

Preventing and eliminating violence against women

*An inventory of United Nations system activities
on violence against women*

Last updated: July 2007

Prepared by the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, on the basis of inputs provided by United Nations entities, as part of the activities of the Task Force on violence against women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality.

The inventory is available electronically at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/index.htm>

Introduction

In December 2003, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare an in-depth study on all forms of violence against women, and to cooperate closely with all relevant United Nations bodies when preparing it (see General Assembly resolution A/RES/58/185). The in-depth study was issued in October 2006 (see A/61/122/Add.1 and Corr.1), and in December 2006, the General Assembly adopted a comprehensive resolution on “Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women” (A/RES/61/143).

Violence against women, as defined in the 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (A/RES/48/104, 20 December 1993), refers to ‘any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life’. Such violence persists worldwide, occurring in every region, country and culture and cuts across income, class, race and ethnicity. It impedes development and prevents women and girls from enjoying their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Violence against women has become an important focus of action at national, regional and international level. Significant work is being undertaken by the entities of the United Nations system in support of the efforts of Member States and other stakeholders to document violence against women and to develop responses to prevent violence from occurring, to prosecute and punish perpetrators and to provide remedies and relief to victims.

A number of conventions, policy instruments and resolutions guide the work of the United Nations system in eliminating violence against women, some of which are listed below:

- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1979. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women defines gender-based violence as violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately. It recognizes that gender-based violence is a form of discrimination that seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on a basis of equality with men (see general recommendation no. 19 (1992)).
- The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993) provides a definition of violence against women which was reaffirmed in the Beijing Platform for Action (1995), critical area of concern on violence against women.
- The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000), provides a definition of trafficking.
- The outcome document of the five-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, adopted at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly in 2000, further expands on measures to eliminate violence against women.
- In the Millennium Declaration, Heads of State and Government resolved to combat all forms of violence against women.
- Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security emphasizes the need to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, in situations of armed conflict.
- The United Nations 2005 World Summit (A/RES/60/1) places emphasis on the need to eliminate violence against women.
- In past years, the General Assembly regularly addressed aspects of violence against women such as: traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (A/RES/54/133); domestic violence against women (A/RES/58/147); crimes against women and girls committed in the name of honour (A/RES/59/165); trafficking in women and girls (A/RES/59/166); all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” (A/RES/59/167); and violence against women migrant workers (A/RES/60/139).

- Intergovernmental bodies, including the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Human Rights Council, likewise continue to deal with different aspects of violence against women.

Entities of the United Nations system are also guided by bulletins of the Secretary-General, and in particular:

- Bulletin of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13)
- Bulletin of the Secretary-General on promotion of equal treatment of men and women in the Secretariat and prevention of sexual harassment (ST/SGB/253).

The entities of the United Nations system address violence against women through research, as well as normative and policy development. They support Member States and other stakeholders in their efforts and provide services and other assistance to victims of violence, undertake advocacy and awareness-raising activities, implement innovative projects, as well as provide funding to various stakeholders for their activities. At the same time, opportunities exist for a more consistent and cohesive response to all forms and manifestations of violence against women by the United Nations system, especially at the national level.

The United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs first compiled an inventory of United Nations system activities on violence against women as part of its preparation of the in-depth study in late 2005. Following the establishment of the Task Force on violence against women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality of the United Nations system in February 2006, it was agreed to regularly update the inventory.

The inventory is intended to strengthen the knowledge base on work that is being implemented by the entities of the United Nations system on this critical issue. The present update served as basis for preparation of the report of the Secretary-General to the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, on information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on their follow-up activities to implement resolution A/RES/61/143 (see operative paragraph 20 (a)).

Explanation of the entities included, and of the categories used in the inventory

One of the objectives of the Task Force on violence against women of the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality of the United Nations system is to pursue systematic and timely information exchange among entities of the United Nations system about existing and planned strategies, programmes and activities on violence against women, at global, regional and national level. This objective is to be achieved through a twice-yearly updating of the inventory initially compiled by the Division for the Advancement of Women in late 2005, and its availability on the website of the Division.

Information for inclusion in, and updating of, this inventory was compiled as part of the activities of the Task Force on violence against women. Focal points in departments and offices of the Secretariat, of regional commissions, funds and programmes, specialized agencies, international financial institutions, as well as the International Organization for Migration were invited to provide, and update, information under relevant categories. Information from two inter-agency mechanisms is also included. Any omissions in the current version will be addressed in future updates.

As applicable, the inventory provides information about the entities of the United Nations system under seven categories, namely: background; policy framework; area(s) of focus; main activities; future activities; bibliography; and address/websites.

Background: under this heading, the inventory provides a brief overview of the entity's general area of responsibility.

Policy framework: under this heading, the inventory provides specific mandates – a resolution or decision, and/or policy statement(s) of an intergovernmental/governing body, or similar mandate that guides the work on violence against women of the respective entity, where these exist. General mandates on violence against women that guide the work of the entities of the United Nations system and which are listed above, are not repeated.

Area(s) of focus: under this heading, the inventory highlights the particular area(s) of focus of the entity concerned in regard to violence against women. This may cover particular forms of violence against women (for example domestic violence, or trafficking in women), or the particular contexts/situations where violence against women occurs (for example violence against women in humanitarian settings).

Main activities: under this heading, the inventory categorizes activities generally into four sub-headings: policy development; research; operational activities including capacity-building and training activities; and awareness-raising and advocacy. Entities' activities cannot always be separated strictly into these categories, and activities are frequently linked: for example, an entity will undertake research so as to enhance its policy and programme development; research may be undertaken in order to support operational activities and resource mobilization.

Future activities: under this heading, the inventory gives an indication of planned or anticipated activities in the years 2007 and 2008, in particular in follow-up to General Assembly resolution A/RES/61/143.

Bibliography: under this heading, the inventory lists major publications, including videos and films, on violence against women of the respective entity.

Address/Websites: under this heading, the inventory provides the entity's address, as well as a general website address, or links to the entity's specific, dedicated sites or pages on violence against women.

Note on terminology

This inventory covers work undertaken by the United Nations system on violence against women, whereby the term "violence against women" is understood to mean any act of gender-based violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately (see definitions contained in box 1 of the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women, A/61/122, and Corr.1). It does not address gender-based violence suffered by men. Some entities use the term "gender-based violence". The inventory uses the term "sexual and gender-based violence" where the entity concerned commonly uses this term – this is in particular the case with those working in humanitarian settings. The term "women" is used to cover females of all ages, including girls under the age of 18.

Process of future updating of the inventory

The current inventory represents a baseline of past and ongoing activities on violence against women by the entities of the United Nations system. It also gives some indication of entities' future activities. Such future activities will be compiled and made available on the website in entity-specific addenda to the inventory.

Contents

1. Secretariat of the United Nations, funds and programmes	5
a. Department of Political Affairs (DPA)	5
b. Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)	7
c. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	9
d. Department of Economic and Social Affairs	11
i. Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI)	11
ii. Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)	13
iii. United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD/DESA Statistics)	16
e. Department of Public Information (DPI)	17
f. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	20
g. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	24
h. Regional Commissions	26
i. Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)	26
ii. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)	28
iii. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)	29
iv. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)	32
v. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)	35
2. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	37
a. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)	39
3. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	42
4. United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	43
5. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)	46
6. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	47
7. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	50
8. United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)	52
9. United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	54
10. United Nations University (UNU)	56
11. United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)	57
12. United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW)	58
13. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)	60
14. United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)	61
15. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)	64
16. International Labour Organization (ILO)	66
17. Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	68
18. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	70
19. World Health Organization (WHO)	74
20. The World Bank	78
21. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	80
22. Inter-Agency Mechanisms	81
a. Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE)	81
b. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)	82
23. International Organization for Migration (IOM)	83

1. Secretariat of the United Nations, funds and programmes

a. Department of Political Affairs (DPA)

Background

The mission of the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) is to provide advice and support on all political matters to the Secretary-General in the exercise of his global responsibilities under the Charter relating to the maintenance and restoration of peace and security.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above, in particular Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Area(s) of focus

DPA addresses the issue of violence against women both during and after conflict as part of its overall efforts to achieve gender equality within its conflict prevention, peacemaking and peace-building mandate. The Department also ensures that staff at Headquarters and field missions are informed of and report on the Secretary-General's special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

In April 2007, the Executive Committee on Peace and Security (ECPS), chaired by DPA, discussed the issue of violence against women in the context of conflict, under the lead of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. ECPS members endorsed the proposed coordinated approach and stated their commitment to further the work of UN Action. The meeting agreed that Violence against Women in the context of conflict should also be considered a peace and security issue. DPA will soon become a member of the Group on UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

Main activities

Awareness-raising and advocacy

DPA collaborates with other UN entities in seeking ways to raise awareness of and advocate for the elimination of violence against women. Its peace-support missions work with local NGOs, women's groups and the UN system on the ground in their efforts to raise awareness on this issue at the national level. Violence against women and girls is addressed by the local NGOs and government ministries with whom DPA field missions engage, as one of many issues related to women's empowerment and achievement of gender equality. It covers the spectrum from domestic violence to gender-based violence during conflict. DPA does not have projects or programmes focused on violence against women but works with NGOs in support of their sensitization programmes. The human rights sections of field missions monitor and report on cases of human rights abuses, which may include violence against women.

The United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau's (UNOGBIS) human rights section has regular meetings with local NGOs and women's groups to discuss various issues, including violence and other forms of abuse directed against women. One such meeting was an informal forum with the national network fighting against gender and child violence. UNOGBIS also participated in the first national conference on violence against women organized by this Network on 4 December 2006. The aim of the conference was to sensitize national authorities and the population on social values and violence against women in general, the causes and how to eliminate such violence in the local communities.

DPA peace-support missions hold workshops for government officials, NGOs and women's groups on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol. The missions also assist governments in preparation for reporting under the Convention. UNOGBIS assisted the Government of Guinea-Bissau with the preparation of, and advised on the content of, its initial report under the Convention.

UNOGBIS has broadcast a programme on the Convention on national, private and community radio stations.

Future activities

- The Under-Secretary-General of DPA will appoint a high-level official to represent the Department in the UN initiative, UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict.
- Field missions will continue to organize workshops on the Convention for NGOs and local women's groups.
- UNOGBIS will organize training programmes for police, which will include gender sensitivity training.

Address/websites

DPA

United Nations, New York, NY 10017

www.un.org/Depts/dpa

b. Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)

Background

The mission of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) in the United Nations Secretariat is to plan, prepare, manage and direct United Nations peacekeeping operations so that they can effectively fulfil their mandates under the overall authority of the Security Council and General Assembly, and under the command vested in the Secretary-General.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above, and in particular Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Area(s) of focus

DPKO works to address all forms of gender-based violence against women, including sexual exploitation and abuse by civilian and uniformed peacekeeping personnel, within in Department's overall mission.

Main activities

As each functional unit of peacekeeping has direct responsibility for supporting prevention and response to gender-based violence against women, activities vary from mission to mission. Furthermore, many gender units/advisers are building collaboration with partners from the United Nations system for the promotion of gender equality, and on addressing gender-based violence against women.

Policy development

DPKO contributes to policy development in the area of gender-based violence against women through its support to intergovernmental processes, in particular the Security Council. It also works to ensure that adequate policies are in place to prevent and respond to gender-based violence against women in armed conflict, and to protect women against sexual abuse and exploitation.

Operational activities

Gender units in peacekeeping missions increasingly participate in country-based United Nations inter-agency initiatives and mechanisms to address gender-based violence against women, for example in Haiti, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Sudan and Burundi.

Gender units support regional and national initiatives to respond to gender-based violence, for example by working with national machineries for the advancement of women as is the case in Haiti, Timor-Leste, Kosovo and Burundi. A number of gender units/advisers contribute to, or support legal reform processes in the countries concerned. In Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burundi and Haiti, gender units contribute to national consultative processes on reform and adoption of legislation on violence against women generally, or on issues such as rape or domestic violence. Such units/advisers provide support and can serve as key resource persons to national authorities, including ministries of gender equality or justice, or to law reform commissions who spearhead reform processes.

Gender units/advisers collaborate and partner with different units within a peacekeeping mission to combat violence against women, in particular those dealing with human rights, conduct and discipline, children, or HIV/AIDS, as is the case in Burundi. Gender units/advisers work to ensure that women's non-governmental organizations are included in common efforts to combat violence against women, including trafficking, as is the case in Kosovo. Gender advisers encourage increased collaboration between the police, national victim-support organizations and the judicial system, as is the case in Sierra Leone.

Civilian police advisers in missions assist local police in crime prevention and investigation. Gender units/advisers in a number of missions are actively working with civilian police advisers to enhance attention by local police to gender-based violence against women. Successful collaboration has resulted in the establishment

of special units within police stations to deal with violence against women, provision of private spaces for women to report gender-based violence, and establishment of safe houses for women victims of violence. Drawing from the experience in Sierra Leone, family support units have been established in Liberia, and similar efforts are under way in Burundi. A pilot project is being finalized in Haiti to create private spaces in police stations for women.

Several missions have supported, or implemented training activities for mission personnel and other stakeholders on gender-based violence against women, as in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

Police advisers in missions study crime trends and assist in creating awareness of the local police and societies through seminars, workshops and targeted training. Gender units have put in place information sharing strategies to enhance knowledge about the status of women in the country and better coordinate support to women, as is the case in Burundi and Cote d'Ivoire, also in collaboration with non-governmental organizations.

Gender units/advisers implement, or support measures to raise awareness about gender-based violence, both within mission personnel and the societies where the mission is stationed. This has included support for campaigns, workshops, meetings and conferences on violence against women. Such efforts have been implemented in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kosovo, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Sudan.

Address/Websites

DPKO

United Nations, New York, NY, 10017

www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/CDT/index.html>

c. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Background

The mission of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering, advocate for the rights of all people in need, promote preparedness and prevention and facilitate sustainable solutions.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

OCHA is active in coordination, policy setting, information management and advocacy on issues of gender-based violence against women as well as men. Among OCHA's priority activities in the field of protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian settings are: monitoring security, defining protection strategies, providing protection and advocating for the implementation and compliance with international instruments, and ensuring accountability and redress. OCHA liaises with security personnel to ensure physical protection of displaced populations, and to ensure that security patrols are initiated to prevent gender-based violence, including sexual violence when displaced women seek to meet their basic needs.

Main activities

Policy development/coordination

As the secretariat for the Humanitarian Coordinator at field level, OCHA ensures attention to gender-based violence and facilitates the implementation of appropriate solutions. When appropriate, OCHA acts as co-chair of the coordinating agencies in regard to prevention of and response to gender-based violence.

OCHA places emphasis on ensuring that its staff is sensitized to the need to prevent gender-based violence, and that all partners and staff are informed about applicable codes of conduct. The Office implements confidential complaints mechanisms on gender-based violence, including sexual violence against women and is responsible for managing the sexual exploitation and abuse focal point network.

OCHA is a co-chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance. OCHA's role has been to provide support for the development and use of the IASC Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings: Focusing on Prevention of and Response to Sexual Violence in Emergencies. The Office is facilitating the production of an IASC document on members' policies in addressing gender-based violence in order to establish a coordinated programme built on the expertise and capacities of the IASC members.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

OCHA's Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN) has produced a number of publications and videos on violence against women in war, and on female genital mutilation.

OCHA contributes to awareness-raising and outreach by informing communities about the availability and value of support services for victims of gender-based violence, including sexual violence. It disseminates information on international humanitarian law to arms bearers.

Future activities

OCHA is responsible for implementing the IASC Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings: Focusing on Prevention of and Response to Sexual Violence in Emergencies, and will be involved in field-testing, training and revision of the Guidelines in 2006-2007.

Address/Websites

OCHA

1 United Nations Plaza, 18th floor New York, NY 10017

<http://ochaonline.un.org/>

www.irinnews.org/

Inter Regional Information Network, provides news and analysis about sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia for the humanitarian community.

d. Department of Economic and Social Affairs

i. Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI)

Background

The Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), established in 1997 and located within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, supports the Special Adviser in promoting and strengthening the effective implementation of: the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action; the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly held in 2000; Economic and Social Council Agreed Conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming; Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security; and the Millennium Declaration.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

Within its overall efforts to support and promote the development of new strategies, programmes, policies, methodologies and practical tools and guidelines within the United Nations system to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women in all sectors, OSAGI promotes and participates in inter-agency collaboration to eliminate violence against women.

Main activities

Policy development

OSAGI prepares regular annual reports of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), which also addresses the question of violence against women. It coordinated the preparation, and now supports the implementation of a United Nations system-wide action plan for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). The plan includes steps to prevent and respond to gender-based violence against women in armed conflict.

Research

As part of its work on women, peace and security, OSAGI carries out research and analysis on gender-based violence against women in armed conflict, especially with a view to preparing reports for the Security Council. In collaboration with the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE), OSAGI coordinated the preparation of the Secretary-General's Study on Women, Peace and Security (2002), which also covers violence against women.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

The Special Adviser raises the question of violence against women in various forums, meetings and during missions, and brings serious and massive violations of women's human rights to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. OSAGI developed a Leaders' Advocacy Kit to combat gender-based violence, in collaboration with several entities of the United Nations system.

Future activities

OSAGI will continue to participate in various inter-agency initiatives, including the UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, and follow-up on the implementation of the Secretary-General's Bulletin on sexual exploitation and abuse. The Special Adviser will continue to raise awareness about violence against women, in different settings.

Bibliography

Leaders' advocacy kit to combat GBV as a means of achieving the MDGs (jointly with UNFPA, UNIFEM)

Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security, S/2005/636. 2005

Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security, S/2004/814. 2004

Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security, S/2002/1154. 2002

Women, Peace and Security. Study submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), United Nations, 2002.

Address/Websites

OSAGI

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

2 United Nations Plaza, 12th Floor,

New York, NY 10017

www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/

ii. Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)

Background

The Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) advocates for the improvement of the status of women and the achievement of their equality with men. The Division supports the work of United Nations inter-governmental bodies in relation to the promotion of gender equality, such as the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women. It also supports the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

DAW services agenda items and discussions on violence against women of the General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women. To that end, it undertakes research and analysis, and prepares policy recommendations on all forms of violence against women. It also participates in seminars, and organizes panels and workshops on violence against women.

Main activities

Policy development/research

DAW conducts research and analysis and regularly prepares reports of the Secretary-General, in response to inter-governmental mandates, seeking inputs from governments and other stakeholders on progress made and obstacles encountered, and on good practices and lessons learned. Reports cover all forms of violence against women, as well as particular aspects such as trafficking in women, traditional practices harmful to women and girls, and violence against women migrant workers. DAW was responsible for the preparation, and now supports the follow-up to the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women (A/61/122/Add. 1 and Corr.1). These reports, including policy recommendations, serve as basis for discussion and action by Governments, in particular the Commission on the Status of Women and the General Assembly.

DAW organizes expert group meetings on violence against women. Recent examples include:

- Expert Group Meeting on “Elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child”, Florence, Italy, September 2006 (in collaboration with UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre);
- Expert Group Meeting on “Violence against women: a statistical overview, challenges and gaps in data collection and methodology and approaches for overcoming them”, Geneva, Switzerland, April 2005 (in collaboration with ECE and WHO);
- Expert Group Meeting on “Good practices in combating and eliminating violence against women”, Vienna, Austria, May 2005 (in collaboration with UNODC);
- Expert Group Meeting on “Trafficking in women and girls”, Glen Cove, USA November 2002 (in collaboration with UNODC).

