



**Spotlight
Initiative**

*To eliminate violence
against women and girls*

COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

MALAWI

**Updated July 2021
(Original December 2018)**



MALAWI COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

Programme Title: Spotlight Initiative Country Programme for Malawi	Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs): UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA
Programme Contact: Name and Title: Maria Jose Torres Address: UNDP Malawi Telephone: +265 999910600 E-mail: maria.torres@one.un.org	Programme Partner(s): Government: Ministry of Gender Children, Disability and Social Welfare, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Youth Sports and Manpower Development, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. UNAIDS, OHCHR, UNHCR NGOs, CSOs: tbd.
Programme Country: Malawi	Programme Location (provinces or priority areas): Nationwide with a particular focus on six proposed districts (Mzimba, Nkhata Bay, Ntchisi, Dowa, Nsanje and Machinga), selected based on performance on key indicators, as well as presence of other programmes and UN organizations. The programme intends to scale up and replicate the approach to at least nine districts by mobilizing partners and additional resources.
Programme Description: <p>The Spotlight Initiative Programme in Malawi, aimed at targeting the most at-risk groups, will accelerate efforts towards elimination of violence against women and girls including sexual gender-based violence and harmful practices. The initiative is tailored to promote Agenda 2030's guiding principle of "leaving no one behind". A deliberate effort is projected to ensure those facing multiple and intersecting discrimination play a key role not only as beneficiaries but also as key stakeholders, shaping and guiding the program design and implementation. The initiative envisions a comprehensive prevention strategy that addresses structural issues and linkages to SRHR. Innovations through practical application will further enhance efforts to capitalize on lessons learned and link to existing efforts under the UN and other development partners' programming on SGBV, Human Rights, Girls Education, etc. contributing knowledge and good practices in improving women's and girls' life and that of the most left behind through access to quality, integrated essential services that include SRH, justice, and psychosocial support in line with international human right standards and guidelines.</p> <p><i>The Spotlight Initiative is funded by the European Union</i></p> <p>July 2021 update – Inclusion of Phase II addendum and budget update</p> <p>The Spotlight Initiative Programme in Malawi will accelerate efforts towards elimination of violence against women and girls with an emphasis on most at risk groups, in line with the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB). The initiative envisions a comprehensive prevention strategy that addresses structural issues and linkages to SRHR, while ensuring quality and essential service delivery and creating an enabling environment for women and girls. In phase II mitigation of teenage pregnancies and child marriage will be mainstreamed across all pillars as an emerging priority- following the spike in violence against adolescent girls due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Malawi programme will build on best practices from phase I and apply key lessons learned. Innovations through practical application will further enhance efforts to capitalize on lessons learned and link to existing efforts to E-VaWG under the UN and other stakeholders. Programme delivery modalities will continue to be aligned to UN Reform principles, thus ensuring cohesive implementation- and resulting in a holistic response to the needs of women and girls.</p>	



Spotlight Initiative
To eliminate violence
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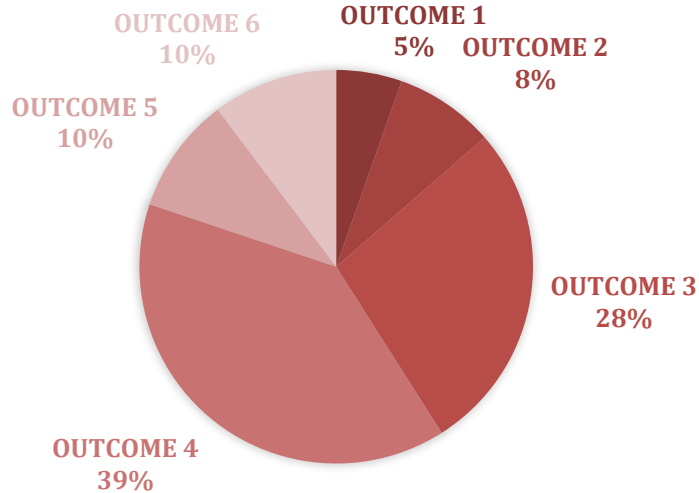
Budget Breakdown of the Spotlight Country Programme

In USD	Spotlight EU Phase I	Agency Contribution Phase I	Spotlight EU Phase II	Agency Contribution Phase II	Spotlight EU Phase I + II	Agency Contributions Phase I + II
UNDP	\$ 4,506,897	\$ 310,000	\$ 2,656,354	\$ 310,000	\$ 7,163,251	\$ 620,000
UNICEF	\$ 4,077,502	\$ 169,670	\$ 1,864,303	\$ 157,267	\$ 5,941,805	\$ 326,937
UN WOMEN	\$ 5,850,290	\$ 70,000	\$ 2,206,838	\$ 66,560	\$ 8,057,128	\$ 136,560
UNFPA	\$ 5,565,312	\$ 440,814	\$ 1,843,934	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,409,246	\$ 460,814
TOTAL	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 990,484	\$ 8,571,429	\$ 553,827	\$ 28,571,429	\$ 1,544,312

Total Budget of the Spotlight Country Programme (EU and UN Agency contribution): \$ 30,115,740

INVESTMENT BY PILLAR

PHASE I + II - EU FUNDS ONLY



*Percentages based on Total Outcome Budget

Estimated No. of Beneficiaries (MALAWI)

	Women	Men	Boys	Girls		Women	Men	Boys	Girls
1	615	595	100	100		25,900	20,900	30	30
2	1,116	1494	0	0		0	0	0	0
3	72,620	53,810	23,710	47,910		48,500	53,000		
4	10,000	688	65,733	50		732,325	25,900	120	859,150
5	254	330	0	0		390,000	290,000	474,000	648,000
6	1,165	130	25	25		39,900	25,900	60	60
Total	85,770	57,047	89,568	58,085		1,197,625	415,700	474,210	1,507,240

Note: A breakdown and analysis by intersecting forms of discrimination should be provided in the body of this document. Figures as originally estimated in December 2018.

Start Date: 1 January 2019
End Date: 31 December 2022
Total duration: 48 months



<p>Recipient UN Organization: UNDP Shigeki Komatsubara Title: Resident Representative Signature: <i>Shigeki Komatsubara</i> Date & Seal: 5th August 2021</p>	<p>Government of Malawi Name of Representative: Name of Agency/Ministry: Signature: Name of Agency: Date & Seal:</p>
<p>Recipient UN Organization: UNFPA Wong Young Hong Title: Representative Signature: <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i> Date & Seal: 5th August 2021</p>	
<p>Recipient UN Organization: UNICEF Rudolf Schwenk Title: Dep. Rep. Operations - UNICEF Signature: <i>Ardiana Buzoku (Rep OLC)</i> Date & Seal: 5th August 2021</p>	
<p>Recipient UN Organization: UN Women Clara Anyangwe Title: Representative Signature: <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i> Date & Seal: 5th August 2021</p>	
<p>UN Resident Coordinator Name of Representative: Maria Jose Torres Signature: <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i> Date & Seal: 5th August 2021</p>	
<p>Original Programme Document was signed by the Deputy Secretary General, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed on 1 March 2019, see annexed original</p> <p>This update cover page is signed on behalf of the UN Executive Office of the Secretary General by Ms. Michelle Gyles-Mc Donnough</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Signature: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</p>	



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I. Situational Analysis

Country Situation Analysis

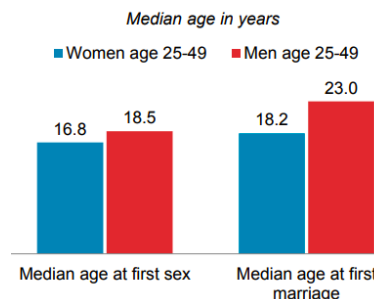
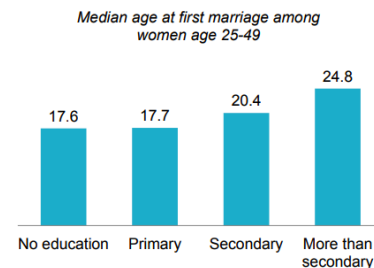
Malawi is a landlocked country. It is bordered by Tanzania to the north-east; Mozambique to the east, south, and west; and Zambia to the north-west. The country is 901 kilometres long and ranges in width from 80 to 161 kilometres. The total area is over 118,000 square kilometres, of which Lake Malawi takes up about a third.¹ The lake is about 475 kilometres long and runs down Malawi's eastern boundary with Mozambique. According to the recent Malawi Demographic Health Survey (MDHS) 2015-2016, Malawi's population is estimated to be 18.1 million, with more than 70 percent below the age of 30. It has a population density of 161 per square kilometre². Malawi is divided into 28 districts within three regions: Central (9 districts), Northern (6 districts), and Southern (13 districts).³

Despite advances in gender equality over the last decade, Malawi ranks 145/188 on the Gender Inequality Index (GII), reflecting high levels of inequality in reproductive health, women's empowerment, and economic activity. Additionally, violence against women and girls (VAWG) and harmful practices (HP) remain serious issues.

According to the MDHS 2015-16, 38 percent of ever-partnered women aged 15-49 years experienced intimate partner physical and/or sexual violence at least once in their lifetime. Twenty four percent of ever-partnered women aged 15-49 years experienced intimate partner physical and/or sexual violence in the last 12 months.

Thirteen percent of Malawian women age 15-49 are in a polygynous union. This practice is most commonly affecting women with no education (21 percent) and those residing in rural settings.⁴ One in ten women in their 40s is widowed, which in most cases leads to property seizures and evictions by the late husband's family, thereby exposing the widow to poverty. Among the factors contributing to widowhood is the prevalence of child marriage and the practice of marrying off young girls to much older men. Almost two-thirds of the women have had their first sexual experience before age 18, one in five before age 15.⁵ The median age at first sexual intercourse is 16.8 years for women aged 25-49. Age at first marriage is widely considered a proxy indicator for the age at which women begin to be exposed to the risks inherent to sexual activity.

