



**Spotlight
Initiative**
*To eliminate violence
against women and girls*

**Integration of Interventions for Prevention and Response to Gender-Based
Violence and Violence against Children in Government Gender-Responsive
Planning and Budgeting**

Trainers' Manual for Government Ministries and Agencies

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AFL	Armed Forces of Liberia
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CSA	Civil Servant Agency
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EVD	Ebola Virus Disease
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GC	Governance Commission
GRPB	Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting
GVB	Gender-Based Violence
IPFMRP	Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project
IREDD	Institute for Research and Democratic Development
LBO	Legislative Budget Office
LIS	Liberia Immigration Service
LLA	Liberia Land Commission
LNP	Liberia National Police
LRC	Law Reform Commission
MACs	Ministries, Agencies, and Commissions
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MFDP	Ministry of Finance, Development, and Planning
MGCSP	Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection
MOH	Ministry of Health
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
NTC	National Traditional Council
PAPD	Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development
PFM	Public Finance Management
SES	Senior Executive Service
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
WACPS	Women and Children Protection Section
WLC	Women's Legislative Caucus

INTRODUCTION

This manual is primarily focused on integrating efforts to combat Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and the Prevention and Response Interventions in Government Plans and Budgets. It is a user-friendly instrument for training and mentoring technical staff in Government Ministries, Agencies and Commissions (MACs), and Local Governments. The overarching objective of this manual is to facilitate and empower Government technocrats across all MACs to adequately plan and budget for the effective programming and financing to prevent and respond to Gender-Based Violence by the various Government programs. Specifically, the manual provides:

- Training guides that can help government plan and budget effectively for the minimization or eradication of GBV across all government initiatives.
- Resources that the corresponding MACs can utilize to plan and fund GBV preventive and responsive interventions.

As part of the objectives, the manual seeks to foster learning and understanding of the GBV conceptual framework and the role of various MACs in addressing GBV-related problems.

GBV-related cases are gradually on the increase throughout Liberia with no real-time intervention to raise the necessary funding through the government's budgeting allocation process. The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Liberia National Police, Ministry of Health, Local Government, Community-Based Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, and other MACs involved with GBV-related problems are not considered by the national budget planning process.

USERS OF THE MANUAL

This is intended for all government MACs and local governments with roles to handle GBV prevention and response. This manual will enable Government institutions (Specialists) to adequately enunciate and integrate GBV-related topics into their development plans and budget to track and report on these aspects.

Notwithstanding, this guide can be adapted and used by GBV actors in the private sector and or Civil Society Organizations.

TRAINING METHODOLOGIES

The following simplified training methods can be used to enhance participants' understanding of VAWG-related topics and those can be jointly applied by them:

- Brainstorming
- Discussions
- Lecture/talk
- Question and answer
- Role-plays
- Case study
- Demonstrations

For purposes of this manual, Gender-Based Violence is used as a general term for Violence against Women and Girls, Violence against Children, and Sexual Reproductive Health Rights among others.

Structure of the Training Manual

This manual consists of four (4) modules:

Module 1. Identifying VAWG in Liberia- highlights the background of VAWG, objectives, types of VAWG, causes and signals that provoke VAWG, and some steps to prevent VAWG-related offenses. Besides, it looks at the impact of GBV on development.

Module 2. Key actors of GBV prevention- shares the list of key actors of GBV prevention, and their roles and responsibilities.

Module 3. Methods to monitor, document, coordinate and report VAWG data- focus on maintaining a record of VAWG-related cases, awareness-raising and advocacy of GBV-related cases, and detailed reporting of GBV cases.

Module 4. Gender-responsive planning and budgeting policy framework- focuses on the Liberian experience with GRPB, and integrating GRPB into the budget and the current situation of Gender inequalities in Liberia.

MODULES

Module 1. Identifying Gender-Based Violence

Section 1.1: Brief overview of VAWG

Section 1.2: Causes, and signals which may provoke violence

Section 1.3: Some key steps to prevent VAWG-related challenges

Section 1.4: Impact of GBV on development

Module 2. Key actors of GBV prevention

Section 2.2: Roles and responsibilities of GBV actors

Section 2.3: Prevention/ Intervention

Module 3. Methods to monitor, document and coordinate and report VAWG-related cases

Section 3.1: Document and record of VAWG-related cases

Section 3.2: Advocacy/Awareness raising of GBV-related occurrences

Module 4. Gender-responsive planning and budgeting policy framework

Section 4.1: Liberian experience on GRPB

Section 4.2: Integrating GRPB policy implementation into the budget circle

Section 4.3: Current situation of gender inequalities in Liberia

MODULE 1: IDENTIFYING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE MODULE

- To enhance participants' understanding of key Gender-Based Violence concepts.
- To enable the participants to understand different forms of violence and signals that provoke violence.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- A better understanding of GBV, signals, and causes including the implications it has on development.

