

Spotlight Initiative
To eliminate violence against women and girls



Review of the “Spotlight Initiative Component of the NHRI - Village Family Safety Committee” Pilot Program.

FINAL REPORT

FEBRUARY 2022



Table of Content

Table of Content	1
List of Figures.....	2
List of Tables	3
Acronyms	3
Executive Summary.....	5
1. Introduction to the Pilot Program	13
2. Purpose of the Evaluation.....	14
3. Objectives of the Evaluation.....	15
4. Methodology.....	15
4.1 Research Tool Selection	15
4.2 Intended and Actual Sample	16
4.3 Evaluation Process	18
4.4 Evaluation Limitations.....	19
5 Evaluation Findings	19
5.1 Village members – Questionnaire Responses.....	21
5.2 Village Family Safety Committee – Questionnaire Responses	31
5.3 Government ministries and partners - Interview Responses	39
5.4 Focus Group Discussion Responses.....	43
6 Discussions	52
6.1 Relevance.....	52
6.2 Effectiveness.....	53
6.3 Efficiency	54
6.4 Impacts.....	55
6.5 Sustainability	56
6.6 Highlights of positive changes observed in the three model villages	58
7 Conclusions	65
8 Recommendations	66
9 Acknowledgement.....	69
10 References.....	70

11	Appendices.....	71
	Appendix 1: Terms of Reference for the Evaluation	71
	Appendix 2: Updates of Outputs and activities	79
	Appendix 3: Updates of SI Outcome 3 – VFSC related Outputs.....	83
	Appendix 4: Short profiles for the six villages	87
	Appendix 5: Recommendations from Village and VFSC members	88
	Appendix 6: Snapshot of the three Villages Bylaws on Violence Protection	89
	Appendix 7: Personnel Interviewed, provided support and villages.....	93
	Appendix 8: Village Members Questionnaire.....	94
	Appendix 9: Village Family Safety Committee Members Questionnaire	96
	Appendix 10: Village Focus Group Discussion Guiding Questions.....	98
	Appendix 11: Guiding questions for Stakeholders and Partners Interviews	99

List of Figures

Figure 1: Participants from different village organizations	21
Figure 2: Village members’ age group	22
Figure 3: Ratings of awareness programs:	24
Figure 4: Ratings of VFSC pilot program	24
Figure 5: Overall Violence Status by village members	25
<i>Figure 6: Violence Status by Village</i>	<i>26</i>
Figure 7: Grouping of recommendations for the way forward from village members.....	27
Figure 8: Village members’ recommendations to eliminate violence in communities.....	28
Figure 9: Village members who experienced and practised violence in the villages	29
Figure 10: Those who experienced and practised violence in the villages.....	30
Figure 11: Committee members from different village organizations	31
Figure 12: VFSC members age group	32
Figure 13: Changes observed by VFSC members since the program started	33
Figure 14: VFSC observation of violence status in their villages	35
Figure 15: Enablers of changes observed by VFSC members.....	36

Figure 16: Challenges faced by the committee members36

Figure 17: VFSC reasons why the program should be continued38

Figure 18: VFSC recommendations grouped into three categories.....38

List of Tables

Table 1: Intended Group Sample sizes..... 16

Table 2: Actual Group Responses collected17

Table 3: Criteria for the Evaluation 19

Table 4: Saleia Focus Group Discussion summary notes 45

Table 5: Asau Focus Group Discussion summary notes46

Table 6: Taga Focus Group Discussion Summary notes47

Table 7: Lalovi-Mulifanua Focus Group Discussion Summary notes48

Table 8: Vaiee Focus Group Discussion Summary notes 50

Table 9: Lotopue-Aleipata Focus Group Discussion Summary notes.....51

Acronyms

EU	-	European Union
DDP	-	District Development Plan
DV/IPV	-	Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence
FLO	-	Faataua le Ola
MJCA	-	Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration
MOPP	-	Ministry of Police and Prisons
MWCSD	-	Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development
NHRI	-	National Human Rights Institutions
NOLA	-	Nuanua O Le Alofa
OMB	-	Office of the Ombudsman

OOOR	-	Office of the Regulator
SDG	-	Sustainable Development Goals
SDS	-	Strategy for the Development of Samoa
SFHA	-	Samoa Family Health Association
SI	-	Spotlight Initiative
SVSG	-	Samoa Victim Support Group
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Program
VAWG	-	Violence Against Women and Girls
VFSC	-	Village Family Safety Committee

Executive Summary

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The Village Family Safety Committee Pilot Program evaluation was undertaken from the 26th November 2021 to 31 January 2022. The main purpose of this evaluation was to assess the performance (including the approach) of the pilot program to date and make recommendations on what is working for future programme enhancements.

There were Two Major Objectives of this Evaluation Study:

- i. To provide an overview of progress since the program commenced in terms of activities, objectives, and deliverables as well as impact and achievement of program outcomes;
- ii. To determine the next phase of program implementation for the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI).

The scope of the evaluation included all six (6) villages under the pilot Village Family Safety Committee program and review of available related documents but not limited to the Village Family Safety Committee (VFSC) pilot program concept note, VFSC work plans, end of activity reports, media including social media releases, articles, District Development Plans, annual reports, and strategic plans.

The evaluation looked at assessing the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of the VFSC pilot program. An Evaluation Plan was developed and approved by the NHRI and UNDP in the first phase, followed by the three weeks of fieldwork (data collection) in phase two and the development of the draft and final reports in the third phase.

RELEVANCE

The evaluation found the design and the scope of the VFSC pilot program encompassing the six selected villages, is well aligned with the related District Development Plans (DDP) that address one of the key priority areas of target groups and justifies the involvement of all six villages and selected partners.

The VFSC pilot program broad strategic goal of empowering village members and village councils to take a leading and proactive role in the prevention of family violence with their respective villages, the related four specific outcomes, and the four outputs with associated activities were highly relevant to the stated priorities of the village communities and members.

One of the key components in each of the six DDP was to end violence in the village communities. The Community Sector Development Plan 2016-2021 - Intermediate Outcome 2.1, focused on strengthening individual, family and village safety and the wellbeing from all forms of abuse. At the national level, the Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS) 2016-2020 key outcome 8.1, strategic outcome 3, targeted the increase of family and community safety, with a measure of reducing family and sexual violence levels. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Targets 5.2, 5.3, 16.1 & 16.2 all aim at eliminating violence against women and children. Therefore, the focus of this VFSC pilot program, and the main objective of establishing VFSC's in 6 villages to build their capacity to actively conduct family violence prevention initiatives, and support village councils to deal with family violence matters when it arises, is highly relevant to the need of the communities and linked with strategic plans right from the district level to the international level.

EFFECTIVENESS

The evaluation study found that the effectiveness of the delivery of activities and outputs in the village communities was high. Almost all planned activities and outputs were completed and have contributed enormously to the achievement of the four specific outcomes of the pilot program.

Of the 10 key outputs/activities planned under the pilot program design document (concept note), 6 (60%) of them were fully completed by the official completion date (December 2021) of the VFSC pilot program, 2 (20%) were partially completed and 2 (20%) were not able to be implemented. The non-achieved activities were the 6 months review of the pilot program and the establishment of the pilot program task force. These two key outputs were impossible to implement due to capacity and manpower, budget, time constraints and competing priorities of partners. The establishment of the task force to drive the implementation of the program is a good start. Perhaps a revival of the Ending Violence Taskforce under the MWCSO and maybe consider renaming it as an Advisory Committee or a Steering Committee and upgrade the memberships to the ACEO level or even CEOs.

All six VFSCs were established within the planned time frame. However, there were issues and challenges along the way that caused delays to the implementation of the initial phases of the project as well as activities in each village work plan. These challenges included the measles outbreak, the covid-19 restrictions, the general election, and the unstable government that followed. These major reasons had a huge impact on the implementation of the program activities.

EFFICIENCY

The management of the implementation of the VFSC pilot program was handled by the committed NHRI team alongside other office mandated responsibilities. Only one person was dedicated to this project¹, and the human resources allocated specifically for the project was not efficient. In terms of meeting the time planned for the outputs and activities, as well as the budget allocated for some of the key outputs/activities from the Spotlight Initiative Project and other donor partners were also less efficient. It is an area of consideration for moving forward, to ensure a realistic allocation of budget for the program's deliverables are properly assessed, and enough staff members to be employed to meet the objectives and, most importantly, achieve the planned goals and outcomes required.

Furthermore, the high percentage of respondents to the questionnaires requesting an increase of financial support for the village communities is also an area of concern in assessing the efficiency of the pilot program. 65% of village members and 80% of VFSC members recommended continued support from donor partners to assist in implementing remaining activities in their work plans as a way forward for this pilot program. These activities include ongoing capacity buildings for VFSC members such as impacts of violence (power and control/cycle of violence). For village members, some of the activities include awareness raising (rights of persons with disabilities and understanding better different disabilities, causes and triggers of violence, different family violence-related laws (and processes) and penalties, financial budgeting, and capacity building on good governance². This meant all these participants requested more financial support from donor partners. The responses from all six villages during the focus group discussions revealed the same recommendation.

There was a further delay in the rest of the activities due to insufficient budget resources.

IMPACTS

The impact of any development project can only be determined usually after five to 10 years of implementing a project. The actual implementation of this pilot program started in the last 12 months, therefore it is hard to determine any significant change at this stage. However, a short or medium-term process behavioural change can be determined at this stage.

¹ A Temporary Senior Project Officer

² Refer to each village work plan for more information on remaining activities

Since the direct intended beneficiaries of this pilot program were the village communities, the views from them are the most valid responses in assessing the short or medium-term impacts of this pilot program. Both village members and VFSC participants provided evidence of good changes observed in the six communities. From village members, 65% responded that the violence in their village communities have decreased and 28% said there is no more violence in their communities. An analysis by the village revealed that Saleia, Taga and Vaiee were the three outstanding villages where no one responded that violence had increased or gone worse in their villages. All respondents from these three villages revealed that either violence had decreased, or violence is eliminated from their village.

Furthermore, from the VFSC members, 60% responded that violence in their villages had decreased and 36% said there is no more violence in their villages. After the analysis by village, the four villages that displayed outstanding results were: Saleia, Taga, Vaiee and Asau. They reported that violence in their villages had either decreased or was eliminated. Lalovi-Mulifanua village had a few that responded violence had increased in their village and none of the committee members from Lotopue completed the VFSC questionnaires.

Combining the responses from the two groups of participants, a conclusion can be drawn that the villages of **Saleia, Taga and Vaiee** can be the model villages for ending violence in the village communities. The other three villages (Asau, Lalovi-Mulifanua and Lotopue-Aleipata) need more time before becoming model villages because there were very few participants from these villages who responded that violence in their villages had increased.

This conclusion can be problematic to some extent because there was not enough time for the evaluation study to conduct an observation to validate this information collected from the villages, which is something to be considered when moving forward.

SUSTAINABILITY

The establishment of VFSCs in the six villages is one avenue that can be used as a mechanism for sustaining the implementation of the program after the lifetime of the project, as well as a focal point that can drive continuous changes in the village communities. These VFSCs can be the starting point for the way forward and can also be the contact point for referral systems in these villages.

Moreover, the development and the launching of the six villages 3-year strategic work plans targeting the elimination of violence in the communities is also another

mechanism available for the villages to keep on implementing the good work in the communities. According to the NHRI team, the extension of the timeframe of the plans from 12 months to 36 months were requests received from all six villages. The village councils and the VFSCs wanted to extend the timeframe of their plans to the next 24 months for them to continue implementing this program when the lifetime of the pilot program has ended.

Lastly, the development and launching of bylaws for five villages³ is also a good strategy for the continuation of the program. Enforcing the bylaws at the village levels can go a long way in trying to eliminate violence in the villages. All the five bylaws have punishments for violence cases that arise, therefore there is a greater possibility of sustaining the good changes already observed during this pilot program.

The Prime Minister of Samoa, Honourable Fiame Naomi Mataafa commended the effort and commitment by the five village councils during the launching of their bylaws on the 13th December 2021.

“I would like to congratulate the Fono mamalu a Alii ma Faipule of these villages for being champions for family violence prevention within their villages by ensuring the inclusion of bylaws on violence against women and girls highlights commitment to zero tolerance towards family violence. Such commitment recognizes the pivotal role of village leaders in family violence, prevention and the protection of women and girls at the village level”, (Prime Minister of Samoa)⁴

GOVERNANCE AND COORDINATION

The governance structure of the VFSC pilot program was effective. There were challenges with the implementation of the governance structure in the early stages of the program but significant progress has been made along the way and towards the official ending of the pilot program.

However, in moving forward, there is a need to decide on an appropriate government ministry to continue leading this initiative because not only is the NHRI not a service provider but it does not have the manpower and resources.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

³ Asau, Lalovi-Mulifanua, Saleia, Taga and Vaiee

⁴ There is a link on the Govt FB page to her speech

The overall monitoring of the pilot program was great and the delivery of planned activities was well monitored and implemented. However, it would have been much easier to keep track of the delivery of all outputs and outcomes if there was a clear Monitoring and Evaluation Framework right from the initial stages of the program. This should be an area to consider for moving forward.

EVALUATION CONCLUSIONS

The National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) undertook this evaluation study to answer two questions:

- i. What is an overview of progress since the program commenced in terms of activities, objectives, and deliverables as well as impact and achievement of program outcomes; and
- ii. Determine the next phase of program implementation for the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI).

The four different stakeholder groups (village members, VFSC, combined village participants through focus group discussions, and government ministries & partners) revealed a common feeling that the design and approach of the program, the delivery of activities and the collaborative effort by NHRI and partners in pushing through the purpose of the pilot program was extremely good. The 100% support provided by all participants for the continuation of the program is evidence of good progress made by the leading implementing agency (NHRI).

Overall, at the end of the implementation phase in December 2021, 60% of the planned outputs/activities were fully completed, 20% were partially completed and 20% were not implemented due to reasons provided already. The achievement rate was high considering the many challenges that hindered the progress of the program such as the measles outbreak, covid-19 restrictions, the country's preparation for the general election and the un-stable government afterwards. These were major barriers but the implementing agencies and the relevant partners did not give up in pushing through the implementation of the pilot program.

Furthermore, the evaluation study concluded that the design and the model adopted by the pilot program was highly relevant to the stated priorities of the village communities and directly linked to the DDP, the community sector plan, SDS and the SDG. The effectiveness of the delivery of activities and outputs in the village communities was also high. There were good changes observed during the lifetime of the program as explained earlier and these good changes and benefits can

be sustained through the establishment of the VFSC, the existence of the village 3-year strategic plans as well as the launching of the village bylaws.

The management of the implementation of the pilot program was efficient in terms of the fully committed NHRI team, however, in terms of meeting the timelines and the sufficient allocated budget for some activities, it was less efficient.

Considering the relevance of the design and approach, the effectiveness of the implementation, good changes observed and the sustainable mechanisms in place for moving forward, it is strongly recommended that the next phase of the program should be implemented using the same model and approach, the same set of activities and outputs with further improvements which will be detailed in the recommendation section.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1:

NHRI to consult with the MWCSO for an opportunity to lead the program in taking it further with the NHRI to assist with its transitioning purposes. Looking at the bigger picture and sustainability of the program, it would be more appropriate for a government ministry with existing relevant mandates and mechanisms to continue this program. The MWCSO's mandate as stipulated in the Internal Affairs Act 1995 and the Ministry of Women Affairs Act 1990 amongst other legislation includes the social development of every individual in the village communities. The issue of violence against women, girls and children falls directly under their mandate as the focal implementing ministry for CEDAW as well as dealing with the community. Therefore the continuation of this initiative would be more appropriate under the MWCSO.

Recommendation 2:

Consider a portion (%) of the **\$1 million initiative** for districts by the government to be allocated for violence advocacy programs and should be distributed directly to the villages within the districts. All the village group stakeholders who participated in the evaluation study requested more financial support provided for the village to implement violence-free activities.

Recommendation 3:

Continue and extend the Village Family Safety Committee program to other villages using the same model and approach, together with lessons learned from the pilot program. Evidence from the village responses that using the village-based approach

is more effective than using a district-based approach to addressing violence in the community. The district committee can still be considered as the overarching body monitoring the strategic DDP but the implementation of activities should go directly to the villages to ensure it reaches the intended beneficiaries.

Recommendation 4:

Develop a robust Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the VFSC program at the beginning during the planning stage to keep track of the progress of activities, to ensure that none of the outputs and activities is left out.

Recommendation 5:

Enforcement of bylaws and consistent monitoring to ensure it serves the purpose of reducing violence in the village communities be led by the Alii and Faipule of villages.

Recommendation 6:

Extend the scope of capacity building for the community and committee members to include basic program management and simple report writing. One of the outputs of the VFSC program was to provide monthly reports by the Committee, but have yet to implement them due to competing priorities and the limited capacity at the village level.

Recommendation 7:

To consider the VFSC to be the focal point for the referral system at the village level. The VFSC offers a framework that involves supportive and practical help to prevent and respond to family violence or other stressful situations at the community level. The VFSC's role includes referral of women, children, targeted marginalized individuals or groups experiencing violence for advanced support to government ministries and partners. The review findings highlighted Vaie'e, Saleia and Taga as model villages with the VFSC the driving force in creating social change. The gender architecture of the committee highlights a 'fit for purpose' rather than one size fits all model for each village that demonstrate results if tailored to suit the village context. There is a noticeably stronger engagement and influence from the women with the status of faletua ma tausi than men in Vaie'e, stronger influence from the male chiefs in Taga and Saleia with a 50% gender balanced influence role by men and women.

Recommendation 8:

Continuous support was provided for the village communities to encourage them to continue to do better. Therefore it is recommended that a consistent and continuous engagement between the government ministries/CSOs and the village communities be encouraged to ensure the objectives of the program is achieved. This was evident through the responses provided by the village members and VFSC members, as well as the discussion during the focus groups.

1. Introduction to the Pilot Program

Samoa's Second Voluntary Review on the implementation of SDGs reported that Samoa is struggling with the unacceptably high levels of violence against women and girls⁵.

The Spotlight Initiative (SI) in Samoa is a global partnership between the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) focusing on eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG), including harmful practices⁶. The project builds on existing Government commitments to ending Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV) and cultural institutions that support ending violence against women and girls. The SI project consists of six key pillars of work, and the implementation of pillars 3 and 4 of the project directly supports village councils to take a leading role in the prevention of family violence and intimate partner violence in the communities.

The National Inquiry into Family Violence (NIFV) conducted by the Office of the Ombudsman in 2018 confirmed the increasing trends in the prevalence of family violence in Samoa⁷, and the need for village councils to take a leading role in the prevention of family violence. Before this national inquiry, it was also highlighted in the Family Safety Study conducted by the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD) in 2017⁸, the importance of the role of Village Fono to lead advocacy efforts to stop family violence in the communities.

The pilot program on Village Family Safety Committee (VFSC) was initiated by the Office of the Ombudsman-NHRI to implement recommendation 20 of their National Inquiry Report, with a focus on a 'Violence Free Village Programme. The

⁵ https://samoa.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/Samos2ndVNR2020_LowRes.pdf

⁶ Samoa Spotlight Initiative Country Programme Document, July 2019

⁷ [2018 -SHRR-2018-National-Public-Inquiry-into-Family-Violence -English.pdf \(ombudsman.gov.ws\)](https://www.ombudsman.gov.ws/2018-SHRR-2018-National-Public-Inquiry-into-Family-Violence-English.pdf)

⁸ <https://pacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/SamoaFamilyHealthandSafetyStudy.pdf>

pilot program modelled on the significance of the 'faasamoa', which uses a culturally responsive centred approach to empower village leaders and members to proactively be the vanguards of change in the prevention of domestic violence within their villages. The program was jointly funded by the SPC (Pacific Community), UK-Commonwealth, Sisters for Change, EU & UN Spotlight Initiative-UNDP and UNWomen. Recommendation 20 of the National Inquiry 2018 states that:

“Village Fonos to take a leading and proactive role in the prevention of family violence.” (National Inquiry Report, 2018)

The NHRI together with Partners as well as the key support from the EU and UN Spotlight Initiative through UNDP rolled out the pilot program activities at the beginning of 2020 and it was officially completed with the launching of the five villages bylaws in December 2021. One of the six villages was not able to complete its village bylaws due to some unforeseen circumstances within its village.

The selection of six villages by the NHRI was based on the following criteria:

- i. A village that was involved in the 2018 National Public Inquiry into Family Violence in Samoa;
- ii. A village selected from a district that has already launched a District Development Plan;
- iii. A village with written bylaws;
- iv. A village with no written bylaws; and
- v. Size and geographical features of the villages (small and big villages).

Refer to *Appendix 4* of the report for the short profile of the six villages.

2. Purpose of the Evaluation

Measuring the success during the pilot phase of a program is crucial as it provides an opportunity to refine a project and also to consider the impact of any changes on other parts of the service. In addition, evaluating a pilot program provides a platform for the implementers to test logistics and spot- any potential deficiencies before going any further.

The main purpose of this evaluation was to assess the performance (including the approach) of the pilot program to date and make recommendations on what is working for future programme enhancements.

The scope of the evaluation included all six (6) villages under the pilot VFSC program and review of available related documents but not limited to the following:

- i. Village Safety Committee pilot program concept note;
- ii. Village safety work plans;
- iii. End of activity reports;
- iv. District Development Plans;
- v. Media including social media releases and articles; and
- vi. Annual reports & strategic plans.

3. Objectives of the Evaluation

The Overall Objective of the VFSC Pilot Program is **to empower village members and the village councils to take a leading and proactive role in the prevention of family violence within their respective villages.**

For this Evaluation Study, there were two Major Objectives stated in the Terms of Reference:

- i. To provide an overview of progress since the program commenced in terms of activities, objectives, and deliverables as well as impact and achievement of program outcomes;
- ii. To determine the next phase of program implementation for the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI).

