



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

Belize

Annual Narrative Programme Report

01 January 2020 – 31 December 2020

Initiated by the European Union and the United Nations:



Programme Title & Programme Number

Programme Title: Spotlight Initiative to end violence against women and girls. Belize.

MPTF Office Project Reference Number:¹
00119130

Recipient Organization(s)

UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA

Programme Cost (US\$)

Total Phase I approved budget as per the Spotlight CPD/RPD: \$2,948,751 USD

Phase I Spotlight funding²: \$2,475,000 USD
Agency Contribution: \$473,751 USD

Spotlight Funding and Agency Contribution by Agency:

Name of RUNO	Spotlight Phase I (USD)	UN Agency Contributions (USD)
UNDP	901,278	129,400
UNFPA	592,602	143,971
UNICEF	981,119	200,380
TOTAL:	2,475,000	473,751

Priority Regions/Areas/Localities for the Programme

All six districts of Belize

Key Partners

Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous People's Affairs
Ministry of Health & Wellness
Ministry of National Defense and Border Security
Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology
Attorney General's Ministry
National Women's Commission
National Committee for Families and Children

CSOs and CSO Networks
Civil Society National Reference Group
Academia

UN Agencies/UN Programme Partners:
European Union
UN Women
ILO
PAHO/WHO
UNHCR
IOM

Programme Start and End Dates

Start Date:
01.01.2020

End Date:
31.12.2022

Report Submitted By: Birgit Gerstenberg, UN Resident Coordinator

¹ The Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as "Project ID" on the project's factsheet page the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

² The Spotlight Contribution refers to the amount transferred to the Recipient UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	5
Contextual Shifts and Implementation Status	9
Programme Governance and Coordination	16
Programme Partnerships	19
Results	27
Capturing Change at Outcome Level	28
Rights Holders (“Beneficiaries”)	44
Challenges and Mitigating Measures	44
Lessons Learned and New Opportunities	47
Innovative, Promising or Good Practices	48
Communications and Visibility	49
Next Steps	59
ANNEXES	62

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
EU	European Union
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
HoA	Heads of Agencies
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MNDBS	Ministry of Defence and Border Security
MHDFIPA	Ministry of Human Development Families and Indigenous People's Affairs
CSNRG	Civil Society National Reference Group
NSC	National Steering Committee
OHCHR	Office of the High Commission for Human Rights
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office
RUNOs	Recipient United Nations Organizations
SI	Spotlight Initiative
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UPR	Universal Periodic Report
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls

Executive Summary

In March of 2020, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Government of Belize (GoB), signed the approved Spotlight Initiative Belize Country Programme. During the first year of implementation, Belize achieved some significant early results, reaching a 79% delivery rate; establishing core coordination mechanisms; advancing research and policy reviews; and supporting Civil Society Organization (CSO) partners to expand gender equality programming and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) services for all. This progress was achieved despite the challenges that emerged with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as historic flooding—both of which greatly impacted service delivery. Key results and achievements are captured through Spotlight Belize’s M&E Tool, an online platform through which RUNOs report on results on a monthly basis.

Through ongoing engagement, consultations and partnership with the European Union Delegation, the programme has been engaging, from the onset, key stakeholders at the national and local level, resulting in established partnerships with six (6) key government ministries and 10 civil society organizations (CSOs), while partnership agreements are being finalized with two additional CSOs.

Under outcome 1

Spotlight Initiative contributed to strengthening policy and legislations, ensuring that plans are in place to respond to violence against women and girls (VAWG).

Some early results include:

- The National Gender Policy and the National Gender Based Violence (NGBV) Action Plan are being evaluated and revised. While this process is in its nascent stage, agreements with the National Women’s Commission, the entity leading the process, and with the consultant team during an inception meeting has established that the revised NGBV Action Plan and Policy will incorporate the principle of leaving no one behind by ensuring that the plan includes strategic actions targeting marginalized groups, involves a process of consultation with the most marginalized and women’s rights advocates, and address gaps in the implementation of key family law legislation to ensure that all survivors of GBV are able to access services.
- The process to assess the effective implementation of family law legislations as well as processes for the comprehensive review of existing policies and protocols on the response to sexual violence in the security forces, including during emergency situations, have been initiated. The process to assess effective implementation of family law includes broad based consultations with survivors of VAWG including migrant and rural women and girls, and those facing discrimination due to sexual orientation and/or gender identification.

These will result in recommendations to strengthen access to justice for women and girls as well as contribute to strengthening institutional capacity to respond to VAWG and promote zero tolerance for VAWG. It is the hope that the process of multi-stakeholder dialogues and advocacy supported by the Civil Society National Reference Group will drive the movement towards legislative reform. It is also anticipated that these recommendations will help to form the structural and institutional capacity strengthening of state and non-state actors to increase resources (human and financial) for the expansion of quality services at community level.

One of the primary challenges faced is advancing legislative actions under outcome 1: While the Ministry of the Attorney General has been engaged and has expressed commitment to addressing legislation targeted in the Spotlight Country Programme, the Ministry has expressed a gap in human resources, specifically as it relates to legal drafters, to advance these actions. Spotlight team will work collectively to identify available resources that can be utilized to support the Ministry of the Attorney General to address this gap.

Under Outcome 2

Actions are underway to ensure that key officials at national and/or sub-national levels in all relevant institutions are better able to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG.

Specifically,

- The Gender Equality and Diversity Seal, targeting 25 private and public sector organizations, is being implemented in partnership with the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of the Public Service and provides an opportunity to engage nontraditional agencies and all line ministries through the Ministry of Public Service and private sector entities through support of the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI). The design of the programme has been completed and engagement of the 25 organizations has commenced.
- Modules for mentorship programme to strengthen court officials' response to family law cases have been developed. At least fifty (50) key government officials will benefit from strengthened capacity through the implementation of these modules via a mentorship programme to address gaps in the response and support structure of the Magistrate and Family Courts of Belize. Court Officials including Social Workers and Intake Officers will be engaged in a focused training and mentorship process that seeks to significantly improve the process of victims advocate and support within the legal system. This will ensure that women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination benefit from a process that is a victim-centered approach and is safe and responsive.

The effects of COVID-19 have impacted the rollout of initiatives geared at strengthening institutional capacity, particularly in the areas of accessibility and technological capacity of target participants and institutions. To mitigate this, several rounds of consultations with stakeholders were facilitated to form a working hybrid approach for implementation that offers the greatest level of impact to the institution.

Under Outcome 3

Strong CSO partnerships, particularly at the community level, have resulted in advancing actions towards strengthening prevention response by reaching over 8,000 men, women, boys and girls directly and over 5,000 indirectly across all areas of the ecology.

- Comprehensive sexuality education is being expanded in and out of schools. The CEO in the Ministry of Education has endorsed the revision of the Positive Youth Development Curriculum to ensure that Belize's CSE programme is aligned with international standards and BFLA's CSE Peer Education Curriculum and Training Resource Manual was revised, in line with international standards. Additionally, 30 master trainers have been trained in the delivery of CSE for out of school adolescents and youths.
- A mandatory reporting toolkit has been developed to facilitate on-line capacity development of school communities to prevent, identify and ensure appropriate responses to ending family violence, is being developed. Some 900 teachers and school administrators will be trained during the first quarter of 2021.
- At the community level, CSOs have engaged more than 5,000 parents (male and female), men and boys, faith based organizations, community leaders and local communities through a variety of platforms, including on-line engagement of target groups, small community dialogues, public information and advocacy campaigns, all aimed at promoting shifts towards gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviors, including in relation to women and girls' sexuality and reproduction, self-confidence and self-esteem and transforming harmful masculinities.

COVID-19 presented some challenges in how these transformative and innovative actions were implemented. With the restrictions on face-to-face gatherings and the unfamiliar virtual spaces for having maximum participatory approaches, CSOs were motivated to enhance their own knowledge and technological capacity to facilitate these engagements. CSOs were supported through re-budgeting to include strengthening their technology platforms (zoom, teams, etc), providing data to participants to ensure their ability to participate, and access to knowledge products, to support developing interactive virtual sessions. Community outreach, especially in the rural districts was impossible, due to the unavailability of telecommunications services. Efforts to ensure safety of both CSO partners and beneficiaries had to be built into intervention designs and as an added benefit, CSOs have drafted COVID-19 Protocols for Staff and beneficiaries to reinforce attention to national safety measures.

Under Outcome 4

327 persons (297 women, 11 girls and 19 men) benefitted from quality essential services such as counselling services, access to SRHR commodities and SRHR services through innovative mobile services, at the community levels.

- The design for the execution of a mobile Women Centers was completed in partnership with four civil society organizations: The Human Rights Commission of Belize, the Belize Family Life Association, the Productive Organization for Women in Action, and the Child Development Foundation. The Mobile Women Centers is designed to increase utilization of a full range of coordinated and high-quality service as defined in the Essential Package of Service for women and girls subject to violence in Belize. The mobile center was rolled out during the last quarter of 2020 with the first six mobile services reaching almost 400 women and girls in the southern and northern regions.
- 24 communities, including migrant and indigenous communities which were hardest to reach and/or with limited access to services were the main target for services through accelerated implementation of service delivery in response to COVID-19. These include Bella Vista, Aguacate, Santa Cruz, August Pine Ridge, and San Antonio Rio Hondo. Additional actions are being taken to strengthen the capacity of social workers to ensure optimal service delivery, including during emergencies. Over 300 persons were reached with information, contraceptive commodities and SRH family planning services.
- Access to services is also being expanded through the establishment of a sexual and domestic violence unit within the Police Department.

Under Outcome 5:

- The SI baseline study is nearing completion and will be ready for dissemination in the second quarter of 2021. A national social and behavior change communication strategy and evidence-based programme strategies to address intra-family violence will be informed by the results of a baseline study.
- The capacity of the justice sector to collect data related to VAWG to inform laws, policies and programmes within that sector is being strengthened through upgrading of the case management system of the judiciary. As part of this capacity building activity, in 2020, Spotlight has provided the judiciary with IT equipment which will allow for the upgrading of its data collection and case management systems.

Actions under outcome 5 are critical to ensuring the availability of sound data on VAWG. However, ensuring a coordinated approach to data on VAWG has been a challenge as many sectors are involved in data collection and dissemination. Moving forward, there is a need for a coordinated approach in advocating for the harmonization of GBV data to ensure that Belize is able to produce high quality, globally comparable data on GBV.

Activities **under Outcome 6** are planned for 2021, as elaborated in the CPD. Consequently, efforts in 2020 were concentrated on strategic mobilization of women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization in the process to more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and ending VAWG, to ensure effective implementation of all activities in year 2.

While there have been some delays in the establishment of the National Multi-sectoral Steering Committee (NSC), owing to challenges detailed in the next section of this report, these challenges have been successfully addressed and the NSC is poised for initiation in the first quarter of 2021. Additionally, the Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG) has been established and has finalized 100% of its operational documents and is well poised for active engagement in Spotlight Initiative (SI)'s implementation.

Finally, the development and implementation of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the implementation of SI has contributed significantly to working as One UN by providing concrete mechanisms and dedicated spaces for planning and coordination at all levels. Implementation of the SOP has resulted in stronger coordination among UN agencies, particularly facilitating joint programme implementation with several implementing partners. Additionally, increased coordination allowed for joint planning of SI response to Covid-19 crisis and allowed for quick and efficient reprogramming of resources to ensure that no one was left behind and to address gaps in service delivery related to VAWG during the pandemic.

Contextual Shifts and Implementation Status

Several major events during 2020 severely impacted service delivery and constrained the government's sustained focus on VAWG issues and continuity of leadership - both of which are important for Spotlight Initiative Belize's implementation. During the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2020, Belize was impacted by unprecedented levels of flooding associated with Hurricane Eta and Iota which resulted in the disruption of services. This resulted in many implementing partners, including key Government and CSO partners, diverting attention and resources to emergency lifesaving support to affected communities. Some communities could not be reached to continue interventions by other Implementing Partners (IPs), such as CSOs, due to high levels of flood waters. CSO partners and key government personnel who traditionally respond to humanitarian crises utilized the opportunities to combine humanitarian response and interventions of family violence. Particularly, the delivery of parenting and support services were combined with the distribution of food assistance and early childhood development (ECD) packages reaching over 1000 parents.

The use of PPEs and other protective equipment was added to the standard process for distribution of support. Additionally, as a response to the Hurricane emergency, the SRH/Family Planning

mobiles were diverted to communities in the Cayo and Stann Creek Districts most affected by the flooding such as Frank's Eddie and St. Margaret Village.

While some exceptional measures were taken to meet some gaps in service delivery, VAWG response was not nationally prioritized during emergency response, as emergency support took precedence over VAWG intervention. For example, personnel responsible for responding to VAWG are deployed to engage in assessments and respond to the subsequent urgent requirements of people in need of food distribution, shelter management, and other support. This created some delays in implementation.

General elections were held in Q4 resulting in a change of government for the first time in 12 years which meant a change in key decisions and policy makers. To orient the new government, the Spotlight team quickly mobilized to engage policy and decision makers in sensitization and awareness sessions to secure political commitment and ensure continued partnership with the new government. The UNRC as well as Head of RUNOs engaged with the newly elected officials, including the Prime Minister and the Minister of Human Development Families and Indigenous People's Affairs (MHFIPA) to raise awareness on Spotlight Initiative and to secure commitment for ongoing government support for SI's implementation.

This shift also affected the composition of the NSC which was poised to host its inaugural meeting at the beginning of the third quarter. The members of the NSC have now been revised to reflect the representation of the new administration and an inaugural meeting will be held in the first quarter of 2021.

COVID-19 and its attendant emergency response such as sharp increases in the number of cases, national lockdowns, closure of businesses and key industries and sectors resulting in unemployment, food insecurity and an increased burden on the health and social sector to respond to increasing cases of COVID-19. This stretched existing government capacities to effectively engage in and respond to VAWG (this continues to date) as human and financial resources were diverted to respond to COVID-19. Furthermore, the socio-economic fabric of Belize, like many other countries, has been hard hit with high levels of unemployment and underemployment, protracted school lock down, increase in poverty levels and the significant spike in COVID 19 positive cases. The heightened threat of increase in gender-based violence therefore remains critical. While concrete data does not exist on the extent of the increase of GBV resulting from COVID-19. Anecdotal reports from CSOs working in communities and responding to GBV indicate that there has been an increase in the number of cases of GBV.

To support the government to strengthen its response to family violence within its COVID 19 response framework, the SI team worked in a coordinated manner to conduct a rapid assessment of its country programme and quickly developed a COVID 19 response plan. The COVID 19 response plan included budgetary and programmatic adjustments to the Spotlight programme to redirect investments so as to strengthen the country's capacity to respond to family violence

and to meet critical gaps in service delivery which resulted from the lockdown and redeployment of staff as part of the national response to COVID-19.

Spotlight quickly responded by leveraging resources to support the government to respond to at-risk and survivors of GBV through the integrated service provision of mobile and community level psychosocial support via GBV, HIV and STI counselling, stress management, contraception services in response to the COVID-19 emergency, in partnership with local CSOs. Additionally, SI leveraged resources to establish 4 temporary safe spaces for survivors of GBV from June to December, since there was a disruption in the provision of this essential service owing to a national lock down and restrictions in outside travels. Some 15 women and 26 children accessed these spaces. Spotlight also provided technical support to strengthen the national referral system to integrate COVID-19 relief response and reprogramme logistical support for training programmes to be used for effective implementation of relief response for most vulnerable families including rural women and girls, survivors of GBV.

Civil Society emerged as a crucial partner to the COVID-19 response, particularly in addressing service delivery gaps at the community level. As previously noted, some GBV services were interrupted as many GOB service providers responded to COVID 19 emergency and other disasters. Spotlight resources of some strategically positioned CSOs were topped up to allow them to support mobile service delivery and to continue to provide essential services to most at risk women and girls and survivors of GBV. CSOs were motivated to enhance their own knowledge and technological capacity to facilitate these engagements and SI provided CSOs support through re-budgeting to include strengthening their technology platforms (zoom, teams, etc), providing data to participants to ensure their ability to participate, and access to knowledge products to support developing interactive virtual sessions. Community outreach, especially in the rural districts was unavailable and efforts to ensure safety of both CSO partners and beneficiaries had to be built into intervention designs, guided by the government's COVID-19 safety protocols. Additionally, although CSOs experienced some setbacks in implementation during the onset of the pandemic, most CSOs demonstrated, and continue to demonstrate, a remarkable capacity to identify and implement innovative ways to remain operational and ensure information and services are reaching beneficiaries at the community level. Some examples of this include; e-counselling to ensure sustained counselling support to survivors of GBV, on-line training and sensitization on VAWGs, adoption of COVID-19 protocols for mobile units to ensure continuity of services to communities. Implementing partners were supported in re-programming funds to facilitate the change in modality and also provided access to secure and sustained meeting and training platforms. Additionally, there were some instances where planned activities already included contracting of a consultant. However, to accelerate implementation, funds were not transferred to the counterpart and RUNO engaged in direct implementation on behalf of the CSO. One example of this is the contracting of a consultant to support the design of the Mobile Women's Center.

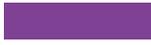
The GoB has been continuously engaged in shaping the Spotlight COVID-19 response plan, as well, and its subsequent implementation as they partner with the SI team on an ongoing basis to discuss challenges in implementation and identify strategies to mitigate these challenges. In order to address government personnel's focus on responding to COVID-19, some interventions originally planned for implementation by the government were shifted to CSOs or academia to ensure they could continue.

The draft Spotlight COVID-19 response plan was reviewed in consultation with the European Union at the end of the 2nd quarter. The EU acknowledged the SI teams' efforts to adjust programming to respond to COVID-19 and approved the response plan. The EU remains fully engaged through ongoing meetings and updates on Spotlight.

Status of Implementation

Despite the challenges experienced, the programme adapted and is moving forward well, with 82% of SI activities on track; 42% of programme activities were initiated within the first 2 quarters of 2020 and experienced full roll out during the last 2 quarters of 2020; 24% of the programmed activities were initiated in the last quarter of 2020 and will be fully rolled out in 2021; 16% of programmed activities are planned for implementation in 2021 and only 18% of activities were not initiated in 2020 as planned, due in large part, to the contextual challenges noted above.

The table below provides the status of implementation of activities by outcomes.