MODULE OUTLINE:

Section 1.1: GBV Overview

Section 1.2: Causes, and Signals which provoke violence

Section 1.3: Some key steps to prevent VAWG-related cases

Section 1.4 Impact of GBV on Development

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Animal Behavior

DURATION: 3 HOURS

SECTION 1.1 OVERVIEW OF GBV

- OBJECTIVE:
 - To give an overview of GBV, key concepts, and signals that provoke violence.
- OUTCOME:
 - Participants will be able to describe the GBV-related situations, concepts, and different types of GBV.

- CONTENT:

SECTION 1.1: Answer the following questions:

- What is GBV and what are the different types of GBV?
- In what way do the different types of GBV affect the victims/survivors?

- What are the signals that provoke violence?

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Understanding GBV, causes, and signals that provoke violence and its implication on development.

The estimated total for Section 1.1: 40 Minutes

(Facilitator's notes: Use real-life stories of GBV through testimonies, videos, and pictures for participants to make them able to relate well. Note that participants are knowledgeable about the content of this section, and make it interactive.

Steps:

1. Acquaint participants with the objectives of the section, and ask for the clarifications of questions.
2. Ask participants to share their understanding of GBV.
3. Facilitate a discussion on the different types of GBV.
4. Call for participants to be divided into groups to answer the following questions:
 - Can you describe the situation of GBV in your setting (culture)?
 - What are the cultural practices that promote/facilitate GBV?
 - How do different groups of people (women and children) in society are affected by GBV?
5. After 15 minutes each group should present for 5 minutes.
6. Conclude the section by emphasizing the following:
 - Violence is the form in which perpetrators use their power over victims.
 - Unequal employment opportunities among women and men are one of the main reasons for the subordinate position of women in society.

SECTION 1.1 HANDOUT NOTES

Brief Overview of VAWG

Violence against women and girls has been and unabatedly continued to permeate nations across the world in several forms, especially poor countries like Liberia where women and girls are vulnerable. Based on their economic status, as many of them live in extreme poverty, they easily become subjected to abuse such as physical, sexual, psychological, coercive, or deprivation of liberty. These forms of abuse normally occur in both public and private life. Notably, there are two main types of violence meted out against women and girls: domestic violence and family violence.

Central elements or types of domestic violence occur at any given opportunity; studies showed domestic violence occurs as follows:

- Between intimate relationships; and
- Not in intimate relationships;

Gender-based violent behavior is considered both criminal and non-criminal acts which include: physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, and financial abuse or denial.

Physical violence includes slapping, shoving, hitting, punching, kicking, arm-twisting, choking, etc.

Psychological and emotional abuse includes a range of controlling behaviors such as control of finances, isolation from family and friends, continual humiliation, threats against children, or being threatened with injury or death.

Financial or economic abuse/denial includes forcibly controlling another person's money or assets and refusing to approve support. It also involves stealing cash, not allowing a victim to participate in any financial decisions, or preventing a victim from having a job.

Family violence refers to violence among family members, as well as violence between intimate partners. This involves sorts of behaviors described for domestic violence.

Sexual assault or sexual violence includes rape, sexual assault with or without objects, being forced to watch or engage in pornography, enforced prostitution, and being made to have sex with friends of the perpetrator.

Violence against women and girls often involves a continuum of acts ranging from psychological, economic, and emotional abuse to physical and sexual abuse.

SECTION 1.2: SOME CAUSES OF VAWG

Studies showed that the following are among the key factors or conducive perimeter for gender-based violence:

- Cultural factors
- Legal factors
- Economic factors
- Political factors

SECTION 1.2: SIGNALS WHICH MAY PROVOKE VIOLENCE

- Partner keeps track of everything of his counterparts (monitoring all activities).
- Insistent on right away replying to texts, emails, calls, etc.
- Demand to know passwords to social media sites, phones, email, etc.
- Constant accusations of cheating; attempts to control where to go and how to spend money, etc.

SECTION 1.3: SOME KEY STEPS TO PREVENT VAWG-RELATED PROBLEMS

- Listen to, believe, and document the survivor's story.
- Teach moral virtue, openly discuss the bad effect of VAWG, and highlight the punishments.
- Regularly report VAWG story and action taken.

GVB Drivers

There is no single reason why people commit gender-based violence or why societies have high levels of gender-based violence.

The following are some of the factors that contribute to gender-based violence:

- Patriarchy is a source of male violence. Patriarchy refers to “a system of interrelated social structures through which men exploit women”. Some use the term to refer to “a general structure in which men have power over women”.
- Alcohol and substance abuse are the key drivers of gender-based violence. It is true that drinking too much alcohol or taking drugs can make it difficult for some people to control their anger and actions. People who are intoxicated may

experience impaired thinking. Thus, alcohol and substance abuse do contribute to gender-based violence.