4. Methodology

4.1 Research Tool Selection

This Evaluation Study used a Mixed Method (qualitative and quantitative) research approach, where it collected evidence to show the relationship between the participants of this pilot program and the expected outcome of the intervention.

The data collection process for this evaluation study used a combination of three research tools to capture as accurate and full a picture as possible. These were:

1. Questionnaires;
2. Interviews; and
3. Focus Group Discussion using the Talanoa approach.

Each of these three research tools has its strengths and weaknesses and can provide data in any setting that may be weak and lacking validity. Questionnaires, for example, can be problematic in several ways and may not always provide valid data. This is where respondents give an answer that may not be true but they think will present a positive, socially acceptable image of themselves.

Focus Groups can be problematic in a different way. Often all voices in the group are not heard, with the resulting problem of data that is not wholly valid. Some participants, for example, may stay silent or be unwilling to air contentious views. They may be shy and feel intimidated and of course the cultural factors in Samoa, with deference given to high-status participants. To minimize these problems, the researcher (consultant) encouraged all participants, in the beginning, to be open-minded and opportunities were opened to all to voice their views. In addition, all participants of focus group discussions were given a questionnaire to complete before the general discussion. Therefore, the views of all the participants were gathered.

The rationale for this approach was to ensure all the participants were allowed to voice their opinions by responding through the questionnaire, before the focus group discussion on the overall achievements as well as issues and challenges of the pilot program.

4.2 Intended and Actual Sample

The intention was to gather views through interviews of at least 50% of key stakeholders and partners involved in the roll-out of the pilot program, complete 15 questionnaires from village members and 5 questionnaires from VFSC members in each of the six villages, and conduct focus group discussions for all six villages in the pilot program, as detailed below:

Research Tool	Intended Sample	Goal
Questionnaires		
- Village members	15 village members who were involved in the VFSC activities from each of the six villages	90
- VFSC members	5 Committee Members from each of the six villages	30
Interviews	50% of key stakeholders and partners	6 (50%)
Focus Group	One session for each of the six villages	Six Focus Group Discussions

Table 1: Intended Group Sample sizes

The actual responses gathered appear below:

Research Tool	Actual Total	Response Rate	Comments Regarding Actual Sample
Questionnaires	82 from village members	91%	Only 7 members turned up from Lotopue-Aleipata village
- Village members			
- VFSC members	25 from VFSC members	83%	The 7 members who participated from Lotopue completed their questionnaires as village members, so there were no views from committee members collected from this village. However, there were committee members that attended but decided to count their views as village members.
Interviews	50%(6) of stakeholder and partner organizations interviewed	100%	There were six organizations involved in the interviews with two organizations conducted as a group interview, 3 members from the OneUN Team interviewed separately, and three members from the MWCSO were also interviewed separately. Therefore the total number of interviews collected was 11 and the total of personnel involved in the interview process was 14.
Focus Group	6	100%	All six villages conducted a Focus Group discussion

Table 2: Actual Group Responses collected

Due to the limited time allocated for the data collection before the Christmas holidays, the selection of the village members and committee members to participate in the evaluation study was delegated to the President and VFS Committee members. The NHRI Team contacted the President / Chairperson of each of the six VFSC by phone and explained the criteria of selecting the participants for the study and they travelled to a selected venue for this purpose. One half-day

was allocated to administer the questionnaires and focus group discussion for each village.

4.3 Evaluation Process

The evaluation process was divided into three phases:

Phase One determined the focus and the scope of the evaluation through the initial planning and the development of research/evaluation tools, which was carried out from the 26th of November 2021 to the 3rd December 2021. The initial planning stage and the development of the tools were done by the consultant in collaboration with the NHRI and the UNDP Teams.

Phase Two was the actual fieldwork (data collection) from 6th – 24th December 2021. The data collection was undertaken by the consultant together with the assistance provided by the NHRI Team in preparation of the logistics and communication with the villages, as well as the stakeholders and partners. A representative from UNDP was also part of the data collection process, handling the financial aspects of the tasks.

All interviews for the stakeholders and partners-participants were done by the consultant with the assistance provided by the Project Coordinator Spotlight Initiative (UNDP) and the Director Human Rights (NHRI) in conducting the initial communication with the selected stakeholders and partners.

Phase Three involved the data analysis and the report writing conducted by the consultant and was completed on the 21st January 2022. The report was finalized and endorsed by the UNDP and NHRI on the 4th of February 2022.

This evaluation was undertaken using the Organization for Economic Co-operation Development (OECD), Development Assistance Committee (DAC)⁹ criteria to underpin and focus the assessment being made.

Criteria	Key evaluation questions for the evaluation of the VFSC pilot program
Relevance	To what extent is the design of the VFSC pilot program relevant to the stated priorities of the village communities and intended participants?
Effectiveness	To what extent has the VFSC pilot program been effective in producing the intended impacts for the village communities?

⁹ <https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/39119068.pdf>

Efficiency	To what extent is the implementation of the VFSC pilot program being managed efficiently?
Impact	What is the likely impact/benefit of the VFSC pilot program?
Sustainability	Are the impacts/benefits of the VFSC pilot program likely to be sustained?

Table 3: Criteria for the Evaluation

4.4 Evaluation Limitations

The timing of this evaluation study had a huge impact. The process started with the data collection about three weeks before the Christmas holidays, which was the busiest time of the year for everyone. Not only for those working in the public service, authorities and companies to wrap up the end of year work, but was also the most hectic time for the village communities in preparation for their end of year religious or cultural programs to celebrate the Christmas season. This had caused many challenges such as trying to confirm the availability of participants for interviews, making short notice arrangements with the six villages and had bypassed the proper statistical process of selecting the participants randomly for village members and VFSC members to complete the questionnaire. In addition, some of the key partners' senior executives that were supposed to be interviewed were not available at the end of 2021 due to their busy schedules, and they had taken the leave at the beginning of 2022.

In addition, the sample needed from all the six villages did not reach 100% as expected, due to other village commitments which were beyond our control. The VFSC members for one of the villages had to include just about anyone from the village to make up the number of participants due to other programs attended by the selected members. However, although the expected sample from one village did not reach 100%, overall the six villages were well represented by those who managed to participate, compared to the overall village population.

5 Evaluation Findings

The implementation of this pilot program was led by the NHRI team together with the assistance provided by the UNDP team and relevant partners¹⁰.

It is very important to note that the timeline for the pilot program rollout has been revised due to the measles outbreak in late 2019 and the covid-19

¹⁰ FLO, MJCA, MOPP, MWCSO, NOLA, OOR, SFHA, SVSG, Talofa Kids, TA.

state of emergency order issued in March 2020, which restricted public gatherings.

The scope of this pilot program was divided into Four Phases. **Phase 1** was the mapping exercise for the selected six villages and the development of the plan for the project, which was executed from October 2019 to February 2020. (*Refer to Appendix 2 for detailed updates*).

Phase 2 was the capacity building for VFSC members and the development of village work plans which was performed from March to June 2020. There were 6 capacity building workshops conducted for each of the six VFS committees with 14 design sessions included. (*Refer to Appendix 2 for detailed updates*).

Phase 3 was the finalization and launching of the six villages' work plans as well as the implementation of some of the activities in the work plan. All six villages completed and launched their work plans in September 2020 and the implementation of village activities under the leadership of the VFSC members started from October 2020 to October 2021. (*Refer to Appendix 2 for detailed updates*).

Finally, **Phase 4** was the monitoring and evaluation as well as the reporting provided from time to time. According to the NHRI plan outlined in the pilot program concept note, there were two main evaluations/reviews required to be conducted. The first one is the evaluation after 6 months into the pilot program on the progress of village activities and the second one upon completion of the pilot program. However, the 6 months review was not possible due to competing priorities and other team commitments, as well as the limited budget that remains with the end of the pilot program review currently in its' final stage and that it should be completed before the end of January 2022.

5.1 Village members – Questionnaire Responses



The gender balance in terms of participation in the survey for village members participants was fair. Of the 82 participants who completed the questionnaires, 57% were male and 43% were female. The distribution of village organizations was dominated by Matais (chiefly title holders) as shown in *Figure 1* below. Of the 39 (47%) Matais participants, 10% of them were

female and there were more female matais that participated but they preferred to be categorized under the umbrella of Faletua ma Tausi (the village chiefly titled men's wives). It shows that the voice of women in the village councils is also heard and respected. Furthermore, the views from the wives (nofotane) of the villages' untitled men were also amongst the participants but were categorized under the Aualuma organization.

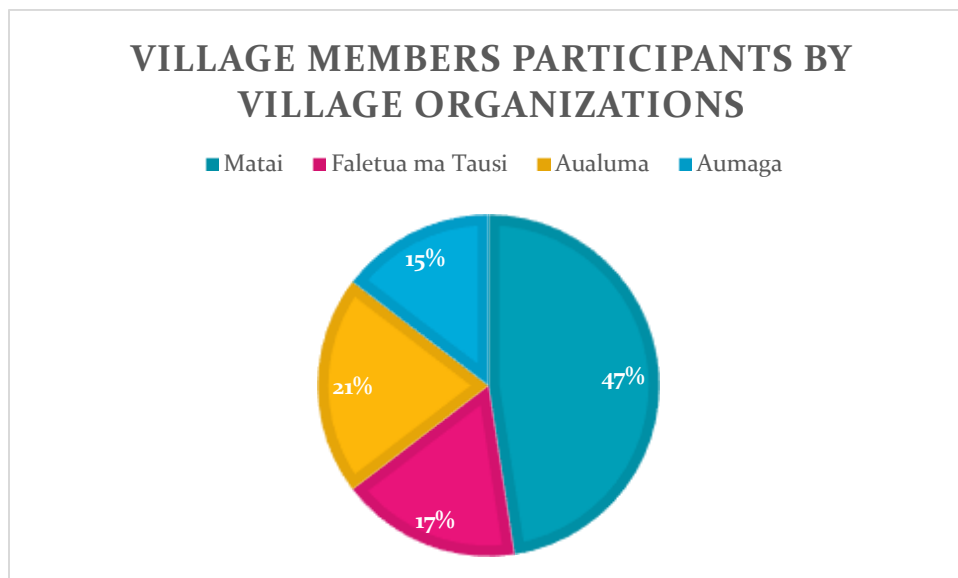


Figure 1: Participants from different village organizations

The age group of the village members who participated in the survey was outnumbered by over 50 years as shown in *Figure 2* below.

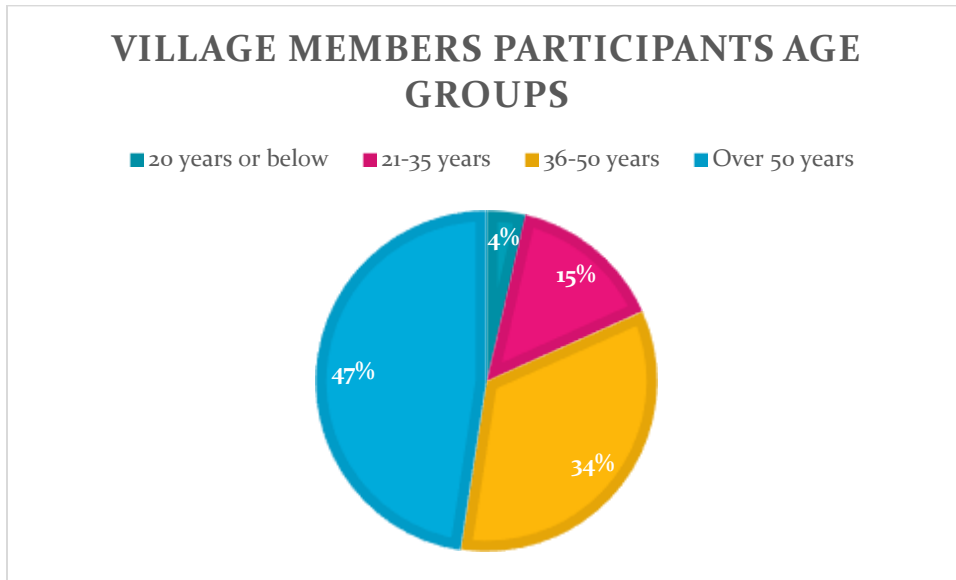


Figure 2: Village members' age group

In addition, 85% of the village members' participants are married and 15% are single.

When village members were asked whether they have any understanding or have heard of this village family safety committee pilot program in their villages, 67% responded that they fully understood the program, 28% had some understanding of the program and 5 % had never heard of this program. This shows that the coverage of the program in terms of delivering the activities and awareness programs by the VFSC at the village level was very high. In total, 95% of the village members who participated in the survey were either involved as direct beneficiaries of the pilot program or have heard and had a fair idea of the focus of this program. This was also confirmed during the focus group discussions for each of the six villages.



In addition, there were three different awareness programs¹¹ conducted by the NHRI and partners with the six villages during the lifetime of the project. These programs were identified by the NHRI team as common activities in all of the 6 villages work plans and therefore the NHRI decided and based on the resources and time available to implement these activities for all 6 villages. The survey reported that 29% of the village members attended all three awareness programs, 6% attended two, 56% participated in one activity, and 9% did not participate in any of the three awareness programs. It is important to note that some of these activities were designed for specific



participants/beneficiaries and therefore meant that not everyone got to participate in the awareness program. For example, Healthy Relationship activity; this targeted specifically at young couples. Again, there is a high percentage of those who were involved in the delivery of the programs.

When they were asked to rate both the awareness programs and the whole VFSC pilot program from 1 – 5, with 5 being very effective, there was also a high percentage of participants who believed that the awareness programs and the pilot program were very effective and useful to their village as displayed in *Figures 3 & 4* below.

¹¹ Awareness programs: 1. Healthy parenting and children’s connect; 2. Healthy and respectful relationships with young couples; 3. Freedom of speech and safe use of social media and mobiles

Rating of Awareness Activities Village members participated (with 5 being very effective)

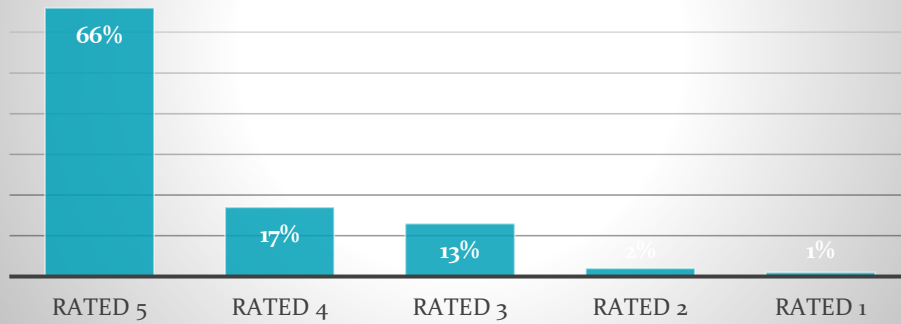


Figure 3: Ratings of awareness programs:

Village Members Rating of the Village Family Safety Program (with 5 being very effective)

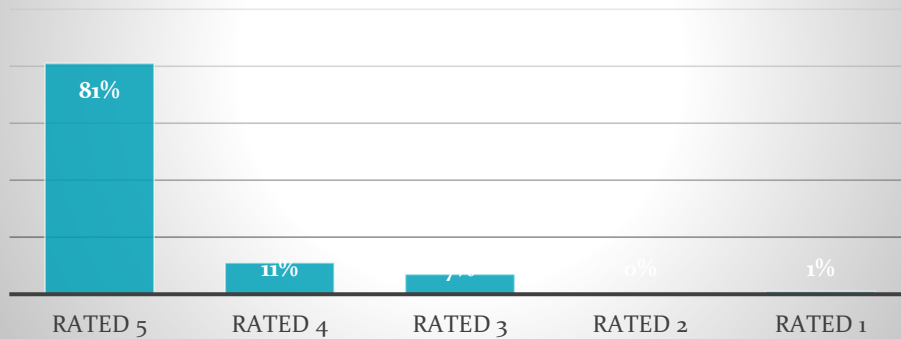


Figure 4: Ratings of VFSC pilot program



The reasons provided by village members to support their ratings were mainly *the way the trainers and facilitators delivered the awareness programs being very effective, and the content of the awareness programs was very interesting and useful to their communities.* Almost all (81%) believed that the model and the approach used by the VFSC Pilot Program was very effective and

useful to their communities.

In terms of the status of violence in the six villages when the village members were asked for their views based on their observation in the last two years. The responses from all the participants are presented in *Figure 5* below. The types of violence that have increased in some villages as indicated by a small portion of 6%, include fathers beating up their wives, fighting amongst youths and parents beating their children. 1% who said violence had gone worse or bad was with regards to alcohol-related and physical assault amongst youth.

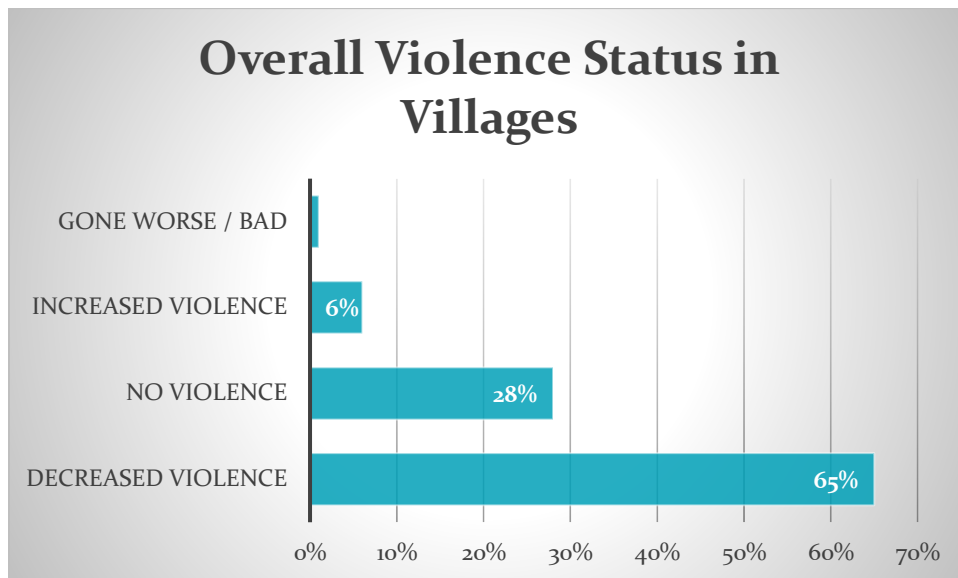


Figure 5: Overall Violence Status by village members

Further analysis was done on the status of violence by villages since the program started and the results are shown in *Figure 6* below.

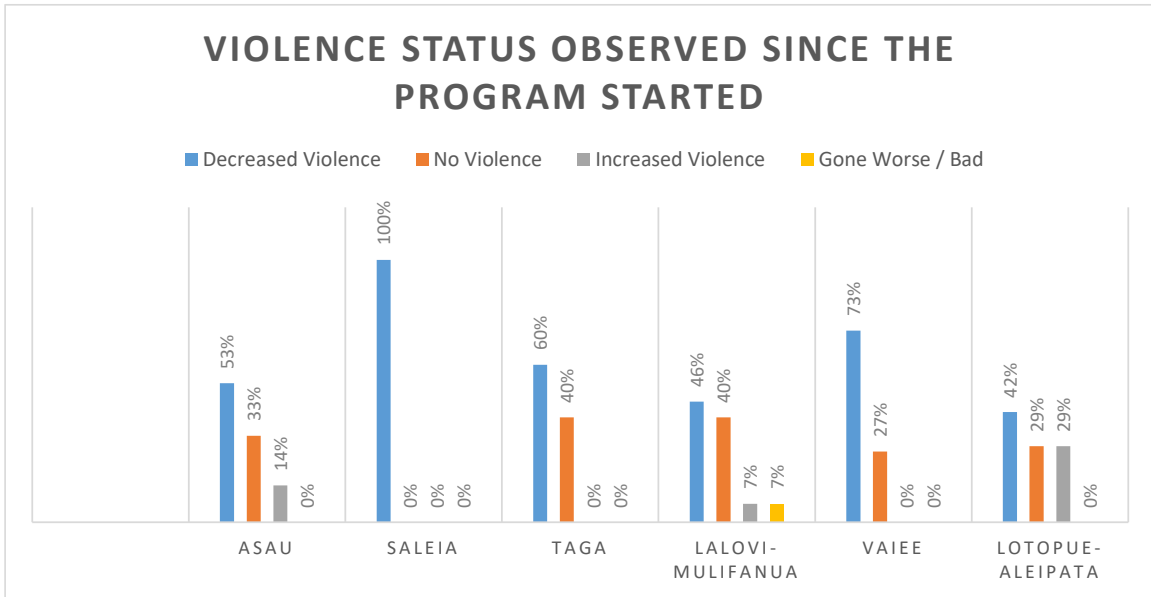


Figure 6: Violence Status by Village

From the results presented in *Figure 6* above, it is safe to say that Saleia, Taga and Vaiee are the three outstanding villages where village members believed that violence has either decreased or no violence at all since the program started. No one in these three villages observed an increase of violence or worse in their villages.



Village members were asked whether they think the program should be continued or not, and unanimously, 100% of the participants responded that this VFSC program should be continued, with a huge range of recommendations provided for further improvement of the program delivery.

A range of recommendations provided by the village members for the way forward was analyzed and grouped into three categories as presented in *Figure 7* below.