	Planned for 2021
	Originally planned for 2020 but will commence in 2021
	Started in Q4 and pending full roll out
	Started in Q2/Q3 and is being fully rolled out

Outcome1: Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls, including family violence, are in place and translated into plans.	Status of Implementation
Activity 1.1.1: Develop regulations for the implementation of the Anti-discrimination laws as well as the Criminal Code to operationalize the Sexual Offenders Registry.	
Act 1.1.3: Review and Amend Evidence Act to offer better protection to victims and witnesses and to align it with pending anti-discrimination legislation).	
Act 1.1.4: Evaluate the existing National Gender Policy and develop a new National Gender Policy based on the evaluation of the policy	
Act 1.1.5: Work with survivors, community members and community leaders to identify and address the major challenges to implementing legislation on family violence such as DV Act and mandatory reporting	
Act 1.2.1: Review, update and cost the NGBV Action Plan with accompanying M&E framework.	
Act 1.3.1: Support the development of guidelines, protocols, standards and a reporting mechanism to ensure comprehensive and timely response to violence against women in Security Forces including in times of emergencies	

Outcome 2: National and sub-national systems and institutions plan, fund and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, including family violence, including in other sectors	Status of Implementation
Act 2.1.1: Conduct capacity assessment at individual and institutional levels of relevant key state actors and CSOs to respond to family violence and develop a costed national capacity development plan based on findings from capacity assessment	
Act 2.1.2: Strengthen institutional capacity of key stakeholders to develop prevention and response programmes for ending sexual violence, including the development and application of normative documents (standards, guidelines, protocols, etc) on family violence	
Act 2.1.3: Strengthen capacity, including providing mentorship of court officials, in 4 districts without a family court, to address family law cases.	
Act 2.1.4: Implement Equal Opportunity Seal adapted from the Gender Equality and Diversity Seal for public and private sector organizations	

Outcome 3: Gender inequitable social norms, attitudes and behaviours change at community and individual levels to prevent violence against women and girls, including family violence	Status of Implementation
Act. 3.1.1 Scale-up delivery of high quality, age appropriate comprehensive sexuality education programmes for young people, including boys and girls with disabilities, in and out of school to promote gender equality and change negative socio-cultural gender norms that sustain family violence	
Act. 3.1.2. Build the capacity of schools (teachers, local management and parents at the primary and secondary levels) and provide tools to prevent, identify and ensure appropriate responses to ending family violence	
Act 3.2.1 Mapping of state and non-state actors involved in prevention, delivery of services and social norm change to inform the development of national social and behaviour change programme	
Act 3.2.2 Develop and cost a national social and behaviour change communication strategy and support implementation of key actions targeting individuals and communities to promote change in knowledge, attitudes, norms and practices to bring an end to family violence	
Act 3.2.3 Implement community-based programmes focused on empowerment, protection and prevention of family violence	
Act 3.2.4 Scale up Care for Child Development (CCD) to ensure full engagement of male and female parents including a special focus on families of children with disabilities and support the implementation of the parenting manual	
Act 3.2.5 Develop programme to work with couples, including adolescents in formal and informal unions, to transform the imbalance of power and build healthy relationships, manage conflicts and understand family violence.	
Act 3.2.6 Create opportunities through innovative online and mobile applications and other platforms for young people to connect with each other and have direct access to information on human rights, women's empowerment, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and messages on family violence	
Act 3.3.1 Support faith-based, civil society, and community leaders to work with families to address root causes of family violence such as around corporal punishment and the prohibition of corporal punishment in the homes, adverse childhood experiences, child marriage and early unions, alcohol and drug use, sexual abuse, gender and social norms embedded in gender equality.	
Act 3.3.2 Work with workplaces (formal and informal sector) to engage men in critical reflection on rigid gender norms which perpetuate inequitable power relations between women and men and support the modelling of positive behaviours and masculinity through positive deviance approach	

Outcome 4: Women and girls who experience violence use available, accessible, acceptable, and quality essential services including for long term recovery from violence	Status of Implementation
Act 4.1.1: Support the national process of defining an essential package of services (including in emergency settings) for Belize based on International Standards including for underserved groups	
Act 4.1.2: Strengthen the social workforce to provide high quality multi-sectoral services for victims (including in times of emergency) through sustained capacity of service providers	
Act 4.1.3: Strengthen and roll out FAMCARE to support national and local level referral and case management for GBV survivors in a coherent and coordinated fashion.	
Act 4.1.4: Develop/update multi-sectoral protocols for sexual violence through a consultative process with government and CSOs	
Act 4.1.2: Increase access to high quality services, including in times of emergency (police, health, social work, psychosocial support, legal) including SRH services for adolescents and other groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.	
Act 4.2.2: Support the development/ implementation of the standard operating procedures for the management of safe houses for survivors of family violence	
Act 4.2.3: Support the establishment of sexual and domestic violence unit within the Police Department	
Act 4.2.4: Support to at-risk and survivors of GBV through the integrated service provision of psychosocial support via GBV, HIV and STI counselling, stress management, contraception services in response to the COVID-19 emergency.	
Act 4.2.5: Strengthening capacity of National Authorities preparedness, coordination and response in response to the COVID-19 Emergency	

Outcome 5: Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls, including family violence, collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes	Status of Implementation
Act 5.1.1: Conduct Baseline Study to include assessment of Knowledge Attitudes and Practice related to family violence and an assessment of the root causes of family violence	
Act 5.1.2: Support the harmonization of the GBV information system, to both fulfil the role of a statistical M&E system as well as a comprehensive case management system, that captures important aspects of each case from first report through to case closure. (GBV Surveillance, FAM Care, CIMS, Court System etc.) and build capacity of service providers, including CSO staff and volunteers in the use of the GBV information system	
Act 5.1.4: Build capacity of the judiciary to gather and manage data to improve access to justice case management, decision making, inform accountability and inform legislative review	

Outcome 6:	Status of Implementation
Act 6.1.1: Strengthen the network of CSOs and autonomous women's group as a supportive mechanism to provide coordination of all efforts being implemented by civil society and women's group and build the capacity of CSOs	[Blue]
Act 6.1.2: Support the operation of National Civil Society Reference Group	[Yellow]
Act 6.2.1: Support CSOs to advocate for increased accountability of state through increased knowledge and awareness of social accountability systems and the channels for accessing them	[Blue]
Act 6.2.2: Build capacity of women rights groups, CSOs and informal leaders for decision making, networking, to mobilize constituents, and advocate for increased accountability as it related to the national response to family violence	[Blue]
Act 6.3.1: Support capacity development of women's organizations and CSO to design, implement and monitor community programmes to respond and prevent family violence and represent marginalized populations (some areas include: advocacy, programme design and management, collection and utilization of data, networking and collaboration)	[Blue]
Act 6.3.2: Establish Local /community-based support service delivery network in partnership with CSOs which allows for the provision of minimal acceptable services to victims (including legal support, counselling, referrals, gender advocates) particularly in underserved rural areas	[Green]

Plans are already in place to accelerate implementation of the 18% of activities that did not commence in 2020. These include high level engagement of the new Attorney General to mobilize support for the implementation of legislative review, and to support a partnership with the Policy and Legislation sub-committee of the National Committee for Families and Children (NCFC) and the National Women's Commission (NWC) which will provide access to a wide cross section of key stakeholders responsible for legislative review.

The multi-stakeholder (government and CSO) nature of the NCFC and the multi-level nature of the NWC (national and sub-national) will ensure that both government and CSOs at all levels are engaged in this process. Preparatory processes such as development and approval of Terms of Reference (TORs) have also been initiated to ensure that implementation of activities can commence within the first quarter of 2021.

Programme Governance and Coordination

The Spotlight Initiative Programme is led by the Resident Coordinator (RC). A Programme Coordinator and a Communication Officer, sitting in the RC Office, along with a Technical Coherence Consultant lead the Spotlight Technical Coordinating Unit and work closely with the three RUNOs to support a seamless and coordinated approach to programme delivery. A Standard Operation Procedure (SOP), which was developed by the Spotlight Belize Team, outlines the governance and management structures, working relationships, roles and responsibilities related to the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative in Belize. The SOP has contributed to working as one UN by strengthening coordination and technical coherence of Spotlight Initiative, by outlining roles and functions at various levels, discussing how various roles interrelate with each other as well as describing mechanisms for ensuring effective reporting, coordination and accountability.

The SOP further outlines the roles and functions of the various institutional governance mechanisms which support the implementation of SI. These include the National Steering Committee, the Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG), and other interagency coordination and governance mechanisms.

The National Steering Committee (NSC)

The National Steering Committee (NSC) is the highest governing body of the Spotlight Initiative and provides strategic direction, oversees the overall implementation of the Spotlight Initiative programme and shares information on policy and legal decisions affecting the response to violence against women and girls (VAWG). The NSC is the body to approve the Spotlight Initiative annual work plan as well as programmatic or budgetary revisions as proposed by the Technical Team.

Although there were some delays in establishing the NSC, owing to the national focus on response to COVID-19, in addition to the formation of a new government in the last quarter of 2020, one positive outcome arising from a high level meeting with the newly elected Minister of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Affairs was a commitment from the Minister to support the establishment of the NSC within the first quarter of 2021 and to serve as co-chair with the Resident Coordinator. Consequently, the first meeting of the NSC will be held within the first quarter of 2021. The NSC will meet on a bi-annual basis and will include representation from the following: Special Envoy for the Development of Families and Children, Ministry of Finance, Economic Development & Investment, Ministry of Education, Culture & Technology, Ministry of Youth, Sports and E-Governance, Ministry of Home Affairs & New Growth Industries, Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour & Local Government, Ministry of Health & Wellness, Head of the European Union Delegation to Belize, Recipient United Nations Organizations UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP, and 20% representation from the CSNRG.

Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG)

An Interim Civil Society National Reference Group (ICSNRG) composed of 15 members was established in May 2019, to support the design phase of the programme. The group was actively engaged in working sessions with the government, the UN and the EU in all six outcome areas of the programme. The ICSNRG was replaced by the CSNRG during the last quarter of 2020 and comprises of 8 diverse members from national, local and grassroots CSOs with a positive team spirit and drive to contribute to the elimination of family violence and violence against women and girls and ensure the application of the principle of “Leave No One Behind” is meaningfully implemented in coordination with the UN. The CSNRG is inclusive, featuring participation of groups representing women and girls, youth, indigenous groups, LGBTI groups, and CSOs focusing on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Four (4) regular and twelve (12) small working groups meetings have been held to date with the main objective of these meetings being to review the group’s Terms of Reference, develop a Costed Annual Work Plan for 2021, Standard Operating Procedures, and Profiles and Code of Conduct for the CSNRG as well as the selection of CSNRG Executive, representatives on the National Steering Committee, Focal Point Volunteer and Caribbean Spotlight Regional Advisory Member.

The costed work plan was shared with the EU and the SI Belize team for review and approval during the latter part of December 2020 and is expected to be approved by RUNOs in January 2021. The budget included in the costed work plan is twice the amount allocated in the programme budget (approximately 39,000 USD) and therefore actions are being taken to identify areas where savings were accrued in the 2020 AWP and can be reprogrammed to fully support the implementation of the CSNRG work plan.

With the development of its work plan, the CSNRG is now fully poised to support the programme to reach national and grassroots partners and promote that the principle of leaving no one behind is fully realized. Meaningful engagement of the CSNRG is formalized through the SOP which makes provisions for inclusion of the CSNRG in periodic technical team meetings to engage in joint planning, provide inputs and coordinate monitoring activities, ensuring their engagement is institutionalized. Since its inception, the efforts of the CSNRG was concentrated on understanding the CPD, developing its SOP and work plan and appointment of its representation to the various committees on which the CSNRG should sit. Consequently, the input into the CPD implementation has been minimal. However, a fully functional and knowledgeable CSNRG, inputs into monitoring and decision making around SI implementation will be significantly increased in 2021.

a) Inter-agency coordination, technical committees and other governance mechanisms

Working as one UN, under the UN Reform has been greatly enhanced through the implementation of SI and the establishment of dedicated spaces for coordination and joint planning such as monthly technical meetings, bi-monthly coordination meetings and quarterly Heads of Agencies Meeting as stipulated by the SOP.

The RC engages Representatives of RUNOs for quarterly meetings to review progress of implementation and identify areas for action by the heads of agencies (HOAs). In addition, the wider United Nations Country Team (UNCT) is kept apprised of the joint programme progress by receiving periodic updates and exploring opportunities to engage in SI and to support effective implementation.

Two separate spaces were created to ensure effective coordination and effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of SI. First, bi-monthly coordination meetings between the technical coordination unit, RUNO Focal Points, and Operations and Budget Focal Points provide the space for oversight of the programme, strategic decision making, decision making regarding budget and financial implementation.

Additionally, monthly technical meetings, chaired by the Programme Coordinator (RCO) and attended by the Communication Officer (RC), Technical Coherence Consultant and RUNO Programme Officers are held. Standing monthly meetings provide a space for joint planning, to discuss progress of implementation, identify areas for coordination and collaboration, technical coherence, challenges, plans for acceleration, country level feedback, particularly in the current COVID 19 context and to brainstorm for solutions to issues identified. One example of how the monthly technical team meetings improved programme effectiveness is in the area of M&E. During monthly meetings in the 3rd quarter of 2020, the team was able to collectively identify significant gaps in M&E as well as identify ways to strengthen its M&E tools and then worked together to strengthen those gaps.

Monthly Status Reports (based on standardized on-line tools) and meeting reports are submitted to RUNO focal points and Programme Coordinator (RCO) who review reports, and prepare quarterly reports to HoAs and RC, flagging items necessary for action/decision making at HoAs and RC level. These are discussed during the quarterly meetings of RC and HoAs.

In keeping with the principle of working as one UN, the Spotlight Initiative Programme results will be reported as part of the Country Implementation Plan (CIP) of the Caribbean Multi Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDF) for Belize (in addition to being reported on Spotlight's internal reporting platform). The Spotlight programme contributes to the priority MSDF Outcome 3: (on a Safe, Cohesive and Just Caribbean), and will contribute to further consolidating and ensuring coherence across UN agencies' work. Reporting as one common result for three agencies will introduce a very good practice to the UN programming, as it has been observed that while there

may be common results, agencies often register their contributions individually. The Spotlight programme is well-poised to contribute to this effort of collective reporting for impact.

Additionally, the United Nations Gender and Human Rights Theme Group (UNGHR) was formed in Quarter 4 of 2020 with the overall purpose of institutionalizing human rights and gender equality principles and mainstreaming as a central part of the UN's development work. It aims to achieve this objective through strengthening system-wide coherence and collaboration on human rights and gender mainstreaming and technical support to Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams in integrating human rights and gender equality principles and international standards into the work of the UN and in supporting national partners to implement gender equality and human rights obligations. The UN Gender and Human Rights Theme Group will play a key role in 2021 in supporting the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and SDGs, as per the areas indicated in the Gender Scorecard, Human Rights-based Approach and Leave No One Behind guidance to Development Cooperation. This will provide key opportunities to ensure that gender and human rights are effectively addressed within SI.

Programme Partnerships

During the reporting period, Spotlight Initiative established partnership agreements with six key government agencies to support the implementation of Spotlight Initiative. These include; the Ministry of Education, The Ministry of Human Development, Families & Indigenous People's Affairs (MHFIPA), Ministry of the Attorney General, and the Ministry of National Defence and Border Security (MNDBS), the National Women's Commission (NWC) and the National Committee for Families and Children (NCFC). These partnerships are critical in securing high-level political buy-in from the government and fostering long-term national ownership over the Spotlight Initiative and EVAWG work more broadly. These partnerships are also critical in strengthening the legal and policy environment for VAWG as well as strengthening prevention and service delivery to ensure that solutions are generated to expand reach to the most marginalized.

Partnership was also established with 10 Civil Society Organizations. These include: the Belize Family Life Association (BFLA), Spouses of CARICOM Leaders Action Network (SCLAN), Child Development Foundation (CDF), Pathlight International, Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), Youth Enhancement Services (YES), Productive Organization for Women in Action (POWA), Toledo Institute for Development and Environment (TIDE) and GoJoven Belize Alumni Association (GO Belize), and the Human Rights Commission of Belize (HRCB). Partnership agreements are being finalized with two additional CSOs; Belize National Indigenous Council (BENIC), and the Belize Association of Planners (BAP) while partnership with the Human Rights Commission (HRCB) is being expanded to support implementation of Outcome 6.

Strong partnership and ongoing engagement with the EU delegation as well as cooperation with other UN agencies continues to contribute towards strong programme implementation.

a) Government

Through partnership with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology (MOECTS), roll out of comprehensive sexuality education is being realized and the capacity of teachers is being strengthened to identify, report and respond to cases of family violence. MOECST was selected for implementation of the scale up CSE in-school programming, as the inclusion of CSE as part of the HFLE Curriculum and Positive Youth Development Curriculum presented the highest opportunity to reach a broader coverage of students in school

The partnership with the Ministry of Education is endorsed at the highest level by the Chief Executive Officer. MOE is also a key collaborator in the training of teachers, school administrators and parents in the Mandatory Report of Child Abuse, Sexual Exploitation and Family Violence and has endorsed these digitized modules as part of the Professional Development of teachers.

Through partnership with the Ministry of Human Development, Families & Indigenous Peoples' Affairs, the social workforce will be strengthened to provide high quality multi-sectoral services for victims (including in times of emergency) through sustained capacity of service providers. Key multisectoral protocols for the prevention of VAWG are also being developed. This partnership is key to achieving the principle of "leave no one behind" since the Ministry of Human Development is the lead ministry in the country's response to VAWG.

The Ministry of National Defense and Border Security (MNDBS) (formerly the Ministry of National Security) is supporting the revision of key legislations related to family violence under Output 1.1. Additionally, the MNDBS is supporting strengthening data systems for improved data and M&E on family violence through the harmonization of the GBV information system and building capacity of service providers in the use of the GBV information system (Output 5.1). The uniformed services under the Ministries of MNDBS and Home Affairs, namely the Belize Defence Force, Coast Guard, Police Department, and in collaboration with Immigration and Customs Department personnel have been engaged to review and strengthen existing policies, protocols and procedures that support a zero-tolerance for violence against women in security forces, as well as the development/strengthening of complaints and reporting mechanisms available to address discrimination within the security forces. The engagement of these ministries was motivated by increased reports of sexual harassment and abuse within the security forces, and the lack of proper protocols and/or response mechanisms to protect and support victims. These allegations of misconduct increased at the onset of the coronavirus pandemic and became a national concern.