- Obsessive possessiveness or jealousy contributes to gender-based violence. Some court judgments have found that obsessive possessiveness or jealousy has led perpetrators to commit violent acts against their victims.
- Certain types of personality disorders or mental illnesses can contribute to gender-based violence. While this can be true, we need to be careful not to think that male violence is only caused by mentally sick men or is the result of impaired masculinity in a few men. Male violence is so widespread in our country that it can't be associated only with mental sickness.
- People who grow up in a violent family are more likely to commit gender-based violence. Research shows that family violence can cause a cycle of abuse, where those family members think it is acceptable to abuse others.
- Gender-based violence is largely a socioeconomic consequence. Some research has revealed a direct link between socioeconomic status and gender-based violence.
- Men's violence against women is particularly facilitated by women's weak economic position. One of the main reasons victims of gender-based violence have cited for remaining in a violent relationship is because they are dependent on their spouses for basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter.
- Men learn to be violent through the process of socialization. Some research has shown that in some cultures, initiation school graduates demand subservient respect from girls and girls who do not comply are prone to violence.
- Male chauvinism, misogyny and toxic masculinity are to blame for high levels of gender-based violence. Different dictionaries define these concepts as follows: Male chauvinism refers to "male prejudice against women or the belief that men

are superior to women in terms of ability and intelligence”. Misogyny refers to “the dislike of, contempt for, or ingrained prejudice against, women”. Toxic masculinity refers to “harmful behavior and attitudes commonly associated with some men, such as the need to repress emotions during stressful situations and to act in an aggressively dominant way”.

- Men often validate their masculinity through violent behavior towards women, girls, gay men and boys and lesbians. As in other patriarchal cultures, traditional and outdated ideals or notions of masculinity and femininity are still prevalent in this country. Historically, men were taught that being masculine meant to revere violence and stoicism and to hyper-sexualize women. As a result, boys are often pressured to distance themselves from associations of weakness and homosexuality. Thus, it is argued that to fight gender-based violence, we have to demonstrate care and understanding to boys and assist them in dealing with the internal and external pressures that can make them abusive.
- Homophobia is the main cause of violence against people who are not heterosexuals or who are perceived or thought to be homosexual. Homophobes react differently to people who are perceived or thought to be homosexuals. Some avoid having anything to do with homosexual people, including any conversation about homosexuality. Others have physically, verbally and sexually attacked people perceived or thought to be homosexual.
- Corrective rapes have been reported in many communities. Corrective rape is defined in some dictionaries as “the act of raping a lesbian woman in an attempt to turn her heterosexual”.

SECTION 1.4: IMPACT OF GBV ON DEVELOPMENT

Violence against women and girls has a greater effect on the overall health of an economy. Women from abusive homes are most likely to be unemployed or work ineffectively which could result in low production. Consequently, that can decrease the number of women in the workforce, and reduce their chances of acquiring skills and education which eventually result in less public investments as more public resources are channeled to health and judicial services.

GROUP PRESENTATION

Summary of Ideas Obtained from the VAWG Training:

Objectives of the Group Presentation:

- To allow the participants to discuss their understanding of the training.
- To assess the training's impact on participants' capacity to achieve the project's overall objective.

PROBLEM	BARRIERS/CHALLENGES	INTERVENTION NEEDED	EXPECTED RESULT
Increased VAWG (S/GBV) cases in Liberia	❖ Weak Justice System in Liberia	❖ Advocacy/awareness raising to effective compliance with required actions	❖ Communities are informed of the referral pathway and how to report VAWG cases to the police, gender coordinator, and the court
	❖ Cultural and traditional interfering with S/GBV cases	❖ Proper coordination, documentation, and reporting of VAWG cases	❖ VAWG cases are well coordinated and documented and accordingly reported
	❖ Limited Support to S/GBV actors/Gender Country Coordinators, and lack of logistical support	❖ VAWG Data Tracking and Documentation tools, and reporting template	❖ Enhanced method and knowledge for timely and regularly reporting VAWG-related cases
	❖ Insecurity	❖ Prompt follow-ups on reports and effect appropriate action to deter counter-actions	❖ Perpetrators are accordingly punished, and community dwellers are informed of the actions taken
	❖ Compromising S/GBV cases	❖ Evoke appropriate action (punishment for an undue delay to dispense with justice) ❖ Prevent cultural interference, sympathy, and corruption	❖ Stop unforgettable torture ❖ Less conducive environment for increased VAWG acts

	❖ Limited staff at the county level	❖ Deploy more trained manpower	❖ More efforts integrated toward combating VAWG-related challenges
	❖ Limited gender coordinators' participation in the national decision-making process	❖ County gender coordinators have unrestricted participation in all VAWG cases	❖ Communities are informed of the role of gender coordinator participation in all VAWG-related issues
	❖ Cultural norms and practices/Religious beliefs ❖ Lack of communication ❖ Limited support	❖ Monitoring, Reporting, & follow-up ❖ Advocacy/Awareness ❖ Coordination/ collaboration	❖ Long Jail sentences ❖ Prompt prosecution of perpetrators ❖ Enforce required compliance ❖ Knowledge about VAWG-related issues enhanced
	❖ Compromising any form of VAWG-related cases, especially rape	❖ Sustained awareness-raising of rape-related laws and the punishments thereof. ❖ Involving rural women's structure, youth groups, CSOs, CBOs, local government authorities, etc.	❖ Enhanced coordination among partners ❖ Regularly reporting VAWG cases and speaking out on prevention measures