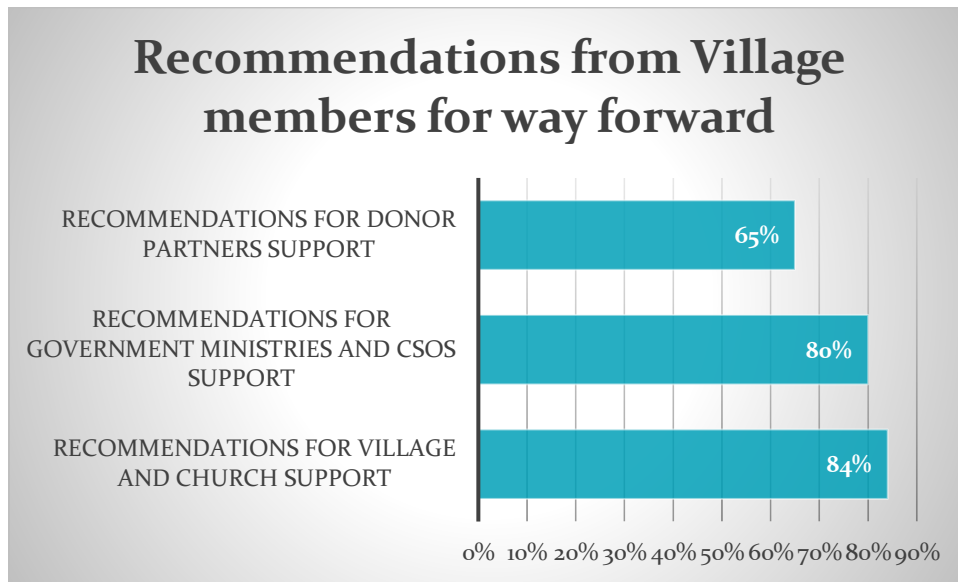


Figure 7: Grouping of recommendations for the way forward from village members

An overwhelming 84% of responses received were for the village and church leaders support for the program to continue. This is a positive indicator emphasizing village and church leaders' responsibilities and commitment to addressing family violence in the future. At least 80% of the recommendations highlighted government ministries and CSOs, followed by 65% of responses categorized under the donor partners' support, all recommended for continuation and to increase financial support for villages to assist in implementing the different remaining activities as noted in their work plans, to help eliminate violence in their village communities. The list of recommendations categorized under the government ministries and CSOs (80%) support, as well as village and church (84%) support, are summarized and recorded under *Appendix 5*.

Furthermore, village members were also asked for recommendations on ways to minimize or to eliminate violence practices in the village



communities and their responses are presented in *Figure 8* below.

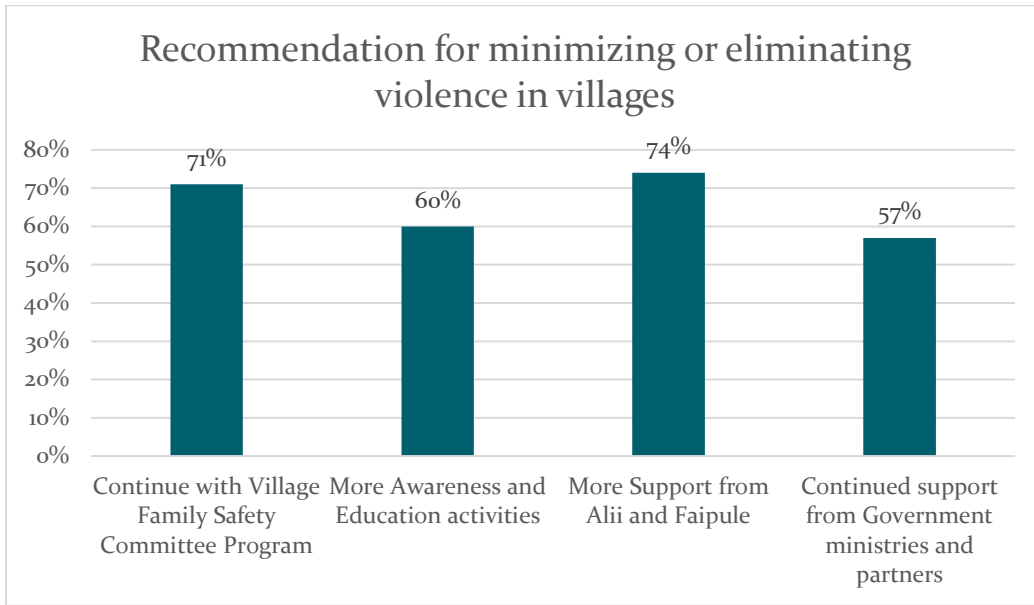


Figure 8: Village members' recommendations to eliminate violence in communities

ACTUAL BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROGRAM RECORDED FROM VILLAGE MEMBERS

Of the 82 participants from the village members, 24% (20) testified that they had experienced (victims) and practised (perpetrators) violence in the families in the last two to three years, but had changed those behaviours as a result of the VFSC program and the awareness programs conducted by the NHRI and partners (Anger management was mentioned as an example by some of the village members through their questionnaires). 45% of the 20 were males and 55% were females. The majority of these 20 participants are in the age group of 36 – 50 years old, which is indicated by the 60% as shown in Figure 9 below. The over 50 years shown by 30% in the graph below were mainly males with one female.



Figure 9: Village members who experienced and practised violence in the villages

Additionally, 35% of the 20 were victims (they were all females), 35% were perpetrators (4 males, 3 females) and 30% provided their comments generally (5 males, 1 female) of the changes observed in the village since the program started.

Some changes and testimonies provided through questionnaires are listed below:

- *O a'u o se tagata maitaita ae ua iai suiga tetele o le olaga talu le polokalame (I was bad-tempered but I have managed to control my anger ever since I attended the program) – 1 respondent*
- *Ia faaauau pea le polokalame aua ua tele lata lesona ua maua mai ai ma ou te le toe fia foi i tua (Program needs to be continued because I have learned a lot from it and I don't want to go back to my old life) – 2 respondents*
- *Ua lagona lava lota fiafia ua ta le toe fasia si ota toalua ae ua faatalatalanoa pe a tulai mai ni faafitauli (I'm happy with the change now of being able to talk things out with my wife rather than resorting to violence and beating her up) – 1 respondent*
- *Ua uma lota mateletele i tamaiti ma fasi ae ua lava lota onosai ma faatalatalanoa (I now have enough patience to address issues with my children rather than beating them up) – 1 respondent*
- *Many families have changed in our village because of this program. Malo lava – 4 respondents*
- *Ua le toe fasia ita e lo'u toalua talu ona auai i polokalame o le anger management (My husband no longer beats me up since he attended the anger management program) – 7 respondents*

- I normally beat up my children when they misbehave but now, I normally sit down and think – 2 respondents



- Ua tele lava ina fealofani aiga i lo matou nuu ona o lenei polokalame manaia tele, ma ua le toe vaaia foi ni sauaga i

totonu o le nuu (Since the program started, I have noticed its positive impact amongst the villagers with how they work together and harmoniously) – 2 respondents

Further analysis by the village was done and it revealed that Lotopue-Aleipata had the highest percentage of those who experienced and practised violence in the village and were able to change as a result of the pilot program (71% of the 7 participated in the survey) followed by Saleia, Taga and Vaiee all stood at 27% at the same effect. Figure 10 below shows this result.

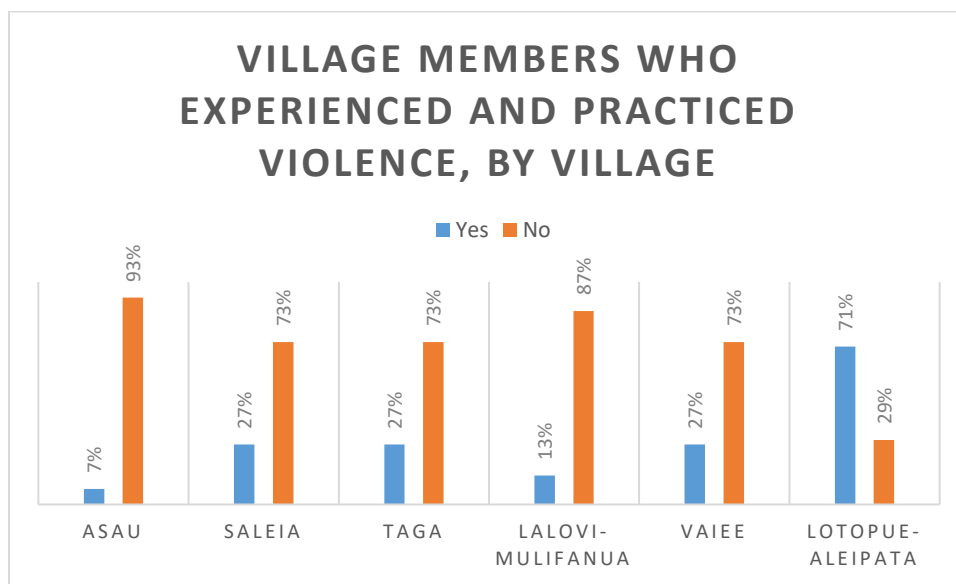


Figure 10: Those who experienced and practised violence in the villages

5.2 Village Family Safety Committee – Questionnaire Responses

Similar to the village members’ respondents, the gender balance of the VFSC members who completed the questionnaires, 56% were male and 44% were female. Both village members’ participants and committee members were dominated by male participants, an area that must be improved targeting an increase of women participation in village development projects as implementers and not necessarily at the beneficiary end.

Again, the participants for VFSC were dominated by matais (chiefs) as displayed in the following *Figure 11*. 88% of VFSC participants are married and 12% are single.

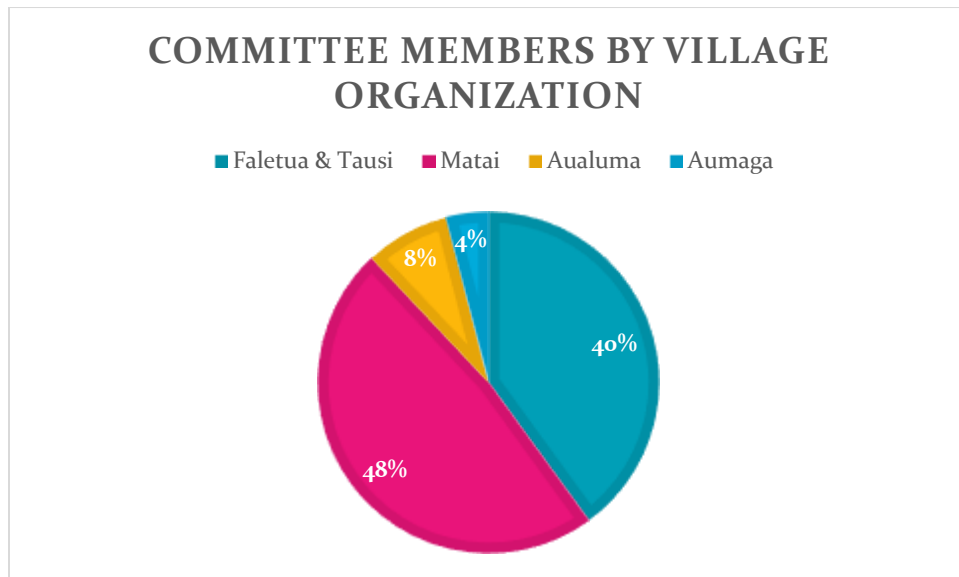


Figure 11: Committee members from different village organizations

Like village members participants, the majority of VFSC participated in the survey were over 50 years old.

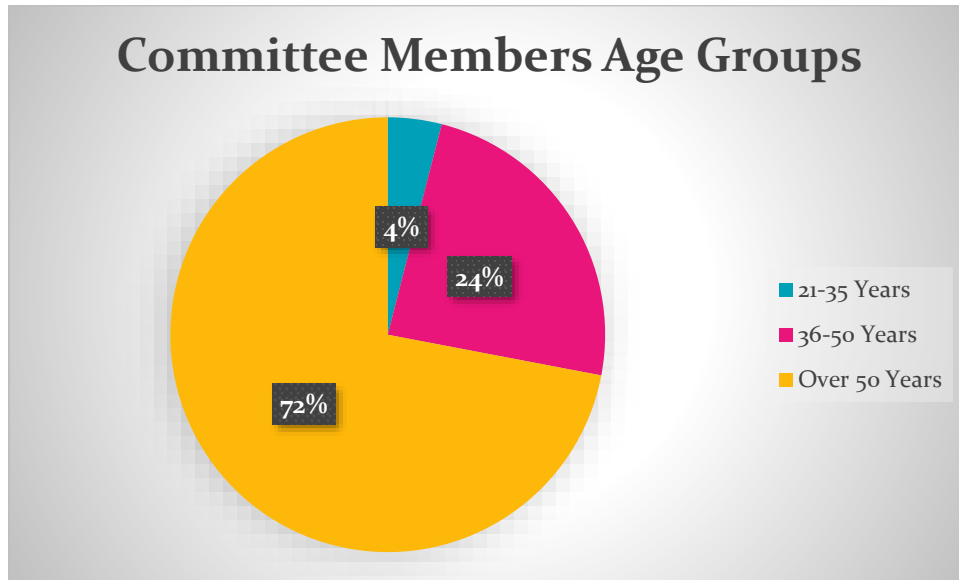


Figure 12: VFSC members' age group

VFSC participants were asked whether the training they received was adequate for them to carry out all the required activities of the pilot program, and 92% of respondents said the training they attended were sufficient to carry out their duties as



committee members. This is a good indication of the relevancy and effectiveness of the training provided under the pilot program.

The VFSC members were also given the chance through the questionnaires to express their observation of the status of violence in their villages since the pilot program started. A similar result with village members is reported here as the majority of VFSC also believed that violence in their villages have either decreased or no violence at all since the pilot program commenced.

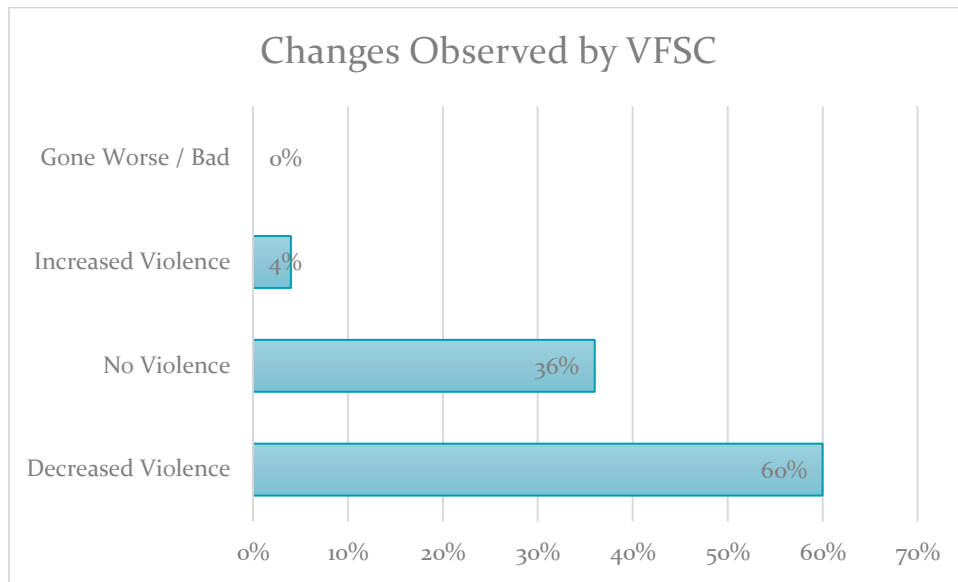


Figure 13: Changes observed by VFSC members since the program started

Some of the positive changes observed by the VFSC members in their respective villages are listed by bullet points below (from their questionnaires):

- *Continue this program because there are many good changes in the village*
- *Faafetai Sulufaiga mo le polokalame ua tele le*



suiga o lo matou nuu ma e tatau lava ona faaauau pea (I would recommend for this program to continue in our village and all credit goes to Sulufaiga for such a positive outcome that I've seen in our village)

- *Ua tau le toe maua le fasi ava i totonu o lo matou nuu (Lately we rarely have any more cases of wives being beaten by their husbands in our village)*
- *Ua tele ina usitai ulugalii laiti i tulafono o sauaga ona o le malu o le pulega a le nuu (The support given by the village council as vanguards have enforced the young couples to comply with the village rules against violence)*

- *Ese le manaia o le polokalame mo alo ma fanau ua le toe sasaina e matua (This is such an important program for the youth, especially with the results of parents no longer beating their children)*
- *Ua fealofani lava ekalesia i totonu o lo matou nuu talu le polokalame ma e tataua ona faaauau. Malo Sulufaiga (The different denominations in our village can work together as a result of this program and I strongly recommend for it to be continued. Well done Sulufaiga)*
- *The village is slowly getting used to the program and activities conducted by the Committee*
- *Ua tau le faamisa foi tupulaga o le nuu ua amata ona malamalama i le polokalame (There's a decrease of youth violence in our village since they start to understand the program)*
- *O lo'u auai i fono ma polokalame matua malie atoatoa ai lo'u loto i metotia na faasoa mai e faatino ai galuega a le komiti (I was satisfied with all the methods that were shared during the training that I participated in; it has also helped our committee address such issues in our village)*
- *Fautuaina matua ia amata mea mai i totonu o aiga e pei foi ona 'ou faia i si o'u aiga, e faigofie ai le galuega (It is recommended that parents should lead by example by applying these positive methods in their families as I have done in my own)*

Fighting amongst the youth is identified as the only type of violence that exists in one of the villages as indicated by the 4%.

Additionally, a further analysis was done to reveal the violence status in different villages and the results are made known in *Figure 14* below.

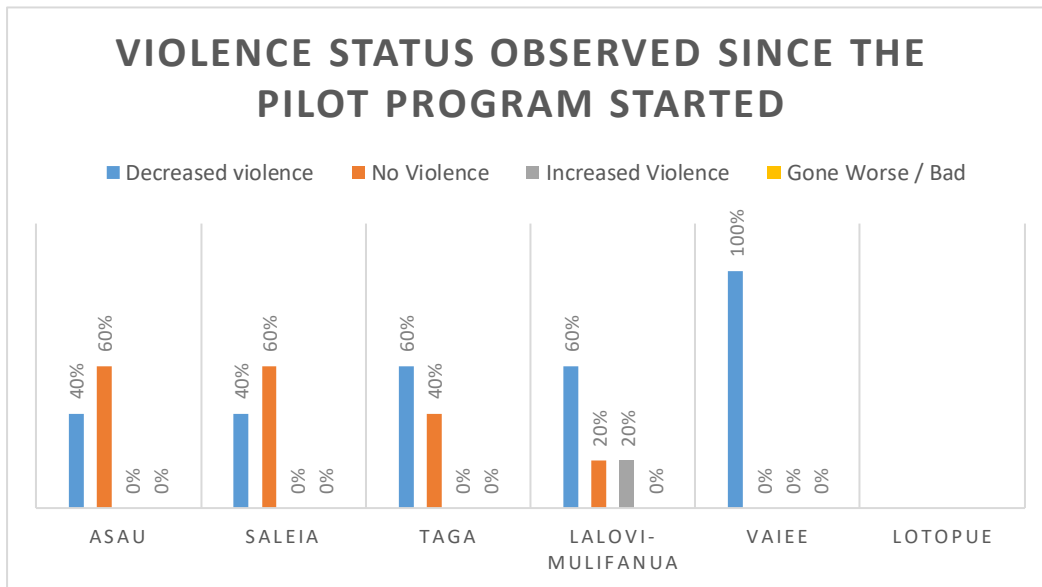


Figure 14: VFSC observation of violence status in their villages

Again, the results are also similar to what was reported under village members' responses. From committee members, there are four outstanding villages with their violence status and they are Saleia, Taga, Vaiee and Asau. A good conclusion can be drawn here that Saleia, Taga and Vaiee can be the model villages that are violence-free. As can be added as a model village but there are village members who responded that violence has increased in their village.

VFSC members were also given a chance to share some enablers of the changes observed in their respective villages.

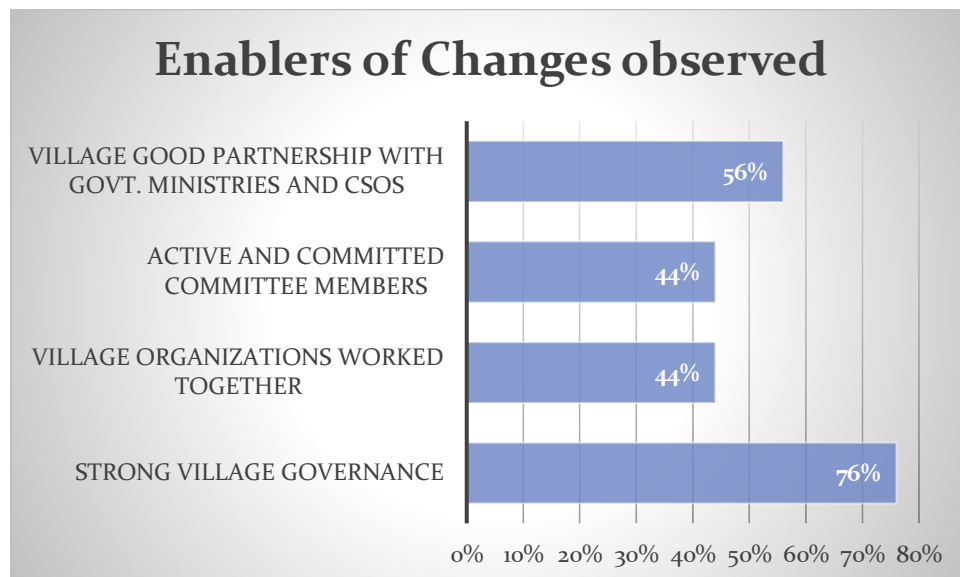


Figure 15: Enablers of changes observed by VFSC members

On the other hand, the committee members were also asked to state some challenges they have encountered as committee members and the results are displayed in Figure 16 below. 60% of respondents noted that it was hard to change people’s mindsets as the most critical followed by lack of commitment from village members and not enough resources to support implementation.