The Ministry of the Attorney General was selected based on its ongoing work and expertise in the justice sector, specifically as it relates to strengthening legislation and access to justice. Partnerships in this area will contribute to improving legislative and policy frameworks to address impunity and provide for coordinated action to end violence against women and children. The Family Court, Magistrate Court, and Legal Aid Office will contribute to the capacity strengthening

of court officials operating in family courts structures and proceedings, including the provision of medium-term mentorship (Output 2.1). The capacity of the judiciary to gather and manage data to improve access to justice case management, decision making, inform accountability and inform legislative review is also being strengthened by the Spotlight Initiative (Output 5.1)

Partnership with the National Women's Commission, the national body appointed by the Government to function as a strategic guidance and oversight mechanism for the achievement of gender equality, equity and women's empowerment in Belize (GEEWE), strategically supports strengthening national policies and national plans of action to advance gender equality and end VAWG. The NWC played a critical role in the preparedness, coordination and response to the SI COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan; specifically the establishment of temporary safe spaces, support for the expansion of the GBV Hotline to support survivors of GBV since there was a disruption in the provision of this essential service owing to a national lock down and restrictions in outside travels movements. Additionally, Spotlight also provided technical support to NWC to strengthen the national referral system to integrate COVID- 19 relief response.

The NCFC has been engaged to support strengthening family violence legislation through district and community consultations to understand the gaps in reporting and response mechanisms related to violence against women and girls, including family violence, familiarity and awareness of legislation that support these mechanisms, and awareness raising on rights of women and children, advocates and other community actors to respond and report incidences of violence (Output 1.1).

As previously noted under contextual shifts and implementation status, partnerships with key government ministries were impacted by COVID 19 as government ministries involved in service delivery focused their resources on responding to COVID 19. This resulted in a delay in the implementation of some key activities. It must be noted that where modalities for these activities could be shifted to CSOs then CSOs implemented those activities. Specific activities where CSO were engaged in implementation included training of teachers on mandatory reporting under outcome 3 and service provision to communities under outcome 6.

In other cases, it was agreed with government counterparts that a consultant would be engaged to support implementation of some activities. In those instances, government counterpart provided oversight to the consultant. Specific activities included technical design of the sexual and domestic violence unit and social workforce strengthening under outcome 4.

It is important to note that as it relates to key activities that needed to be implemented by the government, the SI team met on an ongoing basis with government counterparts to establish revised timelines for the implementation of those activities.

The Ministry of Human Development, Families & Indigenous Peoples' Affairs is the lead government agency partnering with Spotlight. The MHDFIPA was appointed by the Government of Belize to serve as the focal point for SI because of its strategic position within the government which sees

this Ministry leading the portfolio for the national response to VAWG. The Minister of Human Development, Families & Indigenous People's Affairs will serve as the chair of the National Steering Committee and has named the Chair of the National Women's Commission as the technical focal point for ensuring follow up actions are taken on the Ministry's commitments.

Since a new government was formed in the last quarter of 2020, the United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC) for Belize and El Salvador, will meet with the Prime Minister and Ministers and Chief Executive Officers in key government ministries to reaffirm the government's commitment to Spotlight.

b) Civil Society

Following a joint UN call for proposals in the first quarter of 2020, a joint evaluation of proposals was completed and partnerships were formalized with six (6) CSOs; the Belize Family Life Association, Spouses of CARICOM Leaders Action Network (SCLAN), Child Development Foundation (CDF), Youth Enhancement Services (YES), Productive Organization for Women in Action (POWA), a local women's led CSO and Toledo Institute for Development and Environment (TIDE). The joint call for proposal contributed to working as one UN as CSOs applications were received by the RCO and jointly evaluated against a criterion established by all RUNOs. Operational challenges were faced in establishing partnership agreements as one UN with CSOs owing to different operational systems among RUNOs. Consequently, there are some instances where more than one RUNO is partnering with the same CSO. While efforts are made to ensure that there is programmatic coordination, the unique nature of RUNOs operational system does not support joint operational implementation.

In order to ensure implementation of activities for which CSOs did not apply in the joint call for proposals or for which CSOs applied but did not meet the established criteria, RUNOs engaged in dialogue with additional CSOs and provided technical assistance to support development of proposals, helping to foster engagement and partnership with a diverse set of civil society organizations. Consequently, partnership agreements were established with 4 additional CSOs; Pathlight International, Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), the Human Rights Commission of Belize, and Go Belize.

CSOs were chosen because of their track record of reaching the hardest to reach, working with marginalized groups and the innovation that they bring to programme implementation. Six CSOs are supporting the implementation of actions under Outcome 3, geared towards prevention of VAWGs, with a strong focus on leave no one behind while four CSOs are supporting the strengthening of service delivery (Outcome 4) to reach the most marginalized groups, in the spirit of leaving no one behind. CSOs are engaged directly in the implementation of SI and are implementing activities across outcomes 3, 4 and 6. However, CSOs are being engaged indirectly to support delivery of results under outcomes 1,2 and 5 as well. As an example, actions geared towards strengthening family law legislation includes consultations with CSOs and CSOs are

engaged in identifying beneficiaries for participation in the process. As another example under outcome 5, CSOs are represented on the SI Baseline Study Steering Committee.

As it relates to the implementation of community based programmes focused on empowerment, protection and prevention of family violence (Outcome 3), Productive Organization for Women in Action (POWA), a feminist CSO, Child Development Foundation (CDF), a Faith Based CSO, Youth Enhancement Services (YES), and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) CSOs representing marginalized young girls, Toledo Institute for Environment and Development (TIDE) an environmental CSO, Spouses of CARICOM Leaders Action Network (SCLAN), a regional CSO and the Human Rights Commission of Belize (HRCB) are all engaged in the implementation of community based activities.

Under Outcome 6, Spotlight Initiative has established partnership with one umbrella CSO, Go Belize, and is in the process of partnering with another umbrella CSO, Belize National Indigenous Council (BENIC). These partnerships are crucial to strengthening networks of CSOs and by extension community-based women's rights groups, to ensure that SI reaches and engages the majority of CSOs and women's rights groups. Specifically, the umbrella organizations will engage organizations representing marginalized groups, including LGBTQI persons and indigenous women and girls, and serve as an important platform for mobilizing and strengthening CSOs participation across the country.

Spotlight Initiative is also in the process of expanding partnership with the Human Rights Commission of Belize to strengthen their capacity as a social accountability platform with responsibility to hold accountable state and non-state actors in ending all forms of violence, including family violence against women and children. This strengthening will enhance their positioning to better support women's rights groups and relevant CSOs to use the appropriate accountability mechanisms for advocacy around ending VAWG. The support to HRCB includes three results that address institutional and brand strengthening; training and expansion of reach across districts; and partnership development of state and non-state entities both locally and globally. Partnership is also being established with Belize Association of Planners (BAP) who will support capacity building of women rights groups, CSOs and informal leaders for decision making, networking, to mobilize constituents, and advocate for increased accountability as it relates to the national response to family violence.

Although there are a limited number of CSOs responding to social service delivery including responding to family violence against women and girls, the opportunity for coordinated capacity strengthening across several interventions of the Initiative has increased. This capacity strengthening will ensure some sustainability in the interventions beyond the SI programme cycle and CSOs being able to provide more rounded and holistic service delivery. Additionally, it provides for the capacity of CSO partners - and among CSO partners and governments - on GBV case management and in the use of the referral process in services at the national and local levels. Moving forward, RUNOs will work closely to identify specific areas for capacity development

which will be detailed through a Spotlight Capacity Development Plan and will be implemented in a coordinated manner by all RUNOs.

c) EU

Throughout the process of developing and implementing the Spotlight Initiative, the UN Country Team worked closely with the EU Delegation under the guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator. Additionally, the EU and UN have jointly advocated with the Government at the highest level to



secure political buy-in and support as well as sensitized development partners through their Heads of Missions and technical-level colleagues.

This close collaboration has continued into the implementation of the programme. The EU Delegation is involved in all key elements of the Initiative as follows:

- **Governance Role:** The EU Head of Delegation in Belize will serve as a member of the National Steering Committee.
- **Technical Role:** The EU Programme Manager, RCO Team Leader, Programme Coordinator and Communication Officer meet on a monthly basis to review progress on implementation and provide guidance. Four monthly meetings were held in 2020. Some examples of technical guidance provided by the EU include identification of gaps within programming and recommendations on how these can be addressed. e.g addressing the need for shelters for survivors of GBV, recommendations on improving programme visibility, revision and inputting into relevant reports and documents such as the Inception Report and the SI Belize Programme Snapshot, identification of areas where the EU can engage in advocacy with government to advance the SI agenda, strengthening M&E of SI e.g strengthening data and evidence on the number of GBV survivors benefitting from SI interventions.

Supporting Advocacy, Communication & Visibility: Ensuring visibility of the EU's commitment through joint dissemination of communication campaigns and materials. The EUD actively participated in the launch of the Spotlight Initiative in August and the 16 Days of Activism Launch in November and continue to express a high level of interest in and commitment to Spotlight Implementation. In 2021, the EUD will join RUNOs in field visits to project sites. The joint site visits will allow the EU to take stock of progress in implementation of SI, identify firsthand how SI is reaching and impacting those furthest behind, and provide opportunity for dialogue with government and CSO partners as well as increase EU's visibility.

Throughout the reporting period, the EU was engaged in monthly meetings by the UNRCO to share updates on implementation and provide inputs on the technical implementation of the programme. In an effort to strengthen coordination and collaboration, the RCO has led the development of an SOP to outline how the various stakeholders engage around Spotlight. This includes a dedicated space for EU engagement. Full operationalization of the SOP in 2021, will greatly enhance partnership with the EU. Additionally, given that the NSC was not established in 2020, the EU nor the UN had the opportunity to engage with government counterparts through this strategic medium. This will also be improved in 2021 given the newly elected Minister of Human Development and designated chair of the NSC. It is anticipated that the EU will play a strong role in the NSC.

d) Cooperation with other UN agencies (if applicable)

Five (5) Associate agencies were identified during the programme preparation process. Associate Agencies were from among all UN agencies working in Belize, based on their technical expertise, their ability to bring regional and global best practices in VAWG, and their ability to contribute to reaching SI beneficiaries. Partnering with these agencies will also allow the Spotlight Initiative in Belize to further leverage the collective expertise and resources of the UN system to inform high-quality programming.

Once the implementation process started, RCO reached out to them to identify the areas of support they will provide with the following initial agreements:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) is not currently working on GBV or family violence in Belize. They offered to provide support from regional advisors on the review of documents and training on sexual violence; follow up on previous work on Care of Child development; and share advances on adolescent development based on best practices and lessons learnt regionally and globally in working with adolescents.
- United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) is very interested in partnering with several activities that can serve refugee women and girls in areas such as essential package, social workforce, online services for adolescents and community based programmes via its partners involved in community empowerment initiatives in refugee-hosting communities; as well as advocating for legislation reforms and working with the

judiciary through the alliance with the Human Rights Commission. Working mechanism is being finalized.

- The Office of the High Commission on Human Rights (OHCHR) agreed to provide support in strengthening CSO in Outcome 6, led by UNICEF to follow up on human right recommendations (UPR and CEDAW), and improve their contribution to the reporting process. Once work plans are agreed, both agencies will determine how they will connect in concrete training activities and processes.
- UN Women: Agreement on their participation in all activities related to policy and legislative frameworks, working with the private sector, as well as in the baseline study.
- ILO: includes areas of work with the private sector to address GBV in the workplace and implement the equality seal.

e) Other Partners

The University of the West Indies has been engaged to support the review, finalization of training modules for court officials. The roll out of these training modules is intended to reach fifty (50) court officials and service providers and provide mentoring support for at least fifteen (15) of these persons, during 2021.

In the implementation of the Mobile Women Centers and the SRH/Family Planning mobiles, partnerships were established with village chairpersons, village alcalde in Mayan communities and area representatives in an effort to increase mobilization and participation of the community members to access essential services.



Results

Capturing Broader Transformations Across Outcomes

Although COVID 19 posed threats to SI implementation within the first two quarters of 2020, the SI team and stakeholders at all levels were able to effectively strategize and contribute significantly to the national response to VAWG. As it relates to the principle of Leaving No One Behind, the Initiative was able to partner with CSOs to reach women and girls in hard to reach communities with services and information. Coordination for service delivery was strengthened among CSOs as various CSOs identified new ways of working together to pool and maximize resources and reach hard to reach communities. CSOs collaborated to plan and implement joint activities such as the Mobile Women's Center each assuming leadership roles based on their areas of expertise. The example of the Mobile Women's Center is further elaborated under outcome 4 and featured as a promising practice. These promising practices will be strengthened and scaled up in 2021.

Spotlight Initiative also provided renewed impetus to umbrella social sector CSO networks for their engagement (and in some instances reengagement) in the national response to VAWG. For example, partnership agreement is being finalized with the Belize National Indigenous Council (BENIC), a crucial platform for reaching indigenous Maya and Garifuna male and females with information and services and for challenging harmful social norms. The inclusion of national indigenous networks is key not only to achieve outputs under Outcome 6 but will be key in informing innovative and efficient ways to deliver culturally sensitive, relevant and appropriate information and services, engage communities and stimulate change at the community level.

The Initiative has also forged partnerships and strengthened coordination across a number of key government sectors. Underpinned by the Essential Services Package for women and girls subject to violence (The UN Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence) key stakeholders operating in health, social services, justice, policing, are strengthening and redefining their national response to violence against women. This includes the mapping of state and non-state actors in GBV, the development of multisectoral response protocols, the establishment of a sexual violence unit within the police department, and the defining of an Essential Services Package for Belize. Although the process of defining the ESP will not be completed until 2021, the engagement of key stakeholders provides an opportunity to consider the unique service needs of marginalized groups. For example, representatives of indigenous communities are being invited to be a part of the process in order to ensure that their unique needs are considered when defining this package of services.

Additionally, Spotlight Initiative contributed to the establishment of a structure for formal capacity building and mentorship to strengthen the national officials within the legal sector to be able to provide quality arbitration services for women and children victims of violence, specifically

seeking to strengthen family court processes and enhance the capacity of court officials. Through the engagement of a local team to deliver, and the engagement of the Policy and Legislation Committee a process for continued training and mentoring support will be available and included within the operational process of the Family Court.

Additionally, the Initiative is contributing to the development of a roadmap for capacity development that will work towards strengthening the capacity of officials engaging with women and children victims/survivors (through, for example, the provision of psychosocial support and counselling), Spotlight Initiative will continue to advance on the strategic goal of achieving stronger platforms to reduce, respond and support women survivors of violence.

During the process of implementation, RUNOs worked to integrate the principles of UN Reform which resulted in the joint development of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). The SOP has contributed significantly to strengthening RUNOs capacities to deliver results in a joint manner.

The joint call for CSOs as implementing partners also required the revision and adaptation of agency-specific policies to formulate a joint CSO Call process including selection of partners and development of work plans. Simplified application forms were developed for CSOs to apply for Spotlight support and CSOs were only required to submit one application which was then advanced with the support of the relevant RUNO.

CSO Partners (administrative and technical staff) are being trained jointly on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and are supported in developing action plans to strengthen their institutional policies, procedures and codes of conduct to reflect stronger guidelines for preventing SEA among staff and beneficiaries. Overall, this new way of working as one UN team improved not only programme management but also the quality of activities in Belize in 2020.

Capturing Change at Outcome Level

Outcome 1: Legal and Policy Framework

During the reporting period, SI worked with government and CSOs to strengthen family violence legislations, namely the Domestic Violence Act and the Families and Children's Act as well as commenced activities to revise the National Gender Policy and the National Gender Based Violence Action Plan (NGBV). Strengthened family law legislations, policies and national plans, with an emphasis on VAWG, will improve access to justice for women and girls and will ensure that strategic actions are implemented to reach the most marginalized women and girls. It will also contribute to strengthening evidence-based knowledge and capacities of government and civil society stakeholders, at the national and local levels, to assess gaps and draft /strengthen new legislation and policies on ending VAWG including family violence.

Through partnerships with the National Women's Commission (NWC), the National Committee for Families and Children (NCFC) and the Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Affairs, SI is ensuring that the processes to strengthen laws and policies are participatory and involve consultations with stakeholders in government, CSOs, women rights advocates and survivors of GBV. As a first step to strengthening existing family violence legislations, a mapping exercise was conducted to assess gaps in existing family violence legislation and identify possible innovative interventions to strengthen or address these gaps, including in emergencies and humanitarian crises. This process was strategically enhanced as a result of changes due to the country's COVID19 response and the effects of two natural disasters during the reporting period. Twenty-one (21) communities participated in a mapping exercise to track the availability and accessibility of essential services in the areas of health, safety, and psychosocial support as guaranteed by existing family violence legislations, namely the Domestic Violence Act (DV Act) and the Families and Children Act (FACA).

The findings of this mapping exercise guided a more in-depth engagement of community members, including survivors of GBV, to identify the major challenges to implementing legislation on family violence such as DV Act and mandatory reporting. The first set of 3 focus group consultations were conducted in a virtual space with 59 survivors (56 females, 3 males) participating in the discussions. The focus group sessions engaged participants around knowledge of legislation, service providers and their own experiences with the agencies tasked with providing support. Nine (9) more sessions are planned for the first quarter of 2021. It is anticipated that the final set of findings and recommendations from these discussions will contribute to planned Multi-stakeholder dialogues to ensure the identified gaps and barriers to providing quality essential services guaranteed under the DV Act and the FACA will be met.

The revision of the National Gender Policy is being done through a similar, participatory approach, that also includes capacity building and active involvement of at least 50 key government officials, CSO representatives and women's rights advocates. Additionally, in an effort to enable the technical transfer of knowledge as well as skills building, a team of eight (8) technical officers will participate in a focused capacity building process related to the development of social policies and plans, as well as their accompanying implementation plans, M&E frameworks and costings/budgets. The capacity building is scheduled to last the duration of the policy revision. The revised National Gender Policy will be completed by the end of the second quarter, 2021.

In addition to strengthening legislations and policies on family violence, the National Gender Based Violence (NGBV) Action Plan is being revised and updated. Contractual agreement has been finalized with a consultant team and the Inception Report to guide this process has been finalized. The updated NGBV Action Plan will be in line with international HR standards, specifically ensuring that treaty bodies recommendations are addressed in the NGBV Action plan, evidence based; ensuring that it is informed by best practices and evidence of what works in responding to VAWWs, costed and will include and M&E Framework. National capacity to develop and cost evidence-based national and/or sub-national action plans on ending VAWG will be enhanced

through a participatory process that seeks to transfer knowledge and skills to key government officials through a process similar to that of capacity building for the National Gender Policy. This component is included to ensure that knowledge and skills are transferred throughout the process to those who will be responsible for implementing the plan. The updated NGBV Action Plan will be completed by the end of the second quarter, 2021.