Early sexual initiation, often without their consent or under coercion, combined with limited access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, can lead to early pregnancies and prevent girls from attaining their goals and dreams for a better life. Girls often fail to negotiate for protected sex, especially in inter-generational relationships, due to power imbalances.



¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malawi>.

² Worldpopulationreview.com

³ <file:///Users/kebe/Downloads/Malawi%20Country%20Programme%20Evaluation%20Report%207th%20CP%202012-2018.pdf>.

⁴ Figure on marital status (Malawi DHS - 2015-2016)

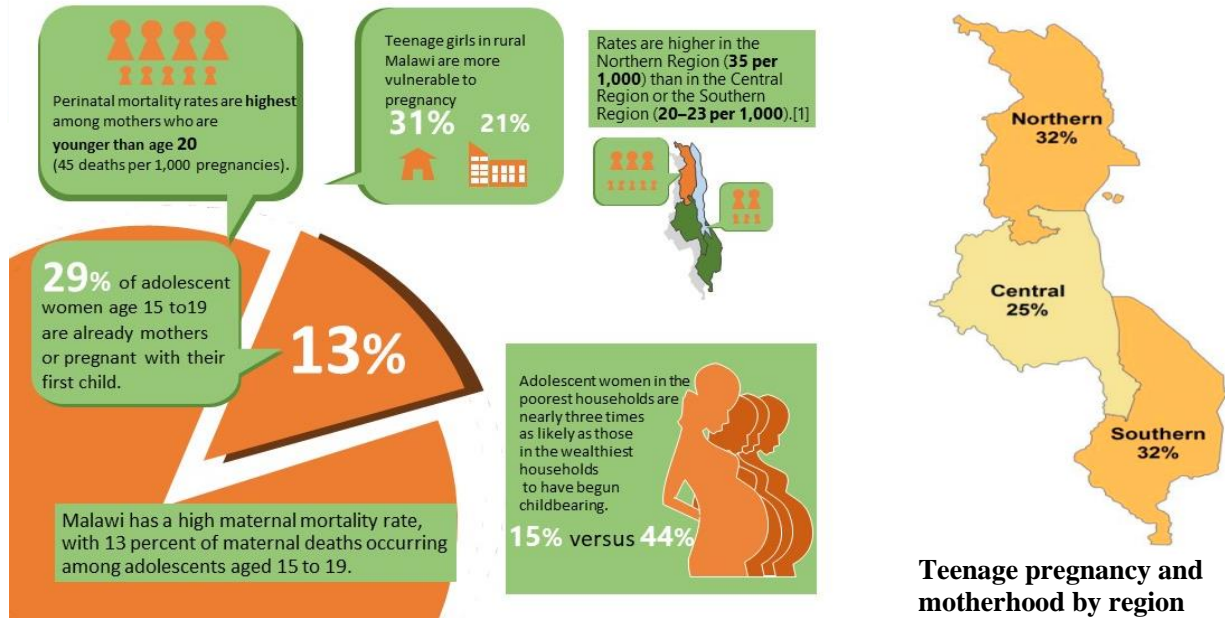
⁵ Malawi DHS 2015-2016 key findings (SR237).



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There is high rate of teenage pregnancy – 29 percent of adolescent women age 15–19 are already mothers or pregnant with their first child. Teenage pregnancies are on the rise, and little progress has been made in reducing unmet need for family planning among youth. Teenage girls in rural Malawi are more vulnerable to pregnancy (31 percent) than their urban peers (21 percent). Adolescent women in the poorest households are nearly three times as likely as those in the wealthiest households to have begun childbearing (15 percent versus 44 percent). As most of these pregnancies are not intentional, they are terminated in unsafe conditions. The law of the land allows abortion only if performed to save a woman’s life, other attempts to conduct an abortion are punishable by 7 to 14 years’ imprisonment.⁶

Not surprisingly, unsafe abortion is common in Malawi. By one estimate, approximately 141,044 induced abortions occurred in Malawi in 2015, amounting to a national rate of 38 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–49. According to this study, close to 53 percent of pregnancies in Malawi are unintended, and 30 percent of unintended pregnancies end up in abortion. Rates are higher in the Northern Region (35 per 1,000) than in the Central Region or the Southern Region (20–23 per 1,000).⁷



Methods used to carry out induced abortion involve the insertion of soil, plant roots, sticks, beverage bottles, and broken glass.⁸

Malawi has a high maternal mortality rate, with 13 percent of maternal deaths occurring among adolescents aged 15 to 19.

⁶ <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0173639>.

⁷ <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0173639>.

⁸ http://catalogue.safaid.net/sites/default/files/publications/SaFAIDS_Policy_Brief_Malawi.pdf.



Perinatal mortality rates are highest among mothers who are younger than age 20 (45 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies).⁹

The underlying contributing factors to unsafe abortion include criminalization of abortion, early sexual debut, limited access to comprehensive SRH education and services, stigma around young women's sexuality acting as a barrier to accessing to health services, absence of youth-friendly health facilities, absence of privacy, judgmental health personnel attitudes towards young clients, and institutionalized stigma towards pregnant schoolgirls who are removed from the school system (and, as studies show, rarely return to school because of stigma).

Knowledge of contraception is high among women (97.9 percent) and men (98.6 percent) in the 15–49 age group. Malawi made progress in increasing its overall modern contraceptive prevalence rate since 2000, resulting in a reduction of the total fertility rate from the 5.7 children a woman is expected to have over her lifespan in 2010 to 4.4 children in 2015. However, similar success fails to register among youth aged 15–24 years. With two-thirds of the population under the age of 25 and with Malawi's rapid population growth, reducing unmet need for family planning among youth is critical. Nearly one in five married women in Malawi have an unmet need for family planning: 11 percent want to delay childbearing, while 8 percent want to stop childbearing. The unmet need for family planning among currently married women ranges from a low of 16 percent among women age 45–49 to a high of 22 percent among women aged 15–19 (MDHS 2015–2016).¹⁰

The situation is worse for young women who may lack the knowledge or means to access contraception.

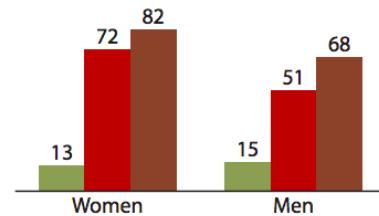
Participants of focus group discussions organized by BioMed Central (BMC) researchers said involving community leaders in family planning discussions, improving counselling services, integrating family planning services and education within school curricula, and utilizing youth clubs could improve family planning services. A recent study found that 68 percent of health centre providers had been trained in youth-friendly health services (YFHS) and only 63 percent of those trained in YFHS were trained in contraceptive counselling. In that study, youth reported some of the barriers to accessing reproductive health services as being long waiting times, negative health provider attitudes, and a lack of confidentiality¹¹.

Additionally, 8.8 percent of Malawians age 15–49 are HIV positive, which is one of the highest rates in the world.¹² The HIV prevalence rate is almost five times higher among young women (4.9 percent) than young men of the same age (1 percent), which is partially attributable to early sexual debut with older men.¹³ An estimated 1 million Malawians were living with HIV in 2016, and 24,000 Malawians died from AIDS-related illnesses in the same year.¹⁴

Trends in HIV Testing

Percent of women and men age 15–49 who were ever tested for HIV and received their results

■ 2004 MDHS ■ 2010 MDHS ■ 2015–16 MDHS



Unmet need by regions

⁹ Malawi Demographic Health Survey (MDHS), 2015–2016.

¹⁰ https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/ADOLESCENT%20PREGNANCY_UNFPA.pdf.

¹¹ Malawi Demographic Health Survey (MDHS), 2015–2016.

¹² <https://www.avert.org/professionals/hiv-around-world/sub-saharan-africa/malawi>.

¹³ MDHS 2015/16.

¹⁴ <https://www.avert.org/professionals/hiv-around-world/sub-saharan-africa/malawi>.



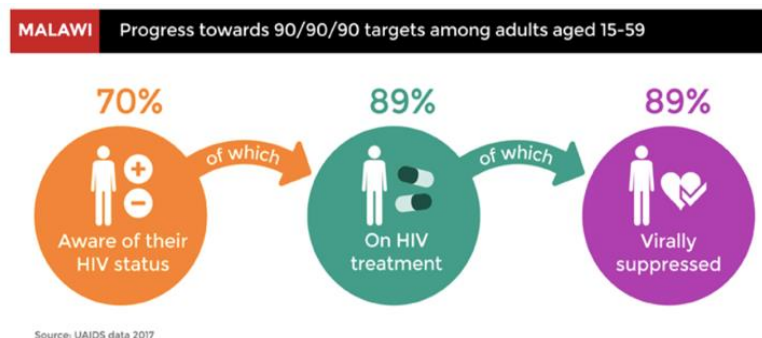
Knowledge about modes of HIV transmission and prevention. Women appear to have a lower level of knowledge, with 42 percent compared to 48 percent for men, though it has shown a slight increase from 2010.

HIV prevalence is generally higher among women (10.8 percent) than among men (6.4 percent). HIV prevalence is higher among women and men living in urban areas. For both women and men, HIV prevalence is lowest at age 15–19 (3.3 percent and 1 percent respectively) and highest at age 40–44 (19.8 percent and 19.2 percent respectively).

One contributing factor to the high HIV prevalence rate among women is the high rate of sexual violence among women (22 percent) before the age of 18.¹⁵ Young people are the other vulnerable group, with roughly one-third of all new HIV infections (12,500 out of 36,000) in Malawi in 2016 occurring among young people (aged 15–24). Of these, 70 percent were among young women.