Operational activities

DAW convenes training activities and workshops on women's human rights for government officials, judicial officers and representatives of civil society, at national and regional level. For example, DAW has convened judicial colloquia on the application of international human rights law at the domestic level in Santiago, Chile, 2005, Nassau, The Bahamas, 2004, Arusha, Tanzania, 2003, Bangkok, Thailand, 2002 and Vienna, Austria, 1999, which have addressed the issue of violence against women. In addition, a recent regional training workshop conducted in Bangkok, Thailand, 2006 on follow-up to concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, included violence against women as one of the three areas of focus. Events such as the foregoing serve to highlight legislative and judicial approaches in addressing violence against women, provide opportunities for exchanging experiences and enhancing cooperation among different

stakeholders in efforts to eliminate violence against women. DAW also has a programme of support to countries emerging from conflict (Sierra Leone, Liberia, Haiti and Afghanistan) to enhance their capacity for implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Beijing Platform for Action. Violence against women is regularly addressed under the framework of this programme.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

DAW makes available information on violence against women through its website, especially in relation to the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women and its follow-up, provides briefings on the work of the United Nations in the field of violence against women, and organizes panel discussions and other outreach activities. DAW has widely disseminated the Secretary-General's study, including at the national level to national machineries for the advancement of women and to United Nations resident coordinators/representatives. DAW has organized several panels on violence against women, including a panel to launch the study in October 2006; a panel discussion on "Galvanizing action towards ending violence against women" to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, November 2006; and an interactive panel on "Elimination of all forms of violence against women: follow up to the Secretary-General's in-depth study at national and international levels", during the 51st session of the Commission on the Status of Women, March 2007.

Future activities

DAW will continue to support intergovernmental and expert bodies in the area of gender equality in their efforts to prevent and combat violence against women. In particular, it will prepare annual reports to the General Assembly on follow-up to resolution A/RES/61/143, organize panels and expert meetings, and prepare publications on aspects of violence against women. DAW will also continue its focus on violence against women in its technical cooperation activities, such as the workshop for judges and parliamentarians focusing on family law and violence against women planned in Amman, Jordan, in October 2007.

Together with UNFPA, DAW serves as co-convenor of the Task Force on violence against women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality. In this respect, DAW works with the Task Force to (i) initiate joint programming on violence against women in up to ten pilot countries and draft a manual/guidelines on joint programming; (ii) establish an email list serve for UN entities for exchange of information and regularly update the inventory of UN system activities on violence against women; and (iii) develop a methodology for undertaking a resource flow analysis within UN entities including action points for follow-up and undertake outreach efforts to donors.

DAW will work on the coordinated database on violence against women requested by the General Assembly (A/RES/61/143, para. 19). It will co-organize with the UNECE and UNSD an expert group meeting on indicators to measure violence against women, to be held in Geneva from 8-10 October 2007, in collaboration with the other UN Regional Commissions (see A/RES/61/143, para. 18).

Bibliography

Ending violence against women: from words to action. Study of the Secretary-General. United Nations Publication, Sales No. E.06.IV.8, 2006.

Violence against women: a statistical overview, challenges and gaps in data collection and methodology and approaches for overcoming them. Report of the expert group meeting
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw-stat-2005/docs/final-report-vaw-stats.pdf>.

Good practices in combating and eliminating violence against women. Report of the expert group meeting
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw-gp-2005/docs/FINALREPORT.goodpractices.pdf>.

Trafficking in women and girls. Report of the expert group meeting
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/trafficking2002/reports/Finalreport.PDF>.

Elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child. Report of the expert group meeting, http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/elim-disc-viol-girlchild/EGM%20Report_FINAL.pdf

Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” (E/CN.6/2005/2). Report of the Secretary-General

Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/62/201), Report of the Secretary-General

Violence against women migrant workers (A/60/137 and A/60/137/Corr.1), Report of the Secretary-General

Trafficking in women and girls (A/59/185), Report of the Secretary-General

Address/Websites

Division for the Advancement of Women
United Nations New York, NY, 10017
Email: daw@un.org

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/>
DAW’s homepage with access to all reports and publications

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/index.htm>
The site dedicated to the Secretary-General’s in-depth study on violence against women

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>
The site dedicated to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

iii. United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD/DESA Statistics)

Background

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) has four main functions: 1) the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information; 2) the standardization of statistical methods, classifications and definitions; 3) implementation of the technical cooperation programme; and 4) the coordination of international statistical programmes and activities.

Policy framework

The Beijing Platform for Action invited national, regional and international statistical services to develop improved data on the victims and perpetrators of all forms of violence against women (para. 206 (j)).

Area(s) of focus

UNSD contributes to strengthening the knowledge base on violence against women through statistical analysis and dissemination. Its five-yearly publication, *The World's Women 2000: Trends and Statistics*, contains a section on violence against women. The 2005 edition, *The World's Women: Progress in Statistics*, describes the current state of statistics on violence against women and identifies gaps and challenges.

Future activities

UNSD will convene a Global Forum on Gender Statistics in November 2007 to promote the development of gender statistics; improve the coordination of gender statistics programmes and activities at the national, regional and global levels; and promote knowledge management and information sharing. One of the key issues to be addressed at the Forum will be the question of measuring the scope of violence against women. The Forum will be attended by representatives of national statistical offices and national women's machineries from all regions; relevant supra-national, regional and international organizations; United Nations entities, including funds and programmes; development partners and relevant training and research institutions.

Bibliography

The World's Women 2005: Progress in Statistics. Social Statistics and Indicators Series K No. 17 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.K/17), United Nations New York, NY, 2006, with a section on violence against women. The publication is available for download at:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/indwm/wwpub2005.htm>.

The World's Women 2000: Trends and Statistics. Social Statistics and Indicators Series K No. 16 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.K/16), United Nations New York, NY, 2000, with a section on violence against women. The publication's main findings are available for download at:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/indwm/wwpub2000.htm>.

Manual for the Development of a System of Criminal Justice Statistics. Studies in Methods Series F No.89 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.F/89) United Nations, New York, 2003. The manual is available for download at:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?mysearch=criminal>.

Address/Websites

Statistics Division

United Nations New York, NY, 10017

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/>

e. Department of Public Information (DPI)

Background

The mission of the Department of Public Information (DPI) is to help fulfil the substantive purposes of the United Nations by strategically communicating the Organization's activities and concerns to achieve the greatest public impact. To achieve this goal, DPI holds close consultations with some 50 United Nations departments and offices and 26 field missions, which are identified as its clients.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

In its work to promote themes such as ending violence against women, DPI's activities can be divided into types of outreach or dissemination carried out by its three divisions, Outreach, News and Media, and Strategic Communications.

The Outreach Division provides services to delegations, liaises with civil society and facilitates events and activities for the general public. UN Chronicle has done features on violence against women; CyberSchoolBus has a briefing paper on the girl child; UN Works has done a series profiling women activists, many of which relate to work on violence against women. In a one-year period, it has done several stories directly related to violence against women, which are disseminated worldwide.

The News and Media Division delivers timely, accurate, objective and balanced news to the world media. Its Internet Service, which encompasses the Internet language units, is one of the most heavily visited areas of the United Nations site. The United Nations News Centre covers the Commission on the Status of Women and other relevant events, and promotes statements of all high-level officials on violence against women, in addition to statements in the field by humanitarian or human rights officials. The Radio and Television Service produces programming on violence against women, relating to sessions of Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women or the Commission on the Status of Women, special events such as the anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), or International Women's Day, with a focus on violence against women.

The Strategic Communications Division devises and disseminates United Nations messages around priority themes and designs and executes issue-driven promotional campaigns. The Peace and Security Section places emphasis on women during the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process by peacekeeping missions; it supports the public information components of individual missions in their communications work on women affected by armed conflict, pointedly publicizing that rape during conflict is a war crime, and advocating against human trafficking. Public information components also engage in campaigns against sexual exploitation and abuse by UN personnel. The Development Section works directly and regularly with the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women on promoting their activities, which include those on violence against women. Promotional efforts may be associated with the observance of International Women's Day, the launch of reports, such as the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women, or sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. On occasion, the Section may assist UNIFEM, as it did in 2006 in distributing materials on the occasion of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign. The Palestine and Human Rights Section works directly with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, including the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as well as the New York Office. The Section is the focal point for issues relating to Palestinian women.

Future activities

Any statements by high-level officials relating to violence against women, or any press conference discussing violence against women, will be promoted by the various parts of DPI. The Strategic Communications Division will continue to promote efforts to stop violence against women, whether in relation to peacekeeping missions, sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, observances of International Women's Day, the anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), or the work of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences.

Bibliography

News and Media Division: UN Radio

The following radio stories on aspects of violence against women are available for downloading in MP3:

- 26 February 2007 - Gender equality must remain the mandate of the entire UN family: DSG
- 24 November 2006 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women: UNIFEM Director Says There Is a Big Increase in Laws Against Domestic Violence
- 25 November 2005 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- 08 March 2007 - UNIFEM Links Development to Ending Violence against Women
- 10 October 2006 - Public Service Providers and Government Institutions Join Forces in Combating Violence Against Women
- 13 September 2006 - Preventing Sexual Violence Against Women
- 28 June 2006 - Violence Against Women, A Human Rights Issue
- 03 March 2006 - Sudanese Women on Violence against Women in Darfur
- 27 February 2006 - Top UN Agency Officials Urge End to Violence in DRC
- 28 October 2005 - Security Council Condemns Sexual Violence against Women
- 10 October 2006 - Congolese Armed Forces Remain Main Human Rights Violators in DRC: UN
- 24 November 2005 - WHO Report on Domestic Violence
- 15 May 2007 - Arbour Urges DRC Authorities to Fight Against Impunity
- 11 October 2006 - UN Report Shows Most Member States Without Laws to Protect Women from Violence.

UN News Centre

Examples of DPI's coverage of violence against women include:

- 24 November 2006 -- UN joins in 16-day campaign to fight violence against women
- 15 January 2007 -- Women and girls must be protected from violence, UN official tells rights committee
- 26 October 2006 -- Security Council highlights women's role in peace process, urges more involvement
- 8 March 2007 -- UN must take lead in eradicating violence against women, Ban Ki-moon says
- 7 March 2007 -- Security Council reaffirms key role of women in conflict prevention and resolution
- 5 March 2007 -- UN officials press for urgent action to end human trafficking, a 'modern-day slave trade'
- 24 February 2007 -- UN's all-female formed police unit can help maintain peaceful Liberia – envoy
- 16 February 2007 -- UN marks 10th anniversary of fund to end violence against women with call for action
- 18 October 2006 -- Sexual violence against women and children remains a major concern in Liberia:
- 15 September 2006 -- Spotighting 'cancer' of sexual abuse in DR Congo, UN aid chief calls for global pressure
- 10 October 2006 -- UN officials urge global backing for Annan's report on violence against women
- 9 October 2006 -- Annan calls for more political will to combat scourge of violence against women
- 7 September 2006 -- UN humanitarian chief promises justice for victims of sexual violence in DR Congo
- 5 May 2006 -- UN joins inquiry into reported sex abuse by African Union troops in Darfur
- 28 April 2006 -- UN Security Council strongly condemns violence against civilians in wartime
- 10 April 2006 -- Granted Seville culture award, Annan donates proceeds to project helping women (victims of violence in DRC)
- 17 March 2006 -- AIDS scourge in Africa shows urgent need for new women's agency: US envoy
- 6 February 2006 -- UNICEF hails progress toward ending female genital mutilation

Address/Websites

DPI creates pages for special events, such as the International Women's Day:

<http://www.un.org/events/women/iwd/2007>

<http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/violence>

f. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Background

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), guided by the mandate provided by General Assembly resolution 48/141, works to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and international human rights instruments. It also undertakes, inter alia, to follow-up the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (1993), the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (2001) and the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.

As reflected in OHCHR Strategic Management Plan for 2006-2007 and in her Plan of Action, the High Commissioner for Human Rights is committed to placing gender and women's rights at the core of the work of the Office as a whole. To this end, a Women's Human Rights and Gender Unit was established in 2006.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above, as well as gender-related resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, Security Council and Human Rights Council, and relevant subsidiary bodies.

Area(s) of focus

The mission of OHCHR is to work for the protection and promotion of all human rights for all people; to help empower people to realize their rights; and to assist those responsible for upholding such rights in ensuring that they are implemented. In carrying out its mission with respect to violence against women, and within the overarching strategies to ensure country engagement, leadership, partnership, and support and strengthening of the Office and the human rights machinery, OHCHR is focusing on:

- Gender sensitive administration of justice, through the provision of expert legal analysis of international (and, where appropriate, regional and national) jurisprudence with commentary, relating to the effective prosecution of gender-based violence as well as legal analysis of obligations in relation to social and economic rights and the impact of the enjoyment of such rights for women on access to justice for victims of sexual violence.
- Piloting of integrated and thematic gender strategies for country engagement, including on violence against women.
- Mainstreaming gender and women's human rights in OHCHR and with UN system partners.

Institutionally, OHCHR is committed to strengthening the United Nations human rights programme and to providing it with the highest quality support. OHCHR is committed to working closely with its United Nations partners to ensure that human rights form the bedrock of the work of the United Nations. OHCHR services the Human Rights Council and its special procedures, as well as human rights treaty bodies.

Main activities

Policy development

OHCHR commissions and conducts research and analysis on access to justice for victims of sexual violence, clarifies and draws attention to this issue, and develops materials to assist the development of policy and advocacy strategies. One of the mechanisms for so doing is through the development of legal analyses, guidelines and principles based on human rights, which address issues of critical importance for women. These will be developed in response to regional priorities but the aim is to ensure global resonance, with a focus on the current jurisprudence relating to the prosecution of rape, both under international humanitarian law and human rights law, and on the inter-linkages between access to justice and the protection of women's economic, social and cultural rights, with the aim to influence legal standard-setting and subsequently policy development. In addition OHCHR conducts research and analysis of all forms of violence against women and girls.

Operational activities

OHCHR has the responsibility to provide support and advice to country and thematic special rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council, including the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. In addition to the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, over the past year the following special procedures have addressed issues related to violence against women in their reports, including from field missions, to human rights bodies:

- The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons (trafficking for the purposes of forced labour, particularly in factories and domestic work; forced marriage; and/or for purposes of sexual exploitation including in conditions of slavery and debt bondage);
- The Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child pornography and child prostitution (violence against girls pertaining to abduction and rape practices; sale of girls forced to marry; domestic labour or sexual exploitation of girls; and domestic violence);
- The Special Rapporteur on the right to education focused his annual report of 2006 on the girl child's education (the socio-cultural context of gender discrimination under a patriarchal society, underpinning discriminatory behaviour, and domestic work by children as a major cause of exploitation and violence);
- The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing has received an explicit mandate by the Commission on Human Rights to specifically study the issue of women, adequate housing and land. From 2002 to 2006 regional consultations were held with grass root women in Eastern Africa; Asia; Latin America and Caribbean; Central-Asia/Eastern Europe; and Euro-Mediterranean. Based on the regional consultations, the Special Rapporteur has regularly drawn the attention to linkages of lack of adequate housing with violence against women (domestic violence; impact on forced evictions accompanied by violence; and vulnerability of homeless women to violence);
- The Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (so-called "honor killings"; executions of women accused of adultery; and allegations of a pattern of killings affecting women or femicidio);
- The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons (sexual and gender-based violence against internally displaced women and girl-children);
- The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) consistently includes visits to detention centres for women, in the course of its country visits.

OHCHR field presences address violence against women at the national or regional levels, notably, through the provision of technical assistance in law reform, monitoring of Government and other stakeholders compliance with their international commitments, and organization of training activities for Government officials and civil society organizations. At times, OHCHR extends legal assistance to victims of violence and members of their families. On an ad hoc basis, OHCHR has initiated a series of high visibility activities on the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights of women as a tool to empower them in their efforts against gender-based violence, as is the case in Côte d'Ivoire.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

Awareness-raising activities addressing violence against women are a key feature of OHCHR strategic management plan. The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the International Day for the Elimination of Racism and Racial Discrimination are additional opportunities to advocate for a stronger position of the international community in combating all forms of violence against women and girls, whether domestic, or in a conflict or post-conflict setting. In order to ensure gender mainstreaming, OHCHR works directly with a range of UN partners in the areas of development cooperation, humanitarian affairs, and peace and security to ensure that human rights principles, norms and standards relating to gender equality and women's rights are integrated into their work, including as it relates to violence against women. In February 2007, OHCHR formally joined the UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. In the area of humanitarian affairs, OHCHR participates in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Sub-Working Group on Gender Mainstreaming in Humanitarian Assistance. OHCHR is contributing to various UN initiatives intended to

prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse by UN personnel with a view to placing such acts within the framework of violations of human rights, trying to push specifically for UN accountability in this area.

Cooperation continues with various agencies such as UNICEF, UNIFEM and WHO on the development of particular guidance and tools (e.g. Manual on Caring for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict-Affected Areas with UNICEF; a new Joint Statement on Female Genital Mutilation with WHO in October 2006 and Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Researching, Documenting and Monitoring Sexual Violence in Emergencies in 2007).

Future activities

Pending the decision of the Human Rights Council regarding the ongoing institutional reform of the human rights architecture, OHCHR will continue to provide support to all human rights mechanisms.

Tools and guidelines will be developed based on the ongoing legal analyses related to prosecution of sexual violence in conflict and women's access to justice, and the inter-linkages between access to justice post-conflict and protection of women's economic, social and cultural rights. OHCHR will also pursue efforts at the field level to ensure adequate implementation of tools, policies and guidelines developed to combat violence against women, particularly in countries affected by or emerging from conflict, and aim to strengthen its capacity to monitor and report situations of domestic violence in all its forms.

Discrimination, including violence, based on sexual orientation, gender identity dysphoria and intersex conditions are gaining momentum worldwide. While monitoring developments at the global level, OHCHR will focus primarily on those countries where the criminalization of lesbian, gay, bisexual behaviour or punishment for transgender, intersex or transsexual conditions is in the making or already exists.

The newly established Women's Human Rights and Gender Unit is also conducting research to assess the magnitude of emerging forms of violence. One area which the Unit aims to focus on during 2008 is the impact on women's rights of counter-terrorism. To date, the concerns of the international community have focused on the safeguarding of civil and political rights of persons suspected of terrorism. However, the rights and freedoms of wives of suspected and/or detained terrorists have not been given attention. Targeted killings and the destruction of the suspected terrorists' homes, at times coupled with the seizure of property, has led to many affected families being left without adequate resources to meet their basic needs and deprived of protection. It is now documented that in the absence of a husband held prisoner or killed, the surviving wife has been exposed to violence of some male members of the community who consider her status as inferior.

Bibliography

Compilation of General Comments and General Recommendations Adopted by Human Rights Treaty Bodies, U.N. Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.6

<http://www.unhchr.ch/pdf/wcargender.pdf>

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/rapporteur/index.htm>

Fact Sheet No.23, Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children

<http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu6/2/fs23.htm>

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/children/rapporteur/index.htm>

Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking, Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Economic and Social Council, E/2002/68/Add.1.

<http://www.unhchr.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf/>

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/trafficking/index.htm>

Violence against women

- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/rapporteur/>

- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/rapporteur/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/housing/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/housing/women.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/idp/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/detention/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/executions/index.htm>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/english/issues/minorities/expert/index.htm>

Address/Websites

OHCHR

Palais Wilson, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

<http://www.ohchr.org>

g. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Background

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is mandated to assist Member States in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime and terrorism. In the Millennium Declaration, Member States resolved to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, to redouble efforts to implement the commitment to counter the world drug problem and to take concerted action against international terrorism.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. In addition, UNODC's policy framework for addressing violence against women is contained in the following six documents: (i) Economic and Social Council resolution "Violence against women in all its forms" (1993/26); (ii) General Assembly resolution "Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women" (52/86); (iii) Economic and Social Council resolution "The rule of law and development: strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, with emphasis on technical assistance, including in post-conflict reconstruction" (2004/25); (iv) "Custodian of the Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners", which has a gender dimension; (v) Economic and Social Council resolution "Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime" (2005/20), which is pertinent to girls; and (vi) Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Area(s) of focus

UNODC works to address domestic violence and trafficking in human beings, as well as to develop policies in support of women victims of violence, and women in prisons. UNODC integrates gender dimensions and the question of violence against women into its efforts to build the capacity of criminal justice systems.

The Office supports policy development in the justice sector, including in relation to violence against women and girls. It supports and undertakes research related to trafficking in persons, including on the nature of trafficking and national and regional responses to trafficking. UNODC implements technical assistance projects, produces and disseminates public service announcements to counter trafficking in persons, and conducts outreach activities.

Main activities

Policy development/research

UNODC is a partner in the roll-out of the International Violence against Women Survey, which has been carried out in 11 countries worldwide so far. It prepares reports for intergovernmental bodies on criminal justice aspects of violence against women.

UNODC develops tools, manuals, handbooks and guides to support countries in criminal justice reform efforts to strengthen the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, including post-conflict reconstruction. These efforts also target the needs of women and children. UNODC is currently working on a guide for law enforcement officials on effective responses to violence against women.

