# THE AREA OF GRANT-MAKING

UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 🛡

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2015**



"Many thanks to the woman whom I met in the hospital, we were waiting for the doctor. She told me about the Women's Support Groups. Thanks to the doctor who came late for the appointment. If she arrived on time, I would not have met that woman. She advised me to come to you. With Furkat's help, I took my child and now live in safety. Thank you!!!"

-27-year-old beneficiary of the UN Trust Fund's grant to Najoti kudakon in Tajikistan

The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) was created by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996 (resolution 50/166). It is administered by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on behalf of the United Nations system. The UN Trust Fund remains the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that is dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls. This report describes the impact and key achievements of the Fund in 2015 and highlights some of its key results over the past 20 years.

# FOREWORD FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UN WOMEN PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA



## The year 2016 marks 20 years of grant giving by the UN Trust Fund to End **Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund).**

Built upon the generosity of UN Member States and a growing number of private sector partners, the UN Trust Fund is the only global, multilateral, grant-making mechanism that supports national efforts to end violence against women and girls, and its role today is more crucial than ever. This Annual Report provides an opportunity to celebrate successes in combatting violence against women and girls around the world and to address remaining challenges. Despite the growing recognition that violence against women and girls is a human rights pandemic and a major obstacle to sustainable development, it continues to have an unjustifiably low priority in national planning, programming and budgeting. That is why now is the time to share examples of what works so we can turn talk into concrete action.

Last year, I had the opportunity to visit two of the organizations receiving support from the UN Trust Fund: the Grassroot Soccer programme in Cape Town, South Africa and the Mother Child Education Foundation (ACEV) in Istanbul, Turkey. Both of these grantees are demonstrating how innovative approaches can make a difference to the lives of women and girls.

Grassroot Soccer uses sports to foster girls' empowerment, support their awareness of sexual and reproductive health and increase their access to medical, legal and psychosocial services. It reaches girls like 14-year- old Yamkela who has lived all her life in the Khayelitsha

township amid systemic poverty, a high prevalence of HIV/ AIDS and limited social infrastructure. She told me: "When I am around the Grassroot Soccer centre. I am safe".

In Istanbul, I joined a session of the Father Support Association, a ground-breaking fatherhood project run by ACEV to prevent domestic violence by engaging men. This comprehensive, community-based programme provides time and space for fathers to meet and discuss topics focused on achieving equality in the home, such as sharing domestic responsibilities, the impact of sexist language, and new ideas about masculinity. The results of the initial project, which ran from 2010 to 2013, were so encouraging that the programme has now been extended until 2018.

These programmes are part of 111 projects aimed at preventing and addressing violence against women and girls in 76 countries and territories in 2015. They include a programme with Nari Progati Sangha in Bangladesh to create safe learning environments for girls in 80 secondary schools; Guatemala's Fundacio Sida i Societat which created a mechanism to register cases of violence against sex workers; and Egypt's Al Shehab Institution for Comprehensive Development which has addressed the underlying causes and intersections between violence against women and HIV/AIDS with over 900 women in marginalized communities.

In 2015, governments from around the world made gender equality and empowering women and girls a central aim of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through the adoption of Goal 5 which features a dedicated target on ending violence against women and girls. This positive commitment must now be matched by ambitious funding, by prioritizing gender equality in Official Development Assistance (ODA), and by allocating sufficient resources in national budgets. The UN Trust Fund will pursue its catalysing role in calling for a significant increase in overall global giving to address violence against women and girls. With support from UN Women, and the UN system as a whole, the UN Trust Fund has great potential to help countries meet the implementation gap in ending gender-based violence.



#### Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women

# DEFINING FRAMEWORK



"Violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace. Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms. The long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms in the case of violence against women is a matter of concern to all States and should be addressed."

#### -Beijing Platform for Action

Human rights are at the core of the work of the UN Trust Fund. Its mandate, vision and implementing strategies are rooted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international human rights treaties and instruments that followed it. The Beijing Platform for Action, the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women, was an important landmark in the drive to address discrimination against women and girls. It marked a recognition both of the strides made in the international standards arena - most notably the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1979 and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women in 1993 – and an acknowledgment that new mechanisms, impetus and commitment were needed to turn these promises into reality for women and girls around the world.