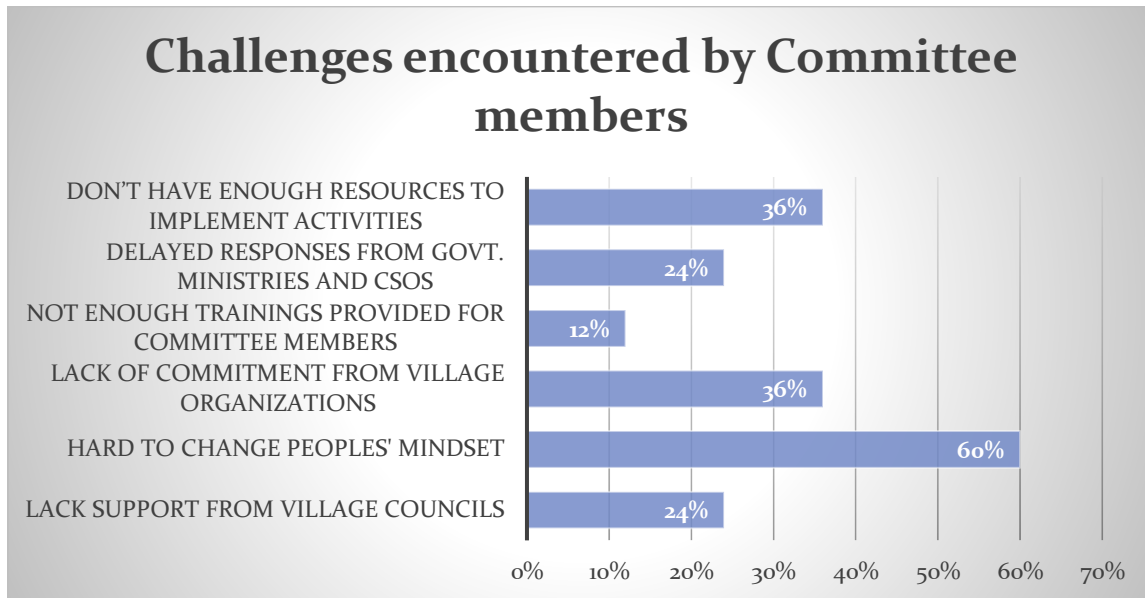


Figure 16: Challenges faced by the committee members

Similarly, with village members' responses, 100% of VFSC representatives supported the continuation of the program and to be extended to other villages of the country to ensure the whole country is violence-free. Their reasons to support the continuation of the program are displayed in *Figure 17*. They also provided numerous recommendations for the way forward and the details are found in *Appendix 5*. The recommendations were also grouped into three categories as done with village member responses. Again, all recommendations grouped under the donor partner support category are to do with providing more financial support for



the village communities to assist with the implementation of the activities in their work plans. The three categories are presented in *Figure 18* below.

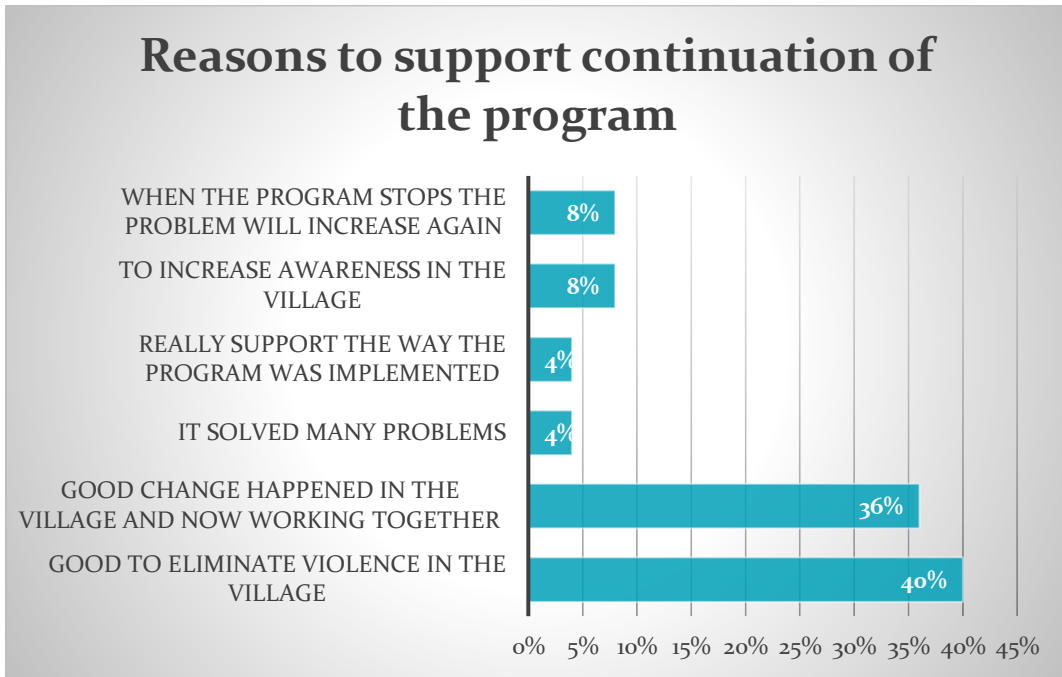


Figure 17: VFSC reasons why the program should be continued

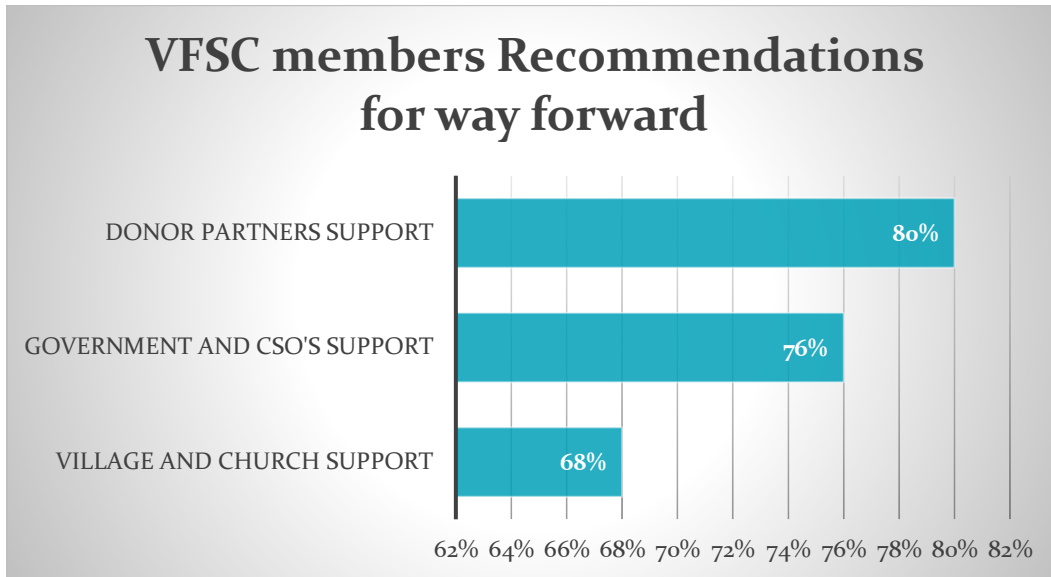


Figure 18: VFSC recommendations grouped into three categories

5.3 Government ministries and partners - Interview Responses

The interviews conducted for 6 different organizations of 14 participants drew out a wide range of views. Of the 14 participants, 71% were female and 29% were male. Similar to the previous two groups, all of them (100%) agreed that the program should be continued and extended to other villages, and it should be done in phases to ensure not only all the villages will be covered, but the quality of the program is maintained.

Almost all of the interviewed participants believed that the design of the pilot program and the way it was implemented was good and relevant to the village structures and especially the approach taken of going directly to the villages. The main vision behind this pilot program was to try and get full support from the alii and faipule of the six villages. Even though there were some village internal issues along the way, overall, the support from all the six villages was good and acknowledged the effort shown by the village councils and VFSC members.

The SI program document identified the work with the village council critical to the prevention of family violence. Therefore, the support to NHRI for the implementation of the program puts the spotlight on women and girls premised on leaving no one behind and reaching the marginalized people first, despite the differences in views on implementation arrangements between the NHRI and MWCSO according to their mandates. However, the SI document identified the work with the village council as critical in the prevention of family violence, hence the support provided for this pilot program.

The UN participants during the interviews believed that there is a great possibility for continuation of the SI to a phase two but it depends on the donor partners and their future plans. If the project continues, then there is a need for relevant ministries and CSOs to be on board for the sustainability of the program. The UN participants also assured that Samoa is doing well with the Spotlight Initiative activities if compared to other implementing countries.

Further views collected from government ministries and partners interviews are summarized below:

Accomplishments observed by the government ministries and partners during the timeframe of the pilot program

- i. All the workshops and training planned for villages was completed and the final report for capacity buildings was also completed and endorsed (VFSC

- Pilot Project Phase II Report). Even though the delivery of these activities was delayed due to the measles outbreak and the covid-19 restrictions, the activities were delivered with the focus and coverage accomplished.
- ii. The village 3-year work plans and bylaws were completed and launched during the lifetime of the project
 - iii. The support from the UNDP Team was fascinating in rolling out the program. The UN provided three major areas of support and they are; supporting the implementation to deliver the recommendation 20 of the national inquiry, supporting the implementation of this initiative as a community prevention strategy, and hiring a consultant to review the model of this pilot program.
 - iv. Good support from partners in rolling out the training and workshops for the six villages
 - v. Good partnerships between the NHRI team and the villages. The team conducted continuous follow-ups and support was provided from time to time where needed. This was confirmed by other partners when interviewed and through observation when the fieldwork for data collection was conducted
 - vi. There was a change of mindset with village councils and committees observed by the NHRI team during the time they worked together
 - vii. A training manual for the village communities was developed and utilized
 - viii. Good relationship between the NHRI and UNDP in terms of reporting as well as the implementation of this program.
 - ix. The establishment of the Village Safety Committees is a very important initiative by the Office of the Ombudsman. It complements the bigger plan which is the District Development Plans that were developed at District Level. It is only a pity that the Ministry was not able to work together with the Ombudsman during the planning and implementation of the VSCs because of competing priorities. However, the establishment of VSCs can work towards achieving some of the activities requested in the DDPs.

Challenges noted by the government ministries and partners

- i. There was that mentality from the village communities that they wanted to pay them while accepting the project. They believed that since violence is a serious issue and it's hard to overcome, therefore they need to have some financial support to move forward. However, the Office of the Ombudsman made a clear statement in the beginning to the six villages that the committee members will not receive allowance or payment for doing this initiative because it is for the benefit of their village members in the long run. However, what the office can do is secure resources to help committees to conduct activities. Traditional costs were covered at

- the beginning of the negotiation phase. Overall, accountability at the village level and mentality change were key elements in this situation.
- ii. NHRI is not a service provider but they took the risk of leading this initiative to push through the good purpose and to put in action one of the recommendations from their National Inquiry in 2018. The NHRI cannot deliver this initiative forever. MWCSO were not very supportive through negotiations with senior executive members in the early stages of the program. However, the ministry eventually provided support later on in coordinating the communication with selected villages.
 - iii. The timing of the village implementation of their work plans was one major issue. The project started while the whole country was focusing on preparations for the general election and after the election, the country was unstable for quite some time, and it affected the implementation of some of the program activities
 - iv. The measles outbreak and the covid-19 restrictions had a huge impact on the delivery of the pilot program activities
 - v. The villages had heaps of other commitments and priorities where they had to cancel or change the focus of some activities to meet the need and achieve the objectives of the planned activities.
 - vi. Lack of financial assistance for CSOs to deliver their key activities at the village level.

Recommendations for the way forward from government ministries and partners

- i. The UN, government ministries and CSOs partnerships should be strengthened and roles and responsibilities should be clearly stated and understandable by all parties
- ii. There is a need to have a dedicated staff or unit housed under a relevant government ministry (MWCSO was recommended) focusing on ending violence against women and girls' deliverables and dealing directly with the villages.
- iii. The SI Program activities should be mainstreamed into the Community Sector Plan as well as relevant sectors and CSOs, together with their corporate plans to ensure they are not left behind.
- iv. Government ministries should review the components of the program and see what they can implement, and then delegate the rest to other CSOs and NGOs.
- v. There is a need to have a consistent and continuous engagement between the government ministries, CSOs and villages in pushing this work

forward. The key to any community-based project is continuous support from the communities as well as continuous support provided for the villages from the government ministries and CSOs. This will also help in encouraging village communities to apply directly to the funds available from donors. Spotlight Initiative Project is a Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) project.

- vi. The government should hire a long term consultant to conduct ongoing national awareness programs to eliminate violence against women and girls in the village communities.
- vii. The compositions of VFSC should be reviewed and made sure they are not politically selected. There is a need to have the right people who can drive the initiatives and developments
- viii. Ongoing capacity building workshops and training with the village members. Anger management and gender-based violence should be the key areas of training delivered to the village communities, especially the young ones. Ending violence activities should be incorporated in the school curriculum to educate students on the importance of this social value.
- ix. Need to adopt this model of village-based approach for the way forward. The district development plans can be used as guiding overarching plans but the implementation of any developments should go directly to the villages to ensure the expected recipients and beneficiaries are reached. All interview participants believed that this approach is an effective one because the message will be received directly by the village members, rather than going through the district. The village councils and the high chiefs will be the only people participating in these initiatives if we are going with the district-based approach.
- x. There should be a Road Show for all the leading and supporting government ministries and CSOs in the communities when rolling out such programs as a form of awareness for available services in relevant organizations and how they can be delivered to the village communities.
- xi. There should be a strong Referral System available at village levels.
- xii. The government ministry who will be taking this initiative forward should look at ways to support the village members using the established village family safety committees
- xiii. The CSOs Reference Group should be strengthened and utilized by the government for bigger initiatives in the village communities
- xiv. A five-year plan should be developed to have all CSOs work together in trying to eliminate violence against women and girls in the communities.

- xv. Legal personnel should be encouraged to be included in the discussions and negotiations with village members.
- xvi. With the current Government vision of prioritizing Ending violence against women and girls, this will be a good initiative that needs to be strengthened, supported and sustained.
- xvii. There is a need to align the Village Safety Committees with the District Development Plans and use the newly introduced District Councils as the governing body so that it can be sustained and strengthened.

5.4 Focus Group Discussion Responses

Representatives from different organizations in the six villages (both village members and VFSC members) all attended focus group discussions. The rationale behind holding these sessions for the villages after completing their questionnaires is not only to gather extra information but also to re-confirm and validate some of their responses provided. All the guiding questions combined into two questions:

1. What are your general views as a village of the design and the approach taken by this pilot program? What major changes have occurred, challenges faced by the village in trying to implement the program, and what ways to improve in taking it forward?
2. What do you think of the village vs district approach in terms of delivering the activities of the program?

The floor was then opened for sharing by all members and they were fired up in voicing their views and concerns at the same time. Overall, all six villages (100%) have reached consensus support for the extension of the program to other villages and continue it with the same approach.

According to the villages, they believed that the Office of the Ombudsman had done a marvellous job in pushing through this initiative. They admitted that their participation at some activities delivered by the office and support provided at times were not favourable, but it didn't stop the NHRI team from pushing through the



implementation of the pilot activities. The notes from the focus group discussions held are summarized in *Tables 4 – 9* below for each village.

Overall from the six tables below, five villages stated that their village councils will be the leading body to enforce the use of bylaws as a way forward. In addition, the majority of the actions listed by villages during the focus group discussions for the way forward are village-based support, such as all village organizations working together in pursuing the purpose of the program, Church Ministers being part of the VFS committees and playing their roles for the spiritual side of the village members, and mothers to play their part in looking after their daughters. These are really good sustainable actions to continue the program after the lifetime of the project, which reflects the leadership qualities of village councils. It also shows a feeling of ownership by the villages to take action for the betterment of their village families.

Furthermore, almost all six villages indicated that one of their relevant actions for the way forward is for the VFSC to continue with their role of leading the implementation of the village work plans. Some villages responded that their VFSC's could be used as the focal points for communication between the villages and the government ministries as well as relevant partners for violence prevention. Again

this is also another indication of a sustainable action by villages to continue with the program without heavily relying on donor partners and government ministries.

Saleia Focus group discussion
Changes observed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The program is suitable for our village because there is a huge improvement in the lives of village members - Great job done by the Office of the Ombudsman - Most of the violence against women practices in the village are decreased and lives of young couples are getting better - Great support from our village councils - Most of the parents do not beat up their children anymore
Challenges:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changing of committee members from time to time was one of the major issues in the continuity of the village activities - The committee ongoing fundraisings had caused some problems and misunderstanding between couples at times - The follow-up and monitoring from committee members were not regular
Actions for moving forward:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The program should continue and the office to have regular visits to the village maybe twice or three times a year - There is a need for more funding opportunities for the village to support the implementation of the work plan and bylaws - Strengthen partnerships with the relevant government ministries and CSOs
Village vs District approach:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The whole village supports the village-based approach rather than the districts - Villages in the district have different cultural protocols and hard to control different mentalities - The voices of small villages will not be heard if the district approach is taken - More participants are present when approached directly to the villages

Table 4: Saleia Focus Group Discussion summary notes

Asau Focus Group Discussion
Changes observed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is a good initiative and should be continued because we have noticed a good change happening to some of the families in the village - We have a strong village council which is a major contributing factor to the smooth implementation of the program

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All village council decision-makers are in the committee, so the violence issue is discussed and encouraged during the village weekly meetings - The village council are now punishing those who performed violence against women and children
Challenges:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low economic status of some families had caused violence in their families - There are no major challenges facing our village
Actions for moving forward:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This program should be delivered in urban villages in Apia. Those villages have a high crimes rate - The program should be continued and extended to other villages - Village Council to continue implementing the work plan and enforce our bylaws - Old people to encourage the youth couples and the young ones - Continue awareness programs through social media - Increase financial support for villages - There should be a church minister involved in the delivery of program activities - Village organizations to work together in eliminating violence against women and girls
Village vs District approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The whole village supports the village-based approach in the implementation of such a program - The district plans can have overarching activities but a village-based approach is more effective

Table 5: Asau Focus Group Discussion summary notes

Taga Focus Group Discussion
Changes observed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is a very good program and it should be continued and extended to other villages - At the beginning it was not easy and there were many different thoughts about the program because violence towards children was very high in the village. But as of now, there is a huge change because the village council is standing firm in enforcing the laws and punishing those who are not obeying the village rules - The committee is putting together a program for the whole village and it will be held next week before Christmas day. The whole village is divided into five teams and the five church ministers in the village will be the leaders of each team
Challenges:

- Lack of resources for the committee to do their duties (we need vehicles, raincoats and others to do our work as a committee)
- Alcohol is a major issue in trying to pursue the purpose of the program
- The financial situation in our village is not enough to continue the implementation of some activities in our work plan

Actions for moving forward:

- There is a need for more resources to implement the committee’s activities, such as vehicles, raincoats and so forth
- Need more financial support from donor partners and the government
- There should be workshops conducted by the office or government ministries on how to prepare proposals for funding to seek more financial assistance from other donors
- There should be a program to combine three villages in Savaii to share their experiences of the best practices during the lifetime of the program and also to share challenges and solutions for moving forward
- Taga VFSC is available to assist in rolling out the program to other villages
- The VFSC will continue implementing its work plan and will be the focal point of any violence prevention activities
- The program should reach the whole village, especially women and children and should also cover the whole country to ensure violence against women and children is eliminated.
- Village council will enforce the implementation of the village bylaws and be the leading arm of ending violence in the village
- This is a long-standing issue and everyone in the country should work together with the government and all relevant partners to provide the best solution
- Different village organizations to work together to continue the program
- Need to continue with awareness programs and training for committee members and the whole village

Village vs District approach

- The whole village supports the village-based approach in the implementation of such a program, rather than going through the district.
- Many programs used the district-based approach and when the donor funding was finished, then it stopped there. But if we continue with this village-based approach, it will go a long way.

Table 6: Taga Focus Group Discussion Summary notes

Lalovi-Mulifanua Focus Group Discussion

Changes observed:

- The program is very effective and useful to our village and it should be continued because we have noticed a decrease in violence cases in our village

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Problems in the village have decreased since the program started - There is unity in the village now compared to the last three to four years ago. Village organizations are also working together with the committee in pushing through the ending violence in the families activities - The Sui o le Nuu is the key player in the committee and the village have seen good changes in the village
<p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two of the participants shared that there is no big change in the village and they believed that violence in the village is increased - Lack of financial support to implement committee activities at the village level
<p>Actions for moving forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There should be a program targeting alcohol consumption because 70% of violence cases happening are caused by drinking beer - The program should target the age group of 24 years of age and below because they are the ones who usually caused violence in the families - Alcohol consumption should be banned in the village and the church ministers should perform their roles in pushing the spiritual side of youths - There should be more awareness programs on TV and other social media - VFSC to continue their work in leading the activities in the work plan and also be the focal point for communication with the office and UNDP - The village council should be firmed in their decision making and they are the key in pushing through this initiative as well as enforcing the bylaws - The office should continue visiting and following up on the progress of the committee activities - Village council will enforce and utilize our launched bylaws for punishments in going forward - Mothers and Women’s committee should play a major role in looking after their female children and how they dressed in front of fathers and boys - Financial support from donor partners should be increased - There should be programs for proposal writing to build the capacity of the committee in seeking financial assistance from other donor assistance
<p>Village vs District approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The whole village believed that the village-based approach is much better and more effective than the district-based approach. - Pride is the key issue with going through the district and big villages don’t want to listen to small villages. And there are different cultural protocols in different villages in the districts so it is hard to monitor and implement any specific activity

Table 7: Lalovi-Mulifanua Focus Group Discussion Summary notes

Vaiee Focus Group Discussion

Changes observed:

- The program is very important for parents and children, especially women and girls and it should be continued
- The village had punished some fathers for beating up their wives and children. The punishment is \$2000 but in the bylaws, it states \$5000, but it also made clear in the bylaws that Teo and Tuia can advise
- The village had conducted the ending violence programs a long time ago, but it strengthened more when this initiative led by the Office of the Ombudsman took place. So we thank the office for pushing this through
- The violence prevention matters are discussed during monthly village meetings and there is a huge change observed since we started enforcing it through the alii and faipule of the village
- The village aulape are already in place for the upcoming Christmas holidays
- There is now teamwork and unity in the village and all village organizations are now working together for a better Vaiee
- There were no violence cases in the village for the whole of this year 2021 which is a good step up
- One of the fathers admitted that his anger always got into him and beating up his children but not anymore because he had learned a lot from the training that he attended on anger management during this program

Challenges:

- The only existing challenge that still exists in the village but not much are strong verbal abuse but they are minimal issues that are getting better from time to time
- Lack of financial support to implement some of the big activities in our work plan
- "Faitala" and verbal abuses on social media is one major barrier in implementing activities and initiatives. Now we have a rule in the bylaw to protect this issue from happening

Actions for moving forward:

- The village council will continue to enforce using the newly launched bylaws and ensure the committee will continue implementing their activities in the work plan
- Allowances for participants should be increased and financial assistance from donor partners should also be increased
- All village organizations should continue working together to move this initiative forward
- Strengthened partnerships between the village leaders and government ministries and donor partners
- There should be special programs for young couples

- VFSC should continue implementing the activities in the work plan and be the focal point for communication with the office

Village vs District approach

- The whole village supports the village-based approach rather than the district-based approach
- The district is good for the development of the plan but in terms of implementing the activities in the district development plan, it is good to go straight to the villages because it takes time when it goes to the district
- Different villages are in different situations and different cultural protocols, which really delays the progress of activities

Table 8: Vaiee Focus Group Discussion Summary notes

Lotopue-Aleipata Focus Group Discussion

Changes observed:

- This is a very good program, especially the approach that is used of going directly to the villages. Most of the old people are not practising any violence in the families at all, but just the young couples and youths are still doing it
- Our VFSC assistance was extended to violence cases in our two neighbouring villages. This was a good extension of our committee service and it worked good
- Some participants shared that violence in the village is increasing and especially the young couples and youths as well
- But there were also positive changes observed in the village so far. Most of the parents who used to discipline their kids with a stick and salu lima are no longer doing it.
- Some also shared that the anger management workshop they attended had helped a lot and enabled them to stop beating up kids and wives
- Voices of women and kids are also heard about the violence happening at the family level
- The program is very important and it should be continued and extended to other villages

Challenges:

- Differences between matais and village families is the major issue happening at the moment in our village (*O loo va le fogavaa I le nuu I le taimi nei*). It impacts the implementation of the program badly
- We missed out on the chance to review our village bylaws using this program
- Most of the village councils are young, roughly around 40 years to 50 years.