Operational activities

UNODC's global project aims to build non-governmental support structures for victims of violent crime, including victims of trafficking in persons.

As part of its regional efforts to strengthen governmental capacity to deal with trafficking in persons in West and Southern Africa, UNODC has provided legislative assistance, trained officials, and supported regional coordination.

UNODC's technical assistance projects at the national level have supported One-Stop Centres for victims of domestic violence, particularly for women and children, in South Africa. The Centres bring under one roof all government services (social development, justice, police, correctional services, education) and community-based organizations concerned with the issue of violence against women in a coordinated and mutually reinforcing manner. A sub-regional project on juvenile justice that covers Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt includes components that target girl victims of crime. National projects in Colombia, Brazil, Lebanon, Vietnam, Philippines, Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Moldova, Albania, Benin, Togo, Nigeria and South Africa assist Member States in implementing the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, including training initiatives.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

The One-Stop Centres for victims of domestic also carry out outreach programmes and awareness-raising. Similarly, national projects contain elements of raising awareness and advocacy.

Future activities

UNODC's project on post-release opportunities for women and girl prisoners in Afghanistan is scheduled to begin in January 2006. UNODC intends to expand the anti-human trafficking efforts on a regional and national level, including the finalization of regional training materials.

Plans are under way to launch the following projects: a regional juvenile justice project for the Middle East and North Africa region focusing, inter alia, on the special needs of girls; a global project on the implementation of the guidelines on justice in matters involving child victims and witnesses of crime; the development of a handbook on good practices for women police stations; a guide to the standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners from a gender perspective; development of a project on women and prisons; and the expansion of One-Stop Centres to further locations in South Africa and to other southern African countries.

Address/Websites

UNODC

Vienna International Centre, PO Box 500,
A-1400 Vienna, Austria

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/index.html>.

h Regional Commissions

i. Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Background

As the regional arm of the United Nations in Africa, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is mandated to support the economic and social development of its 53 Member States, foster regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development. The African Centre for Gender and Development, a Division of ECA, is mandated to orient the policies of the ECA into areas concerning gender equality and to advise the ECA on the implementation of appropriate strategies for the economic and social advancement of women in Africa.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. In addition, ECA's mandate and policy framework on violence against women derives from the Dakar Platform for Action (1994) and the outcome and way forward-document of the Seventh African Regional Conference on women (2004). Its policy framework is also rooted in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and its Additional Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa.

Area(s) of focus

ECA through the African Centre for Gender and Development undertakes policy development and research activities, as well as operational activities and awareness-raising activities in relation to violence against women.

Main activities

Policy development

ECA supports inter-governmental processes, including those that result in policy instruments for the advancement of women, and the elimination of violence against women. It supports the work of the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices on fight against traditional practices that are harmful to women and girls including genital mutilation.

Research

ECA supported 12 countries to undertake field studies using the African Gender and Development Index. The 12 pilot countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Egypt, Ghana, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda) have collected qualitative data on domestic violence, harmful practices, rape, sexual harassment and trafficking in women. They assessed the extent to which governments have ratified international conventions, met all reporting requirements, passed national laws, developed plans with specific targets, set institutional mechanisms, allocated sufficient financial and human resources, undertaken research, collaborated with civil society organizations, disseminated information and set monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for each type of violence against women. The project has been extended during 2007 to five countries, Cape Verde, Senegal, the Gambia, Namibia, and Botswana.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

To raise awareness on human rights issues and specifically on violence against women, ECA launched in April 2007, with the collaboration of the UNDP Regional Gender Programme, the African Women's Rights Observatory (AWRO). The AWRO is expected to contribute to strengthening of tracking and monitoring protection/violations of women's rights in African countries. One of the thematic areas of the observatory will be violence against women. This will provide the status on the African continent in curbing violence against women.

Operational activities

ECA supports training workshops on women's human rights, in collaboration with partners from governments, United Nations entities and civil society. These events also include a focus, or segment on violence against women. Examples include a regional training workshop on women's human rights in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in 2003; and a national training workshop on gender mainstreaming in Uganda, in 2004.

ECA supports Member States, at their request, and undertakes capacity-building activities for non-governmental organizations on women's human rights.

Future activities

ECA plans to extend the African Gender and Development Index to 25 additional countries to measure governments' performance in addressing violence against women.

Under overall coordination of ECLAC, and in collaboration with DAW and other regional commissions, ECA will embark on a project to enhance capacities to eradicate violence against women. Submitted for funding through the Development Account and pending approval by the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, the project aims to improve policy makers' skills to identify and manage violence against women. ECA will establish a knowledge community, implement information systems and develop good practices in five African countries, as well as provide training to stakeholders in these countries.

Bibliography

The African Gender and Development Index – African Women's Progress Scoreboard
http://www.uneca.org/eca_programmes/acgd/Publications/AGDI_book_final.pdf

12 AGDI country reports will be posted in the next few months in the cited website.

Address/Websites

ECA
Menelik II Ave. P.O. Box 3001, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
<http://www.uneca.org/>

ii. Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

Background

The UNECE Statistical Division implements the work of the Conference of European Statisticians which is the main body dealing with the coordination of official statistics in the region. The work on violence against women relates to the improvement of the availability and quality of data. Recognizing the limitations of measuring gender-based violence through administrative data, UNECE focuses its efforts on improving the measurement of violence against women through population-based surveys.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

Under the framework of the Conference of European Statisticians and its work on gender statistics, a UNECE Task Force on Violence against Women aims to improve the measurement of violence against women through national surveys. The main objectives of the task force are to:

- exchange and promote methods for specialized violence against women surveys;
- promote training for National Statistical Offices and users in the field of violence against women; and
- define common concepts, develop a core set of indicators and identify a minimum set of questions for a short module that can be incorporated into on-going surveys.

Main activities

Policy development/research

UNECE organizes regional and sub-regional meetings and workshops where experts from national statistical offices, users of statistics and international organizations can discuss the value of surveys on violence against women and can develop guidelines on how to improve them. Through the Conference of European Statisticians Task Force, an inventory of methods used to measure violence against women through population-based surveys was carried out for the region. The Task Force is currently analyzing the results of this survey with the aim of providing an overview of the differences and commonalities in measuring violence against women through surveys (through specialized surveys or as an ad-hoc module). The analysis of the inventory will provide a better understanding of the areas that need further work.

UNECE has collected countries' experiences in the implementation of national violence against women surveys with a view of encouraging the implementation of national violence against women surveys under the framework of official statistics.

Bibliography

Special Issue: Violence against women. Statistical Journal of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Vol. 22, Numbers 3 and 4, 2005.

Address/Websites

ECE

Statistical Division

Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2004.10.gender.htm>

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2005.07.gender.htm>

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2004.07.gender.htm>

<http://www.unece.org/stats/gender/web/welcome1.htm>

iii. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Background

As the regional arm of the United Nations in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC/CEPAL) contributes to the economic and social development of Member States in the region, coordinating actions directed towards this end, and reinforcing economic relationships among the countries and with the other nations of the world. In the last decade, the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in its projects and programmes has increasingly become a clear part of its mandate.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. In addition, ECLAC's mandate and policy framework in the area of violence against women derive from the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean (1994), confirmed by the Lima Consensus, adopted by the Eighth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (2000), and the Mexico Consensus, adopted by the Ninth Regional Conference (2004).

Area(s) of focus

ECLAC addresses all forms and manifestations of violence against women. It undertakes research and policy development and the identification of good practice examples; it implements operational activities and contributes to awareness-raising and outreach on these issues. ECLAC aims to strengthen the capacity of countries in the region to produce knowledge on gender-based violence, including the measurement of its incidence and trends.

Main activities

Policy development/research

The main focus of ECLAC's activities in addressing violence against women is research. Efforts have included: development of a theoretical and methodological framework aimed at the construction of indicators; collection of available statistical data and information on existing legislation, programmes and public policies; analysis of good practices; and understanding the relationship between gender-based violence and poverty.

In 2001, ECLAC convened an International Meeting on Gender Statistics and Indicators for Measuring the Incidence of and Trends in Violence against Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. The meeting was convened through the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas. Subsequently, ECLAC convened an Inter-agency Coordination Meeting on Gender Statistics (2002) to harmonize the methodology for technical assistance on gender indicators used by the organizations of the United Nations system, with specific attention to violence against women.

In 2004, ECLAC completed research on good practices in preventing and eliminating violence against women, based on an extensive survey of national mechanisms for the advancement of women in the region and a number of non-governmental organizations active in the field.

In September 2005, eleven entities of the United Nations system based in the region established an inter-agency working group on violence against women in all its manifestations, coordinated by ECLAC, to work collectively to strengthen, coordinate and integrate current programmes, studies, technical cooperation, training, information and monitoring activities carried out by the organizations of the United Nations in Latin America and the Caribbean in the area of violence against women. The working group prepared a regional contribution to the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women and an integral regional report that will be distributed to the Tenth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Quito, Ecuador, August 2007).

ECLAC is presently collaborating with the regional Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights to establish ways of linking follow-up of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará).

Awareness-raising and advocacy

ECLAC's awareness-raising activities aim to disseminate knowledge and information on the issue of violence against women, including through presentation of papers and provision of training as requested by Member States. ECLAC is now initiating contacts to coordinate a special interagency campaign to widely disseminate the Secretary General's in-depth study on violence against women and regional reports.

Future activities

ECLAC will process new statistical information to advance further in the production of indicators on gender-based violence.

ECLAC will, together with the regional inter-agency working group on violence against women, coordinate the implementation of an observatory on violence against women with financial support from UNFPA. The observatory will aim to give governments and civil society organizations in the region tools to end violence against women. The project involves proposals in the following fields: (i) implementation of international agreements on the issue; (ii) execution of policies, plans and programmes; (iii) promotion of legal and judicial reforms; (iv) establishment of alliances and collaboration networks; (v) production of statistics; and (vi) information dissemination.

In collaboration with ECA, ECE, ESCAP, ESCWA and DESA/DAW, ECLAC will coordinate the execution of the project "Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women", submitted for funding through the United Nations Development Account in 2008-2009, and pending final approval by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session. The execution of the project in Latin America and the Caribbean includes, among other activities: (i) carrying out an electronic survey with all stakeholders and experts; (ii) holding an international expert meeting to assess existing knowledge, information and learning initiatives in selected countries of the five regional commissions; (iii) building and updating an interregional web portal; (iv) holding in each region seminars and workshops for users and producers of information; (v) developing a methodology to integrate best practices at operational level in the five regions; (vi) preparing regional and national publications; (vii) making a bilingual kit for collection and use of information on violence against women; and (viii) elaborating a publication of comparative data of the information collected by the five regional commissions.

Bibliography

Almérás, D.; Bravo, B., Milosavljevic, V., Montañó S. and Rico, M.N. (2004), *Violence against women in couples: Latin America and the Caribbean. A proposal for measuring its incidence and trends*, Mujer y Desarrollo Series No 40, ECLAC (LC/L.1744-P) (original Spanish version, 2002).

ECLAC (2002), *Report of the international meeting on gender statistics and indicators for measuring the incidence of and trends in violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean*, La Paz, Bolivia, 21-23 November 2001 (LC/L.1734).

ECLAC (2004), "Policies against domestic violence" in: *Roads towards Gender Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean*, position document presented to the Ninth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Mexico City, Mexico, 10-12 June 2004 (LC/L.2114 (CRM.9/3), pp.66-70).

Rioseco, L. (2005), *Buenas prácticas para la erradicación de la violencia doméstica en la región de América Latina y el Caribe*, Mujer y Desarrollo series No 75, ECLAC (LC/L.2391-P).

Women and Development Unit (2005), “Violence against women: a human rights and development issue” in: Machinea, J.L, Bárcena, A. and León, A. (eds.), *The Millennium Development Goals: a Latin American and Caribbean perspective*, Chap. IV “Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment”, Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile (LC/G.2331), pp. 131-135.

ECLAC (2006), “Indicadores de género: Violencia contra la Mujer” en *Guía de asesoría técnica para la producción y el uso de indicadores de género*, Santiago de Chile. Produced with the financial support of UNFPA and technical collaboration of UNFPA, UNIFEM, UNICEF, OIT, UNESCO, OPS and FLACSO (LC/R.2136).

ECLAC (2007), *The right to live a life free of violence in Latin America and the Caribbean (¡¡¡Ni una más! El derecho a vivir una vida libre de violencia en América Latina y el Caribe)*, Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile (forthcoming).

ECLAC (2007), “Gender based violence and women’s autonomy”, in Women and Development Unit (eds.), *Promote gender equality and empower women*, Interagency report coordinated by ECLAC, Santiago, Chile (forthcoming).

Database

ECLAC’s website provides access to non-comparable surveys on violence against women carried out in the region between 1990 and 2001 (Bolivia 1997/98; Chile 1993, 1996, 1997, 2001; Colombia 1995; Costa Rica 1994; Guatemala 1990; Haiti 1996; Mexico 1996, 1997, 1999; Nicaragua 1996, 1997, 1998; Paraguay 1995/96; Peru 1997, 2000; Uruguay 1997) (at: <http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/perfiles/beijing/BEIJING24.HTM>). More recently it has also been able to provide a smaller set of comparable information for a wide array of indicators that have been processed from the Demographic Health Surveys of Bolivia 2003; Colombia 2000 and 2005; Dominican Republic 2002; Haiti 2000 (2004/2005 will be posted soon) and Peru 2004 (at: http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/perfiles/comparados/comp_violencia.htm).

Address/Websites

ECLAC

Av. Dag Hammarskjöld, 3477 Vitacura, Santiago, Chile

www.eclac.org/mujer

A special banner on Violence against Women is available on the portal of the webpage of the Women and Development Unit both in English and Spanish. It gives access to the Secretary-General’s in depth-study on violence against women, the studies and gender indicators developed by ECLAC, international instruments and studies produced by the international community (to be updated shortly), detailed information on national legislation adopted by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean as well as documentation produced by civil society organizations (to be updated shortly).

iv. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Background

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is the main economic and social development forum within the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. In addition, ESCAP's mandate and policy framework in the area of violence against women derive from the Bangkok Communiqué adopted at the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting to Review Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its Regional and Global Outcomes in Bangkok (2004).

Area(s) of focus

ESCAP focuses on the elimination of violence against women, trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. It undertakes advocacy and policy dialogue to facilitate policy formulation and implementation of commitments; engages in awareness-raising through information sharing and outreach within countries and internationally; builds and strengthens action networks; builds linkages and partnerships between governments, civil society and other stakeholders; and undertakes capacity-building and training activities.

Main activities

Policy development

ESCAP helps to catalyze gender analysis and policy-making among Member States at the governmental level through ESCAP subsidiary bodies. It serves as a coordinating body and forum for discussion and policy development on gender-based violence issues through the organization of expert group meetings, intergovernmental meetings, and thematic seminars. Recent examples include an expert group meeting on violence against women, focusing on harmful cultural and traditional practices and strengthening the role of national machineries (2007); an expert group meeting on the promotion and implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, with particular emphasis on violence against women and trafficking in women (2005); an expert group meeting on strategic planning for the intensification of regional, sub-regional and inter-regional cooperation to combat trafficking in women and children (2003); and a sub-regional seminar on using legal instruments to combat trafficking in women and children (2001).

Research

ESCAP conducts research and publishes documents on various topics related to violence against women. Specific examples include a toolkit for implementing and monitoring the East Asia and Pacific Regional Commitment and Action Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) (2006); a resource guide on international and regional instruments, political commitments and recommended practices for combating human trafficking (2003); discussion papers on: the elimination of violence against women in partnership with men (2003), women, violence, human rights and armed conflict (2000), regional research on South Asia (2000), and national research on violence against women in Bangladesh (1999).

In April 2007, the Gender and Development Section of the Emerging Social Issues Division organized an expert group meeting at ESCAP addressing "Regional Strategies for Implementing the Recommendations from the Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Women with Particular Emphasis on Harmful Traditional and Cultural Practices and the Role of National Machineries". The meeting was attended by experts from the region and several representatives from the national machineries for the advancement of women from selected Member States. The final outcome of the meeting included recommendations for priority action in the region to give greater momentum to the implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General's study. It recommended in particular the need to identify and document the many hitherto unknown and undocumented

forms of harmful traditional and cultural practices of violence against women and girls in the Asian and Pacific region.

Operational activities

ESCAP undertakes capacity-building activities for more effective programme planning by governments and civil society organizations for achieving gender equality and health promotion, including addressing HIV/AIDS issues, human trafficking, and combating commercial sexual exploitation of children in Asia and the Pacific. It promotes strengthening of women's national machineries at the governmental level and serves as a facilitator in building linkages among government, civil society and development partners. ESCAP also undertakes training activities, such as the sub-regional training workshop on elimination of violence against women in partnership with men, New Delhi (2003).

Awareness-raising and advocacy

ESCAP disseminates information about prevention of violence against women and trafficking, and encourages stakeholder participation in such efforts. It organizes panel discussions, film festivals and screenings to increase awareness among different stakeholders. For example, ESCAP has facilitated the production and screening of a short film on five young men speaking about violence against women and gender equality, called Young Men Speak Out, available in VCD format.

At the third session of UNESCAP's Committee on Emerging Social Issues, 12 to 14 December 2006, the Executive Secretary emphasized the importance of advancing gender equality and women's economic empowerment and called attention to the Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women. Copies of the study were circulated to all Member States and Observers. The Committee considered the document entitled "Emerging issues and challenges related to gender and development" (E/ESCAP/CESI (3)/3) which covered the key findings of and recommendations of the Secretary-General's study.

On the occasion of International Women's Day 2007, the United Nations system celebrated with a panel presentation and discussion, exhibition, and film screening on the global theme of 'Ending impunity for violence against women'. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP and Executive Director of UNAIDS called for universal respect for women's human rights and an end to all forms of violence against women and impunity. Copies of the Secretary-General's study were widely distributed.

Future activities

As recommended by the expert group meeting of April 2007, ESCAP will undertake regional studies to further document the unknown forms of harmful traditional practices of violence against women and girls in the Asian and Pacific region in the near future. The first sub-regional study will focus on the East Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific regions and the second sub-regional study will focus on the South Asia region.

In July 2007, ESCAP plans to hold an expert group meeting with the participation of law-makers and national machineries for the advancement of women from the region. The meeting entitled "CEDAW for National Machineries and Senior Law-making Officials on How to Effectively Integrate and Implement the CEDAW at the National Level to Promote the Human Rights of Women" will include discussions related to the review of laws and procedures and the enactment of new laws for the protection of women against violence, especially domestic violence in the formal and informal legal systems.

ESCAP will also work on developing an electronic mechanism to link the knowledge base of the Gender and Development Section with the national machineries for the advancement of women in order to communicate and disseminate research findings and successful strategies and good practices in addressing violence against women in ways that are accessible and practical. In this regard, ESCAP will explore the possibility of hosting a regional ICT hub concerning violence against women including harmful traditional and cultural practices, to facilitate the sharing of experiences and regional knowledge management.