Female sex workers (FSW) constitute the other vulnerable group. HIV prevalence among this group has shown a huge decline, from 77 percent in 2006 to 24.9 percent in 2016, but it is still too high and is concerning¹⁶ Given that sex work is illegal in Malawi, coupled with the conservative values of society, it is not uncommon for this group to face a high level of discrimination and stigma when seeking HIV services or victim support services, especially from service providers such as health workers or police at one-stop centres.¹⁷

Having achieved gender parity in primary school enrolment, the transition rate to secondary school in Malawi remains low and the drop-out rate high. Keeping girls in school is key to protecting them from early marriage and reducing their vulnerability to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Additionally, school-related SGBV is a barrier to the right of learners to safe quality education. The Violence Against Children and Young Women in Malawi Survey (VACS) 2013 revealed striking levels of VAC, with 20 percent of girls reporting an incident of sexual abuse prior to age 18.¹⁸ The MDHS 2015-2016 reported that 34 percent of women have experienced physical violence since age 15, with 20 percent having experienced sexual violence. The VACS also showed that one out of three females defined their first sexual intercourse as non-consensual. Rape is rarely reported due to stigma, lack of access to the justice sector, and a lingering belief that sex crimes should be dealt with privately. Thirteen percent of women in Malawi feel that a husband/partner is justified in hitting or beating his wife under certain circumstances,¹⁹ and the VACS showed that similar damaging gender biases were held by nine out of ten females and eight out of ten males aged 18 to 25,²⁰ showing how deeply entrenched these issues are in Malawian society.



A study conducted to determine the nature and consequences of school violence in rural Malawi found that domestic violence disrupts schooling for both girls and boys, but in different ways: girls who had ever experienced domestic violence were 20 percent more

¹⁵ http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/country/documents/MWI_narrative_report_2015.pdf

¹⁶ UNAIDS (2017) Data Book [pdf]

¹⁷ Theatre for a Change (2014) 'Building Advocacy Capacities of Sex Workers in Malawi' [pdf]

¹⁸ The 2010 DHS reported that 17.8 percent of girls and women aged 15 to 19 had experienced sexual violence, 26.8 percent of whom were 14 years old or younger when first victimized. In addition, 15 percent reported that their first sexual intercourse was forced.

¹⁹ Malawi MDG End Line Survey, 2014.

²⁰ Nine out of ten females and eight out of ten males aged 18 to 24 endorsed one of the following gender biases: that men should decide when to have sex, that men need more sex than women, that men need other women, that women who carry condoms are "loose", and that women should tolerate violence in order to keep their family together (VACS, 2013).



likely to drop out, while boys were more likely to be absent.²¹

Despite these challenges, Malawi has made some progress, particularly towards strengthening the legal and policy framework relating to gender. Malawi has a strong policy and legal framework on VAWG and HP,²² has ratified most of the core UN human rights treaties,²³ and has made improvements in the architecture for gender equality and violence prevention, mitigation, and response. In less than a decade, several significant pieces of legislation have been enacted.²⁴ Recently, the government revised the constitution, aligning previously conflicting definitions of a child between the constitution and the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act, with the intention to end child marriages. A National Strategy on Ending Child Marriages 2018–2023 has been developed to guide national efforts to this end. However, some laws still contain discriminatory provisions in specific areas such as HP, intimate partner violence, marital rape, sexual violence, abortion, same-sex sexual relations, and child marriage.²⁵

However, implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of the laws remain limited, causing slow progress and continued challenges for women and girls that relate to discrimination and exclusion. This limitation reflects the general weakness and capacity gaps that exist in institutions in Malawi responsible for gender equality, empowerment of women and girls, and prevention of harmful practices. These challenges are manifested in the weak oversight and accountability on gender-related issues, and are aggravated by inadequate human, financial, and organizational resources, which lead to weak, underfunded delivery systems and inadequate information at household and community levels. Further, the scenario is compromised by lack of consistent collection of disaggregated data and interoperable data systems to inform evidence-based inclusive planning and targeting of beneficiaries to ensure no one is left behind and to support informed and inclusive policy decision making to devise the strategies necessary to address gender issues. The weakness noted herein implies that the responsible institutions are compromised and lack the moral and professional capacity to adequately influence or provide convincing guidance to control early child marriage or SGBV. To address these issues, partnerships between government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including the private sector, will be critical to protect women and girls from violence and ensure that they are empowered to demand their sexual and reproductive health rights.

The Spotlight Initiative will tap into transformational experiences and lessons earned from projects and programmes that have shown to have an impact on women's and girls' lives, with clear evidence of impact. **The Joint Programme on Girls' Education**²⁶ (JPGE) has demonstrated the importance of keeping girls in school: in the targeted schools, cases of pregnancies dropped by 50 percent from 2016 to 2017, and there was a 39.5 percent decrease in the number of girls experiencing sexual violence or abuse.²⁷ **The Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)** programme, which ran from 2011 to 2015, lifted the child marriage debate to a higher level and created a social movement. Two

21 https://www.popcouncil.org/uploads/pdfs/2017PGY_SchoolViolenceMalawiBrief.pdf.

22 Key examples of legal and policy frameworks in Malawi include the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (2006, reviewed in 2015); the Child Care, Protection and Justice Act (2010); the Deceased Estates (Wills, Inheritance and Protection) Act (2011); the Gender Equality Act (2013); the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act (2015); the Trafficking in Persons Act (2015); the Gender-based Violence National Response Plan (2016); the National Policy on Peace (2016); and the National Gender Policy.

23 Malawi has ratified the following Human Rights Treaties: Convention on Rights of the Child; Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women; International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD); Convention Against Torture (CAT); Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD); International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights; African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child; Southern African Development Community Protocol on Gender and Development; Beijing Platform for Action; UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993).

24 The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act, the Child Care, Protection and Justice Act (2010), the National Registration Act (2009), the Wills and Inheritance Act (2011), the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act (2015), the Trafficking in Persons Act (2015), the Gender Equality Act, and the Access to Information Act.

25 As outlined in the 2015 concluding observations of the UN CEDAW Committee to Malawi; see CEDAW/C/MWI/CO/7 available at http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW/C/MWI/CO/7&Lang=En.

26 JPGE is a modelling programme that has been implemented with the support of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi from 2014, focusing on increasing the participation of girls in upper primary school in select schools in Dedza, Salima, and Mangochi.

27 'Mid-Term Review of the Joint Programme on Girls' Education', 14 April 2017



senior female chiefs have received international acclamation for this fight. The programme also established mothers' groups that mobilized more than 4,000 girls to return to school, including teen mothers. Coupled with campaigns such as HeForShe and 16 Days of Activism, issues of VAWG are having increasing prominence in Malawi. Women's and girls' access to justice has been increased through an access to justice project under Chilungamo Program that has recruited local volunteers as village mediators who support women survivors of various offences including GBV.

Malawi has an active but fragmented civil society that lacks a well-coordinated and institutionalized women's movement to drive these issues forward. Civil society in Malawi represents several marginalized groups, including those with disabilities, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) population, and women and girls living with HIV. NGOs have taken the lead in calling on the judiciary to respond to cases of HP and VAWG, and recently the first case of HP was successfully prosecuted under the Gender Equality Act (GEA).

Outcome 1: Laws and Policies

Malawi is a party to several international and regional human rights instruments²⁸ but despite these international commitments, limited knowledge and awareness have contributed to poor demand for their enforcement. The Constitution of Malawi Section 211(2) provides that international agreements entered into effect before the commencement of the constitution are part of the laws of Malawi. As Malawi acceded to certain agreements before its constitution came into force in May 1994 (ICCPR, ICESCR, ACHPR, CEDAW, CRC), they are part of the laws of Malawi. However, the UN CEDAW Committee has noted that, in Malawi, the provisions of CEDAW have not yet been fully incorporated into the national legal system and are therefore not directly applicable in courts²⁹. Malawi also has a substantial backlog in terms of its UN treaty reporting obligations, with two reports overdue by 20 years and one by over 10 years.³⁰

Malawi has undertaken immense efforts since 1994 to ensure that rights and freedoms are protected, especially for women and girls. Pursuant to the constitutional setting,³¹ the country has seen the passing of very progressive legislation, from the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act³² to the recent constitutional amendments (2017) on the age of a child and the age of marriage³³ (See Annex 4). It is against these progressive strides that the law must be reviewed further, and policies harmonized to ensure better protection and promotion of the rights and freedoms of women and girls.

Furthermore, vulnerable and marginalized groups, whose rights and livelihoods may be affected adversely by laws and policies, must be recognized and included to ensure that the legal and policy process fully respects the dignity, human rights, economies, and culture of people that are traditionally left behind, specifically persons with disabilities (PWDs), persons with albinism (PWAs), LGBTI people, FSWs, survivors of harmful cultural practices (including child marriage), the elderly, and widowed women.

Malawi has a strong policy and legal framework on VAWG and harmful cultural practices on paper, but it is yet to be fully implemented.³⁴ Despite this vibrant legal and policy framework, the country has only

²⁸ Including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), the Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development

²⁹ Paragraph 10(b), UN CEDAW Concluding Observations to Malawi on Its Seventh Periodic Report, 24 November 2015, CEDAW/C/MWI/CO/7.

³⁰ Malawi has not yet reported under the UN Convention against Torture or the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and its report to the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination is overdue by a decade.

³¹ Section 20(2): Legislation may be passed addressing inequalities in society and prohibiting discriminatory practices and the propagation of such practices and may render such practices criminally punishable by the courts.

³² Cap. 7:05 of the Laws of Malawi.

³³ Act No. 22 of 2017.

³⁴ Key examples of legal and policy frameworks in Malawi include the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (2006, reviewed in 2015); the Child Care, Protection and Justice Act (2010); the Deceased Estates (Wills, Inheritance and Protection) Act (2011); the Gender Equality Act



made small changes in VAWG interventions, and certain negative traditional customs and stereotypes are still deeply entrenched in Malawian society.³⁵ Fragmented and ad hoc interventions on the modification and elimination of HP have had little impact on women's status and levels of SGBV. The UN and other stakeholders have supported the government with gender-sensitive policies and laws, but VAWG is persistent in Malawi:

- a) Discriminatory provisions exist to criminalize violence in specific areas such as harmful cultural practices, intimate partner violence, and marital rape.
- b) There is poor law enforcement due to a lack of harmonization on the various forms of VAWG.
- c) There is limited public knowledge about the existence of laws and the socialization of gender-equitable social norms, attitudes, and behaviours.
- d) There is lack of evidence to inform policy formulation and to monitor the implementation of policies.