Actions for moving forward:

- There is a need for special programs for youths and young couples to educate them of the benefits and advantages of no violence environments

- The office should continue visiting the village to monitor the progress and the status of the work plan implementation
- Parents should work hard and push their kids to go to school to get a better education in making better decisions in their lives
- Need more financial assistance from the government and donor partners
- The village council should be the leading agency in the village for enforcing the village rules and punishing those who are practising violence in their families
- VFSC should continue implementing the activities planned in the work plan
- VFSC should be the focal point for any violence prevention activity in the village, as well as communication with relevant government ministries and partners

Village vs District approach

- The village participants support the village-based approach rather than the district-based approach.
- Going straight to the villages will speed up the progress of activities
- Different villages have different setups and different levels of commitments

Table 9: Lotopue-Aleipata Focus Group Discussion Summary notes



6 Discussions

6.1 Relevance

This section seeks to address the key evaluation question, *To what extent is the design of the VFSC pilot program relevant to the stated priorities of the village communities and intended participants?*

The evaluation found the design and the scope of the VFSC pilot program encompass the six selected villages, is well aligned with the related District Development Plans (DDP), addresses one of the key priority areas of target groups and justifies the involvement of all six villages and selected partners.

The VFSC pilot program broad strategic goal of empowering village members and village councils to take a leading and proactive role in the prevention of family violence with their respective villages, the related four specific outcomes, and the four outputs with associated activities were highly relevant to the stated priorities of the village communities and members.

One of the key components in each of the six DDP was to end violence in village communities. The Community Sector Development Plan 2016-2021 - Intermediate Outcome 2.1, focused on strengthening individual, family and village safety and wellbeing from all forms of abuse. At the national level, the Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS) 2016-2020 key outcome 8.1, strategic outcome 3, targeted the increase of family and community safety, with a measure of reducing family and sexual violence levels. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Targets 5.2, 5.3, 16.1 and 16.2 all target eliminating violence against women and children. Therefore, the focus of this VFSC pilot program and the main objective of establishing VFSC's in 6 villages and building their capacity to actively conduct family violence prevention initiatives, and support village councils dealing with family violence matters when arises is highly relevant to the need of the communities and linked with strategic plans right from the district level up to the international level.

All four different groups of participants involved in the evaluation process responded that the pilot program together with its associated activities was adequate and relevant to the village communities. Eighty-three per cent (rated 4 & 5) of village members rated the activities were adequate and relevant to their village communities and 92% (rated 4 & 5) rated the VFSC pilot program as very effective and useful for their village communities.

In addition, 100% of participants responded that the program should be continued because of many reasons stated in the previous section. This shows that the activities delivered and the overall program was relevant to the communities and can safely say that the activities were culturally relevant.

6.2 Effectiveness

This section seeks to address the key evaluation question, *To what extent has the VFSC pilot program been effective in producing the intended impacts for the village communities?*

The evaluation study found that the effectiveness of the delivery of activities and outputs in the village communities was high. Almost all planned activities and outputs were completed and have contributed enormously to the achievement of the four specific outcomes of the pilot program.

Of the 10 key outputs/activities planned under the pilot program design document (concept note), 6 (60%) of them were fully completed by the official completion date (December 2021) of the VFSC pilot program, 2 (20%) were partially completed and 2 (20%) were not able to be implemented. The non-achieved activities were the 6 months review of the pilot program and the establishment of the Pilot Program Taskforce. These two key outputs were impossible to implement due to capacity and manpower, budget, time constraints and competing priorities of partners. The establishment of the Taskforce to drive the implementation of the program is a good start. Perhaps a revival of the Ending Violence Taskforce under the MWCSD and maybe consider renaming it to an Advisory Committee or a Steering Committee and upgrade the memberships to the ACEOs or even CEOs.

In addition, another main reason for not pushing through the 6 months review and other recommendations from the VFSC Phase II report was due to the limited funding left from the donor partners to pursue them. Maybe it was under budget during the designing and the planning period, which is an area for consideration in moving forward. The end review, which is one of the partially completed activities is in its finalization stage and will be completed by the end of January 2022.

All six VFSCs were established within the planned time frame. However, there were issues and challenges along the way that caused delays to the implementation of the initial phases of the project as well as activities in each village work plan. These challenges included the measles outbreak, the covid-19 restrictions, the general

election, and the unstable government that followed. These major reasons had a huge impact on the implementation of the program activities.

On the other hand, the completion and launching of all six villages' 3-year work plan on ending violence in village communities and the bylaws for five villages were major evidence of the effectiveness of the implementation of the pilot program. These are key documents a village should have in moving forward with trying to minimize or eliminate violence in the communities, together with the major support from the village councils and the VFSC commitments.

The governance structure of the VFSC pilot program was effective. There were problems in the early stages of the program but significant progress has been made along the way and towards the official ending of the pilot program.

However, in moving forward, there is a need to decide which government ministry to continue leading this initiative because NHRI is not a service provider and community affiliation is not under their jurisdiction.

In terms of monitoring and evaluation of the pilot program, the team also monitored the delivery of activities to be completed and according to the timeframe. On the other hand, there were outputs and some activities which were overlooked because of many other commitments and this happens all the time. In addition, there were also recommendations from the VFSC Phase II Report specifically for the pilot program which were missed out because of many other priorities.

However, it would have been very helpful in keeping track of the progress of activities implementation if a monitoring and evaluation framework for the whole pilot program was developed right at the planning and the designing period of the program, which is an area for improvement in moving forward.

6.3 Efficiency

This section seeks to address the key evaluation question, *To what extent is the implementation of the VFSC pilot program being managed efficiently?*

The management of the implementation of the VFSC pilot program was fully controlled by the committed NHRI team alongside other office mandated responsibilities. There was only one person dedicated to this project. Therefore the human resources allocated specifically for the project was not efficient. In terms of meeting the time planned for the outputs and activities, as well as the budget allocated for some of the key outputs/activities from the Spotlight Initiative Project and other donor partners were also less efficient. It is an area of consideration for

moving forward, to ensure a realistic allocation of budget for the deliverables of the program are properly done, and a sufficient number of staff members to employ to meet the objectives and more importantly achieve the planned goals and outcomes.

Furthermore, the high percentage of respondents to the questionnaires requesting an increase of financial support for the village communities is also an area of concern in assessing the efficiency of the pilot program. 65% of village members and 80% of VFSC members recommended continued support from donor partners to assist in implementing remaining activities in their work plans as a way forward for this pilot program. These activities include ongoing capacity buildings for VFSC members such as impacts of violence (power and control/cycle of violence). For village members, some of the activities include awareness raising (rights of persons with disabilities and understanding better different disabilities, causes and triggers of violence, different family violence-related laws (and processes) and penalties, financial budgeting, and capacity building on good governance. This means all these participants requested more financial support from donor partners. Similarly, the responses from all six villages during the focus group discussions also revealed the same recommendation.

There was a further delay in the rest of the activities due to insufficient budget resources.

6.4 Impacts

This section seeks to address the key evaluation question, *What is the likely impact/benefit of the VFSC pilot program?*

The impact of any development project can only be determined usually after five to 10 years of implementing a project. The actual implementation of this pilot program only started in the last 12 months, therefore it is hard to determine any significant change at this stage. However, a short or medium-term process behavioural change can be determined at this stage.

Since the direct intended beneficiaries of this pilot program are the village communities, therefore the views from them are the most valid responses in assessing the short or medium-term impacts of this pilot program. Both village members and VFSC participants provided evidence of good changes observed in the six communities. From village members, 65% responded that the violence in their village communities has decreased and 28% said there is no more violence in their communities. An analysis by the village revealed that Saleia, Taga and Vaiee were the three outstanding villages where no one responded that violence has increased

or gone worse in their villages. All respondents from these three villages revealed that either violence has decreased in their villages or violence is eliminated. The other three villages only had a few saying that violence in their villages is increased.

Furthermore, from the VFSC members, 60% responded that violence in their villages has decreased and 36% said there is no more violence in their villages. After the analysis by village, four villages displayed outstanding results and they are Saleia, Taga, Vaiee and Asau reporting that violence in their village is either decreased or no more violence at all. Lalovi-Mulifanua village only had a few stating violence has increased in their village and no committee members were completing the VFSC questionnaires from Lotopue.

Combining the responses from the two groups of participants, a conclusion can be drawn that the villages of **Saleia, Taga and Vaiee** can be the model villages for ending violence in the village communities. The other three villages (Asau, Lalovi-Mulifanua and Lotopue-Aleipata) need more time before becoming the model villages because there were very few participants from these villages who responded that violence in their villages had increased.

The views collected from six villages through focus group discussions also revealed good changes happened in their villages when joining the programs as well as other development projects some villages had participated in. The summary of views from villages is recorded in *Tables 4 – 9*.

Additionally, the interviews with partners and government ministries also acknowledged some good behavioural changes they have observed during the implementation of the pilot program

6.5 Sustainability

This section seeks to address the key evaluation question, *Are the impacts/benefits of the VFSC pilot program likely to be sustained?*

The establishment of VFSCs in the six villages is one avenue that can be used as a mechanism for sustaining the implementation of the program after the lifetime of the project, as well as a focal point that can drive continuous changes in the village communities. According to the focus group discussions with the villages as recorded in *Tables 4 – 9*, almost all the six villages indicated that one of their actions for moving forward is to continue the work of the VFSC in ensuring the activities in the work plan are implemented. These VFSCs can be the starting point for the way forward and also can be the contact point for referral systems in these villages. The recommendations for way forward by the village members and VFSC members in

Appendix 5 also touched on the same matter. These actions show that the villages are taking full responsibility for the continuation of the program after the lifetime of the project.

Moreover, the development and the launching of the six villages 3-year work plans targeting the elimination of violence in the communities are tools now available for the villages to keep on implementing the good work in the communities. These have been factored in the list of actions by the six villages recorded in Tables 4 – 9 and the recommendations by village members and VFSC members in Appendix 5. According to the NHRI team, the extension of the timeframe of the plans from 12 months to 36 months were requests received from all six villages. The village councils and the VFSCs wanted to extend the timeframe of their plans to the next 24 months for them to continue implementing the program when the lifetime of the pilot program is finished. Again, sustainable actions are also taken here.

Lastly, the development and launching of bylaws for five villages is also a good strategy for the continuation of the program. Enforcing the bylaws at the village levels can go a long way in trying to eliminate violence in the villages. Five out of six villages during the focus group discussions pointed out that their village councils will be the leading arm in enforcing the bylaws and relevant activities in the work plans. The same argument is also provided by the village members and VFSC in Appendix 5. All the five bylaws have punishments for violence cases when they arise, therefore there is a great possibility of sustaining the good changes already observed during this pilot program. *(Please refer to Appendix 6 for the snapshot of the three model villages bylaws on violence prevention)*

The Prime Minister of Samoa, Honourable Fiame Naomi Mataafa commended the effort and commitment by the five village councils during the launching of their bylaws on the 13th December 2021.

I would like to congratulate the Fono mamalu a Alii ma Faipule of these villages for being champions for family violence prevention within their villages by ensuring the inclusion of bylaws on violence against women and girls highlights commitment to zero tolerance towards family violence. Such commitment recognizes the pivotal role of village leaders in family violence, prevention and the protection of women and girls at the village level”, (Prime Minister of Samoa)

6.6 Highlights of positive changes observed in the three model villages

SALEIA VILLAGE:

Village short profile: Saleia is a small sub-village of the larger traditional village district of Matautu situated on the north central coast of Savaii Island. It forms part of the larger constituency district of Gaga’emauga. Its current population after the 2016 national census is 221 with 120 males and 101 females. The economy of the village is mainly dependent on farming and youths employed at the beach fales and closed by resorts. The Voice of Christ is the only denomination located in the village but village members are allowed to attend Congregational Christian Church and Methodist Church located in nearby villages.

Empowerment through VFSC: The composition of the VFSC for Saleia was gender balance which included a church minister’s wife and the faafafine. Evidence from the village members and VFSC members’ responses as well as the focus group discussion stated that the VFSC program had empowered Saleia village in different ways. The training received by the committee members, workshops attended by village members and the resources they received through the lifetime of the project increased their knowledge and skill set, which empowered and encouraged everyone to change for the better.

Transformational Impact: There were transformational changes observed in the village by VFSC members and village council members who participated in the evaluation survey. From the 15 village members who completed the questionnaires, almost 50% of them responded that the VFSC program should be continued because there were many families in their village that had changed because of the program. Some of the village members recorded that *ua tele aiga ua fealofani ona o le polokalame; this program helped a lot in decreasing violence in the village; and tele o matou ulugalii laiti ua iai suiga lelei talu ona amata le polokalame.*

In addition, there were four members from Saleia who said “yes” they had experienced violence in the families in the last two to three years. All of them testified as follows through their questionnaires:

- *I normally beat up my children when they misbehave but now, ua tele lava ina nofo i lalo ma mafaufau*
- *Most of us (young couples) have changed since the program started*

- *Ua le toe fasia foi a'u e si o'u toalua talu ona auai i polokalame o le anger management (My husband no longer beats me up since he attended the anger management program)*
- *Ua tele lava ina fealofani aiga o lo matou nuu ona o lenei polokalame manaia tele, ma ua le toe vaaia foi ni sauaga i totonu o le nuu (Since the program started, I have noticed its positive impact amongst the villagers with how they work together and harmoniously)*

The participated village council members had confirmed these improvements observed in the village, during the focus group discussion.

More importantly, around 90% of the village members, inclusive of village council members had expressed through their questionnaires that their Village Council is the key body in pushing through all these initiatives. Some participants elaborated more that the alii and faipule of their village should lead and set good examples for the whole village to follow, as well as enforcing the approved village bylaws.

In addition, from the VFSC members' responses, all five of them from Saleia provided good changes that they had observed in their village since the program started. The following are some of their comments provided through their questionnaires:

- *Continue this program because there are many good changes happened in the village*
- *Ua le toe maua le fasi ava i totonu o le nuu ma e tatau ai lava ona faaaauu le polokalame (Lately we rarely have any more cases of wives being beaten by their husbands in our village, therefore the program should be continued)*
- *E tatau ona toe aumai nisi polokalame ina ia malamalama uma ai tagata i le taua o le nofo filemu ma le saogalemu o le nuu (There should be more training on the program in the future enabling the villagers to understand its importance)*
- *Ese le manaia o le polomalame mo alo ma fanau ua le toe sasaina e matua (This program is appreciated because it has allowed parents to refrain from beating their children)*
- *Ua tatau ona lelei le faatinoina e le Komiti o le polokalame ina ia faaaauu pea le leai o ni sauaga e toe tulai mai i totonu o le nuu (The committee should now be well versed with the implementation of the program in the village for its success to continue)*
- *Ua tele le suiga o lo matou nuu ma e tatau lava ona faaaauu pea le polokalame (I recommend continuing the program due to positive impact in the village)*

TAGA VILLAGE:

Village short Profile: Taga is a village situated on the south coast of the Savaii island in the electoral district of Palauli. Taga village is popular with its blowholes where *the waves can fly away into the sky*. The population of Taga village after the national census in 2016 is 785 with 393 males and 392 females. The village is dependent on agriculture for daily living as well as domestic markets. Apart from agricultural produce, the village is also receiving remittances from their RSE workers sent overseas every year. There are six different denominations (EFKS, Seven Days Adventist, Latter-Day Saints, AOG, Ekalesia Nasareta and Jehovah Witness) in the village and members are also allowed to attend other denominations in the nearby villages.

Empowerment through VFSC: The composition of the VFSC in Taga was male dominant and activities were driven by the overarching guidance of the village council. Different village groups in Taga have been empowered by the training and workshops conducted throughout the project. The program had caused many positive changes as mentioned below and earlier in the report.

Transformational Impact: Numerous changes have been observed by the village members and VFSC members since the pilot program started. From the 15 participants from Taga village who completed the village members' questionnaires, 67% responded that many positive changes occurred in the village since the program. Some of the comments by Taga village members are listed below:

- *Ua matauina le sologa manuia o fuafuaga a le nuu talu ona amata mai le polokalame. Ia faaauau pea le taulamua o alii ma faipule o loo i le komiti e unaia le taofia o sauaga (Ever since he program was introduced, I have noticed the smooth run of the village activities. Village council members in the committee should lead by example enforcing violence-free environment)*
- *Ua matauina lava le tele o suiga lelei o tupulaga o le nuu (I have noticed some positive changes amongst our youths)*
- *Talitonu le manatu ua iai le suiga tele i totonu o lo matou nuu talu lenei polokalame (Since the commencement of this program, I have identified a huge positive impact in our village)*

Four of the village members had disclosed that they either experienced or practised violence in their families. All these four members testified through the questionnaires that they were saved as a result of this VFSC program. Some of the testimonies from Taga village members are listed below:

- *Ia faaaauau pea le polokalame aua ua tele lona aoga mo a'u ma lo'u aiga. Ua uma lota mateletele i tamaiti ma fasi ae ua faatalatalanoa ma faasoa (I recommend continuing the program as it has benefitted me and my family in so many ways. I have enough patience to address issues with my children rather than beating them up)*
- *Ua le o toe oo le lima o le tama o le aiga ia matou ma tamaiti talu ona auai i aoaoga sa faatino i lenei polokalame (My husband no longer lashes out on me and the children with violence ever since he attended the training)*
- *Ia faaaauau le polokalame ua tele le suiga o si o matou nuu ua faaitiitia le tele o sauaga sa masani ona tutupu mai (Recommend to continue this program in our village due to its positive impact of minimizing violence)*
- *Ua manaia lava si ma ulugalii aua ua faaitiitia le ona ma le taumafa ava o le tamaloa ma le toe fasia matou ma si a'u fanau (Ever since my husband had given up alcohol, our marriage has greatly improved and he no longer beats me and the children)*

At the focus group discussion session with Taga village, they admitted that there were many different thoughts about the program in the beginning and it was not easy. But at the end of the program, there was a huge change in the village because the village council stood firm in enforcing the bylaws and punishing those who are not obeying the village rules. The village council members present at the time, who are also the key decision makers for the village assured the office of the review team that they will continue on enforcing their approved village bylaws, to ensure that their village is violence free.

The five VFSC members from the village also make known some of the good changes that they had observed since the pilot program started, and they are listed below in bullet points:

- *Ua matauina lava le tele o le suiga lelei i tupulaga a si o matou nuu ona o lenei polokalame, lona uiga e tatau lava ona faaaauau pea (I have noticed great improvement amongst the youth ever since the program was introduced, therefore I recommend for it to continue)*
- *Ua tele ina le toe vaaia e le Komiti ni sauaga i tina ma tamaitai i totonu o le nuu. E le gata i lenei polokalame a o isi foi polokalame sa faatinoina. (The committee has noticed that the number of violence towards women and girls have decreased, ever since these programs were introduced)*
- *Ua tele ina usitai ulugalii laiti i tulafono sauaga ona ua malu pulega a le nuu (The support given by the village council have enforced the young couples to comply with the village rules on violence)*

- *Ua fealofani lava ekalesia i totonu o lo matou nuu talu leni polokalame, e tatau lava ona faaauau pea (The different denominations in our village can work together as a result of this program and recommend for it to be continued.)*

VAIEE VILLAGE:

Village short Profile: Vaiee is a village located on the central south coast of the Upolu islands, situated in the district of Safata. The village has a population of 565 after the national census in 2016, with 304 males and 261 females. Farming is their main source of income and for living, and many village members are employed in the public service, authorities and companies in the country. The village has only one established and recognized denomination, being the Congregational Christian Church in Samoa.