Bibliography

Toolkit for implementing and monitoring the East Asia and Pacific Regional Commitment and Action Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC), 2006, available at http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/2388_toolkit_csec.pdf

Recommendations adopted at Expert Group Meeting on the “Promotion and Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) with Particular Emphasis on Violence against Women and Trafficking in Women”, 3-5 October, 2005, Thailand, available at <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/EGM%20adopted%20recommendations.pdf>

Discussion paper on *Trafficking and the Human Rights of Women: Using the CEDAW Convention and Committed to Strengthen National and International Responses to Trafficking in Women and Girls*, 2005, available at <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/Discussion%20Paper-EGM2005.pdf>

Report of the Expert Group Meeting on “Strategic Planning for the Intensification of Regional, Sub-regional and Inter-regional Cooperation to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children” 18-19 December 2003, Thailand, available at <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/index.asp>

Combating Human Trafficking in Asia: A Resource Guide to International and Regional Legal Instruments, Political Commitments and Recommended Practices, 2003, available at <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/Trafficking-File1.pdf>, <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/Trafficking-File2.pdf>

Discussion Paper on *Elimination of Violence against Women in Partnership with Men*, 2003, available at <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/DiscussionPapers/15/series15-main-text.pdf>

Discussion Paper on *Women and Violence, Human Rights and Armed Conflict*, 2000, available at <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/DiscussionPapers/07/series7.pdf>

Discussion Paper on *Violence against women in South Asia - Subregional overview, Violence against women in Bangladesh*, 1999, available at <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Publication/DiscussionPapers/03/series3.pdf>

Report of the Regional Conference on *Trafficking in Women*, 3-4 November 1998

Address/Websites

ESCAP

Gender and Development Section, Emerging Social Issues Division,
United Nations Building, 6th Floor, Rajadmnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand

www.unescap.org

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Violence/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Trafficking/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Humansecurity/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/CSEC/index.asp>

<http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Humanrights/index.asp>

v. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Background

As the regional arm of the United Nations in Western Asia, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) promotes the economic and social development of its Member States through regional and sub-regional cooperation and integration. ESCWA has a general mandate to carry out regional reviews of progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of international conferences and summits. The ESCWA Centre for Women was established in 2003 to improve the status of women by empowering them economically, socially and politically. The Centre also services the Committee on Women, an inter-governmental body.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

ESCWA addresses issues related to violence against women at the regional level within the overall context of economic and social development, and their close links to peace and security. It aims to enhance inter-agency coordination and collaboration among United Nations entities working on women's issues, including on violence against women, in the Western Asia/Arab region.

Main activities

Policy development

ESCWA supports the work of intergovernmental bodies, including the Arab Regional Conference Ten Years after Beijing: A Call for Peace in Beirut (2004), which resulted in the five-year work programme that includes women's rights and violence against women among its five priority areas. In 2004, ESCWA conducted the Arab regional ten-year review and appraisal of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, which included attention to violence against women.

Research

ESCWA contributes to the Secretary-General's reports on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women. To that end, ESCWA analyses the close links between increased poverty and social burdens and increased domestic violence against women.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

ESCWA undertakes awareness-raising efforts through meetings, regional conferences and seminars. The ESCWA Centre for Women devoted the March 2007 issue of its newsletter to the subject of violence against women in the ESCWA region; the newsletter was distributed on International Women's Day 2007 as part of the global effort to call attention to this important issue.

Future activities

ESCWA will focus on the persistent and emerging types of violence against women arising from political instability. It intends to publish the "Follow-up to the ten-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women."

Under overall coordination of ECLAC, and in collaboration with DAW and other regional commissions, ESCWA will embark on a project to enhance capacities to eradicate violence against women. Submitted for funding through the Development Account and pending approval by the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, the project aims to improve policy makers' skills to identify and manage violence against women. ESCWA will be responsible for establishing a knowledge community, implementing information

systems and developing good practices in five ESCWA region countries, as well as providing training to stakeholders in these countries.

Further to that and during its twenty-fourth inter-ministerial session held in Beirut 8-11 May 2006, ESCWA adopted resolution 278 (XXIV) on “increasing the role of women in decision making with respect to conflict prevention and peace building”. Operative paragraph 1 of the ESCWA resolution “affirmed the need, for member countries and the secretariat, to accord special attention to the needs of women living in unstable conditions the requisite importance in their plans and programmes”. Based on that resolution, ESCWA convened an expert group meeting in Abu Dhabi on 13 March 2007 to address the issue of advancement of women -- economically, socially, psychologically and physically -- under conflict situations and to recommend measures to address and reduce all forms of violence against women during conflict. The recommendations of the expert group meeting were presented to the Third Committee on Women for adoption by the Arab member states at the meeting in Abu Dhabi on 14-15 March 2007.

Bibliography

Arab regional ten-year review and appraisal of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, E/ESCWA/WOM/2004/IG.1/3 dated 1 July 2004

Address/Websites

ESCWA

P.O. Box 11-8575, Riad El-Solh 1107 2812, Beirut, Lebanon

www.escwa.org.lb

<http://www.escwa.org.lb/ecw/index.asp>

2. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Background

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP works with countries to build their own solutions to global and national development challenges and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. UNDP helps developing countries attract and use aid effectively and encourages the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women in all its activities.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

UNDP focuses on all types of violence against women, including vulnerabilities arising out of trafficking in women and children, HIV/AIDS, disaster, conflict and post-conflict situations.

Main activities

Operational activities

UNDP supports the development of national strategies on protection for victims of domestic violence, and the development of legislation addressing domestic violence. UNDP's 2006-2007 Plan of action for mainstreaming gender perspectives in crisis prevention and recovery addresses violence against women in the context of conflict and post-conflict situations.

UNDP supports and undertakes the development of training modules for policy makers, law enforcement agencies and communities aimed at addressing violence against women, and contributes to capacity development at national and local levels. UNDP supports the provision of free legal service, counselling, mediation and rehabilitation, as well as micro-enterprise activities.

UNDP has developed gender equality and crisis prevention and recovery training materials for technical staff of its Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. UNDP has trained 13 UNDP offices in conflict and post-conflict situations on gender mainstreaming for country programming.

UNDP supports research for policy development, the collection of data disaggregated by sex and the development of databases on gender issues.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

UNDP advocates for the elimination of violence against women and raises awareness by promoting national and local campaigns, including the "16 days of activism against gender violence" and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. At country level, UNDP supports radio and TV shows that address violence against women, as well as production of posters and other public announcements.

The GenderNet forum on UNDP's website helps to disseminate, develop and manage knowledge on elimination of violence against women. Topics discussed on GenderNet include: comparative experiences in the development of a national strategy for the protection of victims of domestic violence (10 November 2004), and comparative experiences on violence against women (20 April 2004).

Future activities

UNDP plans to roll-out online mandatory gender training courses for UNDP staff on sexual harassment, and gender equality and crisis prevention and recovery. UNDP, together with other entities of the UN system, will launch a global initiative to stop rape in conflict situations and provide support to 15 country-level action plans for multi-sectoral responses on prevention and response to conflict and gender-based violence.

Address/Websites

UNDP

One United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017

<http://www.undp.org/women/>

<http://www.undp.org/rblac/gender/>

a. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

Background

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies to foster women's empowerment and gender equality. Placing the advancement of women's human rights at the centre of all of its efforts, UNIFEM focuses its activities on four strategic areas: (1) reducing feminized poverty, (2) ending violence against women, (3) reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS among women and girls, and (4) achieving gender equality in democratic governance in times of peace as well as war. UNIFEM's work on violence against women is based within a human rights framework.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. General Assembly resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women, establishing the Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women and subsequent resolutions (A/RES/52/94, A/RES/54/136, A/RES/56/130, A/RES 60/137) also support UNIFEM's work in this area.

Area(s) of focus

Under UNIFEM's 2004-2007 Multi-Year Funding Framework, programming to end violence against women is undertaken at the macro, meso and micro levels. Specific areas of focus for UNIFEM's programming vary according to regional context with, for example, heightened attention to sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict in sub-Saharan Africa, including Rwanda, Uganda and DRC, or trafficking in women in the South Asian region.

Main activities

Policy development

In every sub-region, UNIFEM provides support to efforts to introduce and strengthen legislation and policies against gender-based violence, including domestic and sexual violence, trafficking in women and forced marriage, and to ensure that all forms of violence against women are criminalized. UNIFEM also assists efforts to implement these instruments, including through the allocation of sufficient budgetary resources to end violence against women.

Operational activities

UNIFEM facilitates the strengthening of knowledge bases by supporting efforts to improve the generation and use of data, including through supporting research studies and the creation of databases on violence against women, to build more effective institutions and improve the access of women survivors to services.

In its programming to end violence against women UNIFEM works to support and build the capacity of duty bearers to fulfil their responsibilities to promote and protect women's human rights, including the right to be free from violence, with primary focus on the judiciary, law enforcement officials, parliamentarians, government ministries, legal practitioners, and departments of statistics. It also supports the creation of specialised institutions, such as police gender desks, and facilitates the efforts of gender advocates, including networks of women parliamentarians, to advocate for the creation and implementation of laws and policies to end violence against women. UNIFEM facilitates the creation and/or strengthening of strategic partnerships among governmental and civil society stakeholders and provides support to build the capacity of women's organizations to spearhead innovative responses to violence against women at the country level.

Under the guidance of General Assembly resolution 50/166, UNIFEM is the administrator of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (the Trust Fund), which identifies and supports innovative and catalytic projects around the world that aim to break new ground, create new models and mobilize constituencies to eliminate violence against women in all its manifestations. The Trust Fund generates lessons and good practices that inform larger programmes of UNIFEM and its civil

society, governmental and United Nations partners at the national, regional and global levels. Since the Trust Fund began operation in 1997, it has awarded US\$13 million in grants to 226 initiatives in 109 countries. In 2005, UNIFEM also launched a regional replication of the Trust Fund in the Arab region for a period of three years. A revised Trust Fund strategy for the period 2005–2008 was approved in 2004 to improve its impact, involvement, knowledge, efficiency and resources. Grant making now focuses on securing and supporting implementation of existing laws and policies in all regions to address the multiple forms of violence against women. The Trust Fund also, through a special window, supports interventions that address the intersection of violence against women and HIV/AIDS, with a view to reduce (1) violence against women as an effective HIV/AIDS preventive measure, and (2) violence against HIV-positive women and girls that results from stigma and discrimination, and to increase women's access to justice and services. In implementing the revised strategy, the Trust Fund has also sought to expand the involvement of United Nations organizations and other key actors, so as to ensure greater participation in the call for, and selection of, proposals. The revised strategy also devolved key aspects of the project approval process to the sub-regional level: since 2005, in addition to convening global meetings, UNIFEM has been convening sub-regional project appraisal committees composed of United Nations agencies, other international organizations, and experts from governments and civil society.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

UNIFEM supports advocacy and communication strategies to stimulate awareness and commitment to end violence against women. A key feature in this area is supporting coordinated efforts by NGOs, governments and UN organizations during the annual campaign of 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence (25 November – 10 December). In a number of countries, UNIFEM has also cooperated with partners in the White Ribbon Campaign, an international campaign that seeks to encourage participation of men in the struggle to end violence against women.

Future activities

In 2007, UNIFEM as executing agency and in cooperation with its implementing partners from governmental and non-governmental organizations in six countries has launched the two-year programme “Supporting Women's Engagement in Peace-Building and Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict: Community-Led Approaches”. This programme supports women's participation in conflict prevention and peace consolidation and empowers women to prevent sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict contexts in Afghanistan, Haiti, Liberia, Rwanda, Timor Leste and Uganda. At the country level, it will identify and support practical and effective forms of peace-building and peace consolidation, as well as community-level responses to the abuses that women suffer in armed conflict situations. At the regional and global level, it will create a constituency to exert continuous pressure and monitoring on decision-makers to ensure that actions that can reduce women's and girls' vulnerability to war-time sexual violence are taken.

UNIFEM has joined efforts to support the inception of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, an initiative that unites the work of the UN system to end sexual violence in conflict, crisis and recovery situations. UNIFEM will take a lead role in fulfilling UN Action's advocacy objectives which include ensuring that key peace, security and rule of law actors recognize sexual violence as a threat to international and regional peace and security and increasing funds for prevention and response to sexual violence in conflict.

Together with WHO and the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, UNIFEM is co-convening the work on violence against women within the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS. Through a combination of research and evidence-gathering, promotion of advocacy efforts, and support to catalytic programmes for country-level action, planned efforts of the working group include advocacy for increased political commitment and resources; support to mainstreaming women's human rights into violence against women and HIV/AIDS programming and the collection and dissemination of good and promising practices and strategies to address the linkages between violence against women and HIV/AIDS. Within the Global Coalition, UNIFEM will take the lead on supporting country-level and regional action addressing the inter-sectionality of violence against women and HIV/AIDS. The grant making strategy of the Trust Fund will continue to stimulate action on the ground

which will also support expansion of the evidence base, as well as feed into advocacy efforts of the Global Coalition.

Under the revised Trust Fund Strategy, UNIFEM and the World Bank developed an evaluation methodology and guide to measure the impact of initiatives to address violence against women. Currently, a monitoring and evaluation strategy is being rolled out and built into a number of Trust Fund projects, with the aim to strengthen the Trust Fund's overall approach to evaluation and to build grantees' capacity in evaluation in support of a better evidence-base on effective responses to the multiple manifestations of violence against women and to enhance the sustainability of institutions and interventions to end such violence.

Bibliography

A Life Free of Violence Is Our Right! The UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women. 10 Years of Investment 2007, United Nations Development Fund for Women, http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=83

A Life Free of Violence Is Our Right! – Trust Fund Testimonies (Video), 2007, United Nations Development Fund for Women

Let's End Violence Against Women (Public Service Announcement) 2007, Leo Burnett and United Nations Development Fund for Women, http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=87

Creating Economic Opportunities for Women in Albania: A Strategy for the Prevention of Human Trafficking 2006, Gender Alliance for Development Center with support from United Nations Development Fund for Women, <http://www.unifem.sk/uploads/doc/Albania%20report%20final.pdf>

Uncounted and Discounted: A Secondary Data Research Project on Violence against Women in Afghanistan, United Nations Development Fund for Women, http://afghanistan.unifem.org/PDF_Documents/Uncounted%20Discounted.pdf

Not a Minute More: Ending Violence Against Women 2003, United Nations Development Fund for Women, http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=7

War and Peace: The Independent Experts' Assessment on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Women's Role in Peace-building. Elisabeth Rehn & Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Women, 2002, United Nations Development Fund for Women, http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=17

Picturing a Life Free of Violence: Media and Communications Strategies to End Violence Against Women 2001, United Nations Development Fund for Women, http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=8

With an End in Sight: Strategies from the UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women, 2000, United Nations Development Fund for Women, http://www.unifem.org/resources/item_detail.php?ProductID=14

Address/Websites

UNIFEM, 304 East 45th Street
15th Floor
New York, NY, 10017
www.unifem.org

3. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Background

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

UNEP undertakes awareness-raising among staff members on the Secretary-General's Bulletins. It has circulated and encouraged discussions on these policies

Future activities

UNEP plans to hold yearly briefings on the Secretary-General's bulletins.

Address/websites

UNEP

United Nations Avenue, Gigiri, P.O. Box 30552, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

www.unep.org

4. United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Background

The Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is mandated to provide international protection to refugees and to promote durable solutions for them. UNHCR also works in partnership with other agencies to help internally displaced persons, stateless persons and others who are in a refugee-like situation as well as returnees. UNHCR defines protection as “all actions aimed at ensuring the equal access to and enjoyment of the rights of women, men, girls and boys of concern to UNHCR, in accordance with the relevant bodies of law (international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law)”, and as such views the prevention and response to sexual violence as an integral component of its mandate.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. Furthermore, UNHCR’s Policy on Refugee Women (1989) highlights the organizational goal of providing protection appropriate to the specific needs of women, including the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). The 1997 UNHCR Policy on Harmful Traditional Practices also provides guidance on addressing SGBV. In 2001, UNHCR made five commitments to refugee women, one of which is to “[d]evelop integrated country-level strategies to address violence against refugee women”¹. The “Guidelines on International Protection: Gender-Related Persecution within the content of Article 1 A(2) of the 1951 Convention and /or its 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees” 2002, also provide guidance in the context of determining refugee status under the 1951 Convention.

UNHCR’s policy framework is further elaborated in the Agenda for Protection (2004) and in several of the Conclusions of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner’s Programme. The most recent is Conclusion No. 105 (LVII) 2006 on Women and Girls at Risk which recommends specific actions for UNHCR, States and other relevant agencies and partners regarding the identification of women and girls at risk, prevention strategies and individual responses and solutions.

An internal memorandum on the implementation of an accountability framework on age, gender and diversity mainstreaming issued in 2007, has established clear responsibilities and commitments/activities for the mainstreaming of age, gender and diversity concerns into all UNHCR’s work and has a section addressing SGBV. To address the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse of people of concern, UNHCR’s Code of Conduct, drawn up in 2004, incorporated the Secretary-General’s Bulletin on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13). It provides a specific policy and framework to prevent, report and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian workers.

Area(s) of focus

UNHCR’s approach to SGBV is situated within a wider framework of mainstreaming gender equality, and women’s rights and empowerment. Within this framework, UNHCR aims to prevent and respond to all forms of sexual and gender-based violence affecting persons of concern during displacement and return. Its primary focus is on establishing a multi-sectoral inter-agency framework for prevention and response, in partnership with the communities of concern, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), other United Nations agencies and governments. The Office strives to achieve this by establishing standard operating procedures for the prevention of, and response to, SGBV in each country operation.

Main activities

Policy development/research

UNHCR formulated Guidelines for the Protection of Refugee Women in 1991. In 2003, it released Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees, and Internally Displaced Persons: Guidelines for

¹ Report on the Dialogue with Refugee Women, Geneva, 20-22 June 2001.

Prevention and Response, which was an update of its existing 1995 guidelines. The guidelines have been published in the six United Nations languages and in 13 other languages, and have been distributed to persons of concern, government counterparts, and implementing and operational partners. In addition, a Handbook on the Protection of Women and Girls was provisionally released in 2006. The handbook will be finalized and published in 2007.

UNHCR supports qualitative participatory child-centred approaches to SGBV prevention and response which include workshops that allow children to share their experiences, coping strategies, and suggestions to prevent and respond to violence in their communities.

UNHCR's system for measuring progress in operations includes standards and indicators on SGBV, and offices are required to report on their performance in relation to meeting the standards. In addition, the UNHCR's global strategic objectives and measurable targets include a requirement that all UNHCR operations will have in place standard operating procedures for SGBV prevention and response by the end of 2007.

Operational activities

UNHCR works on refugee status determination during which procedures take into consideration gender-based persecution. In addition, in seeking durable solutions to the problems of refugees, specific attention is paid to the needs of survivors of SGBV and those at risk. Depending on the circumstances, one of the durable solutions available to them is resettlement to a third country.

UNHCR organizes training on SGBV to enable the organization to meet standards in prevention and response. The Office supports technical missions to meet country-specific needs and collaborates with implementing partners to deploy specialists to the field. Specific attention is paid to involving more male staff and refugees, including youth, in understanding, preventing and addressing sexual and gender-based violence.

UNHCR collaborates with health partners to ensure that survivors of violence have proper access to services including access to post-exposure prophylaxis and emergency contraception. Such collaboration with UNFPA and other partners includes training on clinical management of rape survivors for health professionals.

Other operational activities include establishing and maintaining drop-in centres to facilitate access to health and psychosocial service providers, safe shelters, and legal justice for survivors.

UNHCR has assigned country-level focal points in each of its offices to carry out the recommendations of the Secretary-General's Bulletin on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13). The Office continues to promote and report on the implementation of the Bulletin and provides annual refresher sessions for staff on its Code of Conduct. UNHCR's Code of Conduct includes a section on sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian workers. All agreements with implementing partners include a mandatory appendix (2) on "Standards of Conduct – Ensuring protection from sexual exploitation and abuse".

Awareness-raising and advocacy

UNHCR focuses its awareness and outreach programmes on people of concern, UNHCR staff and partners. UNHCR also uses theatre and other community-based mechanisms to increase awareness about sexual and gender-based violence. Specific programmes have been initiated to mobilize men and boys on preventing and responding to SGBV. UNHCR operations in different regions actively participate in the annual campaign "16 days of activism against gender violence".

Future activities

UNHCR is working in partnership with other organizations to develop an information management system for data on SGBV. This will be tested and then used in field operations. In collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) and other agencies, UNHCR has established an Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Force on Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy in Humanitarian Settings. This is to address the

continued concern that women and girls are frequently exposed to sexual violence when collecting firewood. In coordination with NGO partners, UNHCR will soon launch a safe school initiative that seeks to ensure that SGBV in schools is prevented and addressed. For the year 2007, in addition to the existing annual budget which already includes activities to address SGBV, the High Commissioner has made available an additional USD 3.8 million to increase field activities to combat SGBV. The organization is conducting a global independent evaluation of its prevention and response activities on SGBV in the second half of 2007, to be completed in 2008. UNHCR has initiated a “Women Leading for Livelihoods” project to support the economic empowerment of displaced women and girls to reduce their exposure to survival sex and to meet their basic needs.

Bibliography

Respect Our Rights: Partnership for Equality, Dialogue with Refugee Women, UNHCR, 2001.
<http://www.unhcr.org/protect/3b83a48d4.html>

UNHCR Policy on Refugee Women and Guidelines on Their Protection: An Assessment of Ten Years of Implementation, UNHCR, 2002.