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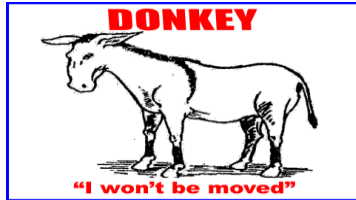
Presentation/Lecture Notes / Handout (Illustration & Narrative)

This training has been crafted in two-prong scenarios: the facilitators' lecture notes, and the participants' group work presentations. The two scenarios or methods of presentation have been designed to easily highlight violence against women and girls (VAWG). Besides, a graphic illustration of helpful and unhelpful behavior regimes and their narratives have been used. Also, the participants made group presentations to demonstrate their acquired knowledge from the discussions held. This style of training presentation has been designed to highlight and stress the issues around VAWG and ensure that participants can easily grab the overall objectives of the project and can find a way to mitigate all forms of VAWG, especially the SGBV.

The Graphic Illustration of a Helpful and Unhelpful Behavior

Mindset speaks to the behavior of man in terms of respecting the rule of law. The importance of moral values and benefits, and knowing the causes and punishments for immorality such as VAWG will help mitigate the tendency to commit these types of offenses. The graphic illustration or pictorial presentation injects images about different animal behavior. There are two impacts a behavior has on any issue: helpful and unhelpful. These behaviors can also be seen in human beings across issues as efforts to combat VAWG cases in Liberia. The different behavioral patterns of these animals will be used as the basis to inspire and urge participants to integrate efforts to combat robustly VAWG-related crimes across communities and neighborhoods in the counties.

The Pictorial Presentation



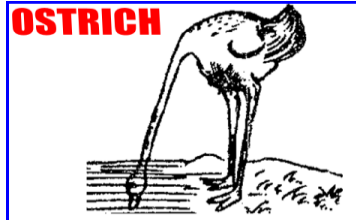
Let the VAWG issue Move You



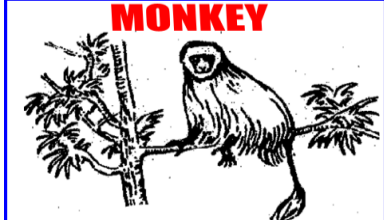
Let's fight against VAWG



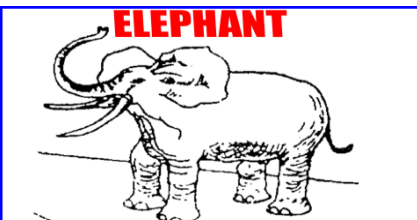
Don't run away from the VAWG fight



VAWG always ignites conflict



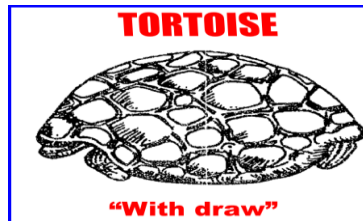
No fooling & joking on VAWG issues



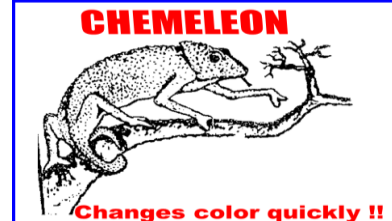
Let us integrate efforts to combat VAWG issues



Above all else, let Combat VAWG



Don't withdraw, combat VAWG



Be consistent, and don't change color



No sympathy in combat for VAWG



Like the RHINO, all efforts must be into it to combat VAWG

MODULE 2: KEY ACTORS OF GBV PREVENTION

OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF THE MODULE

- To inform participants about the key actors of GBV prevention.
- To know the roles and responsibilities of key actors in GBV prevention.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Participants know the GBV key actors.
- Participants are familiar with their roles and responsibilities.

MODULE OUTLINE:

Section 2.1: Key actors of GBV prevention

Section 2.2: Key actors's roles and responsibilities

Section 2.3: Prevention/ Intervention

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Government of Liberia- GBV joint program: Exploring GBV in Liberia
- Defense for Children & Plan International: Universal Review of Liberia 36 Session

DURATION: 2 HOURS

SECTION 2.1: LIST OF KEY ACTORS IN GBV PREVENTION

- OBJECTIVE:
 - To present key actors in GBV prevention and their roles and responsibilities.
- OUTCOME:
 - Participants will know the roles and responsibilities of key GBV actors.
- CONTENT:

SECTION 2.1: Answer the following questions:

- Who are the key actors in GBV prevention?



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- What are their roles and responsibilities?

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Knowing the key actors in GBV prevention and their roles and responsibilities

The estimated total for Section 2.1: 40 Minutes.

(Facilitator's notes: Ask participants about key actors of GBV prevention. Note that participants are knowledgeable about the content of this section, and make it interactive.