In addition to strengthening legislations, policies and plans at the national level, SI is also working closely with the security forces to strengthen institutional policies and practice in response to VAW in institutions. At least 200 members of the national security forces will benefit from increased knowledge and awareness of human rights obligations which will ultimately result in a human rights-based approach to responding to VAWG. Members of the national security forces are also benefiting from enhanced capacity to draft policies that guarantee the rights of women within the security forces. A comprehensive review of existing policies and protocols on the identification, reporting and response to sexual violence in security forces, including during emergency situations which aims to strengthen the internal complaints and reporting mechanisms on sexual violence within the security forces in Belize has been initiated. The intervention will identify needs and gaps of these core policies including recommendations on how these may be made to comply with international and domestic standards on sexual violence and sexual harassment within security forces; establish an effective reporting mechanism for sexual violence and sexual harassment within the Security Forces including appropriate articulation of the reporting, investigation mechanisms and the routes or referrals for victim's assistance even in times of emergencies such as COVID 19; and develop a toolkit that can be used to educate members of the security forces on the protocols and the reporting and investigation mechanisms associated with the protocols. It will include the protocols themselves and associated materials that can be disseminated to foster understanding of the protocols. It will be usable by trainers as well as for self-paced learning. Sustainable measures will include the modification of current Recruit Training manuals to include the toolkit, thereby ensuring that new recruits are trained at the inception on the institution's culture on 'zero-tolerance' for sexual violence and sexual harassment within the security forces. A consultant team was recruited during the last quarter of 2020 and the work plan for execution of this activity has been finalized. All actions will be completed within the first two quarters of 2021.

While there were delays in revision and strengthening of key pieces of VAWG legislations, a plan of action has already been set in motion to accelerate implementation of this key activity within the first quarter of 2021. This includes engagement of key decision makers and expansion of partnerships to ensure effective implementation.

Outcome 2: Institutions

Preparatory work has been undertaken to strengthen institutional capacity of key officials at all levels to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG. At least fifty (50) key government officials will benefit from strengthened capacity and mentorship

through a coordinated effort to address gaps in the response and support structure of the Magistrate and Family Courts of Belize. Court Officials including Social Workers and Intake Officers will be engaged in a focused training and mentorship process that seeks to significantly improve the process of victims advocate and support within the legal system. This will ensure that women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination benefit from a process that is a victim-centered approach and is safe and responsive. It is expected that greater attention would be given to ensure women and girls complainants are provided the necessary protection when accessing the family courts or the magistrate courts; separation of complainants and perpetrator; and the victims advocate and access to legal aid for marginalized, disenfranchised women and girls. The effects of COVID-19 have impacted the rollout of this initiative particularly in the areas of accessibility and technological capacity of target participants and institutions. To mitigate this, several rounds of consultations with the stakeholder were facilitated to form a working hybrid approach for implementation that offers the greatest level of impact to the institution.

Terms of Reference for a capacity assessment at individual and institutional levels of relevant key state actors and CSOs to respond to family violence and the development of a costed national capacity development plan based on findings from capacity assessment is being finalized. While Spotlight will support some key areas of capacity development identified in the plan, a national, long term capacity development plan will promote that structured capacity development activities are taking place in a sustainable manner beyond the implementation of Spotlight.

The process to develop multi-sectoral response protocols to GBV under Outcome 4 and the design of an Essential Package of Services (ESP) for women and girls subject to violence under the same outcome are well underway. Both provide the foundation for strengthening institutional capacity of key stakeholders to develop prevention and response programmes for ending sexual violence, including the development and application of normative documents (standards, guidelines, protocols, etc.) on family violence. Guided by these key documents, in 2021, Spotlight Initiative will continue to contribute to strengthening institutional capacity of key stakeholders through evidence-based programme review and assessment, programme strengthening and development and capacity building in gender sensitive and gender responsive programming.

At the organization level, 25 public and private sector organizations will be better able to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG. The design of the Gender Equality and Diversity Seal which seeks to engage 25 public and private sector entities in planned actions to promote gender equality in the workplace focusing primarily on the adoption of a zero tolerance policy for GBV has been finalized and the process of engaging the 25 entities has commenced. The Gender Equality and Diversity Seal is being implemented in partnership with the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of the Public Service and provides an opportunity to engage nontraditional agencies and all line ministries through the Ministry of Public Service and private sector entities through support of the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI). It also aligns with national priorities (link to National Gender Policy, National Gender and Gender Based Violence Plan of Action, etc.)

Outcome 3: Prevention and Norm Change

Spotlight Initiative was able to contribute towards changes in knowledge, attitudes, practices and norm change related to VAWG across all areas of the social ecology through partnerships with government and CSOs.

Prevention interventions targeting schools and the education sector

At the level of the schools and the education sector, significant advances were made in strengthening and scaling up Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), for in and out of school settings, in line with international standards. Through partnership with the Ministry of Education a process to strengthen the Positive Youth Development Curriculum, the primary curriculum for CSE at the secondary school level, has commenced. The strengthening and scale up of CSE has been endorsed at the highest policy level of the Ministry of Education resulting from early engagement with the new administration in the MOE immediately following general elections. The revised curriculum will be completed by the end of the second quarter, 2021. In addition, technical capacity development of key officials within the Ministry of Education with responsibility for curriculum development, quality assurance, teacher education and development, and other relevant disciplines on the development and delivery of CSE in line with international standards, is being fortified through south-south cooperation between Belize and Cuba. The Ministry of Education of Belize and Cenesex of Cuba has engaged in online meetings and Cenesex has concretized areas of support to Belize.

The revised curriculum will be utilized by the Ministry of Education in 100% of secondary schools.

As it relates to adolescents and youth out of school, through partnership with the Belize Family Life Association (BFLA), BFLA's CSE Peer Education Curriculum and Training Resource Manual was revised, in line with international standards. Adolescents and youth out of school were selected through an application process shared with community level organizations, institutions and existing CSE peer educators and CSE outreach mechanisms.

The cadre of community level trainers in CSE has also been expanded through the training of thirty (30) master trainers. Master trainers have been trained in the use of the revised manual and teaching and learning strategies for engagement of young people in virtual spaces and face to face methodologies to support effective delivery of comprehensive CSE to adolescents and youth out of school.

The evolution of this innovative approach to the CSE education programme will help to provide the option for a low cost and high impact model to advanced gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment, and reproductive rights, including for the most vulnerable and marginalized adolescents and youth. Specifically, girls and boys will be reached in their own spaces, both virtually and face to face, which will provide spaces and opportunities for adolescent and youth

females and males, particularly those who are not reached through traditional communication, to increase awareness of SRH and address issues of masculinity. It will also contribute to increased national capacity to reach young people within their own local spaces through interpersonal channels as well as through popular (and youth friendly) social media and video conference platforms.

Additionally, in an effort to address deeply rooted social norms, attitudes and behavior change that contribute to family violence and which has been exacerbated by COVID 19 lockdowns, Spotlight Initiative partnered with Pathlight International, an International CSO, to build the capacity of schools (teachers, local management and parents at the primary and secondary levels) and provide tools to prevent, identify and ensure appropriate responses to ending family violence. National reports support the global conversation of the impacts of the Shadow Pandemic, and the increase in violence against women and children. Armed with this knowledge, the intervention seeks to make use of the opportunity to expand the access of information related to family violence with a specific focus on violence against women and children. A digitized training package which includes 5 modules, that covers the Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse, Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and an orientation to Family Violence has been developed. Four of five (4/5) modules have been digitized and an online platform for the training of teachers and school administrators is being finalized. During the first three quarters of 2021, nine hundred (900) teachers, school administrators and parents will participate in the roll out of the digital training. In quarters 3 and 4, 210 persons representing CSOs, Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs), and relevant community-based women's groups will be engaged and trained. The digitizing of the training modules considered the use of tested online methods such as videos, simulations, text and assessments, to keep participation at peak. A blend of synchronous and asynchronous content was used to engage participants. Feedback from the roll out of the first round of training showed high level participation of teachers and administrators, evidenced through pre and post assessments, as well as documented session activities.

Prevention interventions targeting communities

Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, community-based activities reached more than 5,000 women and girls, men and boys, through CSO Partnerships focused on empowerment, protection and prevention of family violence and GBV mainstreaming in male-targeted community-based programmes. At the level of the community, remarkable progress was made in strengthening community advocacy platforms and the development and roll out of strategies and programmes to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours, including in relation to women and girls' sexuality and reproduction, self-confidence and self-esteem and transforming harmful masculinities.

A mapping exercise of state and non-state actors involved in prevention, delivery of services and social norm change, which forms the foundation for partnerships, capacity building, and roll out of comprehensive prevention interventions was completed. The mapping exercise identifies actors at the national and local level, existing interventions, scope and reach of interventions, and gaps and challenges in prevention, service delivery and social norms interventions. In addition to informing the development and roll out of prevention strategies and programmes, the mapping exercise will also inform service delivery activities under Outcome 4.

In addition, the number of key formal and informal decision makers in relevant institutions with strengthened awareness of and capacities to advocate for implementation of legislation and policies on VAWG including family violence and for gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and women and girls' rights has been increased through the piloting and roll out of the Family Violence Toolkit. The toolkit, developed specifically to strengthen capacities of faith-based and community-based organizations, impacted 25 organizations and communities, reaching 156 persons (128 females, 28 males) in two districts; Belize and Cayo Districts. A strong focus is on engaging faith-based organizations in the response to family violence at the community level. As a result of the increased capacity, beneficiaries are better able to implement strategies in their communities and organizations to promote gender equality and prevent family violence. First round of training focused on building the capacity of organizations to deliver these sessions within their target communities and institutions. The second round of training was opened to community members and included the use of Facebook live to increase reach and access to the sessions.

COVID-19 presented some challenges in how these transformative and innovative actions were implemented. With the restrictions on face-to-face gatherings and the unfamiliar virtual spaces for having maximum participatory approaches, CSOs were motivated to enhance their own knowledge and technological capacity to facilitate these engagements. CSOs were supported through re-budgeting to include strengthening their technology platforms (zoom, teams, etc), providing data to participants to ensure their ability to participate, and access to knowledge products to support developing interactive virtual sessions. Community outreach, especially in the rural districts were unavoidable, due to the unavailability of telecommunications services. Efforts to ensure safety of both CSO partners and beneficiaries had to be built into intervention designs and as an added benefit, CSOs have drafted COVID-19 Protocols for Staff and beneficiaries to reinforce attention to national safety measures. Once these challenges were mitigated, community level activities resulted in engagement of 47 boys and girls under 19 years in face-to-face sessions addressing gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours. Through community outreach a total of 17 clubs (almost 500 males and females) were reached and engaged with positive information to increase knowledge on and awareness of family violence and its impact on women and girls. As part of the expanded intervention to ensure safety, 24 schools were provided with COVID 19 hygiene packages reaching 5380 persons, including teachers, parents and children. This support allowed for meaningful engagement in a participatory manner to share and discuss family violence, its root causes, impacts and available support services.

Prevention Intervention targeting Individuals

At the level of the individual, in partnership with Ministry of Human Development (MHD), 54 parenting educators were trained in Care for Child Development through capacity building on the implementation of the parenting manual and including UNICEF's Violence Technical Seminar Training that helps Parenting Educators to identify violence within the home along the spectrum from child through to adults and provide necessary response in such instances. The Care for Child Development (CCD) is based on the best available evidence of child development. It incorporates the most recent evidence on the identification of critical caregiver skills affecting the child's healthy growth and development (sensitivity and responsiveness) and the research demonstrating that these important skills can be taught to mothers, fathers and other caregivers. The Spotlight Initiative will scale up Care for Child Development (CCD) to promote full engagement of male and female parents including a special focus on families of children with disabilities.

The 54 male and female parenting educators will target some 4000 male and female parents and caregivers in 54 communities across the country with sustained strategies and the support of an established advocacy platform to address issues of gender norms within communities and families. 1050 parents (309 males, 741 females) were reached in 2020 and the remaining 2950 parents will be reached in 2021.

COVID-19 had a great impact on the intervention as this is a home visit programme, which led to several revisions to the implementation strategy. In the end, a hybrid of home visits to deliver materials and knowledge sharing, and phone calls to follow up and provide support when needed was used. Closure of schools resulted in limited engagement with children in preschools, who are at risk of being left behind; this risk was further heightened in communities affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota. As part of the response with the distribution of the 160 Early Childhood Development (ECD) kits, Parent Educators and the Ministry of Human Development devised innovative strategies to facilitate ECD demonstration sessions, reaching 640 families. Although the efforts to adapt the implementation of the intervention ensured that parents are reached, fluctuation in the COVID-19 protocols, reduces the full participation of Parent Educators in observing caregivers and identifying and addressing violence in the home, especially for families marginalized or experiencing economic instability.

Parenting Workshops that began in April 2020 moved to WhatsApp doing shorter sessions with parents and provided the flexibility to adjust to the changing dynamics of the home, with children now doing school at home.

Over 5,000 parents were reached through virtual parenting education sessions. Parents' knowledge on domestic violence and the state responsibility (DV Act) were increased. Online sessions also focused on the impact of family violence on youths and included testimonials from young survivors of GBV.

An additional 300 parents are being targeted for Parenting Training on positive parenting which includes sensitization on GBV, CSE, prevention of child abuse, child marriage, and reporting abuse over the programme implementation cycle. To date, 27 of the 300 parents have been reached with positive parenting including personal empowerment and support. These parents are being supported to form hubs within their communities to share and support other parents for a cascading effect of positive parenting support.

A campaign to raise awareness and share information on access to services was launched engaging 15 Private Sector organizations. 100 Posters on Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking, and Child Marriage and Early Union were officially mounted in and around these private sector establishments. 16 representatives (14 females, 2 males) of these organizations also received training on family violence and the reporting process. Men in leadership positions in their communities were exposed to activities that will promote rethinking entrenched ideas about gender roles that promote family violence.

Finally, grant agreements have been signed with the SCLAN to carry out work engaging men in critical reflection on rigid gender norms which perpetuate inequitable power relations women and men to support the modelling of positive behaviors and masculinity through positive deviance approach. In 2020, SCLAN hosted a UN General Assembly Side Event designed to mobilize First Ladies in the region to advocate for the development of projects/programs that will help engage men and boys to advance gender equality. This is part of a regional effort under the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to address issues of masculinity among Caribbean Male which will ultimately contribute to addressing critical gender norms by involving men and boys as part of the solution to eliminating VAWG.

Outcome 4: Quality Services

A key focus of SI is to support the Government of Belize in strengthening its capacity to deliver quality and coordinated essential services to women and girls survivors of violence. During the reporting period, significant progress was made towards defining an Essential Service Package (ESP) for survivors of violence, based on international guidelines and guided by the Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence Core Elements and Quality Guidelines. A consultant was recruited to lead the implementation of the activity and an inception report and a Desk Review for defining the essential service package has been finalized. Guided by the mapping exercise under outcome 3, which was precursor to this activity, during quarters 1 and 2 of 2021, the consultant will work closely with service providers to define the essential service package, identify protocols and policies necessary to support the roll out of the ESP and build capacity of service providers for the effective and efficient delivery of the ESP. The RUNO serving as pillar lead for this outcome has been working closely with other RUNOs to ensure that relevant SI activities, particularly those under outcome 4 are linked to the ESP and where relevant are incorporated into the defined ESP.

In an effort to expand and strengthen the multi-sectoral response for the prevention and mitigation of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) among women and girls, children and families, a first draft of the multi-sectoral protocols for sexual violence has been completed and is under revision. The multi-sectoral protocols include standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the Police and Justice Sectors, the Health Sector, the Social Services Sector, and the Coordination and Governance function for the multisectoral response to sexual and gender-based violence.

The multi-sectoral protocol will be accompanied by a Rapid Readiness Assessment Report on the current capacity of the institutional mechanisms to implement the protocols. The Consultant will also develop a management response plan and a draft plan of action for sensitization and training on the multi-sectoral protocols aligned with capacity building efforts under outcome 2 which will include capacity to coordinate and work across sectors at individual and structural levels.

The Social Services Workforce plays a central role in supporting children and families in communities by alleviating poverty, identifying and managing risks, and facilitating access to and delivery of social services to enhance child and family well-being. A well-developed social service workforce is also key to promoting social justice, reducing discrimination, challenging and changing harmful behaviours and social norms, and preventing and responding to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation and family separation. Dedicated and qualified human resources in the protection of women and children are essential to coordinating efforts and resources and providing a system of support for children and families across all sectors, including social protection, justice, health, education, security and disaster risk management.

In an effort to strengthen Belize's Social Service Workforce, negotiations are underway with the Government of Belize to roll out capacity building activities for Belize's social workforce, guided by (Social Service Workforce Strengthening Toolkit). It is anticipated that with the support of Spotlight Initiative, this intervention will strengthen the national social workforce structure and capacity but most importantly, reverse the trajectory seen - significant drop in response to cases of VAW/VAC - as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic where almost 90% of the human resources were diverted to emergency response leaving vulnerable hundreds of women and children in need of protection. The intervention will have three results, including a Social Worker Supervision Framework, training of frontline social workers and middle managers, and developing a mentorship and coaching structure. Strong advocacy on the part of the RUNOs to ensure that social workforce prioritization is part of the business continuity plan for responding to humanitarian crises such as COVID-19 and natural disasters (floods and hurricanes).

Despite challenges faced by COVID 19, SI was able to establish partnership with community level CSOs to reach almost 400 women and girls' survivors of violence and their families with information and access to quality essential services during the last quarter of 2020 through the following interventions:

Design and Roll out of a Mobile Women’s Center

The design for the execution of a mobile Women Centers was completed in partnership with four civil society organizations: The Human Rights Commission of Belize, the Belize Family Life Association, the Productive Organization for Women in Action, and the Child Development Foundation. The Mobile Women Centers is designed to increase utilization of a full range of coordinated and high-quality service as defined in the Essential Package of Service for women and girls subject to violence in Belize. The mobile women centers adopted a mobile brigade approach led by civil society organizations providing individual services to all women. These services include legal support, SRH services, psychosocial support and counselling, and Information and Awareness in hard to reach rural communities of Corozal, Orange Walk and Toledo Districts. The Human Rights Commission of Belize provided legal support services, the Belize Family Life Association provided SRH Services, the Child Development Foundation provided psychosocial support and counselling services, and the Productive Organization for Women in Action led in sharing information and organizing the logistics of the mobile centers in the communities. Case management and referral (including GBV Case Management and psychosocial support and counselling) is an integral part of the process of providing long term support to women, especially survivors of gender-based violence.