Guidelines on International Protection: Gender-Related Persecution within the content of Article 1 A(2) of the 1951 Convention and /or its 1967 Protocol relating to the status of Refugees, UNHCR, 2002.

Introductory Training Manual: Building a Common Conceptual Understanding among Humanitarian and Development Workers on Gender, Women’s Rights and Gender Based Violence (including Sexual Abuse and Exploitation), UNHCR, 2003.

Gender Training Kit on Refugee Protection and Resource Handbook, UNHCR 2003

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons. Guidelines for Prevention and Response. UNHCR, 2003. <http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/3f696bcc4.pdf>

Clinical Management of Rape Survivors (Revised Edition), WHO/UNHCR, 2004
<http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/403a0b7f4.pdf>

Study on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Selected Locations in Sri Lanka, UNHCR, 2004

Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Women and Girls in West Africa, UNHCR and Save the Children, UK, 2002

Combating Human Trafficking: Overview of UNHCR’s Anti-Trafficking Activities in Europe. UNHCR 2005

Refugee and Returnee Children in Southern Africa: Perceptions and Experiences of Violence: A qualitative study of refugee and returnee children in UNHCR operations in Angola, South Africa, and Zambia. UNHCR June 2005

UNHCR Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls. Provisional Release for Consultation Purposes. June 2006

Address/Websites

UNHCR

Case Postale 2500 CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland

www.unhcr.org

5. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

Background

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was founded in the aftermath of the Arab-Israeli conflict of 1948 to support the needs of Palestine refugees. Today, it provides education, primary health, relief, social and microfinance services to a population of 4.3 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Agency also delivers emergency assistance at times of conflict, including the occupied Palestinian territory since 2000, and Lebanon during the conflict of summer, 2006.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

UNRWA's services in education, health and social services provide women and girls the basic elements for sound human development and social safety. UNRWA is also working on developing a gender mainstreaming strategy to ensure that all programme activity undertaken is done incorporating fully the objective of gender equality, including combating gender-based violence.

Main activities

Operational activities

UNRWA supports women's programme centres in all refugee communities. These centres provide awareness-raising and support sessions for women on gender-based violence. Some centres also provide legal advice. Women's programme centres have kindergartens where staff can detect possible situations involving abuse of children and women in the home. Counselling and advice are provided if abuse is suspected. Violence against women and children is also addressed more indirectly through theatre and role playing.

In the context of armed conflict and the ongoing crisis in the occupied Palestinian territory, UNRWA supports women with the provision of temporary employment, with psycho-social support to family members, provision of shelter and emergency food and cash support. This emergency support is critical considering the drastic economic and social decline being experienced by Palestinians in the occupied territory, and that has been a major contributing factor to increased levels of social violence, including gender-based violence.

Future activities

UNRWA-supported women's programme centres regularly assess the needs of the community and adapt activities. As abuse and violence is a growing phenomenon that is also increasingly more easily discussed and addressed, the centres may prioritize more time and resources to helping victims of violence.

UNRWA is currently undertaking a concentrated pilot effort to reduce the incidence of violence in its schools in Gaza. This is a growing problem as both political and social violence are on the rise.

Addresses/Websites

UNRWA HQ Gaza
c/o P.O. Box 140157, Amman 11814, Jordan
www.un.org/unrwa/

6. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Background

The United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) is mandated to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and strives to establish children's rights as enduring ethical principles and international standards of behaviour towards children.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. UNICEF is also guided by the Mid-Term Strategic Plan 2005-2010, which prioritizes promotion of gender equality and programming to protect children from violence.

Area(s) of focus

UNICEF works on different manifestations of gender-based violence, depending on the particular country or context. These include: female genital mutilation/cutting, early marriage, trafficking, sexual exploitation, sexual violence, domestic violence, and violence in schools. UNICEF has been particularly focused on violence against women and girls in armed conflict.

Main activities

Policy development

In October 2006, together with OHCHR and WHO, UNICEF launched the UN Secretary-General's study on violence against children. The study examined violence against children in a range of settings including: home and family, schools, workplace, institutions, and in the community. The study identifies violence against girls as a priority issue and acknowledges that girls face greater risks of neglect and sexual violence than boys.

At the global level, UNICEF is actively involved in efforts to develop policies aimed at the protection of women and girls from sexual abuse and exploitation by United Nations staff and related personnel. UNICEF is working for the adoption of a comprehensive policy and strategy for victims of abuse and exploitation.

Many UNICEF country offices support the development of legislation pertinent to violence against women, including on trafficking, domestic violence and sexual offences. UNICEF also works with the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen legislative responses to violence against women and children. UNICEF recently published a guide for Members of Parliament on addressing violence against children

UNICEF supports the follow-up to Stockholm/Yokohama commitments on commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Research

In 2007, UNICEF's State of the World's Children report was entitled "Women and Children: The Double Dividend of Gender Equality". The publication argued that investment in women's rights will ultimately produce a double dividend: advancing the rights of both women and children. The report included analysis on the impact of violence against women on children.

UNICEF's Innocenti Research Centre conducts research on UNICEF's priority areas, including on violence against women and girls. UNICEF recently published a report and strategy for the abandonment of FGM/C within one generation.

UNICEF's current round of Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys provides data for 50 countries on child marriage, for over 30 countries on attitudes towards domestic violence, and for 10 countries on FGM/C. The Secretary-General's study on violence against children includes as one of its principal recommendations that

states develop and implement systematic national data collection and research, calling for the disaggregating of data by sex and emphasising this as a factor in strengthening child protection.

UNICEF, together with the Body Shop published a report “Behind Closed Doors”, on the impact of domestic violence on children.

Operational activities

Much of UNICEF’s work on gender-based violence focuses on capacity-building, with all regions increasingly prioritizing this aspect, as well as the development of a protective environment. Emphasis is placed on training those who can address violence against girls and women, such as the police, the judiciary, and teachers. For example, both the West and Central Africa region and the East and Southern Africa region have developed strategies on gender-based violence and are working on capacity-building of UNICEF staff, partners and other actors to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.

Training materials have been developed for UNICEF staff and partners on gender-based violence, and the provision of care and support for survivors of rape, especially in conflict situations.

UNICEF hosted a region-wide workshop on best practices to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in South Africa which brought together representatives from more than 20 UNICEF offices in Africa, along with government partners to learn from the South African experience of addressing gender-based violence and share experiences to prevent and respond to it.

UNICEF has developed a new manual for football coaches, designed to encourage coaches to talk to boys about violence against women and girls, in order to promote a culture of non-violence and non-discrimination.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

A network of gender focal points in regional and country offices work with UNICEF’s Gender Equality and Human Rights Unit in promoting gender issues and awareness at the national and local level. Many country offices focus on raising awareness on violence against women and girls, utilizing television and radio campaigns.

UNICEF has played a major role in the new initiative UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as co-chair of the advocacy working group.

In line with the Secretary-General’s study on violence against children, several country offices have led campaigns on violence against children, with an emphasis on violence against girls.

Future activities

UNICEF’s future plans regarding violence against women include: implementation of recommendations in the Secretary-General’s study on violence against children, ensuring attention to violence against girls; expanding work with boys to prevent gender-based violence through the coaching boys into men-programme; enhanced programming to prevent sexual violence and meet the needs of survivors of sexual violence; continued work at the community level on abandonment of FGM/C and early marriage; and continued participation in UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict.

Bibliography

The Body Shop and UNICEF, *Behind Closed Doors: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children*, 2006

Hayward, Ruth Finney. *Linkages between Violence against Women and Girls and UNICEF’s Medium Term Strategic Plan, 2002-2005 Priorities*, Working paper, 2003

Hayward, Ruth Finney. *Addressing Gender-Based Violence and UNICEF's Five MTSP Priorities: Some Elements for Planning and Action*, Working paper, 2004

Kaufman, Michael. *The Aim Framework - Addressing and Involving Men and Boys: To Promote Gender Equality and End Gender Discrimination and Violence*, Working paper, 2003

Domestic Violence Against Women And Girls, Innocenti Digest No 6, UNICEF, June 2000

Early Marriage: Child Spouses, Innocenti Digest No 7, UNICEF, March 2001

Changing A Harmful Social Convention: Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting, Innocenti Digest No 12, UNICEF 2005

Early Marriage: A Harmful Traditional Practice, UNICEF, 2005

The Impact of Conflict on Women and Girls in West and Central Africa and the UNICEF response, UNICEF, 2000

Address/Websites

UNICEF

UNICEF House, 3 United Nations Plaza, New York, New York 10017

www.unicef.org

7. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Background

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is mandated to promote the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA extends assistance to countries at their request to ensure that reproductive health needs are met; population issues are addressed; and awareness of these issues is enhanced in all countries.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above. In addition, UNFPA is guided by and promotes the principles of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), which also calls for the elimination of violence against women as cornerstones for population and development policies.

Area(s) of focus

UNFPA focuses on the following forms of violence against women throughout different life cycle phases:

1. Prenatal: Prenatal sex selection, battering during pregnancy, coerced pregnancy (rape during war)
2. Infancy: Female infanticide, emotional and physical abuse, differential access to food and medical care
3. Childhood: Genital cutting/mutilation, incest and sexual abuse, differential access to food, medical care, and education, child prostitution
4. Adolescence: Dating and courtship violence, early marriage, economically coerced sex, sexual abuse in the workplace, rape, sexual harassment, forced prostitution
5. Reproductive: Abuse of women by intimate partners, marital rape, dowry abuse and murders, partner homicide, psychological abuse, sexual abuse in the workplace, sexual harassment, rape, abuse of women with disabilities
6. Old age: Abuse of widows, elder abuse (which affects mostly women).

Main activities

Policy development/research

UNFPA undertakes research and studies, for example on the socio-cultural context of violence against women, on masculinity, fatherhood, men as offenders and as protectors including religious leaders and military personnel.

UNFPA convened a workshop on the findings of case studies from 8 countries on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) (Bucharest, October 2005). UNFPA worked closely with UNIFEM during preparation of the independent experts' study on women, war and peace; and jointly hosted an expert meeting on sexual violence in humanitarian situations to strengthen inter-agency collaborative action to combat sexual violence in crisis.

Operational activities

At the global level, UNFPA employs a wide range of operational strategies to address violence against women, including the development of guidelines and tools, capacity-building and training. As such, UNFPA has supported sensitivity training of medical professionals to meet the health needs of women affected by violence. Pilot interventions have been tested in 10 countries—Cape Verde, Ecuador, Guatemala, Lebanon, Lithuania, Mozambique, Nepal, Romania, Russia and Sri Lanka. It has also supported an international consultation on programming to address gender-based violence.

At the national level, UNFPA has supported the development of a national strategy to combat gender-based violence in several countries. For instance in Morocco, UNFPA supported the development of a comprehensive strategy to address several aspects of gender-based violence, from prevention to shelters for victims. In 2004, UNFPA supported a campaign on honour killings in Turkey. In Kenya, UNFPA advocates for and provides counselling services for rescued girls who escaped from FGM/C or forced marriages to help them to return

home without risking their health and well-being. UNFPA is working jointly with UNICEF on the prevention and treatment of sexual and gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

UNFPA promotes availability of services to victims of violence, including counselling for affected groups such as young people, pregnant women, the displaced and refugees. This entails strengthening referral networks, infrastructure and local capacity, including shelters, safe houses and legal and psychological services.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

UNFPA advocates for keeping gender-based violence in the spotlight at the global level as a major health and human rights concern. It supports and advocates for (i) the implementation of international agreements and conventions and of laws and policies related to gender-based violence as well as government accountability; (ii) the integration of action to address gender-based violence into policy frameworks; (iii) attention to the macro-economic impact of gender-based violence and the costs of interventions to prevent it; (iv) the inclusion of the costs of gender-based violence in gender equality and health accounts and the provision of more resources for such efforts; (v) public education campaigns; (vi) the mapping of existing programmes and projects and the sharing of good practices to address violence against women across regions; and (vii) the integration of training on gender-based violence into the curricula of schoolteachers, healthcare providers, the police, the judiciary, planners and statisticians. UNFPA advocates for the elimination of violence against women with parliamentarians and women's national networks. UNFPA supports the Global Call to Action to End Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict, to improve effectiveness and accountability in this area.

Future activities

UNFPA and WHO are preparing to host a technical meeting on indicators and measures on sexual violence and exploitation in conflict situations aimed at designing a programme of routine surveillance, assessment, monitoring and reporting. In collaboration with UNIFEM, UNFPA will support comprehensive programmes on violence against women in several countries, including review of legislation, advocacy activities and capacity-building of police and judiciary.

Bibliography

Programming to address violence against women, 10 case studies, UNFPA 2006

State of World Population 2005, *The Promise of Equality: Gender Equity, Reproductive Health & MDGs*, UNFPA, 2005

Beijing at Ten: UNFPA's Commitment to the Platform of Action, UNFPA, 2005

Training Workshop on Leadership, Media & Conflict Management for Women in Afghanistan, UNFPA, 2004

Addressing Violence against Women: Piloting and Programming, UNFPA/AIDOS, 2003

The Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Girls, UNFPA, 2002

A Practical Approach to Gender-Based Violence: A programme Guide for Health Care Providers and Managers, UNFPA, 2001 (translated into seven languages)

Address/Websites

United Nations Population Fund, 220 East 42nd St. New York, NY 10017

www.unfpa.org

<http://www.unfpa.org/gender/violence.htm>

8. United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

Background

The World Food Programme (WFP) provides food aid to meet emergency needs and support economic and social development, and provides the necessary logistical support. WFP also works to put hunger at the centre of the international agenda, promoting policies, strategies and operations that directly benefit the poor and hungry.

Policy framework

See main instruments above. In addition, WFP's Executive Director issued three Circulars (ED2003/005; ED2004/001; ED2005/004) for the implementation of the Secretary-General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13) that cover specific responsibilities for staff at both national and local level.

Area(s) of focus

WFP's main focus is on violence that occurs in the context of food distribution and in key phases of its programme cycle (i.e. registration, distribution, collection and transportation of food). WFP contributes to preventing and responding to all forms and manifestations of violence against women, such as FGM/C and sexual violence, exploitation and abuse, including in conflict and post-conflict situations, and rape, wherever there is a capacity to do so.

Main activities

Policy development

WFP contributed to the development of the guidelines for the Secretary-General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13).

Research

WFP has developed a concept paper that examines protection and gender issues related to WFP's operations in both conflict and post-conflict situations, with particular attention to gender-based violence.

In 2004, WFP collected data in 28 country offices in the framework of its Enhanced Commitment to Women Baseline Survey Initiative, and qualitative data to complement the surveys in 6 more countries, of which some were conducted in collaboration with UNHCR. The surveys determined the awareness levels of male and female beneficiaries of: the fact that they are not to provide any favour in exchange for receiving food; and the channels available to them to report cases of abuse linked to food distribution.

In collaboration with FAO, WFP prepared action sheets for the food security sector of the IASC Guidelines for the prevention of sexual violence.

Operational activities

The project "Building capacity to enhance humanitarian protection in the context of food assistance in emergencies, 2005-2006" is part of WFP's ongoing effort to address violence against women. The project aims to enhance WFP staff's understanding of gender issues and how to address them adequately.

WFP, in collaboration with UNICEF and Save the Children/UK designed, developed and implemented a regional training initiative in Southern Africa in 2002/2003 on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse for almost 5,000 staff from the United Nations, non-governmental organizations, government, and commercial partners, including truck drivers involved in food distribution. The training materials were reviewed in 2004 to reflect lessons learned and feedbacks from country offices.

Activities on prevention and response to violence against women vary from country to country. Examples of WFP's country-level efforts include the following:

- In collaboration with Relief International, WFP implemented a food-supported training programme on fuel-efficient stove-making that aimed at tackling sexual and gender-based violence in North Darfur by reducing the need for, and the time women spend outside camps collecting firewood.
- The issue of violence against women was thoroughly investigated during the last Food Security and Nutrition assessment in Darfur, Sudan, and a specific section on physical insecurity and gender-related violence was added into the final assessment report.
- In Northern Uganda, WFP works with formerly abducted children (particularly targeting the girl child) providing support for counselling and facilitating their reintegration in the community of origin.
- In Cote D'Ivoire, WFP supports young girls raped by military groups and children born out of rape.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

In Djibouti, Eritrea and Ethiopia, WFP has taken an active role in promoting the rights of women and girl victims of FGM/C through awareness-raising campaigns and information sharing at all levels, including regional initiatives. WFP also contributed to the policy dialogue with government counterparts and key stakeholders during the sub-regional conference on FGM/C held in Djibouti.

Future activities

WFP will continue to implement workshops and field studies as part of the protection project, including in Liberia, South Sudan, Nepal, Myanmar and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

WFP is conducting a comprehensive study on lessening the burden on women during food distribution. Security issues, including violence, which women may face during the distribution process, are among those that will be investigated.

Bibliography

Protection and Gender Issues in Conflicts and Post-Conflicts Situations, WFP, November 2005.

Women's Control of Food in Relief. Good Practices Case Study Project, WFP, December 2004.

Enhanced Commitments to Women 2004 Baseline Survey. Global Report, WFP, December 2005.

Address/Websites

WFP

Via C.G.Viola 68, Parco dei Medici, 00148, Rome, Italy

www.wfp.org

9. United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Background

The mission of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. Its activities contribute to the overall objective of the United Nations system to reduce urban poverty and promote sustainable development within the context of the Millennium Development Goals and the challenges of a rapidly urbanizing world.

Policy framework

See main instruments above. In addition, UN-Habitat's work is guided by the Habitat Agenda, which also addresses women's safety (article 123).

Area(s) of focus

The key focus of UN-Habitat's work in the area of violence against women is on the role and rationale for local government interventions and policy. UN-Habitat's work on violence against women is conducted within the framework of its Safer Cities Programme, which aims to build capacities at city level to adequately address urban insecurity and thereby to contribute to the establishment of a culture of prevention.

Main activities

Policy development/research

In order to better understand violence against women and its causes, UN-Habitat undertakes surveys under the umbrella of the Safer Cities Programme, and assesses four types of violence against women: (a) economic abuse; (b) physical abuse; (c) emotional abuse; and (d) sexual abuse. These surveys have been developed in South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon and Papua New Guinea, with the aim of assisting policy development and advocacy at local level, as well as at national and international levels.

Operational activities

UN-Habitat emphasizes programmes and strategies aimed at preventing violence against women and, to that end, promotes partnerships between all concerned stakeholders under the co-ordinating role of local government, women's groups, community, social institutions, and the police. It encourages the consultation and participation of women at each phase of a project or activity.

Through the Safer Cities Programme, women safety audits and exploratory walks are implemented, aimed at proposing corrective action to make the urban environment safer for all its inhabitants. Participants, mainly women, identify areas where the potential for crime is high or where women or other persons may feel unsafe. Based on the Canadian experience, safety audits were adapted to the reality of many cities in Africa, Latin America and Asia and the Pacific. At the national level, UN-Habitat has developed tools for, and implemented, women's safety audits in several cities, and developed partnerships at city level to enhance women's safety.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

The Safer Cities Programme promotes the documentation and exchange of practices and lessons learnt. It also promotes the Women City networks at the regional and international level and between regions. Examples include: seminars and international conferences organized in Frankfurt, Naples, Nairobi, Antananarivo, Johannesburg, Montreal and Kampala; and the replication of tools and training sessions carried out in Johannesburg, Frankfurt, Montreal, Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam.

UN-Habitat co-organized the first international conference on "Women's Safety: Making the links" (Montreal, 2002). Direct outcomes of this conference were the development of networks on women and cities and the Women's Safety Awards.

In the Eastern Africa Region, Safer Cities collaborated with the non-governmental organization Raising Voices to co-organize a regional dialogue in 2003, which brought together non-governmental organization leaders and representatives of local authorities to discuss the current state of prevention, to explore key themes and challenges and to develop strategies for moving forward to implement stronger programmes to prevent violence against women.

Future activities

UN-Habitat will continue to develop policies and tools, and undertake advocacy measures. It is planning the Third International Conference on Women's Safety to take place in the Asia and Pacific region.