Outcome 2: Strengthening Institutions

Support by the UN, in partnership with the European Union (EU), the Royal Norwegian Embassy (RNE), and the Department for International Development, has improved the capabilities of local-level human rights and victim assistance institutions, including the judiciary, law enforcers, legislators, paralegal service providers, and public service providers, to ensure that the country has appropriate mechanisms for protecting women and girls from violence and enabling them to access justice-related, social, and economic services. Nevertheless, women's and girls' initiatives continue to face practices that seek to make distinctions between 'deserving' and 'undeserving' women and girls. A lack of accountability and transformational rights- and gender-based approaches to planning and programming by public and non-state actors have contributed to women and girls – including those living with disability, albinism, HIV, or AIDS – being excluded from decision making and the monitoring and management of programmes. While the UN has been supporting public and private sector institutions to mainstream gender, human rights, HIV, and AIDS into their strategic plans and programmes, rights issues (on topics such as sexual and reproductive health rights, gender equality, SGBV, harmful practices, and the rights of LGBTI populations) continue to be excluded from sector plans and programmes, including curricula for both lower and higher learning institutions. As a result, women and girls have remained disempowered, with little knowledge about their rights, limited access to justice, and few effective remedies and services to protect them from abuse and GBV or to access their sexual and reproductive rights.

The limited accountability and non-inclusive tendencies of institutions in meeting their human rights obligations is due to the limited technical and financial capacity of public and private institutions – including traditional, religious, civil society, and private sector bodies – specifically on: gender-responsive and rights-based food security, health, education, and welfare, and financial, legal, and paralegal service provision. Further, under-investment in key human rights institutions and infrastructure undermines gender-responsive budgeting (GRB), with funding priority given to other interventions. To improve Malawi's performance in the Gender Development Index (GDI) and its achievement of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (especially SDG 5, SDG 16, and SDG 17), all institutions, including civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs), need understanding and capabilities related to Malawi's international human rights obligations related on SGBV and HP. Institutional effectiveness could be enhanced by including not only the development of gender-sensitive indicators, but also institutionalizing SGBV- and HP-based planning, programming, and monitoring systems that can be sustainable in anchoring GRB. Further, strong, integrated monitoring and evaluation systems in both central and local government institutions would assist in the effective monitoring of SGBV and HP cases and their impact on the lives of women and girls.

(2013); the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act (2015); the Trafficking in Persons Act (2015); the Gender-based Violence National Response Plan (2016); the National Policy on Peace (2016); and the National Gender Policy.

³⁵ The MDHS 2016 reports that 34 percent of females have experienced physical violence since age 15, and 20 percent sexual violence. The 2014 VACS and Young Women Survey found that the most common form of abuse is unwanted attempted sex. GBV is compounded by harmful cultural practices (e.g. forced and early marriages).



Outcome 3: Prevention and Social Norms

Violence against women and girls is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between males and females in private and public life. It is characterized by the use and abuse of power and control over women and girls, and it is a form of discrimination that seriously violates and impairs the enjoyment by women and girls of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.³⁶ SGBV, including child marriage, domestic violence, and HP, persists at high rates in Malawi, and risks are particularly high for women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination, including those with disabilities.³⁷ Inequitable norms around gender, power, and masculinity drive this situation. Inequitable gender norms need to be shifted in favour of norms promoting non-violence, equitable relationships, protection, and shared responsibilities, to sustainably prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls.

Malawi has implemented several interventions to promote positive norms and to change or reduce the impact of harmful ones at individual, household, and community levels. Existing prevention interventions include whole-of-school interventions such as the successful UN JPGE, the national campaigns to end child marriages and all forms of violence against children (VAC), and community interventions engaging children, parents, community gatekeepers, and role models, which have resulted in chiefs' declarations on HP and social norms as well as community decrees and district by-laws to address HP. Due to a lack of resources, these interventions have been limited to specific locations, even for 'national' efforts, which have only reached districts and localities where support has been provided. The Spotlight Initiative therefore provides an opportunity to scale up and strengthen the implementation of ongoing initiatives to eliminate SGBV and HP as well as to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), in line with national strategies and action plans, including the National Plan of Action to Combat GBV, the National Plan of Action for Vulnerable Children, the National Strategy to End Child Marriage, and the Gender Equality Act (GEA)

Outcome 4: Quality Services

The Government of Malawi recognizes violence against women and girls as a violation of human rights³⁸ and as an impediment to gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls, and the development of society, and has made numerous investments to ensure that quality essential services are available and accessible to survivors.³⁹

Although stakeholders have invested to ensure that survivors of violence receive a full range of services, from medical care to counselling to legal support, gaps still exist in ensuring quality and universal access to these services, especially for those left behind. The lack of a comprehensive gender-sensitive SGBV-response continuum to ensure that essential services of all sectors are coordinated and governed to respond in a comprehensive way, are women centred (and where necessary, child centred), and are accountable to victims and survivors greatly contributes to the existing gaps between the prevalence of violence, the disclosure of incidents, and the receipt of services.

While services such as Victim Support Units (VSUs) for the Malawi Police Service are present in all districts and at traditional authorities in the communities – as well as one-stop centres in some 20 districts, CSO safe houses for victims of trafficking, community courts, and community action groups against GBV – evidence shows that women and girls continue to experience violence without seeking/receiving any services. In the MDHS 2015–16, over 11 percent of all the women sampled never told anyone they experienced physical or sexual violence, and 49 percent never sought any kind of help for the violence inflicted upon them.⁴⁰ The data indicates that women and girls often suffer violence in

³⁶ UN CSW, 2013, Report on the Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7, 4–15 March

³⁷ SALC, 2017, 'Prosecuting Sexual Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Malawi'

³⁸ The Constitution of Malawi.

³⁹ Government of Malawi (2014), *National Plan of Action to Combat Gender Based Violence in Malawi 2014-2020*, Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare.

⁴⁰ MDHS 2016.



silence. Non-reporting of GBV cases is often the result of inadequate information on services for GBV survivors.^{41 42}

SGBV services continue to be fragmented, with survivors walking long distances to access them. This is exacerbated by deep-rooted gender discriminatory attitudes and stereotypes among service providers that result in women and girls facing barriers to accessing quality, affordable, and comprehensive SRHR information and education, including comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), when they are violated. This is coupled with weak coordination as well as weak accountability systems among institutions that provide integrated services on VAWG, and this affects access to justice, including access to an effective remedy for the realization of SRHR among women and girls. With 20 percent of girls reporting an incident of sexual abuse prior to age 18, and nearly one-fourth of all children experiencing multiple forms of violence,⁴³ less than 50 percent of all 13- to 24-year-olds knew of a place to seek help. While Malawi has 183 Police VSUs, 300 Community Victim Support Units, and 500 protection workers, serious challenges remain regarding access to the necessary services due to the lack of standardized protocols for victims as well as the fragmentation of the assistance. More needs to be done to ensure that protection and response services are inclusive, readily available, and accessible.⁴⁴ For example, medical proof is necessary in the case of rape, yet reporting facilities are often not equipped to collect and preserve evidence. Additionally, due to a lack of resources, the coverage of these services is not coordinated among the different stakeholders, and these interventions have been fragmented and limited to specific locations, reaching only a small segment of the population where support has been provided by development partners. SGBV case referral systems need to be harmonized to ensure that service providers are linked and synergies are harnessed.

Outcome 5: Data

Although Malawi has made recent progress on data, including through the national registration of 9.2 million Malawians, gaps still exist when it comes to reliability, availability, disaggregation, quality, and effective use, including the generation of evidence for planning and programming at all levels. Issues include: lack of harmonized and standardized comparable data collection approaches, methodologies, and tools; limited technical and financial capacity of key stakeholders at all levels to collect, disaggregate, manage, use, and disseminate VAWG administrative data through routine data systems; limited technical and financial capacity of district councils and research institutions to collect, analyse, and generate evidence for VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR interventions using standard global methodologies with accepted ethical standards and safety procedures; and, most importantly, lack of a functional VAWG information management system to support effective dissemination of, access to, and use of SGBV data for development planning and programming.

While some district councils have integrated monitoring and evaluation systems, sector-specific data is entered in a sector-specific information management system that is not aligned with the integrated system, and sector data (i.e. on VAWG) is sent directly to sector heads and sector ministries. In the district councils, there are different data collection tools, systems, methodologies, and reporting channels and mechanisms that do not respect the principles of decentralization, inclusivity, and transparency (and do not report to the district commissioner). This reveals a failure of the systemic change following decentralization. There is no vertical or horizontal integration of cross-sectoral information. Harmonization of data management systems at both district and national levels needs to be improved to ensure real-time monitoring of trends and patterns of VAWG and SGBV/HP by location and characteristics of the population. For example, SGBV data collected by Malawi Police Services from communities has its own system that is linked to district and national police Victim Support Units. The Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MoGCDSW) has its own integrated information management system that collects data on SGBV, children, and women's political and economic empowerment. The Ministries of Health and Education also have their own information management systems that are not linked to the SGBV cases and data management systems. Analysis

⁴¹ GBV Survey, 2013.

⁴² GBV Survey, 2013.

⁴³ The 2010 DHS reported that 17.8 percent of girls and women aged 15 to 19 had experienced sexual violence, 26.8 percent of whom were 14 years old or younger when first victimized. In addition, 15 percent reported that their first sexual intercourse was forced.

⁴⁴ VACS 2015



and reporting of such sectoral data is neither harmonized nor shared. Further, case management systems need to be strengthened and harmonized to facilitate the tracking of perpetrators and the monitoring of trends and patterns of SGBV cases.