Steps:

1. Acquaint participants with the objectives of the section, and ask for clarifications of questions.
2. Ask participants to share their experiences regarding this section.
3. Facilitate a discussion on the key actors of GBV prevention.
4. Call for participants to be divided into groups to answer the following questions:
 - Can you list key actors in GBV prevention?
 - What are they involved with?
 - What are their roles and responsibilities?
5. After 15 minutes each group should present for 5 minutes each.
6. Conclude the section by emphasizing the following:
 - Actors of GBV prevention play a key role in addressing GBV issues.
 - Identifying the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders for possible intervention.

SECTION 2.1 HANDOUT NOTES



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SECTION 2.1: LIST OF KEY ACTORS IN GBV PREVENTION

The key actors in GBV prevention include government ministries and agencies, Civil Society Organizations, International Partners (donors), Traditional Leaders, Communities, the Private Sector, and Families.

SECTION 2.2: KEY NATIONAL ACTORS OF GBV PREVENTION AND THEIR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

INSTITUTIONS	ROLES/ RESPONSIBILITIES	GBV INTERVENTION
Ministry of Gender, Children & Social Protection (Gender-Based Violence Unit)	Coordinate and ensure gender equity and equality, promote the survival, social protection, and development of children, and persons with disability, and integrate fulfillment of their rights, empowerment, and full participation into National development.	Develop policies and strategic plans on Gender-Based Violence. Create awareness of cultural and social practices, and coordinate the monitoring and evaluation of GBV policies at all levels. Coordinate line ministries and other institutions to prevent and respond to GBV.
Gender-Based Violence Unit	Provide services (counseling, legal, and referral) to gender-based violence survivors, collect and analyze data on GBV trends; asses their magnitude, disseminate GBV information, create awareness, and provide education on GBV prevention and care.	Develop plans on Social empowerment, health education, and economic strengthening.
Ministry of Health & Social Welfare	Reform and manage the sector to effectively and efficiently deliver comprehensive, quality health services that are equitable accessible, and sustainable for all Liberians.	Develop policies and plans (National policy and strategic plan, Social Welfare policy).
Ministry of Finance & Development Planning	Promote inclusive, and sustainable development through efficient resource allocation.	Develop policies and plans for efficient resource allocation.
Women and Children Protection Section (WACSP)	The frontline force of internal security to fight against crimes, the protection of life and property, and the maintenance of the rule of law.	Law enforcement.

	Investigate and prosecute gender-related cases.	
Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Crimes Unit	Investigates and prosecutes criminal offenses arising from incidence of incest, rape, sexual assault, sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation.	The psychosocial pillar aims to make medical and legal support available and accessible for GBV survivors.
National GBV Task Force	Work with those who report their cases to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to protect and safeguard their rights.	Develop plans on accountability coordination, information management, support, healing, etc.
Gender-Based Violence Inter-Agency Coordination Taskforce	Share information and network; design strategies to address all forms of violence against women and children, prevent and respond to GBV inside the county.	Develop plans on combatting all forms of violence against women and children.
Traditional/Community leaders	Play a key role in ensuring adequate support for GBV survivors and building communities that are free from VAWG.	Awareness raising to stop abuse and victim naming. Join community victim support initiatives.
Communities/Families	Call for responses and services appropriate for this purpose. Stand against rape culture.	Awareness raising to stop abuse and victim naming. Join community victim support initiatives.
Criminal Court “E”	Exercise exclusive jurisdiction over Sexual offenses related to Montserrado county.	Reporting requirements, protective orders, arrest procedures, and treatment for survivors.
Ministry of Internal Affairs	Oversee the successful conduct and improvement of local government by supervising and directing the activities of political sub-divisions of the central government.	Develop plans to implement local governments successfully.

Violence against children and women is a common issue in Liberia. In 2012 the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child stated: ‘The Committee remains concerned about the widespread violence against children (..And) the lack of sufficient measures, mechanisms, and resources to prevent and combat domestic violence, abuse of children at school and neglect of children. It



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regrets the limited access to services for abused children, and the high level of impunity enjoyed by perpetrators of violence against children, against whom mostly social measures rather than prosecutions are applied'. The Committee also stated in its 2012 Concluding Observations: 'Child rape and sexual offenses are among the most commonly reported crimes in the State party, children are the majority of victims of sexual violence and the number of incidents of rape of girls under 12 years old has increased'.

From January to March 2019, the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection declared that over 797 Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) cases were reported across Liberia. 605 of those cases were sexual abuse and sodomy cases perpetrated against children under 18 years, among 605 sexual abuse cases 599 were females while six are males and 25 were gang rape cases in which all of the victims were females. According to the Deputy Minister in Person of Mrs. Alice Johnson Howard, among the total rape cases reported 44 cases were children below five years, 185 cases between 6-12 years, and 376 cases between 13-17 years. Meanwhile, out of 122 physical assault cases 115 were reported. UNICEF and the Ministry of Gender Children and Social Protection: Situational analysis of Children and Women 2016 out of 119 sexual assault cases all were females. According to the Ministry report, 216 alleged offenders were arrested and brought to trial. However, 578 alleged perpetrators were not arrested. Out of the total SGBV cases reported, 19 were resolved, 76 were sent to the court, 370 are pending for trial, 656 medical reports were provided, 112 medical reports are pending and 646 medical reports were issued.