The mobile center was rolled out during the last quarter of 2020 with the first six mobile services reaching almost 400 women and girls in the southern and northern regions. In 2020, emphasis was placed on design, testing and documentation of the center. During 2021, emphasis will be placed on strengthening the sustainability aspects through service level agreements between CSOs and key line ministries, development of SOPs for mobile delivery and further expansion of the programme design of the Mobile Women’s Center.



Establishment of a sexual and Domestic Violence Unit within the Police Department

Access to services is also being expanded through the establishment of a sexual and domestic violence unit within the Police Department. In partnership with the Ministries of Defense, Human

Development and Health, the establishment of this specialized unit will provide seamless essential services to survivors of violence and will result in; strengthened national guidelines or protocols for essential services that specifically address the needs of women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination; increase in the number of women and girls' survivors of violence that have increased knowledge of existing quality essential services including **victims advocate**/support initiatives; and increase in the number of women and girls' survivors of violence including groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of violence or discrimination that have increased knowledge of existing quality essential services including **victims advocate**/support initiatives.

The technical operational design which includes the existing legal framework for responding to domestic violence, sexual offences and child abuse and merges the institutional responsibilities for identifying, investigating and interviewing victims of domestic violence, sexual offences and child abuse of the relevant responding agencies into one easy to access victim-centered facility has been drafted and is being reviewed by stakeholders.

In addition, the Center will expand services delivery to include services for interviewing children and women as well as technical and logistic support for the use of special measures for child and adult victims and other vulnerable witnesses involved in criminal proceedings. The Center will provide enhanced capacities for multi-agency intervention by providing capacity building and specialized expertise to service providers attached to the Center. To ensure government buy-in at the highest levels and sustainability of the process, a Steering Committee has been formed comprising the Ministry of Human Development, the Police Department and the National Committee for Families and Children, to oversee the review and roll out process for the Sexual and Domestic Violence Units.

Support for Continuity of GBV Services during COVID-19

Additionally, in support of the government's response to COVID 19, SI was able to leverage partnerships and resources to address some gaps in service delivery at the community level. This included delivery of essential services including legal services, sexual and reproductive health services, psychosocial support and counselling services, GBV and SRH Information and Awareness, establishment of temporary safe spaces for survivors of GBV, including women and children, and the provision of PPE, and strengthening GBV hotlines and scale up of awareness on GBV.

Delivery of Essential Service

As a direct response to reaching women and girls most at risk for GBV and survivors of GBV during COVID 19, 184 online counselling sessions were provided. These included; psychosocial support on GBV, HIV and STI counselling, stress management and contraception services to women and girls most at risk and survivors of GBV. The main modes for e-counselling sessions were WhatsApp text messaging and mobile calls. A minimal number of face to face sessions

were held at the request of the client. In addition to counselling sessions, women and girls were able to access content online related to positive mental health, mindfulness, stress reduction, hygiene, coping with social distancing and maintaining healthy relationships.

Additionally, 24 mobile clinics were also conducted in rural communities in the Stann Creek, Toledo and Orange Walk Districts in collaboration with a CSO, BFLA. Over 300 persons were reached with information, contraceptive commodities and SRH family planning services.

Establishment of Temporary Safe Spaces

Four (4) temporary safe spaces fully equipped with bedding, kitchen, and other household supplies were also established by Spotlight in June 2020, in order to address gaps in access to services for survivors of GBV. 15 women and 26 children benefitted from these spaces. In addition to the safe spaces, as a part of the GBV response and support, survivors benefitted from case management support, psychosocial support and food assistance. To support the continuity of services for the shelters, PPEs (300 IIR non-sterile disposable surgical masks, 600 disposable nitrile gloves, 50 Level 4 Disposable Isolation Gowns) were distributed to the safe spaces.

The GBV Hotline was strengthened and expanded in partnership with the National Women's Commission and the Police Department launched to ensure that survivors of GBV and those most-at-risk were able to access support during COVID 19.

Support to Strengthen GBV Hotlines and increase awareness of GBV during COVID-19.

Two additional hotlines (0800-A-WAY-OUT) and a Smart mobile phone) were implemented to further expand access and allow for text messages via SMS or WhatsApp. Data on the uptake of the services is currently being collected by the Police Department and will be analyzed and shared during the next reporting period.

In moving forward with the implementation of SI, it is important to continue to build capacity of national actors on the safe identification and referral of GBV survivors which includes understanding the existing landscape of support services and organizations within the national GBV prevention and response

Outcome 5: Data

The SI baseline study is nearing completion and will be ready for dissemination in the second quarter of 2021. An international consultant company was recruited to implement the baseline study and partnership was established with the Statistical Institute of Belize for the implementation of the KAP component of the baseline study. Several delays were experienced due to the changing realities of the COVID 19 pandemic. Despite these challenges, several strategic adaptations were made to ensure that the process continued in a safe and sensitive manner having the safety of respondents as its top priority. The Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) Survey component of the Baseline Study was conducted through a household survey in partnership with the Statistical

Institute of Belize (SIB). At the end of 2020, the KAP study was successfully completed and clean data sets shared in the first month of 2021. Key Informant interviews and the desk review component of the baseline study are scheduled for completion within the first month of 2021.

The results of this study will contribute towards establishing baseline data in SMART which will contribute to measuring how the Spotlight Initiative supported ending family violence by strengthening policy and legislations, building capacity, and expanding the range of services available and addressing social norms and behaviors that promote violence against women and girls.

The capacity of the justice sector to collect data related to VAWG to inform laws, policies and programmes within that sector is being strengthened through upgrading of the case management system of the judiciary. As part of this capacity building activity, in 2020, Spotlight has provided the judiciary with IT equipment which will allow for the upgrading of its data collection and case management systems. Training of trainers will be rolled out in 2021 with plans to ultimately train over 100 staff members of the Magistrates Court, Family Court and Supreme Court.

While national capacity for data collection and M&E is being strengthened within the court, one area that will require greater attention in 2021 is strengthening the overall national capacity for data collection and M&E on VAWG. Various sectors of government continue to provide reports on GBV through parallel systems which often pose challenges to reconcile data and to establish a comprehensive understanding of the national situation of VAWG.

Outcome 6: Women's Movement

Activities under outcome 6 are planned for 2021, as elaborated in the CPD. Consequently, efforts in 2020 were concentrated on strategic mobilization of women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization in the process to more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and ending VAWG, to ensure effective implementation of all activities in year 2. This served to better understand the programming landscape, identify the needs, including capacity building needs, of women's groups and relevant CSO actors, in order to ensure that these are considered in programme implementation. Engagement with CSOs during 2020 also helped the SI team to identify strengths, opportunities and challenges to be considered in engagement of CSOs under pillar 6 and to provide the technical assistance needed by CSOs to complete proposals, work plans and accompanying documentation for implementation of SI activities. Additionally, interventions planned will benefit from the technical expertise of UN Women and OHCHR to ensure the inclusion and adaptation of tools to support human rights-based approach and gender mainstreaming in CSO programme designs, implementation and monitoring.

As a result of these engagements, the need to strengthen coordination, through networking and partnerships was one of the programming areas identified. Consequently, SI will work with

CSOs to build a supportive mechanism to jointly advocate and support gender equity, women empowerment and ending violence against women and girls. CSO designed interventions, respond to this need and are focused on strengthening the social accountability role of CSOs, including stronger participation of the HRCB, by opening spaces and opportunities for meaningful dialogues with state and non-state actors. It is anticipated that through these dialogues, strong recommendations will advocate for greater participation of CSOs and women's groups in the legislative and policy reform, and decision-making processes for family violence. The CSNRG's access to high-level spaces will be beneficial to ensuring that these recommendations are presented at the national, regional and global levels. These recommendations will be presented to state actors and will also be incorporated into the various legislative, policy and national plans being supported by SI across the 5 other outcomes.

In order to facilitate the above mentioned intervention and in keeping with the principle of "leave no one behind" approach, the Belize National Indigenous Council's (BENIC) institutional capacity will be strengthened as a supportive mechanism to coordinate access to social accountability mechanisms for indigenous women and girls. The strengthening process also includes linkages with interventions with other SI outcomes, such as legislative framework, particularly providing spaces for meaningful engagement with MHDFIPA (given the public commitment to including Indigenous Peoples); Prevention, ensuring that programmes include indigenous communities; and Essential Services, including BENIC in the development of community based roadmaps for service delivery. Similarly, as a lead social accountability organization, the Human Rights Commission of Belize will be strengthened to provide stronger and sustained support to CSOs, women's groups and women and girls' survivors in accessing support and justice.

SI will work with HRCB to strengthen their institutional capacity through the development of internal processes to manage and follow reports on human rights violations including VAW/VAC; it will support the rebranding and visibility of the organization, reintroducing the public and private sector to its mandate, vision and mission as a social accountability structure; support the expansion of access to the mechanism by identifying and training human rights defenders at the municipal level; and strengthening its partnership with CSOs, Women's groups and government for proper referral, counter referral and follow up duties. Additionally, it is anticipated that through targeted learning processes, at least 90 women will be trained on using data and technology to build, manage and lead women rights movements for social accountability.

CSOs, women's rights groups, and other informal leaders will be supported to open spaces and opportunities for empowering conversations on family violence and garner community level strategies and recommendations for change through partnership with the Belize Association of Planners. These recommendations will form a part of the state and non-state dialogues to effect change, including specific impacts and challenges faced by indigenous women and girls.

At the end of 2021 implementation period for Spotlight Initiative, 20 women's groups, and relevant CSOs would be strengthened to design, implement and monitor programmes, advocate using existing social accountability mechanisms and systems and enhance or expand services delivery specific for the prevention and response to family violence against women and girls.

Another area identified through preparatory engagement of CSOs, women's groups and individual advocates is the need to strengthen capacity for programme design and traditional monitoring. CSOs have historically been supported through donors in these areas and have not always been fully responsible for implementation. Spotlight Initiative will respond directly to this gap by providing CSOs with technical training and support to design, implement, monitor and report on advocacy programmes to end family violence, including violence against women and children. The key result will be the availability of the collective skills and experiences of a strong sustainable network of CSOs, women's groups and individuals with effective programme responses to VAWGs. This will also contribute to the scale up and expansion of programmes started under this Initiative and contribute meaningfully to the Sustainable Development Goals and a better future for women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of violence, including marginalized and traditionally excluded groups.

While programme interventions with CSOs will commence in Q1 of 2021, CSOs were provided with technical and financial support to strengthen service provision to their respective constituents during COVID 19. Three CSOs were provided with support to provide community level psychosocial services to women and girls in 2020, with an expectation that one of the networks - GO Belize, will also provide these psychosocial and level support during 2021.

With reference to the Shadow Pandemic and the impacts of school closures, loss of jobs and other adverse situations resulting from the COVID 19 pandemic, it was critical that efforts be made to support CSOs in expanding and continuing the provision of essential services to communities, while government's focus was on responding to the pandemic crisis. CSOs were provided with funding support to provide trauma-focused psychosocial support, counselling and legal support to families impacted by violence especially those reported during the COVID 19 crisis. The success of these interventions was based on the high level of commitment and flexibility that our CSO partners showed and the proactive way they diligently sought to provide every possible support to those most in need. The range of support provided by CSO partners included psychosocial support, counselling, referrals (social and mental health issues), parenting tips and knowledge sharing on GBV and SRH, legal support and food assistance. A total of 158 families (116 females, 42 males) were supported through these interventions. The second part of the intervention began in quarter 2 of 2020 and supports CSO Partners to incorporate various techniques and spaces to engage the population and provide much needed support including through virtual chat rooms, peer support groups, remote counselling, legal aid and other specialized services. Psychosocial support and referral services using a gendered and rights-based approach is being provided to families in rural and marginalized urban areas. Some CSOs have engaged women's groups as part of their outreach to extremely rural communities. CSOs operate as coordinating entities

for the community-based women’s groups who then deliver services to women and girls within their communities.

In 2021, CSOs capacity will be further strengthened to provide quality essential services utilizing existing VAWG knowledge products; and provide trauma-focused psycho-social services for victims of family violence with a specific focus on women and girls impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic.

During the reporting period cycle, eight CSO partners were trained in the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH) with the aim that they will adapt, update and strengthen their own internal processes to be in compliance with the SEA requirements under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) guidelines. At the end of 2020, 5 of 8 CSO partners (62.5%) have implemented changes to their processes and have in place a draft Action Plan for PSEA. This gives confidence that the protection of and response for beneficiaries continue to be at the forefront for CSOs in the implementation of their programmes.

Rights Holders (“Beneficiaries”)

Indicative Numbers	Direct for 2020	Indirect for 2020	Comments/Justifications
Women (18 yrs. and above)	41,861	150,000	56 women were reached under outcome 1, 979 under Outcome 3 and 826 under outcome 4, 40,000 were directly targeted with messages on GBV and 270,00 were indirectly reached with GBV messages
Girls (5-17)	2,345	0	2345 girls were reached through school-based interventions
Men (18 yrs. and above)	1,312	140,000	1312 men were reached directly with interventions under outcomes 1,3 and 4 and 140,000 men were reached indirectly with GBV messages
Boys (5-17 years)	2,535	0	2535 boys were reached through school-based interventions
Total	48,053	290,000	

Challenges and Mitigating Measures

Within the first two quarters of 2020, programme implementation was stalled significantly as the Spotlight team as well as implementing partners adjusted to the new measures that were put in place to curb the spread of the virus. These included restrictions in movements, interpersonal interactions, office closures and various working arrangements which featured individuals working from home. One of the main challenges associated with the shift in working modalities

due to COVID 19 was the technological capacity of implementing partners. Most implementing partners, particularly CSOs did not have the technological infrastructure or delivery modalities to continue implementation of programmes online. It took some time to support implementing partners to improve their technological capacity as well as to adjust delivery modalities to facilitate online delivery. In many instances, this meant adapting or designing modules for online delivery of training, workshops and other activities that were already designed or planned for delivery through interpersonal channels.

Despite these setbacks, by the end of 2020, the Spotlight team successfully ensured that the majority of implementing partners had made the necessary adaptations and had regained momentum in rolling out activities.

Some key actions by the SI team included meeting with CSOs to identify activities that could be implemented through on-line modalities, provision of resources for purchase of data by participants in order to remove financial barriers to participation, support funding for upgrade of technology where necessary, adjusting timeline for some activities to account for the additional layer of planning needed, and on-going online support and dialogue with implementing partners to troubleshoot and identify effective ways to continue programme implementation.

Another challenge faced was ensuring safe and confidential delivery of information, services and interactions with beneficiaries within the existing restrictions. In keeping with the Do No Harm principle, some innovative approaches have been used to ensure safety and confidentiality are maintained. However, household dynamics continue to pose some constraints for which SI continues to try and identify ways to manage. One example of an innovative approach that was used to ensure safe and confidential interactions with beneficiaries was the use of existing channels such as parenting initiatives to reach girls and women through text messaging. This resulted in many young women utilizing these existing, safe platforms to report violations or seek information. Many of the IPs in the parenting program are involved in SI implementation which allows for the use of those platforms to reach beneficiaries. A key lesson learned from this experience that can be applied to future programmes is the need for close coordination with other RUNOs as well as IPs in order to quickly identify ongoing interventions that can easily facilitate reach of shared target audiences.

Significant delays in commencing data collection for the Spotlight baseline study attributed to the constantly changing conditions of COVID-19 had an impact on the mode of data collection, inability of consultants to travel and the recruitment of a local counterpart with the capacity to do the data collection, training and socialization of content. This resulted in the need to revisit the plan for data collection in keeping with the Do No Harm principle. Data collection modality was adjusted to integrate the use of mobile phones and online platforms for data collection and sensitive questions related to exposure to violence were eliminated from the questionnaire due to ethical considerations. This data will be sourced from systematic data collection by government agencies responding to VAWG.

Strengthening women's rights groups, CSO networks and autonomous social networks is critical to ensure that SI can reach a large number of constituents, contribute to ongoing capacity development of these groups and support advocacy and social accountability efforts to bring an end to VAWG. As outlined in the Country Programme Document for Spotlight Initiative, the number of CSOs with a mandate for responding to violence against women and girls are limited and not effectively represented in the National Networks that do exist. Consequently, one challenge faced was the engagement of CSO networks, and women's rights groups whose strategic direction was aligned with SI, specifically Outcome 6. Following the joint call for proposals from CSOs, only two CSO applied for implementation of activities under outcome 6. Consequently, the SI team identified a number of relevant CSOs and worked closely with them to sensitize them on the goals and objectives of SI with a focus on Outcome 6. This included identifying areas of alignment between their strategic plans and Outcome 6 and then providing direct support to develop areas for partnership into full-fledged proposals utilizing simplified templates designed for the purpose of CSO application to SI. All this was constrained by the absence of opportunities for face to face interactions which meant that 100% of sessions needed to occur virtually. At the end of 2020, 4 CSO have developed proposals under Outcome 6, one of which has already been translated into a partnership agreement. The other 3 proposals will be approved in the first quarter of 2021. One key challenge faced is the turnaround time resulting from the coordination process which is necessary at all levels (RUNO to RUNO, RUNO to RC, RC to Si Secretariat). It is envisioned that the operationalization of the SOP which provides dedicated spaces for coordination should assist in fast tracking these necessary processes.

Lessons Learned and New Opportunities

Lessons Learned

One key lesson learned is the importance of engaging government stakeholders at the highest level during the planning phase and sustaining those partnerships throughout implementation. The engagement of government partners at the highest level through programme design and implementation resulted in alignment and coordination of the Spotlight Initiative with national policies and plans. This facilitated ease in uptake by national counterparts as implementation partners were able to identify how Spotlight activities contribute to strengthening their response to VAWG. The ability of national counterparts to see elements of their programme objectives in the Spotlight programme served to build confidence and commitment by national actors that the initiative will build on existing efforts by CSOs and government. Additionally, ongoing engagement with EU representatives in Belize results in opportunities for the EU to advocate with the Government of Belize, at the policy level, to address areas requiring attention and greater commitment from the government.

