 727 cases with 727 legal aid beneficiaries who are victims of domestic violence In 2020 and the first 6 months of 2021: **110 cases** with victims of domestic violence 87,2% cases were provided mainly in the form of legal advice Most of the legal aid beneficiaries are women

From 2016 to 2020, the MoJ has mobilized nearly 5 billion VND to support LA activities from international organizations. State budget supports more than 97 billion VND for a number of activities (participating in legal proceedings, training, vocational training, hotlines, etc.)

Difficulties, challenges, and limitations



Existing laws and regulations haven't covered all gender-based violence victims who are in need of LA

The structure and quality of human resources to provide LA haven't well satisfied the needs of GE-related LA

Many LA-providing organizations haven't had an appropriate and effective approach to victims of gender-based violence

The LA data system still lacks many statistical criteria related to the issue of GE

Proposed gender equality goals and targets in the LA field *for the period of 2022 - 2025*



Goals and targets for ensuring GE in the organization of the provision of LA:

- Goal 1: Ensuring GE in LA-providing organizations and LA-providing individuals
- + Target 1: 100% of the state-run LA Centers each assign one staff to act as a focal point to advise on ensuring GE in LA.
- + Target 2: At least 50% of the LA-providing individuals (LA officers, LA collaborators, lawyers, and legal counselors) and other staff are female.

+ Target 3: 100% of the state-run LA Centers each have at least one female person in the management (Director, Vice Director, the Head or Deputy Head of an affiliated division or branch).

Proposed gender equality goals and targets in the LA field *for the period of 2022 - 2025 (cont)*



• Goal 2: Ensuring GE in the capacity building for LA-providing personel

+ Target 1: Annually, 100% of the persons assigned by state-run LA Centers to act as a focal point to advise on ensuring LA are invited to participate in training courses of GE and gender mainstreaming in the LA field that are organized by the National Legal Aid Agency, the Ministry of Justice.

+ Target 2: Annually, 90% of the LA-providing individuals of LA-providing organizations are trained and equipped with legal knowledge of GE, gender-based violence prevention and fight, and skills to provide LA in cases in connection with gender-based violence.

+ Target 3: 100% of the LA-providing organizations make available to the public their lists of LA-providing individuals, in which the gender, expertise and work experience of each LA-providing individual is stated.

Proposed gender equality goals and targets in the LA field *for the period of 2022 - 2025 (cont)*



Goals and targets for ensuring GE in the provision of LA:

• Goal 1: Ensuring the gender mainstreaming in the development and implementation of annual LA plans

+ Target 1: Annually, 100% of the state-run LA Centers each have a plan on ensuring GE in LA

+ Target 2: Annually, 100% of the LA-providing organizations provide statistical reports of LA-providing individuals and LA beneficiaries disaggregated by sex, and the number of LA cases in connection with gender-based violence.

Proposed gender equality goals and targets in the LA field for the period of 2022 - 2025 (cont)



• Goal 2: Gender-based violence prevention and response

+ Target 1: Annually, 100% of applicants for LA in GE-related matters are provided with LA services.

+ Target 2: By the year 2025, 30% of the state-run LA Centers each carry out at least one model on support, prevention and response to gender-based violence.

Recommendations on the implementation of proposed goals on GE in LA



Improvement of the policies, laws and regulations on ensuring GE in LA

Capacity building for LA-providing individuals Strengthening the capacity of victims and perpetrators of gender-based violence to access LA

Including GE-related statistical criteria in the management system of LA activities

Increasing resources for LA

Strengthening international cooperation in LA