SECTION 2.3: PREVENTION /INTERVENTIONS

There are several initiatives implemented under the SGBV Joint Program second phase in 2013. According to the Government and the UN GBV joint program those strategies have been classified broadly as follows: 1. Campaigns Exploring GBV Prevention in Liberia – Anti-rape Campaign Launch in Monrovia 2. Work with Leaders 3. Work with Communities.

Anti-Rape Campaign Strategy:

Amplify national attention and dialogue that would strongly condemn the perpetration of GBV, especially the rape of children. Initiatives: An official launch by the President H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, of the Anti-Rape Campaign with the theme: 'Stand Up Against Rape' followed by campaigns in Gbarpolu, Grand Cape Mount, and Margibi Counties. The campaign



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in 2013 includes a year-long engagement with community members using several mutually reinforcing messaging. These include I.E.C/BCC messages, cultural performances, community dialogues, and radio programs. Two popular Liberian musicians have also been selected as the Anti-rape Ambassadors for 2103. The MOGD engaged the Liberia Media for Democratic initiatives to facilitate "The Dialogue" in several locations including the Fiama and Paynesville communities as well as in Gbartalah, Bong County, Bomi, and Margibi Countries. The dialogue is live interactive outdoors.

Work With Leaders:

Work with Traditional Leaders Strategy: Build partnerships with traditional leaders as community gatekeepers to transform communities and make them agents of change. Initiatives: Dialogue with the National Traditional Council (NTC) is the primary medium that is being used by UNFPA in partnership with MOGD, MOHSW, and MIA. This initiatives identify the positive factors of culture which are then used in addressing SGBV and harmful traditional practices such as early marriage, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and adolescent pregnancies.

A key outcome of this initiative has been the issuance of a directive by the Ministry of Internal Affairs against forceful initiation in these societies, which allegedly are responsible for FGM. A separate approach by UNFPA has been ‘Supporting increased advocacy to develop gender-related laws and policy formulation against Harmful Traditional Practices’. The focus is to support advocacy to enact the Gender Equity (Fairness) Bill and to provide support to the Line Ministries/CSOs to work with the NTC and Ministry of Internal Affairs to develop a policy against harmful traditional practice including early marriage, and FGM. This response will promote to achieve gender equality and reproductive rights in Liberia.

Work With Community:

‘All Men Dialogue to Prevent Child Rape and Sexual Abuse’ was held in May 2013 and was organized by UNMIL Public Information Office in collaboration with the Independent National Commission for Human Rights, the Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY), UN Women, UNICEF and the Office of the Gender Advisor (OGA) of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). Around 80 men and young boys from diverse backgrounds, settings, ages, and professions participated in that dialogue. While the reasons identified were similar to those in previous



consultations, some interesting ideas were put forward to prevent sexual exploitation, abuse, and violence against children. Negativity of Sexual violence and rape is to be included in school curricula, creation of anti-violence clubs in schools and communities, and limiting children's interaction with strangers were some of the interesting suggestions.

MODULE 3: METHODS TO MONITOR, DOCUMENT AND COORDINATION AND REPORT OF VAWG –RELATED CASES

MODULE OVERALL OBJECTIVES

- To inform participants about tracking GBV cases, documenting GBV data, and reporting GBV cases.
- To inform participants the importance of coordination in combatting GBV.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Participants understanding of tracking GBV cases are enhanced.
- Participants' Coordination strategies enhanced.

MODULE OUTLINE:

Section 3.1: Document and record of VAWG- related cases.

Section 3.2: Advocacy/ Awareness raising of GBV-related occurrences.

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Government of Liberia- GBV joint program: Exploring GBV in Liberia.
- Defense for Children & Plan International: Universal Review of Liberia 36 Session.

DURATION: 2 HOURS

SECTION 3.1: DOCUMENT AND RECORD OF VAWG-RELATED CASES

- **OVERALL OBJECTIVE:**
 - To enhance participants' knowledge of proper documentation of GBV Cases.
- **OUTCOME:**
 - Participants' knowledge increase on documentation and maintaining records of VAWG Cases.
- **CONTENT:**

SECTION 3.1: How do we document GBV cases?



- How is data on GBV collected?
- How data on GBV is maintaining?

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Monitoring, documenting, and reporting of GBV cases

The estimated total for Section 3.1: 40 Minutes

(Facilitator’s notes: Ask participants about how GBV data is collected. Note that participants are knowledgeable about the content of this section, and make it interactive.