Another key lesson learned is the flexibility and willingness of CSOs to partner with the government to address gaps in programme and service delivery. In adjusting Spotlight to respond to COVID 19, as well as other emergencies experiences during 2020, CSOs were able to quickly adjust their programmes, work closely together to identify new and innovative ways to ensure continuity of services and positioned themselves as leaders at the community level to ensure that services and information continued to reach communities. This also demonstrated the importance of working closely with IPs to explore locally driven solutions to sustain implementation of SI.

As it relates to operational lessons learned, the new way of working as one UN under the UN Reform must be effectively guided by clear mechanisms for working together. Given the multiple UN agencies involved in implementation and the various staff involved in implementation at different levels, it became clear that there was a need to establish clear roles and responsibilities as well as dedicated spaces for coordination. These challenges promoted the development of an SOP which allowed the team to consider the various levels of coordination needed within the UN agencies and between the UN agencies and the various stakeholders involved given the nature of the focus on VAWG and the SI initiative. The SOP for Spotlight finalized within the last quarter of 2020, now facilitates effective partnerships among UN agencies, the EU and wider partnerships, including with civil society.

Opportunities

The many adaptations made to continue programme and service delivery in response to COVID 19 provides new opportunities for reaching programme beneficiaries. New on-line and mobile platforms provide expanded ways of reaching and engaging individuals and communities which were not envisioned at the inception of SI implementation. In 2021, SI will continue to build on

these investments while exploring ways to increase access to the use of technology to reach communities with information and services. As an example, internet and mobile data were a great inhibitor of access to remote support by persons desirous of accessing the service. However, this challenge provided an opportunity as it was noted that when provided with access to data for participation in virtual sessions, the commitment of women and girls to participate in these spaces were overwhelming and demonstrated the heightened need for increased access to information and services at the community level.

Local level solutions identified in response to COVID 19 provide excellent opportunities for SI to continue partnering with CSOs and the government to strengthen these approaches and ensure that communities continue to benefit from information and services. For example, the mobile women's center provides an ideal opportunity to forge formal partnerships for service delivery between government and CSOs.

A new government administration also provides an opportunity to strengthen partnerships around Spotlight. This provides an ideal opportunity for the UN and the EU to engage government counterparts, to revisit the CPD, with a view to incorporating lessons learned about VAWG during COVID-19 that were not considered during programme design and to partner with the government to identify concrete solutions to the gaps in GBV service delivery resulting from government's financial and human resources being diverted to respond to emergencies.

Innovative, Promising or Good Practices

Mobile Women's Center

The Mobile Women's Centre has been identified as a promising practice that will be built upon in 2021, with the aim of developing it into a good practice. The Women's Centre facilitated the coordination of Civil Society Organizations to ensure continuity of services to women and girls in rural communities across the country during COVID 19. The Mobile Women's Center was rolled out during Quarter 4 and strengthened engagement with community leaders and members, through the support of the Community Health Workers who are an important link between service providers and the communities.

The Women's Center featured essential services including legal support, counselling and psychosocial support, SRH Services, inclusive of voluntary family planning, and the safe identification and referral of GBV survivors, as well as case management support.

The delivery of this type of service in hard to reach communities could not have been more timely considering the current impact of COVID 19 on livelihoods, mobility and access to services. This integrated mobile service delivery model was uniquely designed to increase access to critical services in preventing and responding to gender-based violence, in close alignment with the United Nations Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence.

The Centre was assessed on its cost effectiveness, efficiency, lessons learnt and client satisfaction, among other variables, to inform the development of a sustainability plan for this type of service delivery model to improve health outcomes among rural women. (see annex D for further details)

Scale up of Comprehensive Sexuality Education

The implementation of the scale up of CSE Programme for young persons out of school provides an immediate and relevant innovative and promising practice as it engages young people out of school in CSE education and awareness through virtual platforms, particularly in the context of COVID 19.

The first aspect of the innovation is the improvement of the Belize Family Life Association (BFLA) CSE Curriculum and Training Resource Manual, particularly the enhancement of teaching and learning strategies for effective engagement of young people in virtual spaces. Additionally, the expansion of the cadre of CSE community level trainers will allow for expanding the reach to young people within their own local spaces, and also through popular (and youth friendly) social media and video conference platforms.

The evolution of this innovative approach to the out of school youth CSE education programme will help to provide the option for a low cost and high impact model to advanced gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment, and reproductive rights, including for the most vulnerable and marginalized adolescents and youth. To date 30 master trainers have been trained and will be furnished with a CSE tool kit (complete with a manual, models, etc.). Master trainers will initially deliver training to 240 young people in early 2021 as part of their capacity building. (see annex D for further details)

Communications and Visibility

Belize's Communication and Visibility plan was rolled out in the fourth quarter of 2020. During this roll out, three human interest stories were captured, six newsletters, four visibility events, and four press releases. The Spotlight Initiative was launched in Belize in August 2020. This first event to introduce the Initiative was broadcast via television, radio, and social media, allowing the Belizean population to understand the aims and partnerships that exist within the programme, but also to understand the situation of family violence in Belize. There were over 80 participants in the launch, including the Prime Minister, EU Delegation, UN Resident Coordinator, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Leader of the opposition, Minister of Human Development, and CSOs. The launch reached over fifty-two thousand people on social media with 178 comments.

Following the national launch other activities were implemented which allowed for more participation in media visibility events and campaigns such as the SCLAN UNGA Side event which garnered the participation of 257 individuals on zoom and 3,475 social media views. The event was designed to mobilize First Ladies of the Caribbean to advocate for the development of projects/programs that will help engage men and boys to advance gender equality.

Subsequently, the 16 days of activism national campaign and launch, in partnership with the National Women's Commission and Family Support Department, reached over thirty-nine thousand individuals in Belize and brought awareness to eliminating violence against women and girls. The last visibility event of the year was the virtual launch of Private Sector Engagement for Prevention of Family Violence where it is anticipated that over the implementation period, a total of 7500 persons (including children) will be reached through this campaign.

The Communication and Visibility Plan was developed in collaboration with RUNOs to ensure comprehensive and coordinated communication and visibility actions in October 2020 and built upon the Communications and Visibility Plan within the CPD. This allowed for inclusion of key communication actions beyond what was originally planned. In order to strengthen coordination around communication and to support monitoring of communication actions, a communication and visibility tracker was drafted in December 2020 to capture timely events, campaigns, and communications initiatives. The tracker allows all RUNOs to input planned communication activities and provides the space for collaboration among RUNOs and the RCO.

Overall, visibility events in 2020 helped in meeting the following objective-level indicators:

- Output Indicator 3.2.2: Number of people reached by campaigns challenging social norms and gender stereotyping
- Output Indicator 3.2.5: Number of campaigns challenging harmful norms and gender stereotyping, including women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, developed and disseminated.
- Percentage of growth of Spotlight Initiative audiences
- Percentage increase in Spotlight Initiative brand recognition

a) Messages

Key messages were shared during events and especially highlighted in the National Launch in August 2020 and during the 16 Days of Activism campaign. The most impactful messages were ones presenting the grave evidence of family violence, including violence against women and girls, and the levels of gender inequality occurring nationally which put the spotlight on the need to address the issues and need for the initiative to the general population of Belize. These included:

- In Belize, the main aspects of family violence that are prominent are domestic violence including violence against children, sexual violence (incest and rape) of adolescent girls, and femicide.
- Women 25 years and older are most affected by domestic violence which occurs in all areas of the country.
- In 2018, 75% of all cases of sexual violence were among girls 10-19 years.

- Femicide cases in Belize have increased with one in every ten murder victims in 2018 being female.
- Belize has the lowest percentage of women members of Parliament in the region at 3%.
- There is a direct link in Belize between gender-based violence and HIV, as women living with HIV are particularly vulnerable to sexual, physical, and psychological violence.
- One of the primary concerns raised in the absence of a women's movement in Belize is the fear of victimization, the absence of safe spaces to speak out, and the lack of legal protection. Spotlight provides an opportunity to mobilize communities to raise their voices against violence in the home and community.
- Childhood abuse & gender inequality are the main risk factors for intimate partner & non-partner sexual violence. There is growing evidence of a number of predisposing factors at the individual, relationship, family, community & societal levels.

Other messages were shared to introduce and highlight the work of the initiative, especially for press releases, media interviews, and Spotlight Initiative-lead events targeting the general population in the hopes of reaching women and girls; boys and men; youth; government officials; CSOs; vulnerable groups; and potential partners.

- Spotlight Initiative is a global, multi-year partnership between the European Union and the United Nations to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls by 2030.
- Spotlight Initiative demonstrates a significant, concerted, and comprehensive investment in gender equality and ending violence to make a transformative difference in the lives of women and girls.
- Spotlight Initiative is spearheading a global movement to ensure women and girls can live a life free of violence, in all its forms.

Gender norms messaging was also key for Spotlight Initiative communication as it is integral to gender equality and shifting deeply ingrained social attitudes:

- Gender norms can change as a result of deliberate efforts to encourage change, including new laws, policies or programmes, and social and political activism.
- Transforming gender norms is complex and requires multi-sectoral approaches across the socio-ecological model.
- Changing gender norms may take generations and cannot be achieved by a single programme.

b) Media and visibility events

Spotlight Initiative National Launch:

The “Spotlight Initiative Goes Live” national launch was a virtually broadcast event streamed via television, radio, and social media simultaneously and held on 19 August 2020. The launch engaged 80 participants with 20 video messages and estimated two hundred thousand reaches on radio and television, and fifty-two thousand reaches along with 814 reactions and 178 comments on social media.

A live 30 minute panel discussion closed the evening, with members being: Judith Alpuche, the former Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Human Development, Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation; Birgit Gerstenberg, United Nations Resident Coordinator for Belize and El Salvador; Ambassador Malgorzata Wasilewska, Delegation of the European Union to Jamaica, Belize, Turks and Caicos Islands, Bahamas and the Cayman Islands and Michelle Irving, Member, Civil Society Reference Group. Questions ranged from, “For the United Nations system present in Belize, what is different about Spotlight’s programme?” to “We understand that this global initiative has particular focus in each region, in Latin America it is on femicide, in the Caribbean it is family violence. Why was this focus applied in this region?”; capturing a variety of different target groups into the conversation via the comments section on the event’s social media live.

SCLAN UNGA Side Event: Engaging Men and Boys to Advance Gender Equality

The Spouses of CARICOM Leaders Action Network (SCLAN) in collaboration, with the Spotlight Initiative via the UNDP Country Office as a key partner, convened a virtual side event on the margins of the 75th United Nations General Assembly on 24 September 2020 from 9 am – 11 am CST, 11 am- 1 pm EST entitled ‘Engaging Men and Boys to Advance Gender Equality.’ The virtual event took place on zoom and was streamed on social media, and UN TV.

The Forum was designed to mobilize First Ladies to advocate for the development of projects/ programs that will help engage men and boys to advance gender equality. It was designed to bring together First Ladies, Spouses of Heads of Government, private sector, UN Representatives and non-governmental organizations to facilitate knowledge exchange which could contribute positively to progress in key areas such as the reduction of gender-based violence. This initiative aimed to build upon the long- term efforts set forth by the global community including former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s Every Woman, Every Child Global Movement and the Global Strategy for Women’s Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016-2030). There were a total number of 257 participants on zoom and 3,475 social media views.

c) Campaigns

16 Days of Activism 2020 National Launch

The Spotlight Initiative collaborated with the national 16 days of activism planning committee, headed by the National Women's Commission and Women and Family Support Department, to virtually air the campaign's national launch and promoted ongoing activities during the 16-day campaign. As the 16 days of activism brings awareness to eliminating violence against women and girls, it was important to collaborate with key stakeholders and partners for the national launch, ensuring that the Spotlight Initiative was visible.

There were 12 video messages, approximately 36 thousand reaches on social media, and 101 reactions and comments from viewers.

It is expected that collaborating and contributing in such campaigns will give broader visibility to the initiative and be a key partner at a national level for future events and campaigns. We have already been invited to collaborate and be part of the Women's Month planning committee for 2021.

Launch of Private Sector Engagement for Prevention of Family Violence

The Child Development Foundation (CDF) launched its Prevention of Family Violence: Private Sector Engagement Campaign on Wednesday, December 14th, 2020 at 10 am via the CDF Facebook page. The campaign was launched in partnership with the Spotlight Initiative.

The campaign engaged the Private Sector in bringing awareness to prevent family violence by expanding knowledge and capacity for early warning signs of women and children at risk and to know of resources available to them. The 15 private sector organizations who have agreed to participate in the campaign will share posters inside their facilities and have members of their organization attend virtual training sessions to increase staff knowledge on gender-sensitive issues, identifying signs of violence, and access to referral services. Organizations will also provide women who frequent their establishments with referral cards and contact numbers provided by CDF. It is anticipated that over the implementation period, a total of 7500 persons (including children) will be reached through this campaign.

d) Human interest stories:

[Sit Up for 16 Days of Activism - A Survivor's Story](#)

Anita Hamilton—a radio studio manager, a mother of five, and grandmother to ten—shared her empowering message as a survivor during the launch of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence which aired on 25 November 2020 in Belize.



[Helping Women in Rural Communities Access Essential Services](#)

Mobile Women Centres in Belize are addressing gaps in access to essential service during the COVID-19 Pandemic



Women in Transition: finding their POWA

In Belize, women are finding their POWA and breaking intergenerational cycles of abuse.



e) Testimonials:

- Some say the Caribbean is paradise. The countries face similar challenges such as being small and vulnerable, but like other regions of the world, there is a persistent problem that is impeding Caribbean development. It rears its ugly head in all spheres and is not confined to a particular society or socio-economic class; It is Gender-Based Violence (GBV) or VAWG. - Denise Antonio, Resident Representative - United Nations Development Programme in Jamaica, Belize, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, The Bahamas, and Turks and Caicos
- Gender equality is a fundamental human right and a necessity for a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable Caribbean. By promoting peace, freedom, unfettered and dynamic achievement for all, there will be equal contribution of productive men and women, poverty and inequalities will be reduced, social and economic prosperity enhanced, and a resilient society built. - Denise Antonio, Resident Representative - United Nations Development Programme in Jamaica, Belize, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, The Bahamas, and Turks and Caicos
- We all need to commit to ending violence at home, which particularly affects women and children, harming the whole society. In these times of pandemic, we all need to commit to active engagement, and we all need to continue delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals. - UN Resident Coordinator, Belize, and El Salvador: Ms. Birgit Gerstenberg.

Spotlight Initiative is allowing us to do several things: to be creative, to be forward thinkers, to be strategic in our approaches, and to work on parallel tracks. It makes us think that while we are addressing the situation today, how can it influence the future to change the current situation?

There will be a different set of parameters that we will be looking at in the next ten years because this programme will give us a frame of reference. - Michele Irving, POWA

f) Photos

Photos with captions (photo credit and a description) here in the report is being uploaded to [PHOTO SUBMISSION PLATFORM](#)



Women Mobile Centres IPs, UN RCO/UNFPA 2020



Women Mobile Centres IPs, UN RCO/UNFPA 2020



Women Mobile Centres IPs, UN RCO/UNFPA 2020



Women Mobile Centres IPs, UN RCO/UNFPA 2020

g) Videos: uploaded to the VIDEO SUBMISSION PLATFORM

Spotlight Launch Videos (YouTube playlist can be found here):

- [Spotlight Initiative Belize – Former Prime Minister of Belize Hon. Dean Barrow’s Launch Keynote Address.](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - It’s Our Decade of Action](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - The Spotlight Is On Belize](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - The Power of Youth](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - A Message From Our Civil Society Reference Group Member](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - The Government of Belize in the Spotlight](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - End Violence Now](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - Henrietta Fore: Under-Secretary-General United Nations](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - Jolita Butkeviciene - Director for LAC, European Commission](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - HerStory by Kyraan Gabourel](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - #WithHer Dialogue](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - Birgit Gerstenberg - UN Resident Coordinator Belize and El Salvador](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - Hon. John Briceno – Now Prime Minister, then Leader of the Opposition, Peoples United Party](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - Ambassador Malgorzata Wasilewska](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - Hon. Anthony Martinez – Former Minister of Human Development](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - What You Can Do In Times of COVID 19](#)
- [Spotlight Initiative Belize - Performance By The Belize National Dance Company](#)

16 Days of Activism National Launch (YouTube playlist can be found here):

- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from United Nations Resident Coordinator](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from Belize’s National Women’s Commission](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - Message from the EU Delegation](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - Message from Hon Dolores Balderamos-Garcia](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - Survivor Testimonial for the 16 Days of Activism - Anita Hamilton](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from UN Women](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from UNICEF Belize](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from OHCHR](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from ILO](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from UNDP Belize](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from UNFPA](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020 - A Message from PAHO/WHO Belize](#)
- [16 Days of Activism 2020- A Message from CSOs](#)

Next Steps

After a successful year of implementation, SI, is strongly positioned to build upon results achieved to continue contributing to the national response to family violence. Specific attention will be given to the following:

- Accelerating the implementation of 18% of activities that are off track by securing commitment at the highest level of government while expanding partnership for implementation of these activities to ensure timely implementation.
- Additionally, SI will ensure that partnerships continue to be strengthened and that monitoring, and evaluation is enhanced to support continued implementation of programmes that are experiencing full roll out and those scheduled for roll out in 2021.
- In addition to the acceleration of legislative review actions under Outcome 1, SI will ensure that technical support and oversight is provided for the review of the National Gender Policy and the development of a new Gender Policy as well as the revision and costing of the National Gender Based Violence Action Plan.
- Under Outcome 2, SI will ensure that a capacity assessment, which will inform the development of a national capacity development plan, is conducted within the first quarter of 2021 and that a strong partnership is established with key line ministries to ensure sustainability of the plan and commitment by the government for its implementation. In the interim, SI, will bring together the various capacity building elements across Outcomes to ensure a coordinated approach to existing capacity building interventions.
- Building on the achievements under Outcome 3, SI will continue to expand information and prevention interventions to individuals and communities through online platforms and face to face interventions (where possible). SI will continue to ensure that all areas of the ecology; individual, schools, communities, and workplaces are targeted. SI will document lessons learnt and best practices in reaching individuals and communities with information and will strengthen messages around family violence through the development of a comprehensive national social and behavior change communication strategy (SBCS). A key feature of the implementation of the SBCS will be the roll out of mass media and interpersonal campaigns on family violence prevention in collaboration with CSOs.
- Under Outcome 4, SI will continue to strengthen and expand services to hard to reach communities through strong collaboration with government and CSOs while building in mechanisms for sustainability beyond SI. Key to this will be the design and implementation of the essential service packages complemented by capacity building for the social work force, inclusive of service providers within the health, social, and justice sectors and CSOs.