Empowerment through VFSC: The composition of the VFSC for Vaiee was female dominant and most of the activities were driven by women inclusive of nofotane (village men's wives). The village organizations were empowered by this VFSC in different ways. The training received by the VFSC members, workshops attended by the village members and different awareness programs attended by different crowds in the village based on the content of the program being delivered.

Furthermore, the model and the approach used by this pilot program was appreciated and acknowledged by the whole village.

Transformational impact: Various positive changes had occurred in the lives of Vaiee village members as a result of this VFSC pilot program as well as other programs conducted before. Almost all of the 15 village members who completed their questionnaires stated that they had observed many positive behavioural changes in the village since the program started. Some of those changes are listed below:

- *Continue the program because it helped a lot in keeping peace in the village*
- *Ua matauina le leai o ni sauaga e toe tulai mai talu ona amata le polokalame (I have noticed that violence no longer exist ever since the program started)*
- *E aoga tele leni polokalame i aiga o lo matou nuu e alualu ai pea i luma le manuia o aiga (This program has many benefits which will greatly assist the families in our village)*

- *Ia faaaauau le polokalame i totonu o le nuu aua ua le toe sauaina tina ma tamaitai (Recommend to continue the program in our village because it has prevented women and girls from being abused)*
- *Ua tele ina faaitiitia sauaga i totonu o le nuu ma ua faaitiitia ai ma solitulafono (There is a decrease in the number of violence in the village as well as punishing offenders)*

The following testimonies were voiced through the questionnaires by the four participants who had experienced and practised violence in the family and had changed as the result of this pilot program:

- *Ua matauina le leai o ni sauaga e toe tulai mai talu ona amata lenei polokalame, ma ua sisii lava foi o ta lima i le sasaina o fanau ona ua ta fefe i le tulafono (I have noticed a huge success of this program in our village by eliminating violence and abuse; as a result, I no longer resort to my old ways of beating up my children because I fear the law in place)*
- *Ua manaia lava lenei vaitau ua le toe oo lota lima i si fafine ma nai tamaiti ona o le manaia o aoaoga sa faatinoina i lenei polokalame (Gaining a better understanding from this program, has enabled me to have a great life by refraining from abusing my wife and children)*
- *Ua matua aoga nei aoaoga mo le lautele o le nuu ua le toe fasi ava tamaloloa e aofia ai ma si o'u toalua ona ua malamalama i le tulafono ma le taua o le saogalemu o fanau teine (This program has been very helpful for the village, changing men from being abusive husbands and fathers, to being more caring including my husband, due mainly to the knowledge they had obtained from these awareness programs)*
- *Ua tele lata lesona ua maua mai lenei polokalame ma ou te le toe fia foi i tua (I have learned a lot from this program and I will never want to go back to my old abusive ways)*

In terms of sustaining the good practices already happening in the village is trying to end violence as a result of this pilot program. All of the 15 village members' participants believed that their strong and supported village council will be an asset in the continuation of this initiative.

From the five VFSC members from Vaiee who completed their questionnaires, all of them supported the continuation of the program with their village council as the leading body in enforcing their bylaws as well as their work plan. They also recorded some changes they had observed in the village since the program started:

- *Ua tele suiga ua tulai mai i le nuu ona o le polokalame aemaise o le lomua ai o le tusi tulafono (There has been a huge improvement in the village because of this program which also led to the launching of the village bylaws)*
- *Ua matauina lava le tele o suiga lelei i si o matou talu lenei polokalame (A great improvement has been noticed in our village because of this program)*
- *Fautuaina matua ia amata mea latou i totonu o aiga e pei foi ona 'ou faia i lo'u aiga e faigofie ai le galuega (It is recommended that parents should be at the forefront applying these positive methods in their families as I have in my own)*
- *Ia faaauau pea le polokalame aua ua tele le aoga i le taofia o sauaga (Recommend to continue this program because it contributed a lot in eliminating violence in the village)*

Further changes observed were recorded during the focus group discussion with the village. These include the punishment by the village council of some fathers for beating up their wives, discussing violence prevention matters during the monthly village meetings, and there was no violence case for the whole of 2021. Discussing the violence prevention matters during the village council meetings is a good start for sustaining the implementation of the program without waiting for the government and partners' assistance.

LESSONS LEARNED:

The lessons learned are similar with all three villages. The data collected from different stakeholder groups revealed that the model and the approach used by the VFSC program worked well with the three villages. The main enablers that contributed a lot to the success of the project implementation in the villages are the Active VFSC members and the strong support from their village councils. Some of the high chiefs and the village decision-makers are part of the VFSC which helped a lot in pushing through the implementation of the committee activities.

In addition, the committed NHRI Team with the assistance provided by the UNDP and partners in leading the implementation of the project and close partnership with the VFSC in all the villages were other contributing factors to the success of the project in these villages.

Moreover, it is worth mentioning that the progress to reduced violence in the three villages is a result of a 'fit for purpose' gender architecture and drive-by influencers or champions that make up the VFSC; Saleia's committee members have a gender-balanced approach, whilst Taga was more male dominant and Vaiee a stronger female dominant approach. Despite the different approaches to achieve their 3-year goals, each was successful in delivering their village programs, proving that the key

to their success was their commitment and strong support from their village councils and women influences also drivers of change.

On the other hand, changing of memberships from time to time for the VFSC and irregular site visits by some committees around the village were some lessons learned by the three villages, which are areas to be considered for the continuation of the program. Through the implementation of the pilot programs, the villages realized the importance of including the Church Minister in the committees as the work of the committees is dealing with changing lives of people, which includes spiritual guidance.

7 Conclusions

The National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) undertook this evaluation study to answer two questions:

- iii. What is an overview of progress since the program commenced in terms of activities, objectives, and deliverables as well as impact and achievement of program outcomes; and
- iv. Determine the next phase of program implementation for the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI).

The four different stakeholder groups (village members, VFSC, combined village participants through focus group discussions, and government ministries & partners) revealed a common feeling that the design and approach of the program, the delivery of activities and the collaborative effort by NHRI and partners in pushing through the purpose of the pilot program was extremely good. The 100% support provided by all participants for the continuation of the program is evidence of good progress made by the leading implementing agency (NHRI).

The detailed updates of the program activities and deliverables are found in *Appendix 4* of the report, but overall, at the end of the implementation phase in December 2021, 60% of the planned outputs/activities were fully completed, 20% were partially completed and 20% were not implemented due to reasons provided already. The achievement rate is high considering the many challenges that hindered the progress of the program such as the measles outbreak, covid-19 restrictions, the country's preparation for the general election and the unstable government afterwards. These were major barriers but the implementing agency

and the relevant partners did not give up in pushing through the implementation of the pilot program.

Furthermore, the evaluation study concluded that the design and the model adopted by the pilot program was highly relevant to the stated priorities of the village communities and directly linked to the DDP, the community sector plan, SDS and the SDG. The effectiveness of the delivery of activities and outputs in the village communities was also high. There were good changes observed during the lifetime of the program as explained earlier and these good changes and benefits can be sustained through the establishment of the VFSC, the existence of the village 3-year strategic plans as well as the launching of the villages bylaws.

The management of the implementation of the pilot program was efficient in terms of the fully committed NHRI team, however in terms of meeting the timelines and the sufficient allocated budget for some activities, it was less efficient.

Considering the relevancy of the design and approach, the effectiveness of the implementation, good changes observed and the sustainable mechanisms in place for moving forward, therefore it is strongly recommended that the next phase of the program should be implemented using the same model and approach, the same set of activities and outputs with further improvements which will be detailed in the recommendations followed.

8 Recommendations

From the discussion and the conclusion drawn, the following recommendations are put forward for consideration.

Recommendation 1:

NHRI to consult with the MWCSO for an opportunity to lead the program in taking it further with the NHRI to assist with its transitioning purposes. Looking at the bigger picture and sustainability of the program, it would be more appropriate for a government ministry with existing relevant mechanisms to continue this program. The MWCSO's mandate as stipulated in the Internal Affairs Act 1995 and the Ministry of Women Affairs Act 1990 amongst other legislation includes the social development of every individual in the village communities. The issue of violence against women, girls and children fall directly under their mandate as the focal implementing ministry. The MWCSO's governance and Social Development Divisions exists are entry points to advance and sustain the VFSP, and if the program

will be extended to other villages of Samoa. The support from Sui o le Malo and Sui Tamaitai, coordinated under the MWCS D are key catalysts for launching social change for the VFSP. The Community Sector Development Plan – Intermediate Outcome 2.1 focused on strengthening individual, family and village safety and wellbeing from all forms of abuse. The MWCS D has the current infrastructure to increase engagement with the village council and members if given the budget and human resource support to do so.

Recommendation 2:

A portion (%) of the **\$1 million initiative** for districts by the government to be allocated for violence advocacy programs and should be distributed directly to the villages within the districts. All the village group stakeholders who participated in the evaluation study requested the more financial support provided for the village to implement the violence-free activities.

The government financial budget 2021 – 2022 earmarks financial resources to implement budget strategies for addressing gender-based violence and community empowerment. A total of 11 million tala is allocated to developing community and district programs. A portion, for instance, 20% (\$200,000) of this funding initiative for districts can be allocated for gender- based violence prevention and interagency/community response efforts including other women’s empowerment including gender equality programs.

The financing model for instance can be:

Vaisigano District (Asau, Vaisala, Auala): \$1 million grant

\$100,000 GBV/GE, \$50,000 per village for GBV/GE programs per year, \$10,000 per village per year for 5 years.

MWCS D/NHRI to put in place a program funding model for villages as part of the capacity building by MWCS D on how to manage the fund according to results-based monitoring. The goal is to ensure the fund is supporting prevention and response efforts at village and district levels. The zero violence at the end of the year means its working and become a model village.

The \$1 million allocation to the MWCS D to support NGOs for service delivery is an opportunity for support to the VFSCs who can work directly with these villages and vice versa.

The rationale behind, is for the VFSC to be coordinated and implemented in line with a whole of government approach as per its new political manifest, and current budget strategy and direction.

Recommendation 3:

Continue and extend the Village Family Safety Committee program to other villages using the same model and approach, together with lessons learned from the pilot program. Evidence from the village responses that using the village based approach is more effective than using a district based approach to addressing violence in the community. The district committee can still be considered as the overarching body monitoring the strategic DDP but the implementation of activities should go directly to the villages to ensure it reaches the intended beneficiaries.

Recommendation 4:

Develop a robust Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the VFSC program at the beginning during the planning stage in order to keep track of the progress of activities, to ensure none of the outputs and activities are left out.

Recommendation 5:

Enforcement of bylaws and consistent monitoring to ensure it serves the purpose of reducing violence in the village communities be led by the Alii and Faipule of villages.

Development of village bylaws can be included as one of the outputs in the design documents for the next phase. The development of bylaws was not documented as an activity or an output in the design documentation of the VFSC program, but it was a major achievement during the pilot phase.

Recommendation 6:

Extend the scope of capacity building for community and committee members to include basic program management and simple report writing. One of the outputs of the VFSC program was to provide monthly reports by the Committee, but have yet to implement due to competing priorities and the limited capacity at the village level.

Recommendation 7:

To consider the VFSC to be the focal point for referral system at the village level. The VFSC offers a framework that involves the supportive and practical help to prevent and respond to family violence or other stressful situations at the community level. The VFSC's role includes referral of women, children, targeted marginalized individuals or groups experiencing violence for advanced support to government ministries and partners. The review findings highlighted Vaie'e, Saleia

and Taga as model villages with the VFSC the driving force in creating social change. The gender architecture of the committee highlights a 'fit for purpose' rather than one size fits all model for each village that demonstrate results if tailored to suit village context. There is a noticeably stronger engagement and influence by the women with the status of faletua ma tausi than men in Vaie'e, stronger influence from the male chiefs in Taga and Saleia with a 50% gender balanced influence role by men and women.

Recommendation 8:

Continuous support provided for the village communities to encourage them to continue to do better. Therefore it is recommended that a consistent and continuous engagement between the government ministries/CSOs and the village communities be encouraged to ensure the objectives of the program is achieved. This was evident through the responses provided by the village members and VFSC members, as well discussions during the focus groups.

9 Acknowledgement

The consultant is grateful to the evaluation participants who made themselves available for interviews, completing the questionnaires and sharing views through focus group discussions, many at short notice and during a very busy time of the year. Your experiences and ideas shared were invaluable to the evaluation process.

I am thankful to the Office of the Ombudsman for the opportunity to work with the NHRI team on this evaluation study. Thank you for your time, enabling access to the information, and for your participation in the evaluation process through arrangement and planning of all the logistics which made the data collection process possible and completed as planned. Malo le tauatai.

The consultant wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the crucial contribution and assistance of the European Union and the United Nations. The whole evaluation process would not be possible without your financial assistance. Faafetai tele.

The consultant notes with admiration, the collaborative effort of all partners (government ministries and CSOs) for your great assistance in the roll out of this pilot program and specifically your time in sharing your views during this evaluation process. Faafetai lava.

A special acknowledgement with appreciation of the continuous support provided by the six selected village councils and VFSC members. Malo faafetai tele mo le lagolagosua.

The list of all individuals and groups involved in the interviews and the villages are provided under *Appendix 5*.

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11 Appendices

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference for the Evaluation

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR : A NATIONAL CONSULTANT TO EVALUATE THE SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE COMPONENT OF THE NHRI – VILLAGE SAFETY COMMITTEE PILOT PROGRAM Ref : IC2021/WSM/042
A. PROJECT TITLE A consultant to evaluate the Spotlight Initiative component of the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) – village safety committee pilot program
B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION The Spotlight Initiative (SI) is a global partnership between the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls (EVAWG) , including harmful practices by 2030 . Premised on the key principles of sustainable development goals (SDGs) of leaving no one behind (LNOB) and reaching the furthest behind first, the Spotlight Initiative in Samoa addresses Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV). The SI in Samoa builds on existing Government commitments to ending domestic and intimate partner violence (IPV) and cultural institutions that support ending violence against women and girls. The 2020 Samoa Second National Review Report the SDG’s confirms the increasing rates of violence against women and children. Furthermore, the National Public Inquiry into Family Violence 201

states 89% of women have experienced physical abuse by a family member, with alarming rates of sexual abuse against girls. Recommendation 20 of the Inquiry Report signals the significant role of the Village Fono to establish a credible mechanism for preventing family violence that ensures regular and ongoing programs are conducted. For instance, the mechanism refers to the establishment of 'Village Family Safety Committees' (VFSC) within each village, solely responsible for all matters relating to family violence prevention¹².

To implement Recommendation 20 of 201 Inquiry, the National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) embarked on a Village Family Safety Committee pilot program to implement a 'Violence Free Village Programme in six (6) villages in Samoa. Modeled on the significance of the 'faasamoa', the pilot program uses a culturally responsive centered approach to empower village leaders and members to proactively be the vanguards of change in the prevention of domestic violence within their own villages. The program aims to establish Village Safety Committees to not only recognize DV as a serious problem and act as the support network for prevention and awareness –raising about family violence including DV/IPV. Furthermore, capacity support is provided to the committees to develop safety plans to promote family safety initiatives within their own village environment. In 2020, funding assistance from the Spotlight Initiative through UNDP has supported the set – up of capacity building training for safety committees, development of safety plans and implementation for some initiatives.

UNDP in partnership with NHRI seeks through this request for proposal, the services of a national consultant to evaluate the performance and impact of the Village Family Safety Committee pilot program in the six (6) pilot villages identified

C. SCOPE OF WORK

The national consultant will be supported by the National Human Rights Institution to undertake the following scope work.

To assess the performance (including the approach) of the pilot program to date and make recommendations on what is working for future programme enhancements. The evaluation approach is expected to look at the relevance, effectiveness, results or impact and sustainability. This includes implementation challenges and documentation of any innovation best practices and or promising future practices.

The evaluation is expected to provide an overview of progress since the program commenced in terms of activities, objectives, and deliverables as well as impact and achievement of program outcomes. The final report produced by the consultant will determine the next phase of program implementation for NHRI.

The scope of evaluation will include all six (6) villages under the pilot Village Safety Committee program and review of available related documents but not limited to the following: Village Safety Committee pilot program concept note, village safety plans, activity reports, media including social media releases, articles, annual reports and strategic plans

The consultant will work on this assignment for a period of 25 working days ending 2 November 2021.

D. EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

¹² NHRI Samoa 2020 ; Village Safety Committee Pilot Project Phase II Report

- 12 Develop and submit an evaluation work plan which includes the evaluation approach – *addressing the following key areas- relevance, effectiveness, results or impact and sustainability. This includes challenges and documentation of innovative best practices and or promising future practices*). In addition to the work plan must include objectives, methodology, timelines and list of key informants to be interviewed. The work plan should be developed in consultation with the NHRI Rights division.
- 1.1 Incorporate the required relevant outcomes and output indicators of the EU & UN Spotlight Initiative Monitoring & Evaluation framework into the assignment evaluation work plan to ensure alignment and reporting on relevant indicators and their achievements.
- 1.2 Develop the evaluation tools to support the conduct of assignment where necessary. Ensure the Samoan translation is included where appropriate for engaging the community-based audience (information sheet on the evaluation, questionnaires, interview questions etc).
- 13 Review available documents but no limited to the following: Village Safety Committee pilot program concept note, village safety plans, activity progress and monitoring reports, related media including social media releases, articles, annual reports and strategic plans
- 14 Interview key informants and beneficiaries; Village Safety Committees, NHRI Human Rights Steering Committee, trained committee members and leaders, selected members of the OneUN (Samoa) Spotlight Initiative technical task force, key partner organisations supporting implementation from government ministries and civil society organisations.
- 15 Capture and document transformation human interest or village group stories and testimonies from the pilot villages. Including documentation of evidence-based lessons learned that lead to innovative community best practices of the program implementation and approach.
- 16 Analysis and synthesis of results into a draft and final evaluation report for NHRI and UNDP. Include key recommendations for specific changes, opportunities building on the best practice lessons learned and promising practices of the program implementation and approach.
- 5.1 Conduct a joint meeting with NHRI and UNDP to discuss the draft findings of the report according to the assignment deliverable.
- 5.2 Prepare and submit the final report on the key deliverables of the assignment in both hard and soft copy in English to NHRI and UNDP with necessary attachments.

Deliverables	Target Due Dates	Amount (WST) to be paid upon UNDP Certification of Deliverable and Satisfactory Performance and Endorsement by the
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		Ombudsman and ARR GPRU
<p>17 Develop and submit an evaluation work plan which includes the evaluation approach <i>addressing the following key areas- relevance, effectiveness, results or impact and sustainability. This includes challenges and documentation of innovative best practices and or promising future practices). The work plan must include objectives, methodology, timelines and list of key informants to be interviewed. The work plan should be developed in consultation with the NHRI Rights division.</i></p> <p>1.2 Incorporate the required relevant indicators of the EU & UN Spotlight Initiative Monitoring & Evaluation framework into the evaluation work plan to ensure alignment and reporting on relevant indicators and their achievement.</p> <p>1.3 Develop the evaluation tools to support the conduct of the assignment where necessary. Ensure the Samoan translation is included where appropriate for engaging the community-based audience</p>	<p>28 October 2021 (3 days)</p>	<p>20% of the lump sum</p>
<p>18 Review available documents but not limited to the following: Village Safety Committee pilot program concept note, village safety plans, activity progress and monitoring reports, related media including social media releases, articles, annual reports and strategic plans.</p> <p>19 Interview key formants and beneficiaries; Village Safety Committee, NHRI Human Rights Steering Committee, trained committee members and leaders, selected members of the OneUN (Samoa) Spotlight Initiative technical task force, organisations supporting</p>	<p>20 November 2021 (10 days)</p>	<p>40% payment to be paid upon submission of the monitoring report</p>

<p>implementation from government ministries and civil society organisations.</p> <p>4. Capture and document transformational human interest or village group stories and testimonies from the pilot villages. Including documentation of evidence-based lessons learned the lead to innovative community best practices or promising practices for the prevention of violence against women and girls.</p>		
<p>21 Analysis and synthesis of results into a draft and final evaluation report for NHRI and UNDP. Include key recommendations for specific changes, opportunities building on the best practice lessons learned and promising practices of the program implementation and approach.</p> <p>5.1 Conduct a joint meeting with NHRI and UNDP to discuss the draft findings of the report according to the assignment deliverable.</p> <p>5.2 Prepare and submit the final report on the key deliverables of the assignment, in both hard and soft copy in English to NHRI and UNDP with necessary attachments.</p>	<p>29 November 2021</p> <p><i>(12 days)</i></p>	<p>40% payment to be paid upon completion of the meeting and the final report.</p>
<p>TOTAL DURATION</p>	<p>25 working days</p>	<p>Total Amount: WST XXX</p>
<p>Payments will only be disbursed upon successful completion and approval by UNDP of the milestones.</p>		
<p>E. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT</p> <p>The Local Consultant will be recruited up to 25 days from the effective date of the contract. The consultancy is to deliver on the Initiative pilot ‘Samoa Violence Free Village Program’ implemented through the National Human Rights Institution.</p> <p>Inputs by NHRI</p> <p>The NHRI will make available to the consultant, the services of their division team managing the Pilot village program and all relevant information to assist the consultant in effectively carrying out the services. These include physical workspace if deemed necessary for the delivery of services.</p> <p>Inputs by UNDP</p> <p>UNDP through the SI program coordinator will make available to the consultant all relevant information and materials including access to the UN Spotlight Technical Lead and resource team where needed to achieve the objectives of this assignment.</p> <p>Ownership</p>		

The National Human Rights Institution of the Office of the Ombudsman maintains ownership of all data and information used in the duration of this assignment, other than those materials originally sourced, authored and produced by UNDP, EU & UN Spotlight Initiative and other agencies.

Reporting Requirements

The Consultant is or is required to report to the Ombudsman and UNDP ARR GPRU. The consultant is required to submit relevant milestone reports for endorsement to the Ombudsman through the Director of NHRI and the UNDP GPRU Assistant Resident Representative.