Steps:

1. Acquaint participants with the objectives of the section, and ask for clarifications of questions.
2. Ask participants to share their experiences regarding this section.
3. Facilitate a discussion on monitoring and reporting.
4. Call for participants to be divided into groups to answer the following questions:
 - a. Can you explain how monitoring and reporting are carried out?
 - b. How do you report GBV Cases?
 - c. After 15 minutes each group should present for 5 minutes each.
 - d. Conclude the section by emphasizing the following:
 - Monitoring and documentation of GBV cases
 - Maintaining Record of GBV Cases

SECTION 3.1 HANDOUT NOTES

SECTION 3.1 Document and record of VAWG-related cases

VAWG Data Monitoring, Coordinating, and Reporting

- Record of VAWG-related cases
- Advocacy/awareness-raising
- Follow-ups



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- Timely Communication of VAWG cases

Reporting of GBV cases allows survivors of Gender-Based Violence to access to the medical, psychosocial, and legal services they need to minimize the impact of the violence on their health and also allows perpetrators to be held accountable. Besides, GBV data analysis improves GBV response. The National Action Plan Phase III (2018-2023), merged GBV interventions into three critical pillars: (1) Psychosocial & Coordination Pillar; (2) Legal & Protection Pillar (which includes a specific output on witness protection); and (3) Health Pillar.

The Liberian Government, as a High National Level Target in PAPD (2018-2023), has committed to reducing the incidence of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) by 50% through the provision of appropriate support services & access to justice systems by 2023. For 2017, the MGCSP noted that total 1,685 GVB cases were reported in Liberia. Of these, 69.2% were sexual violence, of which 59.8% were female survivors under the age of 18. Of the 2,105 SGBV cases reported in 2018, 60 cases were sent to court with only 1% (6 cases) resulting in conviction of the perpetrators.

A comprehensive analysis of the statistics available at the SGBV Division of the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection (MGCSP) indicated that the number of reported cases of SGBV has fluctuated over the five years (2013-2018). The number of SGBV cases reported sharply decreased from over 2000 in 2013 to almost 1400 in 2014. Between 2015 and 2017 reporting had been increased and fluctuated between 1400 and almost 1700. Finally, there was an increase to over 2000 reported cases in 2018 (Annual Statistical Report 2018). The final report of the GBV Division of the MGCSP notes the fluctuations can be attributed to several factors. For instance, there was an overall increased awareness regarding SGBV issues at the community level; within service provision entities {One Stop Centers (OSC), Women, and Children Protection Sections (WACPS) and GBV Observatories}; at the national level; and the subnational level. The 2018 increase was due to an increment of reporting SGBV cases, whilst the reason of sharp decreases in the number of cases reported in 2014 were Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak.

In 2017, over 860 survivors received psychosocial, protection, and legal services through the referral pathway by One-Stop-Centers, Referral Hospitals, Police and the Criminal Court “E”.



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2,222 survivors of SGBV accessed services in 2018 and SGBV survivors were provided with the needed support services under one roof.

A hotline and fast-track to report SGBV cases was established in November 2016 as a pilot project to provide an opportunity for sexual violence survivors to report sexual violence and other crimes. However, many users of the hotline were children and they abused the intent of the hotline thereby leading to the closure of that project. Moreover, the government established the National Human Anti-trafficking Hotline to assist victims and potential victims of trafficking.

Source: Beijing+25 National Review Report

Coordination

Effective coordination is essential to ensure better protection which reduces duplication and increases accountability. Coordination teams support national stakeholders to prevent and respond to GBV effectively.

SECTION 3.2 ADVOCACY/AWARENESS-RAISING

Awareness-raising, having an important role to play in preventing violence against women and girls (VAWG), alone cannot significantly reduce VAWG. There is often an inconsistency between the intended aims of awareness-raising activities and what they are likely to attain. For example, an institution might publicize information about a new VAWG law to reduce violence committed by men, but this strategy alone is highly unlikely to do so. It is important to clarify what awareness-raising activities can achieve and how to mitigate the limitations of this approach. This may help in implementing awareness-raising approaches. It can help to align theories of change closer with intervention activities and identify best practices for effective awareness-raising efforts.

MODULE 4: GENDER-RESPONSIVE PANNING AND BUDGETING POLICY

OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF THE MODULE

- To inform participants about implementing GRPB policy framework.
- To inform participants the importance of gender inclusiveness.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Participants understanding of GRPB be enhanced.
- Participants are acquainted with gender-sensitive budget.

MODULE OUTLINE:

SECTION 4.1: The Liberian Experience on GRPB - Current Situation of gender inequalities in Liberia.

SECTION 4.2: Integrating GRPB policy implementation into budget circle.

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Ministry of Finance & Development Planning: Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting.

DURATION: 2 HOURS

SECTION 4.1: LIBERIA'S EXPERIENCE ON GRPB

- OVERALL OBJECTIVE:
 - To enhance participants' knowledge of Gender-responsive budgeting.
- OUTCOME:
 - Participants' knowledge increment on budget allocation.
- CONTENT:

SECTION 3.1: How the Gender mainstreaming is to be done?

- What is budget allocation?
- What are the factors involved in carving a gender-inclusive budget?