- Under Outcome 5, SI will focus on finalizing and launching the baseline study by the beginning of the second quarter. While it is anticipated that the baseline report will be available in the first quarter, it will be necessary to ensure that quality checks are completed and that the report meets established standards. Another core area of focus under Outcome 5 will be strengthening national data systems on GBV. As previously mentioned, the existence of parallel systems for reporting on VAWG poses challenges in reconciling data on VAWG. Partnerships will be established with the justice, health and social sectors as well as the crime observatory to identify ways to harmonize data collection on VAWG
- Under Outcome 6, building on the success achieved in mobilizing networks of CSOs and supporting them in preparation for full roll out of Outcome 6, SI will work closely with CSOs to strengthen advocacy and accountability mechanisms around VAWG as well as build CSO and CSO networks to advocate, design and implement VAWG interventions.

As it relates to programme governance, SI will continue to strengthen the implementation of its SOP by drawing on lessons learned to move the programme forward in a coordinated and efficient manner. Some specific actions to be taken within the first quarter of 2021 include;

- Establishment and full engagement of the NSC with representation at the highest level of government.
- Continued strong partnership with the EU. The partnership established and sustained with the EU from the design phase will be further strengthened through the EU's participation in the NSC as well as joint monitor and visibility actions through field visits and engagement of IPs.
- With the NSCRG having now formalized its operational documents, SI will strengthen its partnership with the NSCRG through technical exchanges, field visits, participation in NSC meetings and ongoing dialogue and information exchange to ensure that the NSCRG are fully equipped to engage its constituents and to provide sound guidance in the implementation of SI.



Annex A

Results Framework

Belize Annex A - 2020

Outcome 1 Summary table

Outcome Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes
	Legal age of marriage				
	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	
	Parental Authority in Marriage				
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Parental Authority in Divorce				
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	Inheritance rights of Widows				
	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
	Inheritance rights of Daughters				
	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
	Laws on Domestic Violence				
	0.25	0.00	0.25	0.00	
	Laws on Rape				
	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	
	Laws on Sexual Harassment				
	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	
	National level				
	Evidence-based Participatory Development	Evidence-based Participatory Development	Evidence-based Participatory Development	Evidence-based Participatory Development	
	Sub-National Level				
	Evidence-based	Evidence-based	Evidence-based Participatory Development	Evidence-based	
Indicator 1.3 Laws and policies are in place that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, autonomous social movements, CSOs and women human rights defenders/feminist activists to advance the human rights agenda.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

Baseline data and targets/milestones are similar as some of the laws already meets optimal standards while the status of others will be indirectly impacted by SI but there are no planned activities to address those specific laws. Therefore no changes are planned.

Please note that the process has commenced to develop the National Gender Based Violence Action Plan and the Gender Policy

Output Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes	
	Developed or Strengthened					
Indicator 1.1.1 Number of draft new and/or strengthened laws and/or policies on ending VAWG and/or gender equality and non-discrimination developed that respond to the rights of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination and are in line with international HR standards, within the last year.	0	0	0	4		
Indicator 1.1.3 Number of draft laws and/or policies on ending VAWG and/or gender equality and non-discrimination which have received significant inputs from women's rights advocates within the last year.	0	0	0	4	Please note that the process has commenced to develop the Gender Policy	
	National					
Indicator 1.2.1 Number of evidence-based national and/or sub-national action plans on ending VAWG developed that respond to the rights of all women and girls, have M&E frameworks and proposed budgets within the last year.	Evidence-based	Evidence-based	Evidence-based	Evidence-based	Please note that the process has commenced to develop the National Gender Based Violence Action Plan	
	Sub-National					
	0	0	0	6		
	Government Officials					
Indicator 1.2.2 Number of key government officials with strengthened capacities to draft and costed action plans on ending VAWG and accompanying M&E frameworks, within the last year.	0	0	0	30		
	Women Government Officials					
	0	0	0	20		
	Government Officials demonstrate awareness					
Indicator 1.3.3 Number of key government officials with increased awareness of human rights standards and obligations and strengthened capacities to develop laws and policies that guarantee the ability of women's rights groups, CSOs and women human rights defenders to advance the human rights agenda, within the last year.	0	0	0	105		
	those Officials who participate in developing laws & policies					
	0	0	0	65		
	Women Government Officials demonstrate awareness					
	0	0	0	55		
	Women Officials who participate in developing laws & policies					
	0	0	0	35		

Outcome 2 Summary table

Outcome Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes
	National				
Indicator 21 Existence of a functioning regional, national and/or sub-national coordination and oversight mechanisms at the highest levels for addressing VAWG/HP that include representation from marginalized groups.	Functioning?: Yes, At the Highest level?: No, Where is it placed?: Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs, Includes LNOB?: Yes	Functioning?: Yes, At the Highest level?: No, Where is it placed?: Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs, Includes LNOB?: Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name of Coordination Mechanism: National Women's Commission, Where is it located: Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs, including LNOB?: Yes, : National 	Functioning?: Yes, At the Highest level?: No, Where is it placed?: Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs', Includes LNOB?: Yes	The indicator already meets the optimal standard. SI activities will indirectly impact this indicator. However, no change expected.
	Sub-National				
	Name: National Gender Base Violence Committee, connected to national mechanism?: Yes, includes LNOB?: Yes	Name: National Gender Base Violence Committee, connected to national mechanism?: Yes, includes LNOB?: Yes	Name: National Gender Base Violence Committee, connected to national mechanism?: Yes, includes LNOB?: Yes	Name: National Gender Base Violence Committee, connected to national mechanism?: Yes, includes LNOB?: Yes	
	Health				
	No integration	Low integration	No integration	Low integration	There are planned activities with this sector but not to integrate VAWG into sector plans
	Education				
	No integration	No integration	No integration	No integration	There are planned activities with this sector but not to integrate VAWG into sector plans
	Justice				
Indicator 23 Extent to which VAWG/HP is integrated in 5 other sectors (health, social services, education, justice, security, culture) development plans that are evidence-based and in line with globally agreed standards.	Low integration	Low integration	Low integration	Medium integration	There are planned activities with this sector but not to integrate VAWG into sector plans
	Security				
	Low integration	Low integration	Low integration	Medium integration	There are planned activities with this sector but not to integrate VAWG into sector plans
	Social Services				
	Medium integration	Medium integration	Name of Plan: National Gender Based Violence Action Plan Medium integration	High integration	
	Culture				
	No integration	No integration	No integration	No integration	There are no planned activities to work with the culture sector

Output Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	
Indicator 21.1 Number of institutions that develop strategies, plans and/or programmes to prevent and respond to VAWG, including for those groups of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination.	0	0	0	45	
Government Officials					
Indicator 21.7 Number of key government officials with strengthened capacities to develop and deliver programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG, within the last year.	0	0	0	280	
Women Government Officials					
	0	0	0	185	
Government Officials					
Indicator 21.8 Number of key government officials with strengthened capacities to integrate efforts to combat VAWG in to the development plans of other sectors, within the last year.	0	0	0	164	
Women Government Officials					
	0	0	0	77	

Outcome 3 Summary table

Outcome Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes
Indicator 3.1 Percentage of people who think it is justifiable for a man to (subject) beat his wife/intimate partner.	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	MICS 6 will not be available by end 2021 to report on this indicator
Indicator 3.3 Existence of with at least 3 evidence-based, transformative/comprehensive prevention strategies/programmes that address the rights of those marginalized and are developed in a participatory manner.	No	No	No	Yes	
Output Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes
Indicator 3.1.1 Existence of a draft new and/or strengthened Comprehensive Sexuality Education in line with international standards	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	It is evidence-based. Covers sexual and reproductive health and rights. Aims at reducing rates of unintended pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, coerced or unwanted sex and gender-based violence. Based on core values and human rights. Gender-sensitive. Culturally appropriate, reflecting the diverse circumstances and realities of young people, including those facing intersecting forms of discrimination.
Indicator 3.1.2 Number of young women and girls, young men and boys who participate in either/both in- and out-of school programmes that promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and exercise of rights, including reproductive rights, within the last year.	In-School Programmes				
	0	0	4,812	1,550	
	In-School Programmes Girls				
	0	0	2,339	650	
	In-School Programmes Boys				
	0	0	2,473	900	
	Out-of-School Programmes				
	0	240	320	1,520	
Out-of-School Programmes Girls					
0	100	80	215		
Out-of-School Programmes Boys					
0	0	240	1305		

Indicator 3.2.1 Number of women, men, girls and boys who regularly attend community programmes to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours, including in relation to women's and girls' sexuality and reproduction, within the last year.	0	158	1,680	6,940	
Indicator 3.2.2 Number of people reached by campaigns challenging harmful social norms and gender stereotyping, within the last year.	0	0	0	100,000	
	Total				
Indicator 3.2.3 Number of men and boys who regularly attend gender transformative programmes addressing violent masculinities and men's violence towards women and girls in community centres, schools and other relevant spaces, within the last year.	0	0	0	1,350	
	Men				
	0	0	0	200	
	Boys				
	0	0	0	1,150	
Indicator 3.2.4 Number of communities with advocacy platforms established and/or strengthened to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours, including in relation to women and girls' sexuality and reproduction.	0	0	54	60	

Indicator 3.2.5 Number of campaigns challenging harmful social norms and gender stereotyping, including of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, developed and disseminated during the past year.	0	0	0	0	
EVAWG Policies					
Indicator 3.3.2 Number of relevant non-state institutions that have developed and/or strengthened strategies/policies on ending VAWG and promoting gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and women and girls' rights, including those groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, in line with international HR standards, within the last year.	0	0	0	20	
EVAWG Policies including LNOB					
	0	0	0	20	
Decision Makers					
Indicator 3.3.5 Number of key in formal decision makers and decision makers in relevant institutions with strengthened awareness of and capacities to advocate for implementation of legislation and policies on ending VAWG and for gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and women and girls' rights, within the last year.	0	0	156	1425	
Women Decision Makers					
	0	0	28	700	

Outcome 4 Summary table

Outcome Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes	
	Women					
Indicator 4.1 Number of women and girls, including those facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, who report experiencing physical or sexual violence and seek help, by sector.	0	0	0	8	Baseline, milestones and targets were not established for this indicator as the Technical Team is awaiting results from the Baseline Study.	
	Girls					
	0	0	0	0		
	Reported					
Indicator 4.2 a) number of VAWG cases reported to the police; b) number of cases reported to the police that are brought to court; and c) number of cases reported to the police that resulted in convictions of perpetrators.	0	0	0	0	Baseline, milestones and targets were not established for this indicator as the Technical Team is awaiting results from the Baseline Study.	
	Brought to Court (%)					
	0	0	0	0		0
	Convictions					
	0	0	0	0		
Output Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes	
	Developed					
Indicator 4.1.3 Existence of national guidelines or protocols that have been developed and/or strengthened in line with the guidance and tools for essential services.	No	No	No	No		
	Strengthened					
	No	No	No	No		
	Government Service Providers					
Indicator 4.1.4 Number of government service providers who have increased knowledge and capacities to deliver quality and coordinated essential services to women and girl survivors of violence, within the last year.	0	0	0	650		
	Women Government Service Providers					
	0	0	0	300		

	Developed				
Indicator 4.1.9 Existence of national guidelines or protocols for essential services that have been developed and/or strengthened that specifically address the needs of women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.	No	No	No	Yes	
	Strengthened				
	No	No	No	Yes	
	a) Girls with Knowledge of ES				
Indicator 4.21 Number of women and girl survivors of violence that have increased KNOWLEDGE of a) to quality essential services, and b) accompaniment/support initiatives, including longer-term recovery within the last 12 months	0	200	11	730	
	a) Women with Knowledge of ES				
	0	220	683	1,570	
	b) Girls with Knowledge of longer term services				
	0	200	11	730	
	b) Women with Knowledge of longer term services				
	0	220	683	1,570	
	a) Girls with access to ES				
Indicator 4.22 Number of women and girl survivors/victims and their families, including groups facing multiple and intersecting forms or discrimination, that have increased ACCESS to a) to quality essential services and b) accompaniment/support initiatives, including longer-term recovery services, within the last 12 months	0	240	0	520	
	a) Women with access to ES				
	0	180	0	1,340	
	b) Girls with access to Recovery Services				
	0	0	0	150	
	b) Women with access to Recovery Services				
	0	0	0	320	

Outcome 5 Summary table

Outcome Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes	
	Prevalence					
Indicator 5.1 Existence of globally comparable data on the prevalence (and incidence, where appropriate) of VAWG/HP, collected over time	No	No	No	No		
	Incidence					
	No	No	No	No		
	IPV					
Indicator 5.2 Existence of publicly available data, reported on a regular basis, on various forms of VAWG/HP (at least on intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, harmful practices when relevant, and trafficking and femicide) at country level	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
	FGM					
	N/A (not applicable)					
	Child Marriage					
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
	Femicide					
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Family Violence						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Trafficking						
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Indicator 5.3 National statistics related to VAWG/HP incidence and prevalence are disaggregated by income, sex, age, ethnicity, disability, and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts	2) Sex 3) Age 6) Geographic Location 7) forms of violence	2) Sex 3) Age 6) Geographic Location 7) forms of violence	2) Sex 3) Age 6) Geographic Location 7) Forms of violence	2) Sex 3) Age 6) Geographic Location 7) forms of violence	There are no SI activities planned to address all levels of disaggregation. Therefore it is not anticipated that there will be changes from baseline to end Programme.	
Output Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes	
Indicator 5.1.2 A system to collect administrative data on VAWG/HP, is in place and in line with international standards, across different sectors	1) Health 4) Security 5) Social services	1) Health 4) Security 5) Social services	1) Health 4) Security 5) Social services	1) Health 3) Justice 4) Security 5) Social Services		
Indicator 5.1.5 Number of women's rights advocates with strengthened capacities to collect prevalence and/or incidence data, and qualitative data, on VAWG	0	0	0	25		

Outcome 6 Summary table

Outcome Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period (2020)	Target	Reporting Notes
Indicator 6.1 Proportion of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, increase their coordinated efforts to jointly advocate on ending VAWG	0%	0%	0%	100%	
Indicator 6.2 Extent to which there is an increased use of social accountability mechanisms by civil society in order to monitor and engage efforts to end VAWG.	0	0	0	75	
Indicator 6.3 Proportion of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, report having greater influence and agency to work on ending VAWG.	0%	0%	0%	100%	All 20 organizations work with both youth and LNOB.
Output Indicator	Baseline	Milestone 1	Results for Reporting Period	Target	Reporting Notes
Indicator 6.1.1 Number of jointly agreed recommendations on ending VAWG produced as a result of multi-stakeholder dialogues that include representatives of groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, within the last year.	0	0	0	30	

	You th				
Indicator 6.1.3 Number of CSOs representing youth and other groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that are integrated with coalitions and networks of women's rights groups and civil society working on ending VAWG, within the last year.	0	0	0	5	
	LNOB				
	0	0	0	5	
Indicator 6.1.4 Number of women's rights groups, networks and relevant CSOs with strengthened capacities to network, partner and jointly advocate for progress on ending VAWG at local, national, regional and global levels, within the last year	0	0	0	35	
Indicator 6.2.1 Number of supported women's right groups and relevant CSOs using the appropriate accountability mechanisms for advocacy around ending VAWG, within the last year	0	0	0	25	
CSOs with strengthened capacities					
Indicator 6.3.1 Number of women's rights groups and relevant CSOs representing groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization that have strengthened capacities and support to design, implement, monitor and evaluate their own programmes on ending VAWG, within the last year.	20	0	0	25	
Indicator 6.3.2 Number of women's rights groups and relevant CSOs using knowledge products developed by the participating UN agencies in the design of their own programmes on ending VAWG, within the last year	0	0	0	25	

Annex B

BELIZE ANNEX B - RISK MATRIX - 2020 RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

Country / Region: Belize

Reporting Period: 01 January 2020 - 30 December 2020

Instructions: Kindly refer to the Risk Management Matrix in your approved Spotlight Country/Regional Programme Document to report in the below matrix on how your programme has managed all identified risks during the reporting period. Should new risks have arisen, please include them clearly in the Risk Management Matrix below, denoting [NEW RISK] and use this matrix moving forward. Please also update the section on 'Assumptions' as necessary.