Violence against women was one of the 12 critical areas of concern identified by the Platform for Action. The challenge was to develop integrated strategies to prevent and end violence against women, to study the causes and consequences of this violence and identify



A Grassroot Soccer girls' team during an intergenerational tournament in South Africa.

1945

INTERNATIONAL LAW

#### **United Nations Charter**

"The United Nations shall promote... universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."

1948

#### INTERNATIONAL LAW

#### **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights...Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without 15 distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status." (Articles 1 and 2)

# **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:** THE FIGURES



# **1 IN 3** WOMEN WORLDWIDE

HAVE EXPERIENCED EITHER PHYSICAL AND/OR SEXUAL INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE OR NON-PARTNER SEXUAL VIOLENCE

# **ABOUT 7%** OF WOMEN

HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED BY SOMEONE OTHER THAN THEIR PARTNER!



# **MORE THAN 125 MILLION** WOMEN & GIRLS

ALIVE TODAY HAVE UNDER GONE SOME FORM OF FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION/CUTTING"



# **MORE THAN 700 MILLION** WOMEN WORLDWIDE

ALIVE TODAY WERE MARRIED BEFORE THEIR 18TH BIRTHDAYS

# **ABOUT 250 MILLION** WOMEN WORLDWIDE

ALIVE TODAY ENTERED INTO UNION BEFORE THE AGE OF 15 \*\*\*

1953

INTERNATIONAL LAW Convention on the **Political Rights** of Women

1975

**UN INITIATIVES** First World Conference on Women

Organized by the UN and held in Mexico, 133 governments define a World Plan of Action.

and support measures and programmes with a promise of delivering a change.

This was the vision at the core of the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996 - just a year after the Beijing Platform for Action - which established the UN Trust Fund. Resolution 50/166 sent out a strong message that violence against women and girls was a priority for the United Nations. It also set out a clear trajectory for the Fund's future mission. It called on the UN Trust Fund to act as a catalyst and to support innovative activities that directly benefit and empower women. The scope was also set: the UN Trust Fund was to support initiatives at the national, community and international levels and to foster system-wide collaboration with other relevant UN bodies. Established as a system-wide mechanism, the UN Trust Fund was

grounded in the notion of United Nations partnership and this remains central to the its values, strategies and implementation.

The UN Trust Fund operates as a pooled fund, with voluntary contributions from UN Member States and a growing number of private sector partners. With crucial institutional support from UN Women, its regional, multi-country and country offices, and the UN system as a whole, the UN Trust Fund has demonstrated the great potential for helping countries meet the implementation gap in preventing and ending violence against women.

In 1995, only a handful of countries had laws and policies to address violence against women and girls. Today, national governments are moving towards a more comprehensive response to this worldwide pandemic,



Participants are showing their skills on martial arts in the closing ceremony of a Skills Camp at their school as part of a UN Trust Fund supported project in Bangladesh.

1979

INTERNATIONAL LAW **Convention on the Elimination** of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

1980

#### **UN INITIATIVES Second World Conference** on Women

Held in Copenhagen. A Programme of Action calls for stronger measures to ensure women's ownership and control of property.



Participants in the Community Media Center in the State of Palestine take a social media training.

reflecting changes in the work on ending violence against women and girls at the normative, policy and implementation levels. At the international level, conventions and protocols have been complemented by the development of policy instruments. These provide detailed guidance on the steps that States and other stakeholders need to take to prevent and end violence against women and girls. Some have taken the form of declarations and resolutions adopted by United Nations bodies and documents emanating from United Nations conferences and summit meetings.

and girls and national governments are moving towards a more comprehensive response to this worldwide pandemic. Global recognition that violence against women is a human rights violation is perhaps the most significant achievement of recent decades.

This transformation of the landscape facing women and girls seeking to prevent or overcome violence is in large part thanks to the global movements for human rights and women's empowerment that have grown in strength and confidence over the past 20 years.

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