Bibliography

Violence against Women in Urban Areas, UMP Working Paper 17, April 2000, by Soraya Smaoun, co-sponsored by SC and UMP (English and French)

Crime in Dar es Salaam: Results of a City Victim Survey, ISS and UN-Habitat, January 2001

Survivors speak, a snapshot survey on violence against women in Nairobi. UN-Habitat, Safer Cities Series 3, April 2002

Preventing Gender-based violence in the Horn, East and Southern Africa, A regional Dialogue, Raising Voices and UN-Habitat, 2004

Rethinking Domestic Violence, A training process for community activists, Raising Voices, Dipak Naker and Lori Michau, 2004

Address/Websites

UN-Habitat

P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi, Kenya

www.unhabitat.org

www.unhabitat.org/safercities

10. United Nations University (UNU)

Background

United Nations University's (UNU) mission is to contribute, through research and capacity building, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations, its peoples and Member States. The UNU acts as an international community of scholars; a bridge between the United Nations and the international academic community; a think-tank for the United Nations system; and a builder of capacities, particularly in developing countries

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Areas of focus

Violence against women has been addressed in projects under UNU's Peace and Governance Programme, including studies on women and children in post-conflict peace-building and on trafficking.

Address/Websites

UNU

5-53-70 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925

www.unu.edu

11. United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

Background

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) provides training to assist countries in meeting economic and social challenges; conducts research to explore effective training and capacity building approaches; and forms partnerships with other United Nations agencies, governments and non-governmental organizations for the development and implementation of training and capacity building programmes to meet the needs and requests of Member States, particularly developing countries and countries in transition.

Policy framework

See the main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

UNITAR addresses violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Main activities

Operational activities

Within the framework of its training initiative, UNITAR conducts courses of a few days' duration in the mission area of peacekeeping operations, tailored to the specific circumstances of the targeted mission. These seminars provide training on the special needs of women and children in conflict situations, enhance the professional preparedness of peacekeepers dealing with societies in and after armed conflict, and promotes the incorporation of gender perspectives into multilateral peacekeeping operations. By December 2005, a total of 25 seminars had taken place since the programme's inception in December 2001.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

UNITAR's training programme supports the United Nations' efforts to raise awareness for the rights and needs of children in situations of armed conflict.

Address/Websites

UNITAR

Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

www.unitar.org

<http://www.unitar.org/wcc/>

12. United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW)

Background

The United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW) carries out and promotes research and training programmes to contribute to the empowerment of women and the achievement of gender equality worldwide. By stimulating and assisting the efforts of inter-governmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations, UN-INSTRAW plays a critical role in advancing the global agenda of gender equality, development and peace.

Policy framework

See main instruments listed above.

Area(s) of focus

INSTRAW's Gender, Peace and Security Programme promotes gender equality and women's full and equal participation in the realms of peacekeeping, peace processes, post-conflict reconstruction and the reform of security institutions. INSTRAW's research and capacity-building initiatives focus specifically on security sector reform, violence against women and the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Main activities

Working with other UN bodies, international and regional organizations, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia and the media, INSTRAW prioritizes initiatives that ensure the right to peace and security for women, men, girls and boys in three main areas:

- Promoting gendered security sector reform – INSTRAW has developed a conceptual framework and concrete tools on gender and security sector reform (SSR) that aim to guide an analysis of security institutions, policies and processes (including the military, the police, border guards, private security firms, civil society and other actors), facilitate effective mainstreaming of women's issues, and ensure an effective and appropriate response to gendered insecurities, including violence against women. In 2006, INSTRAW, in collaboration with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), established the Gender and Security Sector Reform Working Group, which brings together key groups and individuals working on gender and reform of security institutions, and serves as an initiator, resource and facilitator for efforts to mainstream gender issues into SSR initiatives, policies and tools.
- Contributing to the eradication of violence against women - In 2001, INSTRAW commissioned 6 working papers on ending men's violence against women, which explore different partnerships for ending violence against women, and men's roles and responsibilities within these partnerships. In 2003, the Institute launched a collaborative research programme and online seminar/discussion to encourage a more holistic and collective response to violence against women by focusing on masculinities and male roles. In collaboration with UNDP's Sub-Regional Resource Facility for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC-SURF), INSTRAW developed a manual and training tool for improving the response to violence against women provided by public security institutions, including government, the police, the judiciary and other relevant actors. The tool aims to help users assess the existing response to violence against women, and design, implement and monitor more effective and appropriate policies and programmes. The tool also generated a training module that has been implemented with security-sector actors in El Salvador and the Dominican Republic.
- Supporting the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) – INSTRAW has produced *Securing equality, engendering peace: A guide to policy and planning on women, peace and security (SCR1325)*. This guide concentrates on the creation of action plans on women, peace and security in order to ensure the full, effective and sustainable implementation of Security Council resolution 1325. The purpose of this guide is to help facilitate the development of realistic action plans on women, peace and security through the provision of good practices, specific recommendations and a

six-step model process. The guide is designed as a resource for governments, United Nations and regional organizations as well as non-governmental organizations. Based on a review of existing action plans in countries such as Canada, Norway, and the United Kingdom, among others, the manual provides concrete guidelines and processes for reaching agreement at the national and institutional levels.

Bibliography

Partners in Change: Working with Men to End Gender-Based Violence (INSTRAW/Ser.B/57). Santo Domingo: United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, 2003. (ISBN 92-1-127058-8)

Grieg, Alan. *Political Connections: Men, Gender and Violence*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.1), 2001.

Rashid, Maria. *Giving Men Choices: A Rozan project with the Police Force in Pakistan*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.2), INSTRAW, 2001.

Hautzinger, Sarah. *The Crowing of the Rooster: Violence and Changing Masculinity in Northeast Brazil*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.3), 2001.

Tonkin, Bernard. *Men Reinventing Themselves - Recovery from the Hegemonic Masculinity*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.4), INSTRAW, 2001.

Moffett, Helen. *Entering the Labyrinth: Coming to Grips with Gender War Zones - The Case of South Africa*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.5), INSTRAW, 2001.

Funk, Rus Ervin. *A Coordinated Collaborative Approach to Address and Combat Teen Dating Abuse*: INSTRAW Working Paper Series on Men's Roles and Responsibilities in Ending Gender Based Violence (no.6), INSTRAW, 2001.

INSTRAW. *Herramienta para la programación de una respuesta eficaz y apropiada ante la violencia contra las mujeres*. In Manual para la Reforma del Sector de la Seguridad en América Latina. Panama: Sub-Regional Resource Facility, United Nations Development Programme, 2005.

Valasek, K. and K. Nelson. *Securing Equality, Engendering Peace: A guide to policy and planning on women, peace and security*. Santo Domingo: UN-INSTRAW, 2006.

Address/Websites

INSTRAW

Calle César Nicolás Penson 102-A, Santo Domingo

Dominican Republic

<http://www.un-instraw.org>

13. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

Background

UNRISD engages in multidisciplinary research on the social dimensions of contemporary problems affecting development. UNRISD stimulates dialogue and contributes to policy debates on key issues of social development within and outside the United Nations system.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

In the 2000-2004 Research Programme, violence against women was addressed in the Social Policy and Development and Democracy, Governance and Human Rights research programmes. In the new research programme for 2005-2009, violence against women is being addressed under the Gender and Development Programme.

Main activities

Research

UNRISD undertook research on violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations as part of its report on the occasion of the ten-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Bibliography

Gender Equality: Striving for Justice in an Unequal World, part four. UNRISD, 2005

Address/Websites

UNRISD

Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

www.unrisd.org

<http://www.unrisd.org/research/gender/report>

Contains links to all research, commissioned papers and contacts related to UNRISD's work on gender equality

14. United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)

Background

The mandate of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) is to contribute, through research, training, field activities and the collection, exchange and dissemination of information, to the formulation and implementation of improved policies in the field of crime prevention and control, due regard being paid to the integration of such policies within the broader policies for socio-economic change and development, and the protection of human rights.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

UNICRI's activities are developed in accordance with the priorities indicated by the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Recently, UNICRI has devoted specific attention to the issue of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, for the purpose of sexual exploitation. In the past, UNICRI has also carried out activities in the field of domestic violence prevention and control.

Main activities

Research

UNICRI's anti-trafficking projects include a specific assessment component aimed at the collection and analysis of information and data on trafficking patterns and modalities, routes and flows and existing counter-trafficking measures. In 2003, UNICRI carried out research in Italy and Nigeria on the trafficking of Nigerian women in Italy for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Similar research on trafficking in women for sexual exploitation has been carried out in the Philippines (2002), Czech Republic (2004), the Balkans (2004 and 2006), Poland (2005), Germany and Romania (2005). Under the programme of action against trafficking in minors for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, research was also conducted in Thailand, Ukraine, and Costa Rica.

Operational activities

The Institute carries out technical cooperation and capacity building activities, including the training of law enforcement and justice administration personnel; support in the creation of cooperation mechanisms between institutions of different countries; and support to non-governmental organizations and associations involved in assisting trafficking victims in origin and destination countries.

Throughout 2003-04, technical cooperation activities (e.g. training of law enforcement officials and NGO staff, creation of National Monitoring Center on Trafficking in Human Beings, pilot police cooperation activities, signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Italian National Anti-mafia Bureau and the Nigerian Attorney General, to establish and improve cooperation through exchange of information and documents on trafficking in persons and other related organized crimes) were implemented within the framework of the Programme of Action against trafficking, targeting the trafficking of women from Nigeria into Italy for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

In 2004 UNICRI prepared and tested a training manual to combat trafficking in human beings in peace operations, which targeted peace support operations' personnel deployed in the Balkans. In 2006, within the framework of the project "Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) and Peace-Support Operations (PSOs): Pre-Deployment/ In-Service Training Programme for International Law-Enforcement Personnel", UNICRI updated the training manual and on its basis carried out three training sessions, targeted in particular to police officers deployed or to be deployed in peace-support missions through the South-East European region. The courses involved a total of 35 participants from 17 countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France,

Germany, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands and United Kingdom).

UNICRI developed a database in Costa Rica, in 2005-06, that collected and analyzed judicial cases of trafficked minors for use by the 8 Offices of the Specialised Prosecutors on Sexual Crimes and Domestic Violence in charge of cases of trafficking in human beings. UNICRI also developed training courses for immigration and border police to strengthen the capacity of immigration personnel and border police in Costa Rica to address cases of trafficking in children for sexual exploitation. In addition, it produced a website on trafficking in minors and commercial sexual exploitation of children, with a special focus on sex tourism and code of conduct for tourism operators.

In 2005-06 UNICRI developed a template database collecting and analyzing judicial cases of trafficked minors in Thailand that became part of a broader trafficking database developed at the national level. Furthermore, UNICRI developed a multi-disciplinary training manual for all the stakeholders involved in preventing and tackling trafficking in minors in Thailand. Three major training courses took place in provinces (Ayutthaya, Chiang Mai and Song Khla) particularly exposed to the phenomenon of trafficking.

In Ukraine, in 2005-06, UNICRI focused especially on training and prevention/awareness-raising activities. In particular, UNICRI developed training courses for specialists working for the national hotline on trafficking dealing with children.

As a follow-up to the programme of action against trafficking in minors for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, UNICRI is currently carrying out in Costa Rica specialized training for judges and prosecutors on techniques for conducting interviews and assessing testimony of child victims and witnesses. Within the same context and in collaboration with Fundaci3n Paniamor, UNICRI is also currently providing training for hotline operators on the specific issues of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Furthermore, as follow-up of the activities carried out in Costa Rica, the programme is expected to be expanded to the regional level and UNICRI is currently contacting possible interested donors.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

UNICRI has carried out awareness campaigns on the issue of trafficking in women and minors for the purpose of sexual exploitation with the aim to sensitize potential victims, political and religious leaders, public institutions, and the general public on the issue, in addition to raising awareness of the services available to victims.

In Nigeria, in 2003, UNICRI implemented three awareness campaigns in the Edo State, making use of radio and TV spots, market campaigns, advocacy meetings and school visitations.

In Italy, in 2004, for four months a video spot "Let's help them to get free from slavery" was broadcasted on three national TV channels.

In Costa Rica, UNICRI produced: TV and radio spots; billboards at the borders to sensitize/inform the public on the issue; a bookmark to raise awareness in the population at risk; a set of three different stickers posted up in the windows of all immigration offices; 14 movable billboards, which circulated on buses for four months in the areas identified by the project as the most vulnerable trafficking routes.

In Ukraine, in 2006, awareness-raising campaigns were conducted through: the creation and dissemination of brochures advertising the free hot-line number and for specialists about national legislation; the dissemination of information through the La Strada website; the organization of 26 multi-disciplinary round tables; and a television spot to raise public awareness.

Future activities

UNICRI will implement another programme to address the trafficking of women and adolescents from Nigeria to Italy (duration of the programme: 24 months).

Bibliography

Trafficking in Human Beings and Peace-Support Operations. Pre-deployment in-service Training Programme for International Law Enforcement Personnel Training Manual. UNICRI Publications, 2006

Trafficking of Nigerian girls to Italy. UNICRI Publications, 2004

Anti-THB to and within peace support operation area: Building up knowledge and strategies for awareness and training. UNICRI Publications, 2004

UNICRI, *Trafficking in women: The Czech Republic perspective*. ICSP Publications, 2004

Address/Websites

UNICRI

Viale Maestri del Lavoro, 10, 10127 Turin, Italy

www.unicri.it

Information on counter-trafficking activities

Databases

International Legal Repository

http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/legal_framework/index.php

International Repository of Institutions against Sexual Exploitation of Minors

<http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/irisem/index.php>

Bibliography on Trafficking in Human Beings

<http://www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/bibliography/index.php>

15. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Background

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) is the main advocate for accelerated, comprehensive and coordinated global action on the epidemic. UNAIDS aims to lead, strengthen and support an expanded response to HIV and AIDS that includes preventing transmission of HIV, providing care and support to those already living with the virus, reducing the vulnerability of individuals and communities to HIV and alleviating the impact of the epidemic. The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS is a partnership between United Nations agencies and civil society organizations seeking to call attention and spur action to address the increasing HIV infection rates among women and girls.

Policy framework

See main instruments above. In addition, UNAIDS policy position paper: Practical guidelines for intensifying HIV prevention (2007) draws specific attention to the fact that strategies to reduce violence against women are essential to a comprehensive HIV prevention strategy for women.

Area(s) of focus

UNAIDS pays particular attention to the intersections between violence against women and the threat of violence, and HIV prevention, treatment and care for women and girls. The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS strategy covers policy development, research and awareness-raising. UNAIDS co-sponsors also take a lead on violence against women, particularly WHO, UNFPA, and UNICEF.

Main activities

Research

UNAIDS works closely with its co-sponsors (WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF), and partners (UNIFEM, Amnesty International, the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, and others) to better understand and document the linkages between violence against women and AIDS. Regional teams in Southern and Eastern Africa have explored how health services can be improved for women who experience sexual and physical violence during crisis and conflict situations (supported by the Global Coalition, WHO, UNDP and UNAIDS).

Operational activities

As follow-up to Security Council resolutions 1308 and 1325 (2000), the UNAIDS Office of Security and Humanitarian Response is providing support to strengthen HIV/AIDS education within international peacekeeping operations, as well as to assist countries to strengthen their HIV/AIDS responses for national uniformed services, targeting young recruits in particular. A training manual to encourage countries to strengthen their HIV/AIDS responses for national uniformed services has been developed as a peer education kit, which includes a section on gender issues, such as coercion and sexual violence.

UNAIDS is also working with partners to clarify linkages and effective programmes on violence and HIV in emergency affected populations. This work, funded by DfID (UK), includes a focus on scaling up HIV programmes for populations of humanitarian concern, and implementation of a number of activities, including:

- A review, in collaboration with WHO, of epidemiological evidence of the links between HIV and gender-based violence in emergency settings
- Participation in UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, a global initiative on gender-based violence in emergency settings
- Support to regional task forces on gender-based violence in emergency settings
- Collaboration with WHO in building capacity in the clinical management of sexual violence in emergencies
- Collaboration with FAO on building the capacities for addressing underlying causes of transactional sex.

Recent fundraising efforts by UNAIDS and the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS helped establish a window in the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, managed by UNIFEM, to support and document promising interventions on violence against women and AIDS. Private sector donations have contributed towards year two of the HIV window in the Trust Fund.

UNAIDS, together with WHO, the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS and other partners, has also formed a technical working group on violence against women and AIDS to propose recommendations on how to improve attention to violence within the national AIDS response and how to strengthen the linkages between AIDS programmes and programmes and services focusing on women's rights and violence against women.

UNAIDS is also working with leading experts at the London School of Tropical Medicine and the technical working group on violence against women to develop costing estimates for integrating programmes that address violence against women into AIDS programmes, where appropriate.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

As one of its key action areas, the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS advocates for strategies to halt violence against women and to address the linkages between violence and HIV transmission and access to services; promotes the right of women to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, free of coercion, discrimination and violence; and calls for greater action to address the issue of gender-based and sexual violence, including in conflict and post-conflict settings.

The link between violence against women and HIV has been featured as an important part of UNAIDS advocacy messages and was the subject of the November 2005 Issues Brief for use with policy makers.

Future activities

UNAIDS and the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS plan to strengthen their advocacy around violence against women and AIDS at all levels. UNAIDS will work with its cosponsors and other partners to gather the evidence base and policy implications of violence against women for HIV prevention and treatment programmes and to ensure that strategies to address these concerns are a core part of United Nations Country Team advocacy at the country level. UNAIDS will also develop an issues brief for all staff on the links between violence and HIV and recommended actions to strengthen attention to violence within national AIDS programmes.

Bibliography

Facing the Future Together: Report of the Secretary-General's Task Force on Women and Girls
<http://womenandaids.unaids.org/regional/default.html#1>

Global Coalition on Women and AIDS – Violence against women and AIDS: Issue Brief #2
<http://womenandaids.unaids.org/themes/docs/UNAIDS%20VAW%20Brief.pdf>

Address/Websites

UNAIDS
20, avenue Appia, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
www.unaids.org

http://womenandaids.unaids.org/themes/theme_2.html

16. International Labour Organization (ILO)

Background

The International Labour Organization (ILO) formulates and monitors implementation of international labour standards in the form of policies, conventions and recommendations, and provides technical assistance.

Policy framework

See main instruments above. In addition, ILO's work on violence against women is guided by the 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Rights and Principles at Work; Convention 111 on Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) of 1958; Convention 29 on Forced Labour of 1930; and Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour of 1999; Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97); Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143); Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169)

Area(s) of focus

ILO works on violence against women at work including sexual harassment, forced labour and trafficking, and child labour. It undertakes policy development, supervision of the application in law and practice of the relevant international labour, research, operational activities and awareness-raising activities.

Main activities

Policy development/research

ILO's Labour Standards Department undertakes research and analysis of national legislation, case law and practice on sexual harassment in ILO Member States. The ILO also addresses the issue of violence against migrant workers, in particular female migrant domestic workers, and against indigenous and tribal women. The Conditions of Work and Employment Programme (TRAVAIL) conducts research on violence, including violence against women, at work including on laws, workplace policies and other initiatives to prevent and respond to it.

Under the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour, ILO has carried out analyses of the situation of girl child labour in agriculture, domestic work and in situations of sexual exploitation.

Operational activities

ILO's Labour Standards Department, in cooperation with ILO's field offices, provides technical advice on policy and legislation, and conducts training on sexual harassment legislation and policies for constituents. Recently work has been undertaken in this area in the Asian region, in particular Malaysia, China and Pakistan, as well as in the context of the annual training at the ILO training centre in Turin on international Labour standards and gender equality. ILO also implements technical cooperation projects on child labour, migration, trafficking and forced labour in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

In 2001, ILO established a broad-based technical cooperation programme, the Special Action Programme to combat forced labour, to spearhead ILO activities against forced labour, including trafficking, irregular migration and bonded labour. The Special Action Programme aims to address all aspects of forced labour, from the lack of good jobs in the communities where many of the victims of trafficking originate, to support for victims. It recognizes the need for effective national laws and strengthened enforcement mechanisms, including legal sanctions against employers using forced labourers; as well as the need to raise public awareness and understanding of the problem and related human and labour rights violations. Under this programme, projects have been implemented in Ghana, Nigeria, Brazil, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Hong Kong SAR, and Nepal.