Outcome 6: Civil Society Organizations/Women's Movement

Since Malawi's independence in 1964, CSOs have grown in number. The number of CSOs in Malawi increased from 104 in 2001 to 359 in 2011. Today there are estimated to be 510 NGOs registered with the Council for NGOs of Malawi.⁴⁵ Beyond registered CSOs, Malawi has a lot of CBOs that operate in local communities and network with CSOs, local government structures, private sector organizations, and development partners. The presence of a vibrant, strong, and free civil society is essential to ensure human rights and sustainable development and to provide incentives for social and democratic change. Through its provision of aid and engagement with development activities, the international community has affirmed the importance of respect for the rights to freedom of association, assembly, and expression, as well as an independent civil society playing a vital role in advocating respect for human rights, shaping development policies, and overseeing their implementation. Malawi has an active civil society working on various issues in governance, human rights, gender equality, and women's empowerment. However, recent trends reveal a shrinking space for the operation of CSOs. The formulation of an NGO policy is underway. Women's organizations play a small but significant role in promoting GEWE and ending VAWG, including HP. The momentum around the SDGs and the development of the 2016 National Response Plan on GBV and other gender-related plans create an opportunity for CSOs, women's organizations, and women human rights defenders to be involved in raising awareness; monitoring, advocating for, and lobbying for gender-responsive policies and the enforcement of laws; and forging new partnerships. In recent years, a youth movement is emerging, with a number of girls' networks and CSOs being established.

II. Programme Strategies and Theory of Change

A Theory of Change

In line with the regional-level focus, the overall goal of the Spotlight Initiative in Malawi is to accelerate efforts towards the elimination of VAWG, including SGBV/HP, by addressing their structural roots and linkages to SRHR. There have been efforts to end SGBV and HP, and to improve access to quality services, including access to justice for survivors of violence; however, progress remains slow and uneven, and the approaches fragmented. Increasingly, there is recognition that elimination of all forms of SGBV and HP will not be possible without achieving change in gender and sociocultural norms, which, among other actions, means changing norms to improve understanding of women's sexuality and reproduction, and to improve women's access to comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) and SRH information and services.

The theory of change underlying the results framework is that (1) if policy and legislative frameworks on all forms of VAWG, including HP, are strengthened in line with regional and international human rights standards; (2) if institutions and organizations that implement policies and legislation are strengthened and allocated dedicated resources in order to meet their obligations; (3) if social norms that condone stereotypes, harmful behaviours and practices, discrimination, and violence are changed; (4) if access to quality essential services, including SRH services, is made available to survivors of violence; (5) if quality, disaggregated, and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG and HP are collected, analysed, and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies, and programmes on SGBV, HP, and SRHR; and (6) if all women and girls are empowered to know and claim their rights and their voices are included through an effective and inclusive women's movement, then (a) there will be substantial and sustainable reduction of VAWG and SGBV, leading to its elimination, because VAWG is being prevented before it happens or before it reoccurs; (b) survivors, particularly vulnerable persons, will be empowered to recover and rebuild their lives with appropriate

⁴⁵ The International Centre for Not-for-Profit Law, 2014.



assistance and support; and (c) all women and girls will live free of SGBV and HP and will be able to realize their SRHR. (See Annex 3 – detailed Theory of Change Outcome Table.)

In order to reach the most vulnerable women and girls living in the most remote areas, the initiative's interventions will focus on six proposed districts: Mzimba, Nkhata Bay, Ntchisi, Dowa, Nsanje, and Machinga. These districts comparatively, have high levels of structural gender-based discrimination, HP and incidences of SGBV. The aim is to scale up and replicate the Spotlight approach to at least three more districts by showing results and mobilizing partners and additional resources.

The selection of districts for the Spotlight Initiative was done methodically. The following agreed-upon criteria informed the selection process:

1. Performance on key indicators as relates to SGBV/HP, VAWG, and SRHR
2. Presence of existing programmes, projects, and structures
3. Presence of UN agencies and other partners on the ground

Regional consultations took place in the three lowest-ranking districts for each region (Northern, Central, and Southern) of Malawi, aimed at finding out what was already there, what the specific needs are in the districts, and who is on the ground. Following the consultations, the team decided to propose two districts from each region, some that already had ongoing programmes and structures that can be built on, and some that had been left behind. The consultations found that the Spotlight Initiative is timely and appropriate, and critical issues of SGBV/HP and VAWG were found in all the districts consulted. The consultations also mapped out CSOs and other partners working in local communities including CBOs.

Malawi Spotlight Initiative contribution to the achievement of the SDGs.

The Malawi Spotlight initiative is grounded on the core rallying principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – **leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first**. During the first phase of the initiative, and in alignment with government's own commitment to the SDGs, effort will be made to identify the groups furthest behind on key targets such as reproductive health, empowerment, and economic activity. The 'left behinds' in the context of Malawi include persons with disabilities, persons with albinism, stigmatized HIV-positive persons, the LGBTI community, refugees, prisoners, and young widows. However, further and deeper investigations will be conducted to identify other population groups that face multiple and intersecting discriminations.

Through the interlinked six pillars, the initiative will aim to increase, for instance, school completion rates among the most excluded groups by more than the average so as to reduce inequalities through targeted programmes such as the school bursaries to boost school attendance among those groups and in households with the lowest completion rates. Similarly, Pillar 5 on improved data by 2020 aims to enhance capacity-building support to the National Statistical Office (NSO) to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location, and other characteristics relevant in national contexts. The initiative, being a multi-stakeholder joint endeavour contributing to delivering as one by bringing on board a wide range of stakeholders, offers a structure and a process that can be drawn upon to deliver on the SDGs.

Furthermore, the initiative will contribute more directly to the SDG targets on the elimination of all forms of VAWG (SDG 5.2 and 5.3).

Outcome 1: Laws and Policies

Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are in place and translated into plans and implemented

The Spotlight Initiative's focus on laws and policies will be on the harmonization and development of tools for key legal frameworks such as the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (2006, reviewed in



2015); the Penal Code; the Child Care, Protection and Justice Act (2010); the Gender Equality Act (2013); and the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act. There will be a review of specific policies such as the SRHR Policy and the Child Policy. The focus of support will be on the advocacy and review of specific provisions in the laws and policies to enable key players to implement and enforce the laws. Key strategies will be harmonization and the popularization of the laws in the communities. The envisaged modality of implementation will be through supporting the advocacy and review of policies and laws, capacity building, and leadership initiatives for the MoGCDSW, CSOs, and young female leaders; supporting meetings among the Ministries of Justice and Gender, the Law Commission, and CSOs on issues of national interest; and supporting stakeholder monitoring visits. The target group in this outcome is high-level stakeholders at the national and district level.

To achieve the above-mentioned outcome the following key activities are foreseen under Pillar 1:

- Advocate for and support the reform of specific laws containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HP that prevent women and girls from exercising their rights, especially women and girls facing intersecting discrimination.
- Build on current work underway by the UN to harmonize legislation in line with the constitutional amendment that removed ambiguity regarding the age of marriage for both girls and boys, raising the minimum age from 15 to 18 years.
- Support public interest litigation on discriminatory provisions in related SGBV and HP laws through targeted institutions with the capacity to litigate strategically.
- Capacity building of community leaders, ministries, and informal and formal legislators to produce policy and laws to address SGBV, SRHR, and early marriage.
- Review or develop specialized professional development content and tools on the relevant legal frameworks related to SGBV, SRHR, and HP for justice sector actors (including magistrates, prosecutors, investigators, probation officers, and paralegal officers) to implement relevant laws and standards.
- Integrate specialized content on SGBV and HP laws and procedure into existing justice sector capacity-building interventions.

The following elements will need to be taken into account in implementing such activities:

- To ensure inclusivity of different stakeholders, the review of the laws will be spearheaded by the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs and the Law Commission. This is a consultative process, a strategy provided for in the Constitution of Malawi. It involves mapping, review, and conducting regional and district consultations. The consultations will target various civil society institutions such as the NGO Gender Coordination Network, Women and Law in Southern Africa, and the Women Lawyers Association (and other women's rights organizations mandated with gender/women rights). The Spotlight Initiative provides a platform that will strengthen the district-level structures and will include the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA) and the Law Commission, which ordinarily are national-level institutions with no distinct structures at the grass-roots level.
- In this pillar, professional development will also be paramount, as some of these laws and policies have not yet been implemented in the districts. The Spotlight Initiative provides an opportunity for civil society and groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination to be capacitated by MoJCA and the Law Commission.
- The Human Rights Unit under MoJCA, the mandated defender of human rights in Malawi, will be strategically engaged, building on UN Women's success in a collaborative project that amended the Constitution of Malawi on the age of marriage, to further harmonize gender-related laws (Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act, 2015).
- The harmonization of the laws is critical to ensure effective implementation. This is a strategy that has been lacking in enforcement of laws. The Spotlight Initiative will also strengthen the capacity of justice providers to develop guidelines and disseminate them to the grass-roots level. On harmonizing formal and informal laws, particularly customary laws, the UN will continue supporting existing initiatives on developing the One By-law Framework on customary laws and religious norms.
- Forensic tools for DNA, investigation tools, and regulation tools will be developed. For instance, the police prosecution lack effective tools (the existing tools are outdated and not gendered) to



investigate SGBV. Furthermore, the GEA needs the tools in order for the defence or investigation to be used in court.

- To address the limited knowledge and awareness of existing laws and policies, sensitization activities will be conducted by gender advocates, youth organizations, and women's rights groups. There will be efforts to ensure the clear demarcation of roles for all the duty bearers in this process. The Spotlight Initiative will leverage this opportunity to ensure broader civil society is engaged and participates in the review of laws and policies and dissemination and sensitization activities. Awareness-raising activities will ensure a comprehensive communication strategy aimed at leaving no one behind (LNOB) and ensuring that accessible tools and forms of communication for PWDs are included (i.e. usage of brail and sign language). Finally, this pillar will work with women's rights advocates (representing persons with disabilities, LGBTI groups, and other marginalized women) identified through Pillar 6, to strengthen their capacity to draft and cost action plans on VAWG/SGBV/HP and promote women's and girls' SRHR and accompanying monitoring and evaluation (M&E) frameworks.

Support towards ensuring law and policy review integrates the rights of marginalized groups: specifically, this includes an assessment tool created with a coalition on marginalized interest groups. The tool will ensure that the needs and participation of marginalized groups are captured, as well as gaps in access to justice and legislation (i.e. through questionnaires to be developed under Pillar 6). This tool will specialize in the rights and needs of marginalized groups, including those facing discriminatory legal systems such as FSWs and the LGBTI community.