F. DURATION OF THE WORK

The duration of time for the Consultant to provide the services will be up to 25 working days from the effective date of the contract.

G. DUTY STATION

For this consultancy, the local consultant is required to be based in Samoa.

H. COMPETENCIES

Corporate Competencies

- Displays cultural, gender, religion, race, nationality and age sensitivity and adaptability
- Demonstrates commitment to the Government of Samoa mission, vision and values
- Demonstrates integrity by modelling the UN's values and ethical standards.
- Promotes the vision, mission, and strategic goals of UNDP.
- Treats all people fairly without favouritism.
- Fulfils all obligations to gender sensitivity and zero tolerance for any form of violence including sexual harassment.

Functional Competencies

- Strong experience and skills in planning, conducting and reporting on strategic community-based evaluation for social and behavior change programs.
- Good understanding and knowledge of gender equality/gender-responsive work, in particular for violence against women and girls, domestic violence.
- Excellent communication, presentation skills in Samoa and English language; ability to communicate effectively and in a credible manner with various partners including village leaders, village representatives of all ages, government, civil society, UN agencies; development partners.
- Strong knowledge and understanding of SDG relevant gender indicators, government human rights & CEDAW gender reporting indicators at national and global levels.

Leadership and Self-Management

- Ability to work in tight schedules or timeframes
- Consistently approaches work with energy and a positive, constructive attitude
- Remains calm, in control and good-humoured even under pressure
- Demonstrate openness to change and ability to manage complexities
- Good interpersonal and teamwork skills in the Samoan language, networking aptitude, ability to work in a multicultural environment.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS OF SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR

1. Minimum formal qualification from a ~~behavior~~ university. Bachelor's degree in Monitoring and Evaluation, in either Gender, social science, or relevant field.
2. Minimum of 5 years of relevant experience in the indicated fields of expertise or competencies in undertaking strategic evaluation in particular gender-responsive programs in addressing violence against women and girls.
3. Strong experience in developing evaluation tools and preparing clear evaluation plans and analytical reporting on community-based social and ~~behavior~~ change programs to advancing the gender equality agenda is highly desirable.
4. Relevant experience working in a flexible and responsive manner to engage multisectoral stakeholders from communities, civil society, government, development partners in reviews and planning processes is preferred desirable.
5. Proficiency in written and spoken Samoan and English and applying Samoa cultural methodologies to advance human rights in line with the SDGs.

EVALUATION PROCESS & CRITERIA

The award of the contract shall be made to the individual consultant whose offer has been evaluated and determined as;

- Responsive/ Compliant/ Acceptable, and,
- Having received the highest combined score out of the pre-determined set of weighted technical and financial criteria specific to the solicitation.

TECHNICAL CRITERIA WEIGHT – 70%

FINANCIAL CRITERIA WEIGHT – 30%

Technical Evaluation Criteria will be based on the information provided in the CV and the relevant documents must be submitted as evidence to support the criteria. Only candidates obtaining a minimum of 70% of the total technical points will have their financial proposal considered for combination.

Qualification and Experience – Evaluation of CVs for Shortlisting

1. Minimum formal qualification – Bachelor's degree in Monitoring and Evaluation, in either Gender, social science, or relevant field. (20%)
2. Minimum of 5 years of relevant experience in the indicated fields of expertise or competencies in undertaking strategic evaluation in gender-responsive programs in addressing violence against women and girls. (25%)
3. Strong experience in developing evaluation tools and preparing clear evaluation plans and analytical reporting on community-based social and ~~behavior~~ change programs to advance the gender equality agenda. (25%)
4. Relevant experience working in a flexible and responsive manner to engage multisectoral stakeholders from communities, civil society, government, development partners in reviews and planning processes. (15%)
5. Proficiency in written and spoken Samoan and English and applying Samoa cultural methodologies to advancing human rights agenda in line with the SDGs. (15%)

I. RECOMMENDED PRESENTATION OF PROPOSAL

Given below is the recommended format for submitting your proposal. The following headings with the required details are important. Please use the templates provided to submit your proposal by **30 September 2021** to the UNDP Jobs Site link below.

Kindly note to **upload only ONE document** to the following UNDP Jobs site link.

https://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?cur_job_id=101988

Incomplete applications will not be considered and only candidates for whom there is further interest will be contacted. Proposals must include:

- **Letter of interest and availability specifying the available date to start and other details (Annex I)**
- **CV or P11 form** addressing the evaluation criteria and why you consider yourself the most suitable for this assignment. The selected candidate must submit a signed P11 prior to the contract award. (Annex II)
- **Financial Proposal** specifying the daily rate and other expenses if any (Annex III)
- **A brief methodology** on how you will approach and conduct the work (Annex VI)
- **Statement of Good Health** (Annex VII)

Also provided are the UNDP General Terms and Conditions for Ics (Annex VI) and Reimbursable Loan Agreements (Annex V) for your information.

Note:

- a. The Statement of Good Health and Health Insurance are now compulsory for the period of the consultancy and if successful, the consultant will be asked to provide proof of insurance policy before contract signature.
- b. The candidate has to be an independent consultant (If the candidate is engaged with any organization, the organization employing the candidate will be issued with a Reimbursable Loan Agreement (RLA) to release the employee for the consultancy with UNDP.)
- c. Due to sheer number of applicants, the procurement unit will contact only competitively selected consultant.

Queries about the consultancy can be directed to the UNDP Procurement Unit procurement.ws@undp.org.

Appendix 2: Updates of Outputs and activities

UPDATES ON THE PILOT PROGRAM OUTPUTS & ACTIVITIES ACCORDING TO THE REVISED CONCEPT NOTE

Program Goal	Empower village members and village council to take a leading and proactive role in prevention of family violence
Program Objective	Establish 6 VFSC within 6 villages and build their capacity to actively conduct family violence prevention initiatives and assist its Village Council deal with family violence matters within Op' the village when it arises
Phase 1: Mapping and Development – PROGRESS	<p>All Phase 1 related activities were successfully completed according to the revised schedule, except the official signing of the MOUs which was conducted in the second phase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of the project plan and mapping exercises were conducted from October 2019 to February 2020, which was lead by NHRI Team in collaboration with partners and selected villages • The six (6) villages (Asau, Taga, Saleia, Lalovi-Mulifanua, Vaiee and Lotopue- Aleipata) were selected based on four (4) criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A village that was involved in the 2018 National Inquiry; 2. A village selected from a district who has already launched a District Development Plan (DDP) and clearly identify ending violence as a key component; 3. Three villages already have bylaws, and 3 villages without bylaws; and 4. Sizes of the villages (3 large villages and 3 small villages, together with their geographical location). • Initial meetings were held with the six selected village councils to conduct the scoping activity and raise awareness of the pilot program and how they are expected to operate • The six villages selected and confirmed their Village Family Safety Committee members • Drafted the capacity building guide/booklet (Manual) and planned the capacity building workshops <p>Deferred Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The signing of formal agreements (MOUs) between the NHRI and the Village Councils were supposed to be done during this period (Phase 1) but it was deferred to be signed in Phase 2 during the workshops. Priority was given to the preparation of capacity building materials and logistics for the workshops <p>Activity not achieved:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The establishment of a Pilot Program Taskforce was not possible in the first phase and the whole pilot period because of the difficulties faced by the NHRI team in trying gather relevant ministries and partners to set up a Taskforce. The rationale behind setting up this taskforce was to lead the pilot program and assist VFSC to develop their work plans to implement within the 12 month pilot period. This taskforce can sit within the Ending Violence Taskforce already existed with the MWCSO instead of creating a new one. There is a need to re-consider the establishment of this Taskforce for moving forward. Alternatively, reviving the Ending Violence Taskforce under the MWCSO but upgrade the membership to ACEOs or even CEOs and re-name it to Ending Violence Steering Committee. 		
Phase 2: Capacity building and development of work plans		All Phase 2 related activities were conducted from March – June 2020 and they are updated below under relevant outputs.		
Program Specific Outcome 1		VFSC display understanding of causes and triggers of family violence, awareness of available services as well as confidence to engage with community on these issues		
	OUTPUTS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRESS	STATUS
1	Consultant Recruited <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building materials and contents finalised 6 capacity building workshop held with 100% participation rate by 6 established VFSC members. Pre/Post Questionnaire 	March – June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The workshop manual was finalized and printed on the 2nd – 6th of March 2020. The Consultant (Tuiloma Sina Retzlaff) was recruited on time and capacity building workshops were conducted according to the revised schedule from March to June 2020. 14 designed sessions were delivered by the Consultant and the three members of the NHRI team for each of the six villages over a 3-day agenda. 100% participation rate from the six established VFSC members Pre-Post Test monitoring tool was administered during the workshops for the VFSC members to quantify the transfer of knowledge after the workshops sessions as reflected in the VFSC Phase II report. 	COMPLETED

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Village Councils signs agreement to establish pilot program in their villages 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal agreements (MOUs) between the NFRI and the six villages to establish official partnerships for the pilot program were signed during the workshops with the villages from March – June 2020 	
Program Specific Outcome 2		VFSC develop and lead at least 3 village initiatives that prevents against family violence		
	OUTPUTS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRESS	STATUS
2	22 Work Plans developed, endorsed and executed	March – June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work plans for all six villages were developed and endorsed from June to August 2020 through a collaborative effort by the NHRI Team, VFSC & villages, together with partners. The work plans were supposed to be completed and endorsed by June 2020, but it was not possible due to competing priorities and covid-19 restrictions The work plans were launched in September 2020 and the implementation by the VFSC and villages started soon after The VFSC Phase II report was completed and endorsed in August 2020 	COMPLETED
Phase 3: Implementation		The official implementation of the Villages' activities were started in October 2020 after the work plans were officially launched in September 2020.		
		The pilot program was officially completed with the launching of the five villages bylaws in December 2021.		
Program Specific Outcome 3		VFSC submits at least 80% monthly reports to their Village Council on updates and status of family violence in village		

	OUTPUT	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRESS	STATUS
3	Monthly reports produced and presented to Village Council Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting outcomes/minutes 	October 2020 – October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VFSC in each village reported to their Village councils on a weekly basis However, there were no physical evidence of record keeping for the actual reports submitted to village councils. Normally the reports are in a Verbal format, This is something to be considered for moving forward 	PARTIALLY COMPLETED
Phase 4: M&E and Reporting		The final evaluation review is currently in progress		
Program Specific Outcome 4		6 Village Council declares a zero tolerance policy on family violence to include intimate partner violence and violence against children		
	OUTPUT	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRESS	STATUS
4	23 months follow up and Progress report produced End of project final evaluation and impact report produced	April 2021 (6 months report) & October 2021 (End of project review report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no 6 months follow up and progress review conducted due to competing priorities and time constraints. The end of project final evaluation was supposed to be completed in October 2021, however the delay in the recruitment of the Consultant as well as the delay in the official completion of the pilot program had caused the delay, and now the final evaluation review report should be completed and endorsed before the end of January 2022. The pilot program was planned to be officially completed in October 2021, but the delay in implementing some activities with finalization of the village bylaws had caused the delay. 	PARTIALLY COMPLETED

Appendix 3: Updates of SI Outcome 3 – VFSC related Outputs

Updates of Spotlight Initiative – Village Family Safety Committee Pilot Program related Output Indicators (3.1.1 & 3.3.2)

Spotlight Initiative Outcome Indicator	Spotlight Initiative Output Indicator	Progress to date (January 2022)	Status
<p><u>Outcome Indicator 3.1</u> Percentage of people who think it is justifiable for a man to (subject) beat his wife/intimate partner</p>	<p><u>Output Indicator 3.1.1</u> Existence of with at least 3 evidence-based, transformative/ comprehensive prevention strategies/ programmes that address the rights of those marginalized and are developed in a participatory manner.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of the six Village Family Safety Committees • This pilot program was initiated by the NHRI and they were the leading implementing agency for this initiative. • The six (6) villages (Asau, Taga, Saleia, Lalovi-Mulifanua, Vaiee and Lotopue- Aleipata) were selected based on four (4) criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. A village that was involved in the 2018 National Inquiry; 6. A village selected from a district who has already launched a District Development Plan (DDP) and clearly identify ending violence as a key component; 7. Three villages already have bylaws, and 3 villages without bylaws; and 8. Sizes of the villages (3 large villages and 3 small villages, together with their geographical location). • Initial meetings were held with the six selected village councils to conduct the scoping activity and raise awareness of the pilot program and how they are expected to operate • The six villages selected and confirmed their Village Family Safety Committee members 	<p>Completed</p>

		<p>At the end of this evaluation study, it realizes that the establishment of the VFSC was a really good initiative. It acts as a good monitoring mechanism at the village level. They were the focal points in villages for any violence case arose from the village.</p> <p>They can also be the focal point for a Referral system and act as the connecting arm between the village and the relevant partners</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Development of the 3 year Strategic Plans (2020 – 2023) for the six villages, with the focus on violence free activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A three year plan that goes beyond the project period is one evidence that the program will be continued and ending violence related activities will be implemented after the lifetime of the pilot project. • The extension of the timeframes of work plans was a request from all six villages to ensure they will continue implementing the program after the lifetime of the project 3. Development and launching of five villages’ bylaws with ending violence against women and girls as one of the key components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the village focus group discussions, village council members assured that they will enforce using their bylaws as the basis for their decision making, especially in keeping peace in the village. • Launching bylaws is an assurance that the villages will continue on promoting 	
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		<p>activities for ending violence and the village councils will utilize the bylaws for way forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five villages (Asau, Taga, Saleia, Lalovi-Mulifanua & Vaiee) have launched their bylaws in December 2021. Lotopue village missed out the opportunity due to their internal village issues. 	
	<p><u>Output Indicator 3.3.2</u></p> <p>Number of relevant non-state institutions that have developed and/or strengthened strategies/policies on ending VAWG and promoting gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and women and girls' rights, including those groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, in line with international HR standards, within the last year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six (6) villages (Asau, Taga, Saleia, Lalovi-Mulifanua, Vaiee & Lotopue-Aleipata) have completed and launched their 3 year Strategic Plans (2020 – 2023) in September 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All activities in these strategic plans are focused on trying to end violence against women and girls and children, as well as keeping peace in the villages. - The implementation of these strategic plans at village levels were started straight after the official launch. - The Village Family Safety Committees in each of the six villages are the leading groups for the implementation of the plans' activities, with the support from the village councils and village organizations • Six (6) villages have established their Village Family Safety Committees, with approximately 15 members in each committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was difficult to measure how committed the VFSC are in implementing the activities, but based on the discussions with the villages during the focus group discussion sessions and 	<p>Completed</p> <p>(Assumption: taking villages as non-state institutions)</p>

		<p>the data collected from questionnaires, all six villages have different levels of commitments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The judgment was based on the activities implemented conducted and lead by VFSC according to the views provided by village members and village councils. • Five (5) villages (Asau, Taga, Saleia, Vaiee & Lotopue-Mulifanua) have launched their Village Bylaws in December 2021 <p>All these plans and mechanisms set up in these villages are focussed on ending violence against women and girls and children as well as promoting gender equitable norms and attitudes at the village level</p>	
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Appendix 4: Short profiles for the six villages

i. Asau¹³:

Asau is a village situated on the north west coast of Savaii island which serves as the main business centre at the west end of the island. Its population after the 2016 national census is 1133, with 548 males and 585 females. Asau was the centre of the timber industry in Samoa with logging of native forests. There are 15 representatives that form the VFSC membership, 8 males from the ages of 35 – 68 and 7 females between the ages of 28 – 67.

ii. Lalovi-Mulifanua¹⁴:

Lalovi is a sub-village of Mulifanua located on the north-western tip of the island of Upolu. Its current population after the 2016 national census is 504 with 271 males and 233 females. The 14 VFSC composition consists of 6 males between the ages of 21 – 69 and 8 females from the ages of 28 – 61.

iii. Lotopue-Aleipata¹⁵:

Lotopue is a very small village under the Aleipata Itupa i Lalo constituency district situated on the eastern end of Upolu island. Its population after the 2016 national census is 227 with 125 males and 101 females. The 16 VFSC composition consists of 8 males between the ages of 19 – 51 and 8 females from the ages of 26 – 50.

iv. Saleia¹⁶:

Saleia is a sub-village of the larger traditional village district of Matautu situated on the north central coast of Savaii island. The village is at the west end of Matautu, towards the popular tourist beach fales of Manase, which forms part of the larger constituency district of Gaga'emauga. Its current population after the 2016 national census is 221 with 120 males and 101 females. The 15 VFSC composition consists of 5 males between the ages of 40 – 66, one faafafine (non binary/LGBTQI) aged 48, and 9 females from the ages of 31 – 61.

¹³ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asau, Samoa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asau,_Samoa); & Population and Housing Census 2016 Preliminary count

¹⁴ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mulifanua>; & Population and Housing Census 2016 Preliminary count

¹⁵ Population and Housing Census 2016 Preliminary count

¹⁶ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saleia>; & Population and Housing Census 2016 Preliminary count

v. **Taga**¹⁷:

Taga is a village situated on the south coast of the Savaii island in the electoral district of Palauli. Taga village is popular with their blowholes where *the waves can fly away into the sky*. The population of Taga village after the national census in 2016 is 785 with 393 males and 392 females. There are six different denominations (EFKS, Seven Days Adventist, Latter Day Saints, AOG, Ekalesia Nasareta and Jehovah Witness) in the village and members are also allowed to attend other denominations in the nearby villages.

vi. **Vaiee**¹⁸:

Vaiee is a village located on the central south coast of the Upolu islands, situated in the district of Safata. The village has a population of 565 with 304 males and 261 females. The 20 VFSC composition consists of 10 males between the ages of 36 – 73, one faafafine aged 51 (non- binary/LGBTQI) and 9 females from the ages of 36 – 66.

Appendix 5: Recommendations from Village and VFSC members s

Summary of recommendations from village members for way forward

1	Village Councils and Church Leaders to have their full support.
2	Need more and increase financial support from government and donor partners
3	Village leaders to enforce the laws and punish those who disobey, and church leaders to play their part from the spiritual side to end violence in the village.
5	Village organization to work together, need to involve church ministers in the committees.
7	Continue the program because it helped a lot in keeping peace in the village.
8	The office should come around twice a year to remind the village the importance of the program. If not, then a letter would be okay just a form of reminding the village.
10	People will go back to their usual behaviour if the office doesn't come around very often
11	Need more awareness programs for the whole village especially young couples.
12	Village council should be the leaders to enforce good practices of trying to eliminate violence in the village.
13	There is also a need to improve ways of communication between the village and the relevant organizations.
14	Around 70% of violence in Samoa involves alcohol.
15	Many families have changed in villages because of this program so need to continue this good program
16	Villages need continuous support from the government.
18	Need to encourage children to go to school.

¹⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taga_Samoa; & Population and Housing Census 2016 Preliminary count

¹⁸ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vaiee>; & Population and Housing Census 2016 Preliminary count

19	Village Committees should be humbled to the people of the village and maybe it could change the mind-set of the people who doesn't agree to continue this program
20	If this program will continue please visit rural villages first
21	This is such a useful program especially for young couples.
22	The office should prepare items, skits and dances through a concert to help getting the support from village members and improve their knowledge of how to handle family issues without using violent ways.

Summary of recommendations from VFSC members for way forward

1	We should continue this program and make sure that everyone in the villages should participate so that they would understand why ending violence is important.
2	The program needs to be continued to ensure violence in the village is completely eliminated
3	There is also a need to increase financial support for the village.
4	Village organizations need to work together.
5	All relevant government agencies need to work together in delivering this message to all villages in Samoa.
6	This is such a useful program especially for young couples to stop violence in families.
8	The committee should continue their job to push young couples to know how important this program is for them, especially helping them to end violence, or that they could provide some good advice for those who are still suffering from violence.
9	The committee should have their monthly meetings and should continue reporting cases to the village councils.
10	The office should find a way to encourage village members to stand up and voice their problems and stop being silence of the violence cases in the families

Appendix 6: Snapshot of the three Villages Bylaws on Violence Protection

Vaiee: (Source: Vaiee Village Bylaws)

VAEGA FA: SAOGALEMU MA PUIPUIGA O AIGA

1. Fasi o le tama'ita'i
FA'ASALAGA: \$2,000 tala
2. Sauaga i le fanau
 - i. Sauaga mataga i alo ma fanau po'o faigaaiga fa'amalosi e so'o se isi i se teine po'o se tama e i lalo ifo o le 16 tausaga le matua;
 - ii. Sauaga ogaoga ma matuua (e aofia ai sauaga o le tino ma ua tele ai se a'afiaga (e aofia ai le ta'e o le ulu, gau o le lima ma isi tulaga fa'apena).**FA'ASALAGA:** \$5,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo
3. Sauaga i va o ugali'i
 - i. E aofia ai sauaga o le tino, sauaga i upu lafo matuua/masoa, faigaaiga fa'amalosi.**FA'ASALAGA:** \$2,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo. Gteh the

- ii. Fa'alavelave ma solia se poloaiga fa'aletulafono (Protection Order) ua aumai e le Fa'amasinoga.

FA'ATATAUGA: O le a fesoasoani le nu'u e fa'atinoina le poloaiga mo le saogalemu o le tina/tama'ita'i po'o le aiga ma fa'ailoa ma lipoti atu i le Fa'amasinoga.

VAEGA LIMA: ISI FA'AFITAU E A'AFIA AI LE SAOGALEMU MA PUIPUIGA O AIGA

4. Fa'alavelave ogaoga ma fa'alavelave matuia
5. Fasioti tagata
6. Fa'amaligitoto
7. Fasi o le matai po'o matua
8. Mata'ifale
9. Fai aiga faia fa'amalosi
10. Fouvalega ma le Fa'atauta i le nu'u
11. Solitofaga
12. Toe fenofoa'i o ni tagata ua fai aiga i totonu o le nu'u.

FA'ASALAGA: \$5,000 tala ma le fa'atula'i ese ma le nu'u. O nei fa'asalaga o le a le noatia ai se tofa a le aiga a sa Teo ma se susuga pa'u i le Tuia e vaisala ai mo ia fa'asalaga.