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KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Gender mainstreaming

Role-play

The estimated total for Section 3.1: 40 Minutes

(Facilitator's notes: Ask participants about how GBV data has been collected. Note that participants are knowledgeable about the content of this section, and make it interactive.

Steps:

1. Acquaint participants with the objectives of the section, and ask for clarifications of questions.
2. Ask participants to share their experiences regarding this section.
3. Facilitate a discussion on Gender mainstreaming.
4. Call for participants to be divided into groups.
5. After 15 minutes each group should present for 5 minutes each.

Conclude the section by emphasizing the following:

- Importance of Gender mainstreaming.

SECTION 4.1 HANDOUT NOTES

SECTION 4.1: LIBERIA'S EXPERIENCE ON GRPD

The Government of Liberia enacted the PFM Act in 2009 and launched preparatory work to strengthen economic governance by ensuring that the national budget processes allocate and utilize the scarce resources efficiently. Besides, The Liberian Government endeavors the implementation of the five-year PFM Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2016) through the Integrated Public Financial Management Reforms Project (IPFMRP).

A Survey of Gender Budgeting (IMF Working Paper 16/152, Washington D.A. U.S.A 10 NSA Secretariat) efforts for a closer partnership between the government and the public through the increased participation of non-state actors in the planning and budgeting processes.

Thereafter, the second PFM Strategy and Action Plan (2017-2022) for the first time included Gender-responsive budgeting in its Thematic Area 2. Credible Budget to Support Service



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Delivery with the activities of the inter-ministerial GRPB Technical Working Group being embedded into it including the establishment of the MFDP's Gender-responsive budgeting unit.

Simultaneously, the Action Plan included improved transparency and accountability in public finance through civil society and social accountability subcomponents to make the NSA stronger as a critical watchdog. Besides, the action plan disseminates widely the Citizen's guide booklets and other budget documents.

These experiences contributed to the realization that budgets are no longer solely a process to outline the income and expenditure of the government, also a way to achieve inclusive growth by utilizing public resources equitably. Moreover, budget is an effective manner to achieve the national development goal of inclusive growth.

SECTION 4.2: INTEGRATING GRPB POLICY IMPLEMENTATION INTO THE BUDGET CIRCLE

To sustain the achievements resulting from the policy implementation, it is highly recommended that the Coordination Unit formulate strategies to make gender-responsive planning and budgeting an integral to the national budget cycle. Institutional strengthening establishes and fortify institutional systems for integrating the policy objectives.

These are some of the policy objectives:

- Strengthen the Coordination Unit 26 at the MFDP to serve as the focal point for mainstreaming GRPB components in all planning and budgetary processes;
- Establish working guidelines to liaise the Division of Development Planning with the Department of Budget & Development Planning, the NSA Secretariat, and other offices of the Ministry for an integrated GRPB strategy;
- Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the Coordination Unit focusing on its partnership with the SES, especially the Gender Focal Points, County administration, the LBO, and the WLC in the House of Representative. SOP will guide the functioning of the Unit and inform the roles and responsibilities of different actors to maintain a close coordination among them;



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- Partnership with the Governance Commission (GC) in its advisory role to facilitate the implementation of national policies for PFM reforms;
- Strengthening the institutional framework for the MTEF;
- Develop guidelines for different budget committees, budget working groups, and sector working groups. Thereafter, review them from the feedback to finalize the document. Prepare regular tips on the most effective way to mainstream the GRPB policy.
- Focal Points, collaborating with the MGCSP, develop the Terms of Reference where not available and assist in preparing policy briefs to participate in the Budget Committee of Capacity Building.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Capacity building programs for different committee members, working groups, and other technical staffs engaged in MTEF implementation, Gender Focal Points and their alternates of Spending Entities cannot be overemphasized. Capacity building programs should target key implementing officials of this policy and should be designed encompassing the following four core areas: gender analysis, defining objectives, identifying outputs, and calculating costs to ensure mainstreaming of gender equality into the cost calculations of budgets.

SECTION 4.3: CURRENT SITUATION OF GENDER INEQUALITIES IN LIBERIA

This is important as Liberia's population was estimated at 4,706,097 in 2016 of which female percentage is 51.1% and male is 48.9%. The sex ratio of the population is 1.011 (1.011 male per 1 female). Despite women being more than half of the total population, Liberia ranks among the lowest 10 countries on the Gender Inequality Index reflecting a pervasive disparity across political, social, and economic dimensions. Moreover, the highest levels of poverty are found in households in which the head has no formal education and based on the distribution of literacy by regions: males 80.6% females 54.8%. This fact points to gender imbalance in accessing opportunities. Similarly, while girls' enrolment at the primary school level is 50.3%, the percentage falls sharply at the senior high school level to 23.8% as compared to 31.1% for boys and tapers down to 4.5% at the university level as compared to 10.4% for male students.



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Source: Ministry of Finance & Development Planning: Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting policy, Mainstreaming Gender into Public Financial Management.

THE END