

Prevention and response to VAW in Tajikistan

UN actions
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- ▣ From 2002 international agencies have provided support to the country to address VAW by:
 - improving national legislation on domestic violence;
 - building capacity of relevant institutions to address domestic violence issues (police, health workers);
 - supporting the Crisis Centers to provide services to victims;
 - increasing public awareness and understanding on needs to overcome negative stereotypes and traditions resulted to increased domestic violence.

- ▣ Lessons learnt: a need to shift from fragmented actions to strategic ones addressing causes and consequences of VAW
- ▣ Proposed approach: Joint Programming by UN agencies with unified strategy, clear divisions of tasks, responsibilities and use of advantages of each agency

Rational for UN agencies

- Response to VAW identified as one of objectives of Gender Strategy/ Action Plan of each UN agency
- 2006/2007 UN GA Resolutions on Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of VAW
- 19 July 2008 Resolution 1820 by UN Security Council
- 6 August 2008, Framework for Action: Secretary's Campaign to End VAW, 2008-2015
- Concluding observations of CEDAW Committee and other UN Treaty Bodies for Tajikistan

Why UN Framework for Action?

- ▣ 1 in 3 women are beaten, coerced into sex, or abused in their lifetime
- ▣ Between 40-70% of female homicide victims are killed by their husbands or boyfriends
- ▣ For every homicide among young people there are 20-40 non-fatal cases needed hospital care
- ▣ Up to 10% of men and 20% of women report having been sexually abused as children
- ▣ Rape and domestic violence account for 5% to 16% of healthy years of life lost by women of reproductive age

Framework for Action defines the agreed policy outcomes to be achieved by all countries by 2015 (deadline for MDGs).

2015 Policy Outcomes:

- 1. National laws are in place and enforced to address and ~~punish all forms of VAW and girls in line with international~~ human rights standards**
- 2. National Plans for Action are adopted that are multisectoral and adequate resources, with implementation underway**
- 3. Data collection and analysis system are institutionalized and periodic surveys are undertaken on prevalence of VAW**
- 4. National/local campaigns are launched and social mobilization engages a diverse range of civil society actors**
- 5. Sexual violence in conflict situations is addressed**
- 6. Men and boys are engaged throughout prevention and response efforts**

Tajikistan: response to VAW

- ▣ Lack of law
- ▣ Lack of a National Action Plan
- ▣ Weak national statistical system on VAW
- ▣ No regular dedicated survey at the national level
- ▣ Delivery of services to victims of VAW mainly depend on external funding

However:

- ▣ VAW is addressed by the State Programme on equal/rights and opportunities, for 2001-2010
- ▣ Poverty Reduction Strategy for 2007-2009 includes some measures such as adoption of law, public awareness campaigns, etc.

Conclusions: Development assistance by donors and UN for Tajikistan has to address VAW (principle of Paris declaration – alignment with national priorities)

UN agencies' actions:

- **By now - separate programme activities: capacity building for targeted groups to improve policy and actions; grassroots' level interventions, policy dialogue, etc.**
- **Annual campaigns 16 Days of Activism against VAW**
- **Further actions will support implementation of recommendations by CEDAW Committee and recommendations by UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences made as findings of her country visit in May 2008**
- **Focus by UN agencies will be made on more effective approaches to overcome VAW**
- *Prevention and response to GBV is identified as one of area for potential joint programming for UN agencies within their next Development Assistance Framework for 2009-2014 (being currently developed by UN agencies in consultations with the Government) and for Donors' Strategy (JCSS)*

Annual campaigns 16 Days

**How leads campaigns: Gender Theme Group
Implemented in partnership with the Government and
NGOs**

▣ **2008 Campaign's Topic: Human Rights for
Women < – > Human Rights for All: UDHR60".**

The campaign has the following focus:

- Support Women Human Rights Defenders
- End Violence Against Women
- Strengthen Gender Equality Structures in the UN
- Expand Financing for Gender Equality

Global Action *Say No to Violence against Women*

- In 2007 UNIFEM started a global action led by Nicole Kidman/UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador

- Website: www.saynotoviolence.org.

- Each voice is counted - by today more than 242,000 people supported the action!



Please, join the global action by giving your voice now!!!

2 grants from the Trust Fund to Tajikistan:

- For 2006-2007 for the Association of NGOs on gender equality and prevention of VAW

- For 2008 -2010 for the Child Rights Center

Some innovative approaches we want to learn

- ▣ **Asia-Pacific Regional Programme by UN agencies “Working with Boys and Men prevent gender-Based Violence”**
- ▣ **UN Special Trust Fund on Response to VAW is managed by UNIFEM with donors’ contributions in Afghanistan**
- ▣ **We look forward to hear your experience and discuss practices of other countries in EVAW**