13. Sauaga i tagata e iai a'afiaga tumau o le soifua

E fa'asaina ona faia ni sauaga (e aofia ai sauaga mataga) e se isi i se tagata e iai aafiaga tumau o le soifua.

FA'ASALAGA: \$5,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo.

14. Fa'aumumu ma pisapisao i le nu'u

FA'ASALAGA: \$500 tala

15. Fusuaga

FA'ASALAGA: \$500 tala

16. Gaoi

FA'ASALAGA: \$1,000 tala

17. Le Fa'aaogaina o le Fanau

O le le fa'aaogaina o le fanau e 5 tausaga seia o'o ile 16 tausaga

FA'ASALAGA: \$1,000 tala a matua ma lipoti ile Matagaluega o Aoga

Tag: (Source: Taga village bylaws)

VAEGA LUA: PUIPUIGA MAI SAUAGA I TOTONU O AIGA

E puipui tele e le Fono a Taga le saogalemu ma le filemu o aiga, ma le manuia o ona tagata uma.

1. Sauaga i le fanau
 - a) Sauaga mataga i alo ma fanau po'o faigaaiga fa'amalosi e so'o se isi i se teine po'o se tama e i lalo ifo o le 16 tausaga le matua;
 - e) Sauaga ogaoga ma matuia (e aofia ai sauaga o le tino) ma ua tele ai se a'afiaga (e aofia ai le ta'e o le ulu, gau o le lima ma isi tulaga fa'apena).

FA'ATATAUGA: Molia i le Tulafono a le Malo.

2. Sauaga i va fa'aleulugali'i

a) E aofia ai sauaga o le tino, sauaga i upu lafo matuia/masoa, sauaga e aafia ai le mafau, faigaaiga fa'amalosi.

FA'ATATAUGA: E taoto atu pea i le tofa ma le fa'autaga a Ali'i ma Faipule o le Taga (e aofia ai pe sala po'o le tu'uina atu le Tulafono a le Malo po'o le sala fo'i ma tu'uina atu le Tulafono a le Malo).

e) Fa'alavelave ma solia se poloaiga fa'aletulafono (Protection Order) ua aumai e le Fa'amasinoga.

FA'ATATAUGA: E iai le puipuiga a Ali'i ma Faipule i tulaga fa'apenei ma e tataua ona faia ai se fa'aiuga talafeagai ma fa'ailoa ma lipoti atu i le Fa'amasinoga.

VAEGA TOLU: SAUAGA LAUTELE

3. Sauaga i isi tagata o aiga, tuaoi po'o nisi

FA'ATATAUGA: E ono molia i le Tulafono a le Malo pe a tuga tele ni a'afiaga.

4. Faigaaiga fa'amalosi

Faigaaiga fa'amalosi i so'o se isi (tama'ita'i po'o se ali'i).

FA'ASALAGA: Molia i le Tulafono a le Malo ma le 100 aumatua po'o le \$2,000 tala.

5. O sa o tuaoi

Fefinaua'i ni aiga i se tuaoi, ma fa'aleagaina ai e se aiga po'o se tagata se mea totino/aseta o lea tuaoi

FA'ASALAGA: 50 aumatua po'o le \$1,000 tala

6. Fasioti Tagata

O le su'esu'ega a leoleo e fa'amaonia ai pe na fa'amoemoeina pe pa'i valea le solitulafono. O le afioaga, e fa'amuumua le saogalemu ma le nofo lelei o tagata uma, pe a tula'i mai ni fa'afitauli fa'apea.

FA'ASALAGA: Fa'atula'i ese mai le nu'u ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo. E i le nu'u le fa'atatau pe a magalo ma toe talii mai i le nu'u

7. Fa'ao'olima

E le fa'atagaina le fa'ao'olima o le isi tagata i le isi, aemaise pe a fa'amanu'alia ai se tasi.

FA'ASALAGA: 100 aumatua po'o \$2,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo pe a ogaoga tele manuaga

Saleia: (Source: Saleia Village Bylaws)

VAEGA LUA: FAIGA FA'AVAE O SOLIGATULAFONO MATUIA

E le toe talia nei tu ma aga i nu'u ma alalafaga, ona e atagia mai ai le leai o se mamalu ma se maopoopoga o pulega a Ali'i ma Faipule.

1. Mariuana ma Fuala'au Fa'asaina

Ua matua fa'asaina so'o se tasi na te fa'aulufale mai, totoina, fa'atauina, ma fa'aaogaina so'o se fuala'au/laula'au fa'asaina, aofia ai ma le aisa ma le pauta, i totonu o le nu'u.

FA'ASALAGA: Molia i le Ofisa o Leoleo, fa'ate'a ma le nu'u, ae o le a fa'asalaina lou aiga i le \$2,000 tala

2. Pia/Ava malosi

(a) *Taumafaina*

So'o se ituaiga 'ava malosi e te taumafaina, e le fa'atagaina ona inu fa'alapotopoto i totonu o le nu'u i so'o se taimi ma so'o se auala.

FA'ASALAGA: \$200 tala a le tagata

(e) *Fa'atauina*

i. E le fa'atagaina ona fa'atauina e se isi pe fa'atau atu e le faleoloa so'o se ituaiga 'ava malosi i le Aso Sa.

FA'ASALAGA: \$500 tala le faleoloa ae \$500 le tagata e to'atasi

ii. E le fa'atagaina ona fa'atauina atu le 'ava malosi ma sikaleti, i tamaiti i lalo ifo o le 21 tausaga le matutua.

FA'ASALAGA: Molia le faipisinisi i le Tulafono a le Malo ma fa'asala i le \$500 tala

(i) *Ona ma pisa*

E matua fa'asa le ona ma pisapisao i le alatele ma totonu o le nu'u.

FA'ASALAGA: \$500 tala a le tagata

3. Fa'amaligi toto

O le solitulafono le fa'amaligi toto, e fa'aaogaina ai se 'auupega e pei o le ma'a, la'au malosi, agaese ma isi tulaga fa'apena.

FA'ASALAGA: Usu taai le nu'u i le ua solitulafono.

4. Fasioti Tagata

O le fetu'unaiga pe pa'i valea pe fuafuaina, o le matafaioi lea a le Fa'amasinoga. Ae o le a'afia ma maumau se soifua ona o oe, e matua mamafa iai le fa'atatau a le Faiga Fa'avae.

FA'ASALAGA: Fa'ate'a ma le nu'u ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo

5. Upu Masoa

O le fa'aaogaina o upu masoa o le solitulafono.

FA'ASALAGA: \$500 tala a le tagata

6. Upu Taufamata'u

O le fa'aaogaina o ni upu mamafa e fa'amata'u ai se isi tagata, o le solitulafono.

FA'ASALAGA: \$500 tala a le tagata

7. Faigaaiga fa'amalosi

Faigaaiga fa'amalosi i so'o se isi ma le faiga o uiga mataga.

FA'ASALAGA: 100 aumatua po'o le \$3,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo

8. **Sauga i tagata e iai mana'oga tumau o le tino**

E fa'asaina ona faia ni sauaga (e aofia ai sauaga mataga) e se isi i se tagata e iai mana'oga tumau o le tino.

FA'ASALAGA: 100 aumatua po'o le \$3,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo

VAEGA FA: PUIPUIGA MAI SAUAGA I TOTONU O AIGA

9. **Sauaga i fanau**

- (a) Sauaga mataga i alo ma fanau po'o faigaaiga fa'amalosi/mataga e so'o se isi i se teine po'o se tama e i lalo ifo o le 16 tausaga le matua;
- (e) Sauaga ogaoga ma matuia (e aofia ai sauaga o le tino) ma ua tele ai se a'afiaga (e aofia ai le ta'e o le ulu, gau o le lima ma isi tulaga fa'apena)

FA'ASALAGA: 100 aumatua po'o le \$3,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo

10. **Sauaga i va fa'augali'i**

- (a) E aofia ai sauaga o le tino, sauaga i upu lafo matuia/masoa, sauaga e a'afia ai le mafaufau, ma faigaaiga fa'amalosi

FA'ASALAGA: 100 aumatua po'o le \$3,000 tala ma molia i le Tulafono a le Malo

- (e) Fa'alavelave ma solia se poloaiga fa'aletulafono (Protection Order) ua aumai e le Fa'amasinoga

FA'ATATAUGA: O le a fesoasoani le nu'u i le fa'atinoina o le poloaiga ma lipoti atu le Fa'amasinoga. E fa'ataua e le nu'u le galulue fa'atasi ma le Matagaluega o Fa'amasinoga ma Mataupu Tau Fa'amasinoga

Appendix 7: Personnel Interviewed, provided support and villages

a. OneUN Team:

- Ms Louisa Apelu - Project Coordinator Spotlight Initiative, UNDP
- Ms Christina Mualia - Assistant Resident Representative, GPRU UNDP
- Ms Elisapeta Eteuati-Kerslake - Partnerships and Development Finance Officer, UN Resident Coordinator Office

b. Office of the Ombudsman (NHRI) Team:

- Loukinikini Vili - Director Human Rights
- Tracey Mikaele - Director, Engagement and Communications
- Leota Taalo Leota - Principal Investigations Officer
- Charles Dean - Legal and Investigations Officer
- Ropati Sitivi - Driver/Office Receptionist

c. Papalii Monalisa Tiai-Keti - Deputy Commissioner, Ministry of Police and Prisons

d. Faataua le Ola (FLO) Team:

- Papalii Tiumalu Carol Paul Ah Chong – Executive Director
 - Leala Pesamino Patea – Case Worker
 - Temukisa Tuaimau – Case Worker
- e. **Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development Team:**
- Vitoria Lalomilo – Assistant Chief Executive Officer
 - Alofipo Alan Aiolutepoa - Principal Officer
 - Rosalina Ah Sue – Principal Officer
- f. Leugamata Lofipo Faletolu – Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Land and Titles Court Division, Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration
- g. Village Councils, VFSC and village members from Asau, Saleia, Taga, Lalovi-Mulifanua, Vaiee and Lotopue-Aleipata

Appendix 8: Village Members Questionnaire

Village Members Questionnaire (Pepa Fesili mo Sui o Afio’aga)

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION (FAAMATALAGA LAUTELE)

Village (Nuu): _____			
Village Organization (Faalapotopotoga i totonu o le Nuu): _____			
Gender (Ituaiga): Male (Alii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female (Tamaitai)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marital Status: _____			
Age: 20 years or below	<input type="checkbox"/>	21-35 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
		36-50 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
		over 50years	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION 2: QUESTIONS (FESILI)

Question 1: What is your understanding of this Village Family Safety Committee Pilot Program? (O le a lou silafia o lenei Polokalame Faata’ita’i o le Komiti mo le Saogalemu o Aiga i Afio’aga?)

- No understanding of the program (Leai se malamalamaaga i lea polokalame)
- Some understanding of the program (Sina malamalamaaga feololo i le polokalame)
- Fully understand the program (Malamalama lelei i le polokalame)

Question 2: Have you experienced any form of violence in your family or village? YES / NO (Sa e aafia i ni sauaga i totonu o lou aiga poo lou nuu foi? IOE / LEAI)

Question 3: In your view, what is the current status of family violence in your village compared to the last two years since the Village Family Safety Committee Pilot Program started?

(I lau matau, o le a le tulaga o faafitauli tau sauaga i totonu o lou nuu i le taimi nei, pe a faatusatusa i le lua tausaga ua tuana’i talu ona amata le Polokalame Faataitai o Komiti mo le Saogalemu o Aiga i Afio’aga?)

- Decreased Violence (Ua faaitiitia sauaga)
- No Violence (Ua leai ni sauaga)
- Increased Violence (Ua faatupula'ia sauaga)
- Gone Worse / Bad (Ua sili atu ona faaletonu)

Question 4: Which awareness activity did you participate in? (O a polokalame faalauiloa na e 'auai?)

- Healthy parenting & children's connect (Tausiga saogalemu faa-mātua & fesootaiga a fanau)
- Healthy & respectful relationships with young couples (Mafutaga saogalemu ma fefaaaloaloa'i ma ulugalii talavou)
- Freedom of speech & safe use of social media & mobiles (Saolotoga e faaalua ai manatu ma le saogalemu o le faaaogaina o auala o fesootaiga)

**4.1 Was this your first time participating in an activity like this? YES / NO
(O se ulua'i taimi lea ua e auai ai i se aoaoga faapenei? IOE / LEAI)**

**4.2 Was this the first time you participated in any village awareness activity relating to family violence? YES / NO
(O se ulua'i taimi lea ua e auai ai i se polokalame faalauiloa e faatatau i sauaga i totonu o aiga? IOE / LEAI)**

4.3 How many times did you participate in the activities conducted by the Village Family Safety Committee in trying to minimize violence in the village? (E faafia ona e auai i galuega na faatinoina e le Komiti mo le Saogalemu o Aiga i Afio'aga e taumafai e faaitiitia ai sauaga i totonu o le nuu?)

- Once ○ Twice ○ Three times ○ More than three times

Question 5: From the rating of 1 – 5, what is your rating of the awareness activity you participated in? (A faatulaga mai le 1 – 5, o le a lau faatulagaina o polokalame faalauiloa sa e auai?)

Not Effective (E lei aogā)	1	2	3	4	5	Very Effective (E aogā tele)
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5.1 Why do you think so? (Aisea ua e manatu ai faapea?)

- The way the Trainers and Facilitators delivered the awareness programmes were very effective (O le auala na faatino ai e Faiaoga ma i latou na Ta'ita'ia polokalame faalauiloa na matuā lelei lava ma aoga)
- The way the Trainers and Facilitators delivered the awareness programmes were boring (O le auala na faatino ai e Faiaoga ma i latou na Ta'ita'ia polokalame faalauiloa na matuā faafiamoe tagata lava)
- The content of the awareness programmes were very interesting and useful to our community (O mata'upu o polokalame faalauiloa na matuā manaia lava ma aoga mo lo matou nuu)

- The content of the awareness programmes were not interesting and not useful to our community (O mata'upu o polokalame faalauiloa na matua le manaia lava ma le talafeaggai ma lo matou nuu)

Question 6: From the rating of 1 – 5, what is your rating of this Village Safety Pilot Program? (A faatulaga mai le 1 – 5, o le a lau faatulagaga o le Polokalame Faataitai mo le Saogalemu o Afio'aga?)

Not Effective (E le aoga)	1	2	3	4	5	Very Effective (E aoga tele)
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6.1 Why do you think so? (Aisea ua e manatu ai faapea?)

- This model is very useful in trying to eliminate violence in villages. (O leni polokalame e aoga tele mo le taofia o sauaga i totonu o nuu)
- This model is not useful for eliminating violence in villages. (O leni polokalame e le aoga mo le taofia o sauaga i totonu o nuu.)

Question 7: What do you recommend would minimize or eliminate this long-standing issue of family violence in the village communities? (O le a sau fautuaga e faaititia ai pe taofia ai leni faafitauli umi o sauaga aiga i totonu o nuu?)

- Continue with the Village Family Safety Committee (Faaauau le Polokalame o Komiti mo le Saogalemu o Aiga i totonu o nuu)
- More awareness and education activities (Ia faateleina polokalame faalauiloa ma aoga)
- More support from Alii & Faipule (Moomia tele le lagolagosua a Alii ma Faipule)
- Continued support from government ministries, CSOs and partners (Faaauau le lagolagosua mai)

Question 8: Do you think this program should be continued? YES / NO

(E te manatu e tataua ona faaaauau leni polokalame?) IOE / LEAI

Question 9: What would you recommend to improve the delivery of this program in the future if we are to take it forward? (O le a sau fautuaga e faaleleia atili ai le faatinoina o leni polokalame i le lumanai pe a faapea o le a faaaauina?)



Appendix 9: Village Family Safety Committee Members Questionnaire

Questionnaire for Committee members (Pepa Fesili mo sui o le Komiti)

Village (Nuu): _____	
Village Organization (Faalapotopotoga i totonu o le Nuu): _____	
Gender (Ituaiga): Male (Alii) <input type="checkbox"/>	Female (Tamaitai) <input type="checkbox"/>

Marital Status: _____

Age: 20 years or below 21-35 years 36-50 years over 50years

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Question 1. Was the training you received adequate for you to carry out all the required activities of the Pilot Program? YES / NO

(Na talafeagai le Aoaoga na e 'auai e faaauppegaina ai oe e mafai ai ona faationina galuega moomia uma o le Polokalame Faata'ita'i?) IOE / LEAI

Question 2. Being a Committee Member and your involvement in the Pilot Program, what changes (positive or negative) have you observed in your village since the program started?

(O le ave'a ai ma Sui o le Komiti aemaise o lou 'auai i le Polokalame Faata'ita'i, o a ni suiga (lelei pe leaga) ua e matauina i totonu o lou nuu talu ona amata le polokalame?)

- Decreased Violence (Ua faaitiitia sauaga)
- No Violence (Ua leai ni sauaga)
- Increased Violence (Ua faatupula'ia sauaga)
- Gone Worse / Bad (Ua sili atu ona faaletonu)

Question 3. What were the enablers of the positive changes have you observed if there's any since the program started?

(O a ni tulaga na e matauina na āfua ai ona tulai mai ni suiga lelei pe afai na iai, talu ona amata le polokalame?)

- Strong Village Governance (Lelei ma Mautu le pulega a le nuu)
- Different organizations in the village were committed to support different programs conducted by the committee (Sa matuā lelei le lagolagosua a faalopotopotoga eseese i totonu o le nuu i polokalame eseese e faatinoina e le Komiti)
- Active and Committed Committee members (Mataalia ma galulue punoua'i Sui o le Komiti)
- Village Good partnership with other government ministries and Civil Society Organizations (Lelei le fesoota'iga a le Nu'u ma isi matagaluega a le mālō aemaise o isi Faalapotopotoga Tuma'oti).
- Others (Isi) _____

Question 4. What were the challenges that you have encountered as a Committee Member in trying to pursue the implementation of the pilot program?

(O a ni lu'itau na feagai ai ma oe o le Sui o le Komiti, i le taumafai ai e faatino le Polokalame Faata'ita'i?)

(Tick ALL relevant responses / Faasa'o uma tali talafeagai)

- Lack of support from the Fono a Alii ma Faipule (Lē lava le lagolago a le Fono Mamalu a Alii ma Faipule)
- Hard to change people's mindset (Faigata ona suia mafaufau o tagata)
- Lack of commitment and team work from the different organizations in the village (Le lava le galulue faatasi ma le naunauta'i o Faalapotopotoga eseese i totonu o le nuu)
- Not enough trainings provided to build capacity of Committee Members to drive le Initiative (Le lava a'oa'oga na faatinoina e siitia ai le Tomai o Sui o le Komiti e faatino ai le Polokalame)
- Lack and delayed responses from other government ministries and Civil Society Organizations when needed (Lē lava ma tuai le tali mai o isi matagaluega a le malo aemaise o isi Faalapotopotoga i le taimi e moomia ai)
- Do not have resources in the village to conduct some required activities of the program (Leai ni alagā'oa e maua i totonu o le nuu e faatino ai nisi galuega moomia o le polokalame)
- Others (Isi) _____

Question 5. Do you think this Program should be continued? YES / NO

(E te manatu e tatau ona faaauau lenei Polokalame? IOE / LEAI)

Question 6. Why do you think so? (O le a le uiga o lou manatu?)

Question 7. As a Committee Member, what are your highly recommended ways to improve the delivery of this program to ensure family violence in the community is minimized or eliminated?

(O le avea ai ma Sui o le Komiti, o a ni au fautuaga i ni auala e faaleleia atili ai le faatinoina o lea polokalame, ina ia mautinoa ua faaitiitia pe taofia foi sauaga i totonu o nuu?)

Thank you for your time and your invaluable contribution

Appendix 10: Village Focus Group Discussion Guiding Questions

Village Focus Group Discussion (Talanoa Session)

Village: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Number of Participants: _____

Number of Females: _____

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- Question 1. Based on your understanding of your village and your involvement in the Pilot Program, what changes (positive or negative) have you observed since the program started in the last two years?
 - Question 2. What were the challenges that you have encountered as a Village in trying to pursue the implementation of the pilot program?
 - Question 3. What actions should be taken by all parties (Government, CSOs, Partners & Communities) in order to address the said challenges?
 - Question 4. As a village community, what are your highly recommended ways to improve the delivery of this program to ensure family violence in the community is minimized or eliminated?
-

Question 5. What do you think as a village of the overall value of this Intervention and the model used?

Thank you for your time and your invaluable contribution

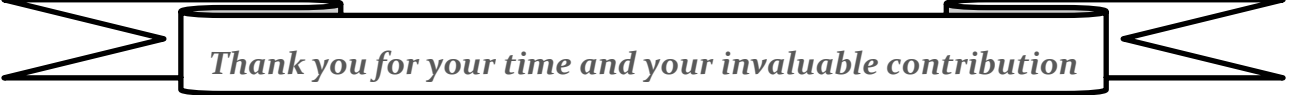
Appendix 11: Guiding questions for Stakeholders and Partners Interviews

Stakeholders and Partners Interview Questions

Organization: _____	
Date: _____	Time: _____
Interviewee Age: _____	Interviewee Gender: Female

- Question 1. What was your involvement (role played) in the Village Safety Committee Pilot Program? What is your understanding of family violence in the community?
- Question 2. Based on your knowledge and your involvement in the Pilot Program, what do you think of the Design and the Overall intention and approach taken by the program?
- Follow-up Question: To what extent do you think the intended impacts of the program match the stated priorities of the organisation and the intended participants?

- Question 3. What helped or hindered the pilot program to achieve their intended impacts?
- Question 4. What actions the government and partners should do to improve the delivery of such an intervention at the community level?
- Question 5. What are your recommended sustainable ways of maintaining the positive impacts/changes occurred as a result of the intervention?



Thank you for your time and your invaluable contribution