Innovative approaches will also be used under this pillar to ensure the enforcement of the principle of leaving no one behind. These strategies include: the development of GIF-based animations, short clips, and mobile phone-friendly infographics to disseminate awareness on SGBV-, SRHR-, HP-related laws and policies through social media platforms; live streaming and podcasts on public litigation cases; supporting tertiary institutions on understanding laws and policies through moot courts and engaging with students to test the laws and research the work of other jurisdictions; and using existing platforms such as the Women's Empowerment Programme (WEP) and the information and communications technology (ICT) based GBV-reporting platform, with a focus on persons with albinism and female sex workers.

Lessons learned from previous support to the justice sector reveal that the main actors in this sector (i.e. police, the judiciary, courts, human rights institutions, and other oversight institutions) do not have the knowhow or the content/tools for managing gender equality and discrimination issues. Despite the availability of regulations for gender-related laws, not all actors have been oriented on these. Further, there are no guidelines on the application of the gender-related laws. As a result, gender-related issues are often ignored in the management of SGBV cases. Under the Spotlight Initiative, these institutions will therefore be supported to gain the necessary knowledge and skills and have the guiding materials for the management of SGBV cases. A mapping of the main actors in access to justice at national and local council levels will be conducted to identify potential partners that the initiative could work with in increasing access to justice by SGBV victims.

The programme will conduct stakeholder consultation meetings at national and local council levels to agree on a partnership strategy towards supporting female survivors of SGBV to access legal services. Depending on the comparative advantage of each actor, memorandums of understanding (MoUs) will be drawn up with specialized institutions to perform specific tasks such as identifying SGBV cases, referring SGBV cases to Spotlight Initiative legal services partners, and mobilizing communities to use the U-Report mechanism for early warning and early response to SGBV victims. To also ensure that the justice sector main actors have the necessary SGBV, HP, and SRHR knowledge and skills, the initiative will support them to review their professional training curricula content to ensure that SGBV, HP, and SRHR are integrated. This will mean that by the end of the Spotlight Initiative implementation period, the graduates of these specialized training institutions will be knowledgeable of SGBV, HP, and SRHR issues as they relate to their job.

Also noting that Malawi's specialized judicial and justice service training institutions do not offer forensic investigation trainings, under Outcome 5, officers from legal service institutions will be trained in forensic



audit investigations. These officers will use the forensic investigation skills to develop professional guiding tools for use in managing SGBV, HP, and SRHR cases. To ensure that early response and legal services are brought to the doorstep of SGBV victims, including those living with HIV, disability, and albinism, UNDP will enter into an MOU with the Legal Aid Bureau, the Malawi Law Society, and the Women Judges Association of Malawi to make their lawyers available to provide mobile legal services in the Spotlight Initiative target communities. As these services are expected to be pro bono, to ensure sustainability after the end of the programme, only travel and subsistence costs will be provided.

Outcome 2: Strengthening Institutions

National and subnational systems and institutions plan, fund, and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG and HP, including in other sectors

The above-mentioned outcome will be achieved through the following activities:

- institutional programs including setting up a robust monitoring and feedback system
- Revamp and link districts, ending violence against women and girls (EVAWG), SGBV/HP, and SRHR committees and women's networks to ensure participation of women, girls, and the most marginalized and the integration of SGBV/SRHR/HP in development plans.
- Develop clear terms of reference for coordination among institutions and road maps to implement their work, with targets and progress indicators.
- Mentor members of the committees and local government structures to integrate EVAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR into existing institutional programmes, including setting up a robust monitoring and feedback system.
- Incorporate statutory obligations in training institutions with clear mandates and coordinate services.
- Review the statutes of service providers' instructions and the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health(RMNCAH) Scorecard to incorporate the obligatory provision of SGBV and SRHR services.
- Support national and local structures and targeted institutions (CSOs, Local Government Finance Committees, Parliamentary Committees, the Malawi Human Rights Commission, the Office of the Ombudsman, the National Audit Office) to improve their capabilities in using gender-responsive budgeting and to ensure quality results, reporting, and adequate financing on VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR.
- Support district councils to integrate VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR into district development plans, area development plans, and village development action plans.
- Support oversight mechanisms and institutions through trainings and development of budget-tracking tools to track gender- and disability-related expenditures.
- Review tools and criteria to ascertain the integration of VAWG, SGBV, HP, and SRHR into local development action plans.
- Strengthen social accountability mechanisms in each district and traditional authority (T/A) (scorecards and other tools) to track EVAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR in district and community action plans.
- Strengthen chiefs' forums to monitor the implementation of SGBV/HP and SRHR laws, policies, programmes, and services, including for those most marginalized and excluded

The initiative will provide technical and financial support to local government and non-governmental institutions that directly or indirectly work on prevention of and response to SGBV and VAWG, as well as contribute to promoting women's and girls' SRHR. The programme will support local government institutions, including local CSOs and community-based organizations, to develop strategies, plans, and/or programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG and promote women's and girls' SRHR, including for women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination. Selected private and public higher learning institutions will be supported to review and integrate gender equality, ending VAWG (including SGBV and HP), and the promotion of women's and girls' SRHR in their curricula and



administrative procedures, as per international standards. The initiative will introduce a mentorship programme in order to enhance the capabilities of key local government officials, women's rights advocates, HeForShe champions, and members of women's groups and networks on human rights and gender-equitable norms, attitudes, and behaviours towards women and girls, including for those groups facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, such as women and girls living with HIV, albinism, and disability. The programme will also introduce a special partnership with private companies and capital projects operating in the target districts to ensure that they are utilizing and complying with 'guidelines for mainstreaming gender, HIV and AIDS in their plans, strategies and operations'; 'guidelines for eliminating discrimination against people living with HIV and AIDS'; and the HIV and AIDS Management Act.

In order to ensure the effective coordination of VAWG initiatives at the district level, the initiative will facilitate regular full council, Area Development Committee (ADC), District Executive Committee (DEC), and Gender Sector Working Group meetings in the target districts. The programme will also strengthen local councils (district and sub-district level structures and systems) to develop and implement multi-sectoral programmes that include funding to end VAWG, including SGBV and HP, and to promote women's and girls' SRHR. Key local government officials and women's rights advocates⁴⁶ will be supported with strengthened knowledge, capabilities, and tools on gender-responsive budgeting to end VAWG, including SGBV and HP, and to promote SRHR for all women and girls, particularly those living with HIV, albinism, and/or disabilities..

In order to ensure that 'national and subnational SRH and SGBV victim-centred service systems and training institutions plan, fund, and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and harmful practices' in an inclusive manner, the initiative will strengthen local-level coordination structures to integrate issues of VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR, through review of their composition, to include women and girls, including the most marginalized as well as their functions, to embrace Spotlight Initiative programming strategies,⁴⁷ and to implement gender and HIV policies and guidelines against HIV discrimination, including gender-related laws. Further, the Spotlight Initiative will support national- and local-level oversight institutions, including individual staff members and chiefs, to integrate gender, human rights, and disability-responsive budgeting principles into their development plans and programmes to ensure that their plans and budgets address VAWG, SRHR, and HP issues.

Furthermore, to ensure the inclusion of marginalized population groups in local government institutions (including district councils and CSOs), the Spotlight Initiative will support the amendment of institutional legal frameworks, guidelines, and procedures to incorporate the marginalized groups in planning and decision-making processes. Accountability mechanisms will ensure that gender-responsive budget (GRB) tracking tools will reflect the extent to which the initiative is involving the most disadvantaged populations in its planning and implementation and ultimately having an impact on the lives of marginalized groups to ensure no one is left behind. Considering that chiefs are the custodians of culture, male chiefs will be supported by women's organizations to become HeforShe champions, particularly in addressing harmful practices. Female chiefs will be supported to enforce efforts to address SGBV/HP and promote SRHR as well as to become advocates for the transformation of HP among their peers, including male chiefs. The chiefs' forums under each local council will be supported to convene regularly and ensure SGBV, HP, and SRHR issues are a standing agenda in their meetings. Primary target institutions and individuals will be local council political and technical structures – DECs and community-level structures (ADCs and Village Development Committees – VDC). Secondary targets will be oversight institutions, including chiefs' platforms, CBOs, and CSOs operating in the local communities of these districts to monitor the implementation of initiatives on SGBV, HP, and SRHR

⁴⁶ Including those from groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.

⁴⁷ The Spotlight Initiative will take into account the Malawi Country Assessment of the Cycle of Accountability for Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Child and Neonatal Health and Human Rights and recommendations, available at <https://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/malawi-country-assessment-cycle-accountability-sexual-reproductive-maternal-child-and->



laws, policies, programmes, and services, ensuring that they reach women and girls, including those living with HIV, albinism, and/or with disabilities in every corner of the target districts.

A key approach to ensuring the integration of SRHR, SGBV, HP, and HIV issues into key sectors (namely, health, culture, gender, education, mining, agriculture, trade, industry, and tourism) will be the application of GRB principles in these sectors annually. This will be done at three levels: the national planning and budgeting process; the sectoral development planning and budgeting process; and the district development planning and budgeting process. Since national and sectoral plans have already been developed, an assessment of the same will be conducted to determine the extent to which these plans have allocated funding for SRHR, EAWG, SGBV, and HP. With district development plans still being developed or finalized, the Spotlight Initiative will maximize this opportunity. As such, the initiative will work in collaboration with the SDGs Localization Team to ensure the integration of SRHR, SGBV, and HP into the district development plans when the team will be aligning these district plans to national and sectoral development plans, including SDGs. This will be done immediately the programme is launched.