A technical cooperation project to address trafficking in human beings covering Albania, Moldova and the Ukraine provides assistance and guidance to ministries and relevant public services in the formulation of

gender-sensitive and regulated migration policies as a key preventive strategy, while also strengthening migration and employment management capacity aimed at reducing trafficking in women. The project is also providing social, economic and psychological support to victims of trafficking.

ILO's approach to violence against migrant women is based on a strategy of preventing exploitation and abuse through promoting gender-sensitive regulated and managed migration policies, bi-lateral and multilateral agreements and promotion of labour standards for migrant workers within a Decent Work framework. Important standards to specifically promote the protection and welfare of migrant workers, including women, are the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised) 1949 (No.97), Migrant Workers Supplementary Provisions Convention 1975, (NO.143) and the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (NO.181). In 2005, a tripartite Meeting of Experts formally adopted a key framework document for promoting a rights-based strategy for migration policy, ie the non-binding Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration. This document provides guidance to constituents on strengthening migration policies within a normative framework, while also giving examples of good practices from around the world, including a number that address the vulnerability of migrant women workers.

The ILO has developed tools specifically dealing with the protection and the promotion of the rights of migrant women. The ILO Guide on Preventing Discrimination, Exploitation and Abuse of Migrant Women Workers covers the full migration cycle from pre-departure to reintegration in the country of origin, including a specific module on trafficking. The Guide has been used extensively to build the capacity of ILO constituents in protecting migrant women workers and preventing abusive situations. It is currently available in 10 languages. ILO through its International Migration Branch has specific technical cooperation activities on trafficking.

ILO's SafeWork programme addresses the issue of sexual harassment and other violence at work by means of an interactive programme known as SOLVE, which is designed to assist in the development of policy and action to address psychosocial issues at the workplace.

Future activities

ILO will continue working with governments and social partners to improve laws and strengthen approaches to dealing with violence at work including sexual harassment. ILO plans to continue research on other forms of violence at work including mobbing and bullying; strengthen data gathering on workplace violence and harassment in developing countries; and work to ensure that all aspects of violence against women are addressed at the country level through Decent Work Country Programmes.

Bibliography

Gloria Moreno-Fontes, *Female Domestic Workers in the Middle East: Little Protection for the Underpaid*. International Migration Programme, ILO, 2005

Simel Esim and Monica Smith ed., *Gender and Migration in Arab States: The case of domestic workers*. Regional Office for Arab States, ILO, 2004

Ray Jureidini, *Women migrant domestic workers in Lebanon: International Migration Papers, IMP 48*. International Migration Programme, ILO, 2002

Sabika al-Najjar, *Women migrant domestic workers in Bahrain: International Migration Papers, IMP 47*. International Migration Programme, ILO, 2002

Lin Lean Lim, Katerine Landuyt, Minawa Ebisui, Mary Kawar and Sriani Ameratunga. *An Information Guide - Preventing Discrimination, Exploitation and Abuse of Women Migrant Workers*, ILO, 2004 ([available at http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/advocacy/protect.htm](http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/gems/advocacy/protect.htm))

Chappell, Duncan and Vittorio Di Martino, *Violence at Work* (3rd edition). (ILO, 2006)

(available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/support/publ/violence3ed.htm>)

Sectoral Activities Programme working papers on violence in services sectors (available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/sector/themes/violence.htm>)

Deirdre McCann, *Sexual harassment at work: national and international responses*. ILO, 2005 (at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/condtrav/publ/2cwe.htm>)

N. Haspels, Z. Mohamed Kasim, C. Thomas and D. McCann, *Action against sexual harassment at work in Asia and the Pacific* (ILO, 2001) (available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/pub4.htm>)

Rogers, Kim and Duncan Chappell, *Preventing and responding to violence at work*. ILO, 2003 (at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/condtrav/publ/hvs-kr-dc-03.htm>)

Annotated bibliography on violence at work, ILO, 1999 (at http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/condtrav/harassment/harassment_publ.htm)

R. Terhorst and N. Haspels, *Trainers' manual: women workers' rights and gender equality: easy steps for workers in Cambodia*, ILO, 2004 (at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/pub4.htm>)

Girl Child Labour in Agriculture, Domestic Work and Sexual Exploitation; Rapid assessments and Comparative Analysis in Philippines, Ghana and Ecuador: Girl Child Labour Studies Vols. 1 and 2, ILO, 2004

Address/Websites

ILO

4 Route des Morillons, CH-1211 Geneva 22 Switzerland

www.ilo.org

http://www.ilo.org/dyn/declaris/DECLARATIONWEB.INDEXPAGE?var_language=EN

ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Programme

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/migrant/projects/gender/index.htm>

International Migration Programme, ILO

www.ilo.org/condtrav/harassment

Conditions of Work and Employment Programme (TRAVAIL) pages on workplace violence and harassment

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/sector/themes/violence.htm>

ILO Sectoral Activities Programme (SECTOR) pages on workplace violence in services sectors

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/violence/>

ILO InFocus Programme on Safety and Health at Work and the Environment (SafeWork) includes pages on violence at work

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/whpwb/solve/index.htm>

Addressing Psychosocial Problems at Work (SOLVE)

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/index.htm>

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/pub4.htm>

ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

17. Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Background

The mandate of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

FAO seeks to promote gender equality and reduce discrimination against women through various activities which also support the elimination of violence against women. Activities focus on the reinforcement of food security and the economic rights of women, mainly by promoting their access to and management of economic resources, the reduction of women's workload, access to healthcare, education, training and information, and the promotion of women's participation in decision-making processes.

Main activities

Operational activities

FAO supported the adoption of special action plans for rural women and gender mainstreaming strategies for the agriculture sector in more than 20 countries. It also supported the incorporation of gender perspectives in land legislation, agricultural censuses and surveys in several FAO Member countries.

Address/Websites

FAO

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy

www.fao.org

18. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Background

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) functions as a laboratory of ideas and a standard-setter to forge universal agreements on emerging ethical issues. The Organization also serves as a clearinghouse – for the dissemination and sharing of information and knowledge – while helping Member States to build their human and institutional capacities in diverse fields. UNESCO is working to create the conditions for genuine dialogue based upon respect for shared values and the dignity of each civilization and culture.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

UNESCO primarily addresses the following types of violence against women: inter-personal violence in and out of schools; trafficking in women; women in conflict and post-conflict situations (including the use of rape as a weapon of war). Activities cover various fields of education; the natural sciences; the social and human sciences; culture; and communications and information.

UNESCO has a two-pronged approach to violence against women:

- A behavioural approach. Through education and with the help of ICTs, UNESCO seeks to build commitment to peace and non-violence in the minds of men and women. This includes the promotion of gender-sensitive human rights education and non-violent conflict resolution approaches. UNESCO's Human Rights Education programme seeks to bring about a profound reform of education in order to transform attitudes and behaviours that condone violence. It touches upon curriculum development, in-service and pre-service training, textbooks, methodology, classroom management, and the organization of the education system at all levels.
- A structural approach. Notably through its Social and Human Sciences and Culture Sector programmes, UNESCO looks at the structural causes of violence against women and seeks to encourage holistic and culturally appropriate policy responses towards their elimination.

Main activities

Policy development/research

UNESCO (Social and Human Science Section) undertakes research on the causes and social structures that foster violence against women. As part of its research activities for the ten-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, UNESCO produced a conceptual framework for qualitative and quantitative information on women's empowerment. One of the 7 sets of indicators pertains to women's bodily integrity and health, including data on the prevalence of female genital mutilation; sexual abuse of women; and physical abuse against women by an intimate partner.

In implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325, UNESCO, in collaboration with partners from the University of Hull (UK) and the Center for Human Rights, University of Pretoria (South Africa), launched a research programme on women's rights for peace and security in post conflict democracies in Africa. The aim of this program is to develop policy recommendations that address obstacles, such as violence against women, to women's full participation in and contribution to peace and security in post conflict countries in Africa.

In the framework of its project to fight human trafficking in Africa, UNESCO carries out research on factors leading to human trafficking in 6 pilot countries (Benin, Nigeria, Togo, Lesotho, Mozambique and South Africa) and proposes concrete recommendations. UNESCO collects and disseminates best practices in combating human trafficking in Africa in order to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy.

Operational activities

In the area of education, UNESCO has produced peace education kits and training in non-violent conflict resolution, which also aim to reduce violence against women (e.g: Education for a Culture of Peace in a Gender Perspective (training manual) in English (2001) and French (2003)).

UNESCO seeks to promote gender equality in primary and secondary education through curriculum reform. The main focus of this work is on identifying gender biases and stereotypes in curricula and textbooks and developing strategies to address them. These efforts address hidden/structural forms and causes of violence against women. In this context and on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, UNESCO organized an International Round Table “School related gender-based violence (SRGBV): role and responsibility of stakeholders” (Nov 2006), with the presence of Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, independent expert for the Secretary-General’s study on violence against children. The conclusions of the roundtable were widely disseminated, particularly within the African region. As a follow up to the conference, SRGBV is being integrated in the work currently undertaken in Western and Central Africa in the context of UN Girls’ Education Initiative. A module on SRGBV was added to the training of trainers guide developed by UNESCO on the mainstreaming of gender in education systems for the 6 countries of the Economic Community of West African States (CEDEAO).

In the area of social and human sciences, UNESCO organized, in 2005, a consultation in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, that focused on the status of women in the Great Lakes region of Africa, covering a range of issues including violence against women, especially sexual violence. Participants included academics, representatives of non-governmental organizations and policymakers.

In January 2006, UNESCO, in collaboration with the Palestinian Ministry of Women’s Affairs, established a Palestinian Women’s Research and Documentation Center. The first of its kind in an Arab country, outside North Africa, this institution serves as both a documentation and resource centre and as an observatory. It is devoted to research on gender equality and human rights with an emphasis on women’s rights legislation, the causes and consequences of poverty among women, violence against women and women’s participation in political life. Furthermore, the Centre will develop online databases, produce publications, organize training courses and provide information to ministries, NGOs, students and researchers.

In the area of communication and information, UNESCO created a digital library in Kazakhstan as an important step towards the promotion of human rights education for all through the opening of public information services. The library exists in Kazakh and Russian and gives women free access to databases which contain more than 1000 legal documents related to human rights issues. The library has a particular focus on rural population and vulnerable groups. There is also an online legal service which answers questions related to domestic violence, marriage and family, gender policy issues, and maternity. The digital library was designed to serve as an awareness-raising and educational tool to promote the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

In the area of culture, and within the context of its project “Culturally appropriate approaches to HIV/AIDS”, UNESCO is undertaking activities in order to raise public awareness on traditional attitudes and practices that are harmful to women’s health or put them at risk of infection, such as domestic violence (notably in Central Asia and the Caucasus).

Awareness-raising and advocacy

- International and regional conferences/campaigns:
 - Celebration of International Women’s Day 2007 at UNESCO Headquarters focused on “Women peacemakers”, their challenges and successes. (<http://www.unesco.org/women/iwd2007>). Among the speakers, Ms Mobina Jaffer, former Canadian Peace Envoy for Sudan spoke on the issue of

- violence against women as a major impediment to women's active participation in peace processes. Final "Women Peacemaker's Declaration" is available online.
- Celebration of International Women's Day 2005 at UNESCO Headquarters: "Building a More Secure Future for Women Reporters" (Paris, 2005) that focused on the role of the media in the elimination of violence against women.
 - UNESCO works in rural areas in Kyrgyzstan to raise awareness about bride abduction among rural communities as a violation of women's rights.
 - UNESCO coordinates International Years and distributes Prizes and Awards that acknowledge men's and women's contribution to the fight against violence in all its forms, including violence against women. The below laureates of UNESCO prizes were acknowledged for their work in favour women's rights and the fight against violence against women.
 - UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence: winner - Taslima Nasrin, October 12, 2004.
 - UNESCO Prize for Peace Education - Ms Betty Reardon (Honourable Mention, USA, in 2001); Ms Christiana Ayoka Mary Thorpe (Honourable Mention, Sierra Leone in 2002).
 - Development of gender-sensitive information, education and communication materials and radio programmes for post/neo-literates addressing issues of violence against women:
 - STOP This Violence! (Kenya)
 - Minority language radio programming for trafficking prevention (Mekong region, expanding to southern China).

Bibliography

Searching for Best Practices to Counter Human Trafficking in Africa: A Focus on Women and Children, Thanh-Dam Truong and Maria Belen Angeles, UNESCO 2005

Mixed Marriage, Law of Succession and International Conventions in the Countries of the Maghreb and in Egypt. Forthcoming on-line as part of the SHS/GED Occasional Paper Series at <http://www.unesco.org/shs/gender>

Research papers prepared on "Women in the Conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo", (2004/2005); <http://www.unesco.org/shs/gender>

Family Law in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Forthcoming on-line as part of the SHS/GED Occasional Paper Series at <http://www.unesco.org/shs/gender>

Corporal punishment in schools, January 2005

"Femicides" in Chile, 2004

Male roles, masculinities and violence, 2004

Women's rights and bioethics, 2000 (includes a chapter on violence against women)

Education for a Culture of Peace in a Gender Perspective. Training manual, 2001 (English) and 2003 (French).

Trafficking of women/Surveillance, tracking and analysis of the trade in girls and women from the Upper Mekong region into Thailand

Fighting human trafficking in Mozambique: policy recommendations (English and Portuguese)

Fighting human trafficking in Nigeria: policy recommendations, February, 2006

Fighting human trafficking in Benin: policy recommendations, May 2007 (English and French)

Fighting human trafficking in Togo: policy recommendations, May 2007 (English and French)

Policy papers currently under preparation:

Fighting human trafficking in Lesotho: policy recommendations, July, 2007

Fighting human trafficking in South Africa: policy recommendations, July, 2007

Address/Websites

UNESCO

7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP France

1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15 France

www.unesco.org

www.unesco.org/women

UNESCO project to fight human trafficking in Africa

http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4011&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Non-violence education

[http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1261&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL_ID=1261&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1261&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

Focusing resources on effective school health (FRESH)

[http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=36790&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL_ID=36790&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=36790&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

Education in situations of armed conflict and crisis – Women and Girls Education

[http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=23014&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL_ID=23014&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=23014&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

19. World Health Organization (WHO)

Background

The World Health Organization (WHO) supports the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

Policy framework

See main instruments above. In addition, WHO's work on violence against women is based on several resolutions by its governing bodies: World Health Assembly Resolution WHA49.25, Prevention of violence: a public health priority (1996); World Health Assembly Resolution WHA50.19, Prevention of Violence(1997); World Health Assembly Resolution WHA56.24, Implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health (2003); African Regional Committee Resolution AFR/RC54/R6, Child sexual abuse: a silent health emergency (2004); and the European Regional Committee Resolution EUR/RC55/10, Prevention of injuries in the WHO European Region.

Area(s) of focus

WHO supports and undertakes research, the formulation of policy, programmatic guidance and engages in advocacy on various forms of violence against women. This includes intimate partner violence, sexual violence, violence in emergency and conflict settings, adolescent abuse, trafficking, and elder abuse, including their impact on health outcomes and interaction with other health conditions such as HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, and chronic illnesses including mental health conditions. This work is being undertaken across a number of areas of work in WHO and by the different levels in WHO: at Headquarters, regional and country level.

Main activities

Policy development/research

- *Primary prevention of intimate partner violence and sexual violence*

In May 2007 WHO convened an international Expert Meeting on Primary Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence to inform the direction of WHO's future work in this area. The purpose of the meeting was to review current evidence regarding the effectiveness of approaches for preventing new occurrences of intimate partner and sexual violence, to identify WHO's role for advancing primary prevention globally and within countries, and to identify potential activities and products for WHO. Participants discussed the evidence base for various strategies and focused on the feasibility of implementation in resource-constrained settings and obstacles and opportunities for scaling up.

The group agreed that WHO should issue guidance on how to implement primary prevention strategies and monitor their impact, process and guiding principles. WHO will make the meeting report and background paper publicly available. Over the next year WHO will develop both a conceptual framework to guide primary prevention efforts and advocacy materials designed to raise policy-makers' awareness about the importance and potential of primary prevention.

- *Violence against women and HIV*

WHO, with other partners, is developing a framework for identification and costing of interventions for prevention of intimate partner violence and sexual violence that can be integrated into HIV prevention activities. A consultation on addressing violence against women in HIV testing and counselling took place in January 2006 and a meeting report with recommendations and summarizing existing good practices in this area is available.

- *Multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence*

WHO has carried out a multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women, aimed at enhancing availability of reliable data on the root causes, magnitude, and consequences of violence against women and facilitating the search for solutions. A report summarizing initial data from Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Japan, Namibia, Peru, Samoa, Serbia & Montenegro, Thailand and the United Republic of Tanzania was published in 2005; other countries are replicating the methodology (Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Maldives and New Zealand). WHO has also published 'Putting women first: ethical and safety recommendations for research on domestic violence against women' (2001), as well as a package of study materials, including the protocol, survey instruments and training manuals for implementing the Study. WHO, with PATH, has developed *Researching violence against women: A practical guide for researchers and activists* that will be used as the basis of regional training courses. Based on the experience gained with the Study, WHO is contributing to the development of indicators and survey methodology on violence against women.

- *Sexual violence research initiative*

The Global Forum for Health Research and WHO supported the development of the Sexual Violence Research Initiative. This Initiative aims to build a network of researchers, policy-makers, activists and other stakeholders to ensure that sexual violence is addressed from the perspective of different disciplines. A research agenda for sexual violence has been developed and reviews of evidence have been done on women's responses to sexual violence; and medico-legal responses to sexual violence.

- *Norms and guidelines*

The following are highlighted:

- *WHO's ethical and safety recommendations for interviewing trafficked women* – these guidelines contain recommendations for researchers, media, police and service providers who are new to working with trafficked women.
- *The Clinical management of rape survivors: developing protocols for use with refugees and internally displaced persons* (updated, 2005), developed in collaboration with UNHCR, UNFPA and the International Committee of the Red Cross – these guidelines provide practical guidance for those wanting to set up rape services in emergency settings. Following an expert consultation in December 2006, WHO is finalizing *Safety and ethical recommendations for data collection, monitoring and research on sexual violence in conflict*.
- *Guidelines for medico-legal care of victims of sexual violence*.
- *The Handbook for the documentation of interpersonal violence prevention programmes* provides useful guidance on how to document violence programmes as a basis for monitoring and evaluation of interventions to prevent and reduce violence.
- *Preventing child maltreatment: a guide to taking action and generating evidence* – this guide is intended to assist countries to design, deliver, and measure the impact of programmes for the prevention of child maltreatment by parents and caregivers.
- *Preventing injuries and violence: A guide for ministries of health* - this guide provides guidance to ministries of health for a public health approach to violence prevention. It covers policy development, data collection, advocacy work and capacity building.

- *Female genital mutilation*

WHO has carried out groundbreaking research on the obstetric sequelae of female genital mutilation and developed training packages on management of childbirth for women with FGM. It is continuing to support research on community interventions, decision-making, FGM and sexuality, with the aim of informing policies and community action. It also supports Member States in their efforts to end FGM.

Operational activities

WHO has developed various training programmes, such as Teach-VIP that includes modules on intimate partner and sexual violence; a virtual course on comprehensive care for sexual and domestic violence victims (PAHO); and training programmes for health providers and technical support for the integration of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict settings (Burundi, Congo, Liberia and Sudan). WHO's

guidelines for medico-legal care for victims of sexual violence have been pilot-tested in Jordan, Nicaragua and the Philippines.

Follow-up activities to the *WHO World report on violence and health*, 2002, include launches in over 50 countries, national reports on violence and health, and the appointment of focal points on violence in ministries of health in almost 100 countries. The Pan-American Health Organization has developed a model of laws and policies on domestic violence against women that has been validated by four countries in the region and will be implemented in 8 countries. WHO works with regional and national partners to develop policies on violence against women as a follow-up to its violence and health report and the multi-country study. WHO is working closely with UNICEF and other partners on follow up to the Secretary-General's study on violence against children--activities that will be essential to addressing violence against the girl child.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

WHO convenes the working group on violence against women of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS to promote advocacy and communication activities on the intersections of violence against women and HIV/AIDS. WHO has prepared briefs and guidance documents on various aspects of violence against women for advocacy and awareness-raising purposes. WHO undertakes sensitization activities on various forms of violence against women targeting multidisciplinary groups including journalists, civil servants, health providers and policy makers.