Risk Assessment (All text in the Risk Management Report: Arial 10 point, normal)			Risk Monitoring: How (and how often) did your programme monitor the risk(s) during the reporting period?		Addressing the Risk: Please include the mitigating and/or adaption measures taken during the reporting period.	Responsible Person/Unit
Risk	Likelihood:	Impact:	Periodicity	Source for		
Contextual risks						
Political changes due to elections in Q4 2020 can affect political commitment to Spotlight	3	3	Quarterly	Government Press Office	One-year agreements with key line ministries will surpass the change of government. RCO will engage before elections with opposition leaders who could form a new government. Launch of the SI in August and new communication strategy will have an impact on general public. Engagement with elected officials will be done early 2021. Spotlight team will set in place a contingency plan which is activated at the possible change in government. This plan will outline measures for immediate familiarization of new policy and decision makers in new government. The objective of such a plan is to maintain momentum in project whilst re-establishing national/ political buy-in CSNRG to raise advocacy.	RUNOs/RCO
Natural Disasters/Ongoing threath of COVID-19	5	4	Monthly virtual programme monitoring meetings	Programme Reports	Adjustment Spotlight activities to respond to the reality of COVID-19 allowed addressing context specific risk factors, available assets, reprogramming of funds and accelerating interventions in recognition of GBV as a shadow pandemic. This also presented an opportunity to deeply engage with civil society partners and support Government in coordination a national response. Monitoring evolution of the impact of the pandemic on women and girls to be done.	RUNOs

Programmatic risks						
Capacity of government and CSO partners to reach the hardest to reach population	3	3	Monthly virtual programme monitoring meetings	Programme Reports	Continue ensuring linkages with existing programmes in rural communities, develop a plan for coordination of service delivery to the hardest to reach populations to reduce cost of reaching communities and to maximize the impact of interventions. Build capacity of local personnel to deliver some services and interventions (community health workers, teachers, nurses, etc.) CSO members of CSNRG include representatives of excluded populations in addition to women and girl (LGBTQI, Indigenous, sex workers, youth) Due to a limited pool of CSO partners implementing interventions or providing support for family violence issues, actions have been centered around institutional capacity strengthening of CSOs to address gaps in the geographic areas of reach.	RUNOs
Availability of complementary resources (in addition to Si resources) owing to funds being diverted to COVID 19 response	3	3	Monthly	Financial reports	Meetings with the Regional Offices and Headquarters to discuss the need for high-level	RUNOs/RCO
Fear of discrimination and victimization among women's rights advocates	4	4	Ongoing discussions with CSO and women's rights	CSO reports	Strengthen the network of CSO actors and CSNRG to increase support and protection for women's rights	RUNOs
Male marginalization: tendency of stakeholders and CSOs to highlight the marginalization of men and boys as a justification for including them	3	2	ongoing communication to highlight how Spotlight	Communication Plan	Provide data and evidence to demonstrate the scale of women's and girls' experiences of violence within	RUNOs/RCO
Delays in project implementation due to internal procedures especially due diligence and quality assurance (new)	3	3	Monthly virtual programme monitoring meetings	Programme Reports	Close engagement with senior management to resolve bottlenecks and accelerate work processes	RUNOs/RCO
Institutional risks						
Limited availability of disaggregated data to inform evidence-based programming	3	3	Monthly meeting of technical steering committee (baseline)	Meeting reports	Monitor closely baseline study to avoid more delays in the data collection processes that affect other areas in need for evidence-based programming; formation of a Steering Committee to develop/identify innovative and 'rapid' methods to collect data	RUNOs/RCO
Capacity of institutions to implement programmes at scale and to provide essential package of services particularly psychosocial services	3	3	Monthly virtual programme monitoring meetings	Programme Reports	Ensure capacity assessment is undertaken and identify innovative approaches for service delivery in areas where capacity is weak e.g. psychosocial support. (contract NGOs such as Project Heal to train trainers or to provide a package of services in areas where it is most needed) Joint monitoring meetings with key IP: MHD, NWC, NCFC, MNS	RUNOs/RCO
Lack of formal frameworks/ mechanisms among government and CSO partners which enables coordinated service delivery, joint planning and programme cohesion	3	3	Monthly steering committee meetings	Meeting reports	Engage partners in joint planning and the design of models for service delivery that mandates coordination and collaboration, integrate behaviour change communication into capacity building sessions to address individual and institutional behaviour change that will foster improved partnerships Engagement strategy for CSO Partners and networks in individualized discussions to highlight synergies then facilitate bilateral discussions leading to possible partnerships among CSOs	RUNOs/RCO

Fiduciary risks						
CSOs lack structure for receiving funds and mechanisms for ensuring accountability for funds	3	3	ongoing financial assessment of implementing partners	Financial assessment reports	Evaluate structure and function of CSOs and identify CSOs that have capacity to manage resources. Establish MOUs with CSOs that allow for multiple CSOs to benefit from funding pool managed by one CSO with proven track record of efficient and effective management of resources.	RUNOs

Assumptions:

- ✓ Spotlight has significant political and administrative support and facilitates the commitment and continued support of government regardless of a change in administration
- ✓ There is significant national commitment to ending VAWG to ensure continuity of the programme even during times of emergency
- ✓ Government and non-government stakeholders have an interest in harmonizing conceptual frameworks, policies and plans at all levels to ensure evidence-based programming on VAWG.

2	2.1								
2	2.1								
Output 2.2: Multi-stakeholder national and/or sub-national coordination mechanisms established at the highest level and/or strengthened that are adequately funded and include multi-sectoral representation and representation from the most marginalized groups.									
2	2.2								
2	2.2								
2	2.2								
2	2.2								
2	2.2								
Output 2.3: Partners (Parliamentarians, key government officials and women's rights advocates) at national and/or sub-national levels have greater knowledge, capacities and tools on gender-responsive budgeting to end VAWG.									
2	2.3								
2	2.3								
2	2.3								
2	2.3								
2	2.3								
OUTCOME 3: Gender equitable social norms, attitudes and behaviours change at community and individual levels to prevent violence against women and girls and harmful practices.									
Output 3.1: National and/or sub-national evidence-based programmes are developed to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours, including on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in line with international standards, for in and out of school settings.									
3	3.1	Belize Family Life	National	21,000	UNFPA	Implementing Partner	No	Yes	Rural women and girls
3	3.1	Pathlight International	International	30,000	UNICEF	Implementing Partner (IP)	No	No	Women and girls from religious minorities
3	3.1								
3	3.1								
3	3.1								
Output 3.2: Community advocacy platforms are established/strengthened to develop strategies and programmes, including community dialogues, public information and advocacy campaigns, to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours, including in relation to women and girls' sexuality and reproduction, self-confidence and self-esteem and transforming harmful masculinities.									
3	3.2	Enhancement for Environment and Development	National	35,000	UNICEF	(IP)	Yes	Yes	Adolescent girls
3	3.2	Young Women's Cf	National	45,000	UNDP	Grantee	Yes	Yes	Rural women and girls
3	3.2	POWA	Local/Grassroots	19,500	UNDP	Grantee	Yes	Yes	Adolescent girls
3	3.2								
3	3.2								
Output 3.3: Decision makers in relevant institutions and key informal decision makers are better able to advocate for implementation of legislation and policies on ending VAWG and for gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and women and girls' rights.									
3	3.3	POWA	Local/Grassroots	25,500	UNICEF	(IP)	Yes	Yes	Rural women and girls
3	3.3	CDF	National	25,500	UNICEF	Implementing Partner (IP)	Yes	Yes	Other marginalised groups relevant in national context
3	3.3	SCLAN	Regional	82,750	UNDP	Grantee	No	No	Other marginalised groups relevant in national context
3	3.3								
3	3.3								
OUTCOME 4: Women and girls who experience violence and harmful practices use available, accessible, acceptable, and quality essential services including for long term recovery from violence.									
Output 4.1: Relevant government authorities and women's rights organisations at national and sub-national levels have better knowledge and capacity to deliver quality and coordinated essential services, including SRH services and access to justice, to women and girls survivors of violence, especially those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.									
4	4.1								
4	4.1								
4	4.1								
4	4.1								
4	4.1								
Output 4.2: Women and girls survivors of violence and their families are informed of and can access quality essential services, including longer term recovery services and opportunities.									
4	4.2	Belize Family Life Association	National	30,684	UNFPA	Implementing Partner	Yes	Yes	Rural women and girls
4	4.2	Productive Organiz:	Local/Grassroots	17,523	UNFPA	Implementing Partner (I	Yes	Yes	Rural women and girls
4	4.2	Human Rights Com	National	8,938	UNFPA	Implementing Partner (I	Yes	No	Rural women and girls
4	4.2	Child Development	Local/Grassroots	8,690	UNFPA		Yes	No	Rural women and girls
OUTCOME 5: Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices is collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes.									
Output 5.1: Key partners, including relevant statistical officers, service providers in the different branches of government and women's rights advocates have strengthened capacities to regularly collect data related to VAWG in line with international and regional standards to inform laws, policies and programmes.									
5	5.1								
5	5.1								

5	5.1								
5	5.1								
5	5.1								
Output 5.2: Quality prevalence and/or incidence data on VAWG is analysed and made publicly available for the monitoring and reporting of the SDG target 5.2 indicators to inform evidence-based decision making.									
5	5.2								
5	5.2								
5	5.2								
5	5.2								
5	5.2								
OUTCOME 6: Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and civil society organisations, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and ending VAWG.									
Output 6.1: Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs have increased opportunities and support to share knowledge, network, partner and jointly advocate for GEWE and ending VAWG, more specifically, with relevant stakeholders at sub-national, national, regional and global levels.									
6	6.1	GOJoven Belize Alumni Association (GO Belize)	National	38,456	UNICEF	Implementing Partner (IP)	Yes	No	Women and girls living with HIV/AIDS
6	6.1								
6	6.1								
6	6.1								
6	6.1								
Output 6.2: Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs are better supported to use social accountability mechanisms to support their advocacy and influence on prevention and response to VAWG and GEWE more broadly.									
6	6.2								
6	6.2								
6	6.2								
6	6.2								
6	6.2								
Output 6.3: Women's rights groups and relevant CSOs representing groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalisation have strengthened capacities and support to design, implement and monitor their own programmes on ending VAWG.									
6	6.3	Alumni Association (GO Belize)	National	38,456	UNICEF	Implementing Partner (IP)	Yes	No	Women and girls living with HIV/AIDS
6	6.3	Enhancement	National	7,500	UNICEF	(IP)	Yes	Yes	Adolescent girls
6	6.3	Alumni Association (GO Belize)	National	7,500	UNICEF	Implementing Partner (IP)	Yes	No	Women and girls living with HIV/AIDS
6	6.3	POWA	Local/Grassroots	7,500	UNICEF	(IP)	Yes	Yes	Rural women and girls
6	6.3	CDF	National	10,000	UNICEF	Implementing Partner (IP)	Yes	Yes	Other marginalised groups relevant in national context
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT COSTS (including pre-funding)									
N/A	N/A								
TOTAL AWARDS TO CSOs				510,447					

Type of CSOs

-International CSOs operate in two or more countries across different regions.

-Regional CSOs operate in two or more countries within the same region (i.e. Africa, Latin America, Asia, Caribbean, Pacific). In this case, a regional CSO is not one that operates in a particular region within one country.

-National CSOs operate only in one particular country.

-Local and grassroots organisations focus their work at the local and community level and do not have a national scope. They tend to have a small annual operational budget (for example, under USD \$200,000); to be self-organised and self-led and to have a low degree of formality.

Award Amount

In this context, an "award" is any financial grant, contract, or partnership agreement with a CSO.

Type of Engagement

-Implementing Partner (IP): Programmes may contract out particular activities for a CSO to implement.

-Grantee: Programmes may issue a broad Call for Proposals to which CSOs submit proposals for grant funding.

-Vendor: Programmes may engage with CSOs through a procurement process, such as purchasing services from a CSO or hiring a CSO for a training or other activity.

Woman-Led and/or Women's Rights Organisation (WRO)/Feminist CSOs

To be considered a "woman-led CSO," the organisation must be headed by a woman. To be considered a "women's rights or feminist organisation," the organisation's official mission/visions statements must reflect its commitment to addressing multiple/intersecting forms of discrimination and advancing gender equality and women's rights. The organisation should aim to address the underlying drivers/systems/structures, including patriarchy and gendered power dynamics, that perpetuate EAWG and gender based violence and work to transform these.

Please select "No" if the above definitions do not apply to the CSO.

Please select "No information available" if no information is available on or it's not known if the CSO is headed by a woman or is a WRO/feminist CSO.

New or Existing Partner (the rationale behind this question is to understand the extent to which RUNOs are expanding their outreach to CSOs beyond usual partners, giving opportunities to new CSOs)

To be considered a "new partner", the RUNO has not engaged the CSO in any partnership modality, prior to the start of the Spotlight Programme.

To be considered an existing partner, the RUNO has engaged the CSO in any partnership modality, prior to the start of the Spotlight Programme.

Please select "No information available" if no information is available on if the CSO is a new or existing partner.

Primary Vulnerable/Marginalised Population Supported by Award

Under the principle of Leave No One Behind, Spotlight UN Country Teams are expected to ensure the representation of vulnerable and marginalised groups, including by engaging with CSOs that service or advocate for these groups. If the award covers several vulnerable or marginalised populations, select one population that is primarily served by the award.

Annex D: Promising or Good Practices Reporting Template

TITLE OF THE PROMISING PRACTICE	Scale up of Comprehensive Sexuality Education to young people out of school
Provide a description of the promising or good practice. What pillars/principles of the Spotlight Initiative does it address? (When did the activity begin? When will it be completed or is it ongoing?)	The implementation of the scale up of CSE Programme for young persons out of school provides an immediate and relevant innovative and promising practice as it engages young people out of school in CSE education and awareness through virtual platforms, particularly in the context of COVID 19. This initiative is linked to Outcome 3, prevention and will contribute to ensuring that young persons out of school have access to evidence-based programmes which promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours, including on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in line with international standards.
Objective of the practice: What were the goals of the activity?	The main goal of the intervention, in line with outcome 3, is to increase access to evidence-based programmes which promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours, including on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in line with international standards.
Stakeholders involved: Who are the beneficiaries or target group of the practice? Describe how all relevant stakeholders were engaged.	The beneficiaries are young people out of school country-wide. In partnership with the Belize Family Life Association's (BFLA), BFLA's CSE Curriculum and Training Resource Manual, particularly the enhancement of teaching and learning strategies for effective engagement of young people in virtual spaces was strengthened. Additionally, BFLA expanded its cadre of CSE community level trainers which will allow for expanding the reach to young people within their own local spaces, and also through popular (and youth friendly) social media and video conference platforms.
What makes this a promising or good practice? Identify distinguishing feature(s) that make this a promising or a good practice in the efforts to EAWG and/or in the context of the UNDS reform.	The evolution of this innovative approach to the out of school youth CSE education programme will help to provide the option for a low cost and high impact model to advanced gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment, and reproductive rights, including for the most vulnerable and marginalized adolescents and youth.
What challenges were encountered and how were they overcome?	No challenges have been encountered so far
Outputs and Impact: What have been the results thus far? Do they contribute to long-term impact?	To date 30 master trainers have been trained and will be furnished with a CSE tool kit (complete with a manual, models, etc.). Master trainers will initially deliver training to 240 young people in early 2021 as part of their capacity building.
Adaptable (Optional) In what ways can this practice be adapted for future use?	
Replicable/Scale-Up (Optional) What are the possibilities of extending this practice more widely?	
Sustainable What is needed to make the practice sustainable?	The practice is already sustainable as the intervention only served to strengthen an existing, long standing, evidence based programme that was already tested and rolled out by BFLA.
Validated (for a good practice only): Has the practice been validated? Is there confirmation from beneficiaries/users that the practice properly addressed their needs and is there expert validation?	
Additional details and contact information: Are there any other details that are important to know about the promising or good practice? Please provide contact details of a focal person for this practice as well as any additional materials including photos/videos	Dylan Williams Programme Officer, UNFPA dwilliams@unfpa.org

TITLE OF THE PROMISING PRACTICE	Mobile Women Center for Women
Provide a description of the promising or good practice. What pillars/principles of the Spotlight Initiative does it address? (When did the activity begin? When will it be completed or is it ongoing?)	<p>In keeping with the principle of Leaving No One Behind and in achievement of Outcome 4, available, accessible, ensuring acceptable, and quality essential services including for long term recovery from violence for women and girl survivors of violence, Spotlight Belize launched its Mobile Women's Center to reach women and girls in hard to reach communities with services.</p> <p>The Women's Centre facilitated the coordination of Civil Society Organizations to ensure continuity of services to women and girls in rural communities across the country during COVID 19. The Mobile Women's Center was rolled out during Quarter 4 and strengthened engagement with community leaders and members, through the support of the Community Health Workers who are an important link between service providers and the communities.</p> <p>The Women's Center featured essential services including legal support, counselling and psychosocial support, SRH Services, inclusive of voluntary family planning, and the safe identification and referral of GBV survivors, as well as case management support.</p>
Objective of the practice: What were the goals of the activity?	The goal of the activity was to (a) expand services to women and girls in rural communities (b) sustain service provision to rural women and girls during COVID 19.
Stakeholders involved: Who are the beneficiaries or target group of the practice? Describe how all relevant stakeholders were engaged.	The Mobile Center is designed to target rural women and girls in hard to reach communities. The design for the execution of a mobile Women Centers was completed in partnership with four civil society organizations: The Human Rights Commission of Belize, the Belize Family Life Association, the Productive Organization for Women in Action, and the Child Development Foundation. The Mobile Women Centers is designed to increase utilization of a full range of coordinated and high-quality service as defined in the Essential Package of Service for women and girls subject to violence in Belize. The mobile women centers adopted a mobile brigade approach led by civil society organizations providing individual services to all women. These services include legal support, SRH services, psychosocial support and counselling, and Information and Awareness in hard to reach rural communities of Corozal, Orange Walk and Toledo Districts. The Human Rights Commission of Belize provided legal support services, the Belize Family Life Association provided SRH Services, the Child Development Foundation provided psychosocial support and counselling services, and the Productive Organization for Women in Action led in sharing information and organizing the logistics of the mobile centers in the communities. Case management and referral (including GBV Case Management and psychosocial support and counselling) is an integral part of the process of providing long term support to women, especially survivors of gender-based violence
What makes this a promising or good practice? Identify distinguishing feature(s) that make this a promising or a good practice in the efforts to EVAWG and/or in the context of the UNDS reform.	The Mobile Center is identified as a promising practice because (a) it has the potential to reach women and girls who are hardest to reach with services (b) provides an opportunity to strengthen engagement of CSOs in service delivery (c) presents an opportunity to establish formal service delivery arrangements between CSOs and Government.
What challenges were encountered and how were they overcome?	The primary challenges encountered were engaging in face to face service delivery during COVID 19. However, with proper protocols being established and adequate safety measures observed, the Mobile Women Center was successful in reaching rural women and girls.
Outputs and Impact: What have been the results thus far? Do they contribute to long-term impact?	400 women and girls' survivors of violence and their families were reached with information and access to quality essential services.
Adaptable (Optional) In what ways can this practice be adapted for future use?	
Replicable/Scale-Up (Optional) What are the possibilities of extending this practice more widely?	The SI team is working closely with government and CSO partners to develop plans to expand the partnership for service delivery and to expand the mobile center to more rural communities. This includes design and documentation of the intervention so that other service providers can implement the model independent of SI.
Sustainable What is needed to make the practice sustainable?	It is critical for formal government-CSO partnerships to be established for service delivery. The Mobile Women's Center makes it quite clear that CSO play a key role in reaching women and girls that are not always able to access services provide by the government. However, the government would need to enter into formal partnerships with CSOs in order to ensure that CSOs have access to the resources needed to sustain service delivery.
Validated (for a good practice only): Has the practice been validated? Is there confirmation from beneficiaries/users that the practice properly addressed their needs and is there expert validation?	
Additional details and contact information: Are there any other details that are important to know about the promising or good practice? Please provide contact details of a focal person for this practice as well as any additional materials including photos/videos	Dylan Williams Spotlight Programme Officer, UNFPA dwilliams@unfpa.org



Spotlight Initiative