UNDP will provide technical and financial support for SDG implementation and progress monitoring through its support to the Finance and Data for Development Project, which will be implemented in the next five years to aid the integration of SDGs into the district, area, and village development plans, including monitoring the achievement of SDGs 5, 16, and 17 at the district level. In so doing, UNDP will cover the requirement of integration of the SDGs into the Spotlight plans, programmes, monitoring, and evaluation. This project will have an expert (United Nations Volunteer) on SDGs placed in the National Planning Commission who has the function of mentoring national- and district-level institutions, including CSOs and CBOs implementing SDGs-based district development plans and programmes, to ensure that they integrate SGBV, SRHR, HP, and VAWG issues. Further, the UN Volunteer will work in collaboration with MoLGRD to support the Spotlight target districts and other relevant institutions to mentor them on SDG implementation and monitoring, focusing on SDGs 5, 16, and 17.

The Spotlight Initiative will employ a direct implementation financing modality, through which the UN will provide grants for the implementation of SRHR, HP, and SGBV initiatives/programmes to local councils as well as CSOs and community-based organizations operating in the six targeted districts. UNDP will work with MoGCDSW and the Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG) to support CSOs working in the target districts in the development and implementation of VAWG programmes at the district level. This local-level partnership with local councils will particularly involve CSOs and CBOs already working in the target districts, with expertise and programming experience in SGBV, SRHR, HP, and VAWG, including advocacy work in Spotlight thematic areas. This activity will contribute to capacitating the councils, CSOs, and CBOs to manage programmes and funds, including reporting on results. This will ensure the sustainability and ownership of the initiatives introduced by the Spotlight Initiative.

Outcome 3: Prevention and Social Norms

Gender equitable social norms, attitudes, and behavioural change at community and individual levels to prevent VAWG and SGBV/HP and promote women's and girls' SRHR

The Spotlight Initiative will focus its efforts on strategic interventions to prevent harmful practices and transform negative social norms that perpetrate VAWG, in a comprehensive manner based on an analysis of the structural and root causes of violence and gender inequalities. These structural and root causes include a culture of silence on HP as a driver of VAWG, the lower status of women and girls in



society, women's and girls' lack of decision-making powers and access to resources, limited access to services, and information, and technology, and restricted mobility, among others. The evidence-based interventions will be designed and implemented in a coordinated and integrated approach at both national and district levels, utilizing delivery platforms in and around the school and in the community. The interventions will ensure representation from marginalized groups to address intersecting forms of discrimination that underpin VAWG, including women and girls with disabilities, women and girls with albinism, FSWs, LGBTI persons, and elderly and widowed women. Intersecting factors of gender, class, disability, and sexual orientation, among others, expose women and girls to multiplicative vulnerabilities and negative social, educational, and health effects. Isolation, fear of stigma and harassment, and limited access to social services both perpetuate violence and prevent women and girls from seeking help. Interventions under the prevention pillar form the foundation of the continuum to end violence, as they will strategically address the root and structural causes of VAWG and link with the services pillar for intervention and long-term support.

Evidence suggests that rates of VAWG are highest in settings where social norms support gender inequality, where communities fail to punish men who use physical or sexual violence against women, and where VAWG is considered normal or justified (Counts et al., 1999). A recent perception study by UN Women in Malawi shed further light on social norms related to wife abuse.⁴⁸ The study found that one in four respondents reported that most or all men in their district sometimes hit or beat their wives for disobeying their husband (30.3 percent), arguing with their husband (28.5 percent), going out without telling their husband (25.2 percent), and refusing sexual intercourse (25.1 percent). Half (50.2 percent) of all respondents maintained that most or all young men in their districts sometimes pressure or force young women to have sexual relations, and three out of four (74.9 percent) of all respondents maintained about half or more of the young men in their districts sometimes pressure or force young women to have sexual relations. Almost half (47.2 percent) of all respondents reported that most or all people in their districts believe that a woman cannot be raped by someone she has already had sex with or with whom she is married, and 60.8 percent of all respondents maintained that about half or more of the people in the district believe that a woman cannot be raped by someone she has already had sex with or with whom she is married.

Social norms frequently perpetuate the idea that family violence is a 'private' matter in which outsiders should not intervene and that sexual violence is shameful for the victim, a man's 'right', or that the woman is to blame. The cultural acceptance of sexuality, particularly male sexuality, in a deeply male-dominant and patriarchal culture continues to engender a culture of violence that victimizes women and children, particularly the girl child. Although small changes are notable, such traditional customs and stereotypes are still deeply entrenched in Malawian society.

The underlying theoretical framework for interventions under the prevention pillar will be the social ecological model, which enables a consideration of how social and environmental dynamics influence development outcomes at the individual, household, community, institutional, and societal level.

To achieve the above-mentioned outcome, the following activities will be implemented:

- Undertake baseline and periodic research on social norms and practices on SGBV/HP and SRHR to address the root causes of violence in the national/local context, measure progress, and adjust/improve programming to deliver sustainable results at household, community, and district levels.

Interpersonal communication interventions to strengthen and improve social interaction and networks to influence the adoption and maintenance of positive behaviours and practices on girls' education, violence against children and adolescent girls, SGBV, and HP using Journey of Life approaches (life skills, parenting) to transform gender socialization at household and community levels.

- Multi-media campaign to reach all agents of change and beneficiaries, especially the disadvantaged and marginalized, with messages and calls for action on gender equality,

⁴⁸ Perceptions Study on Social Norms around Violence against Women and Girls, UN Women, September 2018



- SGBV/HP, and SRHR to practice and adopt positive social norms on gender and VAWG at household and community levels.
- Scale up the promotion of positive masculinities for male engagement on EVAWG, HIV, HP, SGBV, and SRHR, including through the implementation of the male engagement operational guide.
 - Improve legal literacy and awareness of duty bearers and rights holders on existing laws and policies on SGBV/HP, SRHR, and child marriage through increased collaboration between the government magistrate system and traditional structures.
 - Engage with civil society organizations (including community-led and community-based organizations) and other bodies, including traditional authorities and chiefs, providing civic education to engage communities in a gender- and child-sensitive approach to their legal rights and responsibilities.
 - Scale up the successful safe schools model, including girls' empowerment and boys' transformation programmes, and establish weekly mentorship sessions and girls' protective networks on EVAWG, SGBV, SRHR, HP, gender perspectives, and life skills in safe spaces at the community level, targeting out-of-school adolescent girls and young women.
 - Using the successful Performance-based Funds in Primary Programme, strengthen activities at the primary level and scale to the secondary level as a basis for catalysing gender-based investments – constructing girls' hostels, girls' resource rooms, and WASH and menstrual hygiene facilities.
 - Scale up life skills development, including entrepreneurship skills and livelihood initiatives for adolescent girls and women, particularly those most marginalized and excluded, integrated with existing platforms such as functional literacy programmes, mothers' groups, and out-of-school girls' clubs, with linkages to health services, including SRHR.
 - Advocate banking institutions, including microfinance institutions (private sector), for specialized loans for girls' education, including tertiary education, and economic empowerment.
 - Enhance basic entrepreneurship skills among vulnerable and marginalized women and adolescent girls, including the poorest, in rural, peri-urban, and urban settings.
 - Facilitate access to financial resources, including input and technical support, for small business start-ups, targeting vulnerable and marginalized women and adolescent girls in rural, peri-urban, and urban communities.

Interventions under the prevention pillar will be delivered through two key platforms – in and around the school (Output 3.1) and within the community (Output 3.2).

National and sub-national evidence-based programmes will be developed to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes, and behaviours (Output 3.1), including on CSE, in line with international standards, for in-school and out-of-school settings. The whole-of-school approach will have four components: sexuality education using school structures, the Safe Schools Programme, girls' scholarships, and construction of girls' hostels.

(i) Sex and sexuality education: Learners will be exposed to gender-transformative programmes through clubs, student councils, and other structures, through which awareness will be raised on sexuality education and life skills, with a focus on unhealthy social norms, interactive activities to enable learners to question the status quo, and the cost of adhering to negative social norms. Deliberate efforts will be made to encourage participation from peers, teachers, parents, and other influential people from school-based and community structures to transform social norms and create healthy definitions of femininity and masculinity. This will be done using various school-based structures such as student councils and school clubs, as well as community-based structures that target out-of-school adolescent girls – often survivors of SGBV and dropouts (due to teen pregnancies, child marriage, and early unions). Girls' peer-to-peer networks ('safe spaces') and mentorship activities will be supported for out-of-school girls and young women in SRHR, SGBV, and HP, with a focus on marginalized and excluded adolescents and young women. The UN will provide grants to implementing partners to implement sex and sexuality education targeting in school and out of school girls



(ii) **The Safe Schools Programme**, which will be scaled up through the Spotlight Initiative, is aimed at creating safe and enabling environments that promote gender-equitable relationships and reduce SGBV by working in partnership with girls, boys, adolescents, parents, caregivers, teachers, school administrators, and communities.

The programme includes a self-defence programme for girls ('IMpower'⁴⁹) and another component for boys known as 'Boys' transformation', which aims to make boys 'champions of change' in ending GBV. This seeks to promote non-violent behaviour and gender equality among girls and boys, while challenging accepted gender norms and expectations. Girls are trained in self-defence with the aim of motivating, inspiring, and equipping them with skills to reduce the risk of violence and, where necessary, defend themselves from any form of SGBV. UNICEF will employ direct implementation financing modality, through provision of grants for partners (CSO) to implement the safe schools programme. UNICEF will also provide technical expertise and work with government structures at the district level such as the police, teachers social welfare to ensure that safe schools programme is sustained in the impact districts. Further emphasis will be put on strengthening coordination with the districts councils to ensure that spotlight initiative becomes a substantive agenda under the different structures at the district level.