Future activities

Planned activities on violence against women for the coming years include: development of a framework and programmatic guidance on primary prevention of sexual violence and intimate partner violence; ongoing analysis of the database from the WHO multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women with a focus on risk and protective factors; development of good practice recommendations for addressing violence against women in HIV programmes; support for research on sexual coercion, negative reproductive health outcomes among adolescents and on the dual roles of boys as victims and perpetrators of violence; development of guidelines for estimating the economic impact of injuries due to interpersonal violence by WHO and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; establishment of local networks for domestic and sexual violence care as an entry point for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention in Belize, Honduras and Salvador; provision of vocational, health and literacy curriculum in women's shelters in the Eastern Mediterranean region; gender-based violence information/surveillance systems of health and judicial sectors in three countries in the Pan-American region; support for implementation of model laws and national and local policies in 8 countries in the Pan-American region; and assessment of the impact of a community-based intervention designed to reduce levels of physical and sexual domestic violence in Uganda.

Bibliography/WHO resources

Preventing injuries and violence. A guide for ministries of health. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2007.

Garcia-Moreno C., Jansen H., Ellsberg M., Heise L., and Watts C., *WHO Multi-country study on women's health and domestic violence against women.* Initial results on prevalence, health outcomes and women's responses. World Health Organization, 2005. A summary report and country fact sheets are available in English, French and Spanish and can be accessed on http://www.who.int/gender/violence/who_multicountry_study.

Addressing violence against women and achieving the Millennium Development Goals. World Health Organization, 2005.

Ellsberg, MC. and Heise, L., *Researching violence against women: a practical guide for researchers and activists.* World Health Organization and PATH, Washington DC, 2005.

Krug EG et al., eds. *World report on violence and health*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2002. (In particular see: Heise L and Garcia-Moreno C, Violence by intimate partners (chapter 4) and Jewkes R, Sen P and Garcia-Moreno C, Sexual violence (chapter 6)).
http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/world_report/en/index.html

Clinical management of survivors of rape: a guide to the development of protocols for use in refugee and internally displaced person situations. World Health Organization/ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2nd edition, 2005
(WHO/RHR/02.08;http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2002/WHO_RHR_02.08.pdf).

Guidelines for medico-legal care of victims of sexual violence. World Health Organization, 2003
(<http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/924154628X.pdf>).

Violence against women and HIV/AIDS: Critical intersections information bulletin series.
No. 1 Intimate partner violence and HIV/AIDS. World Health Organization, 2004
No. 2 HIV and Sexual violence in conflict settings. World Health Organization, 2004
No. 3 Violence against sex workers and HIV prevention. World Health Organization, 2006

Preventing violence: a guide to implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health. World Health Organization, 2004 <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241592079.pdf>

Sethi D et al. *Handbook for the documentation of interpersonal violence prevention programmes*. \ World Health Organization, 2004 <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241546395.pdf>

Ethical and safety guidelines for interviewing women who have been trafficked. World Health Organization, 2003. (Available also in Armenian, Bosnian, Croatian, Japanese, Serbian, Russian, and Romanian)

Putting women first: ethical and safety guidelines for research on domestic violence against women. World Health Organization, 2001 (WHO/FCH/GWH/01.1) (Available also in French and Spanish)

Violence against women and HIV/AIDS: setting the research agenda. World Health Organization, 2001 (WHO/FCH/GWH/01.08).

Waters H et al. *The economic dimensions of interpersonal violence*. World Health Organization, 2004
<http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2004/9241591609.pdf>

Schopper D, Lormand JD, Waxweiler R (eds). *Developing policies to prevent injuries and violence: guidelines for policy-makers and planners*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2006.
http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/39919_oms_br_2.pdf

Address/Websites

WHO, Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

www.who.int

<http://www.who.int/gender/violence>

http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/

20. The World Bank

Background

The World Bank concentrates on building a climate for investment, jobs and sustainable growth so that economies will grow. It invests in and empowers poor people to participate in development in order to alleviate poverty. The Bank's gender and development policy is to assist Member Countries to reduce poverty and enhance economic growth, human well-being, and development effectiveness by addressing the gender issues that create barriers to development.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

The social and economic costs of violence against women; components in financed projects that address the immediate needs of battered women and their children, social and legal services to help women with issues such as domestic violence, sexual violence against children, and child support.

Main activities

Operational activities

In November 2004, the World Bank held a workshop, The Development Implications of Gender-Based Violence, aimed to inform Bank staff about the issue of gender-based violence; provide them with the most current information pertaining to the causes and development impacts of gender-based violence; and spark debate and identify actions that the World Bank can take to address gender-based violence in its work. The workshop recommended that the Bank include gender-based violence in its core analytical and advisory work and that further evidence of the costs of gender-based violence be gathered in order to convince client governments to take action.

The World Bank is providing Uruguay with a US\$300,000 Institutional Development Fund grant to tackle domestic violence. The grant will support Uruguay's efforts to implement international, regional and domestic law pertaining to violence against women and improve access to justice for victims of domestic violence. It will also support implementation of the country's first national plan to fight domestic violence approved in 2004. Specific actions include: designing a comprehensive strategy aimed at identifying a broad range of policies and administrative measures to fulfill Uruguay's international commitments on gender equality; developing a national database of gender-disaggregated statistics to inform decision-makers of areas where services are required based on concrete data; and building institutional capacity to address and report on women's human rights and gender-based violence.

The World Bank is executing pilot projects in Bolivia, Honduras and Nicaragua to improve the health system's ability to identify and appropriately refer cases of violence against women. These projects are designed to promote sustainable institutional change in the way that the health sector deals with violence against women.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

In preparation for the 2004 workshop, the World Bank's Gender and Development Group organized a film series on gender-based violence. The World Bank has also funded activities of the "16 day of activism against gender violence" campaign in Indonesia.

Future activities

As follow-up to the 2004 workshop, the World Bank developed an evaluation methodology or guide for the assessment of gender-based violence projects as part of a collaborative activity with UNIFEM. This guide is cost-effective, easily transferable to different contexts, and enables different organizations to document the

impact of their efforts and improve the evidence base upon which strategies to end gender-based violence are built.

Bibliography

Barker, Gary and Christine Ricardo. 2005. *Young Men and the Construction of Masculinity in Sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for HIV/AIDS, Conflict, and Violence*. CPR Social Development Papers, No. 26, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Blackden, Mark. 2006. *Good Governance begins at home: Gender, Violence and HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa. Briefing note on critical gender issues in Sub-Saharan Africa, 2006-1*. Gender Team, Africa Region, World Bank, Washington D.C.

Bott, Sarah, Andrew Morrison and Mary Ellsberg. 2005. *Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence in Middle and Low-Income Countries: A Global Review and Analysis*. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. 3618, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Bouta, Tsjeard, Frerks, Georg and Bannon, Ian. 2005. "Gender-Based and Sexual Violence: A Multidimensional Approach", chapter 3 in *Gender, Conflict and Development*. World Bank, Washington D.C. Available at: <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCPR/Resources/30494GenderConflictandDevelopment.pdf>

Mansuri, Ghazala and Jacoby, Hanan G. 2007. *Watta satta: bride exchange and women's welfare in rural Pakistan*, World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. WPS 4126, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Morrison, Andrew, and Orlando, Maria Beatriz. 2004. *The Costs and Impacts of Gender-Based Violence in Developing Countries: Methodological Considerations and New Evidence* (unpublished)

Morrison, Andrew, Ellsberg, Mary, and Bott, Sarah. 2004. *Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Critical Review of Interventions*, World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No.3438, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Rachel, Linde. 2006. *Guidelines for Impact or Outcome Evaluation for Projects Funded by the UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence against Women*. Gender and Development Group, PREM, World Bank. April 2006.

Shrader, Elizabeth. 2001. *Methodologies to Measure the Gender Dimensions of Crime And Violence*, World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, No. 2648, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

World Bank. 2007. *Crime, violence, and development : trends, costs, and policy options in the Caribbean*. Joint Report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Latin America and the Caribbean Region of the World Bank, Report No. 37820, March 2007, Washington D.C.

World Bank. 2005. *Report on the Outcomes of the Workshop "The Development Implications of Gender-Based Violence"*. Washington, D.C.

World Bank/UNFPA.2004. *Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting in Somalia*. November 2004. Available at: <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCPR/882726-1120215891552/20627308/WBSomaliafgm.pdf>

Address/Websites

The World Bank

1818 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20433 USA

www.worldbank.org

www.worldbank.org/gender

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGENDER/Resources/UNIFEMEvaluationGuidelinesFinal.pdf>

21. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Background

Dedicated to eradicating rural poverty in developing countries, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was established to finance agricultural development projects primarily for food production. IFAD focuses on country-specific solutions to increase rural poor people's access to financial services, markets, technology, land and other natural resources.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

IFAD undertakes efforts to combat trafficking, address migration issues, women's empowerment in the marketplace and ensure that legal support is available to rural women.

Main activities

Operational activities

In Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States, IFAD has initiated a project to provide alternatives to migration and prevention of trafficking by developing new income generating activities, diversifying livelihood options and reducing barriers to entrepreneurship, specifically empowering high-risk vulnerable groups, with a focus on women and youth.

In Bangladesh, IFAD and other partners are supporting the Government to set up "women's sections" in major markets (i.e. separate section for women sellers, with their own toilet facilities and at the nominal rent) to ensure women's safety and prevent sexual harassment women face from men in the marketplace.

IFAD's Transitional Programme of Post-Conflict Reconstruction in Burundi aims to combat sexual violence, a primary threat to the physical security of Burundi's rural women and girls, and end impunity of perpetrators. The programme, which started in 2004, includes a legal component to make justice available to the rural poor, particularly poor women and vulnerable people.

IFAD worked on women's empowerment in the Mahbubnagar region of Andhra Pradesh, India, in partnership with UNIFEM, The Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty and the Kovel Foundation, through a project that organized women into self-help groups and non-timber forest products collectors' associations. An evaluation of the project suggested that participants' control over their income increased, and also resulted in a substantial reduction in the drunkenness of men and violence within the home.

Address/Websites

IFAD

Via del Serafico, 107 00142 Rome, Italy

www.ifad.org

<http://www.ifad.org/gender/index.htm>

22. Inter-agency mechanisms

a. Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE)

Background

The Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) brings together the gender equality specialists of all United Nations offices, funds and programmes, and specialized agencies. The Network supports and monitors the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” (2000). The Network also supports implementation of gender-related recommendations emanating from other recent United Nations General Assembly special sessions, conferences and summits, especially by ensuring effective co-operation and coordination throughout the United Nations system. The Network acts as a catalyst for, and monitors the use of, the gender mainstreaming strategy in the programmatic, normative and operational work of the United Nations system.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

Through its Task Force on violence against women, the Network addresses all forms of violence against women, globally, regionally and at the country level. The Task Force will aim to: enhance support to States, at the national level, in their efforts to eliminate violence against women; strengthen systematic and timely information exchange among entities of the United Nations system about existing and planned strategies, programmes and activities on violence against women, at global, regional and national level; achieve an enhanced understanding of resources available from the United Nations system, at the national level, to support work by Governments and non-governmental organizations to prevent and respond to violence against women; and ensure leadership by senior officials of entities of the United Nations system to address violence against women.

Main activities

In 2007/08, the Task Force on violence against women, co-convened by UNFPA and UN-DAW, will implement the following activities: undertake joint programming on violence against women in a selected number of pilot countries; complete a manual/guidelines on joint programming based on the experience gained in the pilot countries; establish and regularly exchange information via an email list; regularly update the inventory of United Nations system activities in the area of violence against women; undertake an assessment of resource flows for work on violence against women within the United Nations system; and undertake awareness-raising and outreach activities to enhance leadership on this issue.

Address/Websites

IANWGE

2 United Nations Plaza, 12th floor, New York, NY 10017

www.un.org/womenwatch/ianwge/

b. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

Background

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) is a unique inter-agency forum for coordination, policy development and decision-making involving the key United Nations and non-United Nations humanitarian partners. Together with the Executive Committee for Humanitarian Affairs, the IASC forms the key strategic coordination mechanism among major humanitarian actors.

According to General Assembly resolution 46/182, the IASC is intended to be composed of all operational organizations and with a standing invitation to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the International Organization for Migration. Relevant non-governmental organizations can be invited to participate on an ad hoc basis.

Policy framework

See main instruments above. The IASC was established in response to United Nations General Assembly resolution 46/182 on the strengthening of humanitarian assistance. General Assembly resolution 48/57 affirmed its role as the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance.

Area(s) of focus

The IASC Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance addresses gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, and in humanitarian settings. It is co-chaired by OCHA and WHO.

Main activities

Policy development

The IASC Task Force on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance issued a statement of commitment on actions to address gender-based violence, re-emphasizing members' individual and collective responsibility to undertake concerted action aimed at preventing gender-based violence, ensuring appropriate care and follow-up for victims/survivors of sexual violence and working towards holding perpetrators of sexual violence accountable. It has developed the Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Emergencies: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence. The Guidelines are a tool for actors in the field to establish a multi-sectoral coordinated approach to gender-based violence programming in emergency settings.

Bibliography

IASC Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Emergencies: Focusing on Prevention and Response to Sexual Violence. 2005

Broken bodies, broken dreams: Violence against women exposed (Book of photography on violence against women)

Our bodies, their battlegrounds (video)

Address/Websites

IASC

www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/

www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/gender

23. International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Background

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. While not part of the United Nations system, IOM maintains close working relations with United Nations bodies and operational agencies, as well as with a wide range of international and non-governmental organizations. In addition, IOM is the designated cluster leader for camp management in humanitarian settings for natural disasters. Through its gender mainstreaming policy adopted in 1995, IOM is committed to ensuring that the particular needs of all migrant women are identified, taken into consideration and addressed by IOM projects and services.

Policy framework

See main instruments above.

Area(s) of focus

IOM's main focus, with respect to violence against women, is on counter-trafficking, violence against women migrants, including women migrant workers and reduction of HIV vulnerabilities. It also addresses traditional practices such as female genital mutilation. The Organization is particularly attentive to violence against women in the context of complex emergencies and natural disasters, where women and children are disproportionately targets of abuse.

In this regard, it undertakes prevention activities; provides assistance to those affected by violence and/or trafficking; and provides assistance to trafficked victims for their voluntary return to countries of origin and their reintegration. IOM also facilitates access to voluntary counselling and testing of HIV and referral for treatment where needed for rape victims and for migrants to ensure universal access to HIV prevention, AIDS treatment, care and support.

Main activities

Research

IOM conducts and supports research designed to guide and inform migration policy and practice. IOM research is conducted in order to enable it to take more effective action in response to migration challenges and to provide policy guidance to governments based on sound evidence. In particular, violence against women has been recently highlighted not only in counter-trafficking studies but also in labour migration and in emergency and post-conflict research.

In the area of counter-trafficking, IOM undertakes research and publishes the findings about the situation of trafficking in specific countries and/or regions. A recent publication gave an assessment of changing patterns and trends of trafficking in persons in the Balkan region. IOM also maintains one of the largest international trafficking data base which contained health related information to facilitate planning and programmatic actions.

Operational activities

IOM currently has over 120 counter-trafficking projects targeting over 100 countries in Africa, Asia, Central, Eastern and Western Europe, and Latin America. It also has one global assistance project targeting all developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In 2005, IOM's Working Group on Gender Issues at Headquarters supported and contributed financing for three projects: the production of a series of TV public service announcements for anglo-phone Caribbean countries on HIV/AIDS prevention; a documentary for Senegalese television on trafficking of children; and funding for staffing a 24-hour hotline for victims of trafficking in South Africa.

IOM also implements a cross border project at Beitbridge, Zimbabwe and for internally displaced persons in Colombia to assist returnees and facilitate protection of these people, particularly women by building capacities of local entities and liaising with existing health facilities to ensure access to needed health services.

Awareness-raising and advocacy

Many of IOM's counter-trafficking projects include different types of information campaigns that aim to change behaviour including in the area of discrimination and violence against women.

In collaboration with UNFPA, IOM organized, on 2-3 May 2006, an expert group meeting entitled: "Female migrants: bridging the gaps throughout the life cycle". The meeting brought together over 50 independent experts from countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as representatives from governments, international agencies, NGOs, and diaspora organizations. Protection of migrant women against violence was part of the agenda.

Future activities

In the area of labour migration, IOM is currently carrying out a research project on Gender and Labour Migration in Asia. The final publication will include a chapter on "Sexual and gender-based violence against migrant workers - policy development and advocacy support" which addresses violence against female internal migrants in Vietnam. Furthermore, chapters on "The impact of gender on rural-to-urban migration in China" and "The role of women in migrant families in Thailand" also touch upon issues of violence during the migration process, such as in travel to the destination country and in the workplace. Policy recommendations on how to better incorporate these issues in national and regional migration policies as well as in the social services available to migrants will be provided.

Bibliography

The World in Motion: Short Essays on Migration and Gender, IOM's Working Group on Gender Issues. 2004. Contains chapters on specific issues such as female genital mutilation/cutting, facing rape in war, and trafficking.

Female migrants: Bridging the Gaps Throughout the Life Cycle, Selected papers of the UNFPA-IOM Expert Group Meeting, New York, 2-3 May 2006. 2006

A Psychosocial Needs Assessment of Communities in 14 Conflict-Affected Districts in Aceh (forthcoming publication). The final report includes a section dedicated to gendered trauma and sexual violence.

Publications on trafficking:

Condiciones de vulnerabilidad a la Trata de Personas en Colombia (forthcoming), Spanish only

Exploratory Assessment on Trafficking in Persons in the Caribbean: The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, the Netherlands Antilles, St. Lucia, Suriname (June 2005); Trinidad and Tobago (December 2006)

Legal Review on Trafficking in Persons in the Caribbean: The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, the Netherlands Antilles, St. Lucia, Suriname (June 2005); Trinidad and Tobago (December 2006).

"Stakeholder Analysis of Human Trafficking in Pakistan", March 2006

"Trafficking of Persons in Tajikistan" July, 2006

Who is the next victim? Vulnerability of young Romanian women to trafficking in human beings. IOM, 2004

Trafficking in Unaccompanied Minors in Ireland. IOM, 2004

Revisiting the Human Trafficking Paradigm: The Bangladesh Experience (Part I: Trafficking of Adults). IOM, 2004

Changing Patterns and Trends of Trafficking in Persons in the Balkan Region – Assessment. IOM, July 2004

Is Trafficking in Human Beings Demand Driven? A Multi-Country Pilot Study. IOM, 2003

Counter-trafficking in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. IOM, 2003

First Annual Report on Victims of Trafficking in South Eastern Europe Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings (SPTF). IOM and International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), 2003

Irregular Migration and Trafficking in Women: The Case of Turkey. IOM, 2003

Protection Schemes for Victims of Trafficking in Selected EU Member Countries, Candidate and Third Countries. IOM, 2003

The Trafficking of Women and Children in the Southern African Region. IOM, 2003

Trafficking in Persons; An Analysis of Afghanistan. IOM, 2003

Publications on HIV/AIDS prevention:

Sexual health of mobile and migrant populations. Sexual Health Exchange/2, 2003

Migration and HIV/AIDS in Europe. 2000

International Migration Quarterly Review, 36/4. Special issue: *Migration and HIV/AIDS*. 1998

IOM Position paper on HIV/AIDS and Migration. 2002

Population Mobility and HIV/AIDS (IOM Programme Brochure). July 2004

Mobility and HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa: A field study in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Care International and IOM, 2003

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care among Mobile Groups in the Balkans. 2001

Overview of HIV/AIDS in South Eastern Europe. 2002

(Available in English, Albanian, Macedonian, Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian.)

Salud sexual y reproductiva, enfermedades de transmisión sexual y VIH/Sida en jóvenes de 10 a 24 años de una ciudad receptora de población desplazada. Montería, Colombia, 2003. 2004

Address/Websites

IOM

17 Route des Morillons CH-1211 Geneva 19 Switzerland

www.iom.int

http://www.iom.int/en/who/main_service_areas_migration.shtml#chap11

www.iom.org.za/HIVAIDSPublications.html

* * *