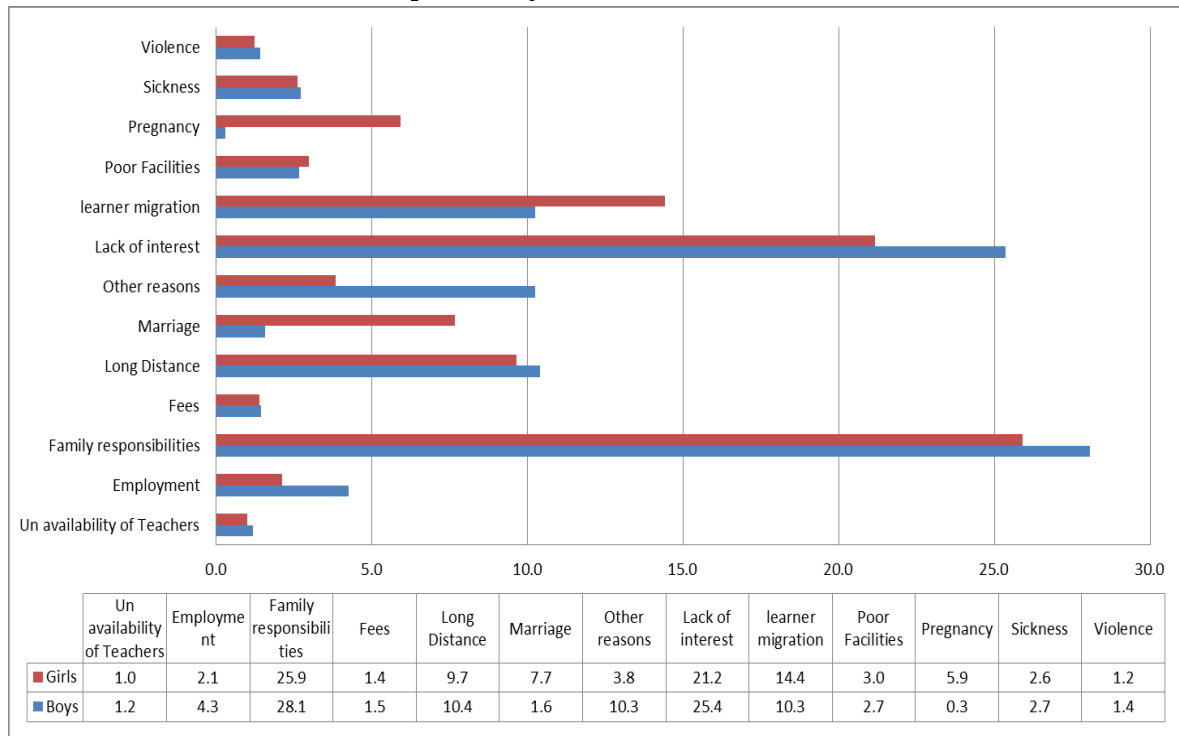
Safe Schools IMpower Boys and Girls



⁴⁹ The IMpower programme is one of the few rigorously evaluated sexual prevention programmes in the world and was found to reduce sexual violence in Malawi by 40 percent.⁴⁹



Graph 1: Why Girls are not in Schools



Source: EMIS, 2017

(iii) Scholarship for girls: The Spotlight Initiative will also increase girls' participation in education, recognizing global evidence that participation in school (which includes enrolment, regular attendance, achievement, and completion) helps protect girls and boys from experiencing or perpetrating SGBV.⁵⁰ It also reduces the risk of early marriage, unintended pregnancy, HIV, and STIs, and has other social and economic benefits. Keeping girls in schools positively affects their life trajectory and benefits the well-being of the next generation. Although the Government of Malawi is implementing a bursary programme for boys and girls, a girls' scholarship programme has been started as an affirmative-action initiative to keep girls in school. The current criteria for the girls' scholarship do not include those who are readmitted after pregnancy or child marriage. Under the Spotlight Initiative, the criteria for the girls' scholarship will be revisited to ensure that those at-risk of – or having experienced – SGBV, including HP and child marriage, are supported to go back to school. This will provide comprehensive scholarship support to economically disadvantaged girls for the entire duration of their secondary education, covering tuition, boarding costs (where applicable), notebooks, uniforms, school shoes, and sanitary pads. Building on current campaigns on girls' education and ending child marriage, the scholarship programme will mobilize traditional leaders, religious leaders, and communities to support the scholarship initiative by ensuring that the right targeting is done for scholarships through their participation in scholarship committees at school and district levels. Further, private sector will also be mobilised to support girl scholarship initiative. In line with the existing modalities of providing girls scholarship in Malawi, UNICEF will transfer the funds to the Girls Trust Fund which has been established. Further UNICEF will also facilitate the review of the criteria to incorporate survivors of SGBV specifically those that are withdrawn from child marriages, and those that return back to school after pregnancy. *Special measures will be put in place to manage the negative impacts that may come as a result of the new criteria targeting girls that dropped out of school because of child marriages and teenage pregnancies to safeguard unintended consequences.*

⁵⁰ INSPIRE Handbook: Action for Implementing the Seven Strategies for Ending Violence against Children, 2018, World Health Organization.



(iv) Support to girls' hostels: To keep girls in school, the Spotlight Initiative will build on existing efforts, using 'performance-based funding' to support the establishment of girls' hostels as well as girls' toilets for menstrual health and hygiene management. This is a strategic preventive measure, as long distances to school increase girls' vulnerability to SGBV and contribute to teen pregnancy, child marriage, and consequent high school dropout rates. The final evaluation of the JPGE found that long distances to school were a challenge for many students, affecting dropout rates, attendance, and academic performance. Some students felt unsafe travelling long distances to school (ESR, 2017). UNICEF in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology will use the National Education Standards to identify eligible schools. UNICEF will engage contractors to do the construction work and provide technical assistance to quality assure the infrastructure development process. These activities will be refined and iterative, based on ongoing polling by U-Report which will be done in collaboration with the private sector (service providers TNM and Airtel) to better understand issues of VAWG, SGBV, HP and SRH affecting women and girls and by research undertaken within Malawi including through the Spotlight Initiative.

In order to facilitate a free U reporting for all the u reporters under the Spotlight Initiative, UNICEF will utilise the existing contract agreement it has with the two service providers to facilitate u reporting. UNICEF will coordinate and share the results of the polls with other UN agencies to provide insights on peoples' perceptions, knowledge and attitudes. It is also expected that other UN agencies will create awareness on how to join the U report as they implement the spotlight activities.

The Spotlight initiative will also establish and strengthen community advocacy platforms to promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes, and behaviours (Output 3.2). This will focus on four strategies: communication for development (C4D), interpersonal communication, community engagement targeting traditional and religious leaders, including other gatekeepers, and male engagement.

Specifically, communities will be mobilized through theory-driven, method-informed, and gender-sensitive social behavioural change communication programme campaigns and strategies to change social and gender norms that condone VAWG by engaging men, women, girls, and boys using evidence-based information. Emerging evidence on the effectiveness of interventions to tackle VAWG suggests that interventions that address gender norms, behaviours, and inequalities and challenge dominant notions of masculinity linked to controlling and aggressive behaviours are more effective at reducing VAWG than those that do not. Such interventions are usually termed 'gender-transformative approaches'. Even when it appears that financial factors are driving a practice, such as early marriage, it is the gender norm or ideology that dictates that the institution of marriage offers a single avenue of protection for girls. Further, evidence suggests that interventions working with men and women (and boys and girls) are more effective at reducing violence than single-sex interventions. Social norms around gender, power, and violence are adhered to by both males and females; as such, it is critical to involve both sexes in a gender-transformative intervention. A gender-transformative approach explicitly tackles social norms around gender, power, and violence, but also broader ideas, attitudes, and values around male superiority and what it is to be a 'real man' or 'real woman'. Rather than focusing solely on social norms, it is an integrated and multifaceted approach to tackling gender inequality and power relations.

(i) Communication for Development (C4D): Using the social ecological model, the prevention pillar will utilize C4D to address variables in individual and group knowledge in relation to attitudes, beliefs, motivations, behaviours, individual and collective efficacy, social and cultural norms, community and institutional infrastructures, as well as policy and governance. By providing an enabling environment and systems that support individuals, households, and communities to address gender equitable social norms, attitudes, and behavioural change to prevent VAWG and SGBV/HP and promote women's and girls' SRHR, individuals, households, and communities will become more inclusive, resilient, and responsive to children's and women's concerns. Spotlight's C4D programme will consider four key principles – **participation, accountability, inclusion, and non-discrimination, along with the following approaches** to facilitate an evidence-based, theory-driven, gender-sensitive, method-informed strategic thinking and action approach to social and behaviour change communication towards prevention of VAWG and SGBV/HP and promotion of women's and girls' SRHR at the community level.



- **Research:** Human rights–based and gender-sensitive evidence and data will form the foundation of the programme to diagnose existing social norms and stereotypes that condone violence and will inform strategies to facilitate programme interventions towards prevention of VAWG and SGBV/HP and to promote women’s and girls’ SRHR at the community level. The evidence generation will be guided by human rights, gender, and ‘leaving no one behind’ principles, as well as by a life-cycle approach.
- **Audience-centred approach:** Communication interventions and activities should focus on specific participant groups using specific messages rather than generic ones: primary participant groups (adolescent girls and women), secondary participant groups (boys and men, parents and guardians of adolescents, girls, and women), and tertiary groups (traditional and religious leaders, teachers, health-care providers, and government officials). Messages must therefore be tailored to each audience, accessible to women, girls, men, and boys with disabilities (including for those with sight and hearing impairments), harmonized, consistent, and delivered through specific channels of communication for each audience.
- **Focus on individual and community behaviour change, not just knowledge and information:** While one key goal of Spotlight is to transform households and communities to support gender equality, information awareness and knowledge alone is not enough. All communication for social and behaviour change interventions should therefore focus on the engagement and empowerment of households and communities to support the prevention of VAWG and SGBV/HP and the promotion and adoption of positive social norms and practices on gender equality and women’s and girls’ SRHR. Therefore, a mix of communication channels should be utilized, in line with social ecological model.
- **Community engagement, empowerment, and ownership** will be central to addressing the transformation of individuals, households, and communities to support the prevention of VAWG and SGBV/HP and the promotion and adoption of positive social norms and practices on gender equality and women’s and girls’ SRHR. A dynamic, interactive community engagement and empowerment process must in place to strengthen and improve community feedback mechanisms in prevention of VAWG and SGBV/HP and the promotion and adoption of positive social norms and practices on gender equality and women’s and girls’ SRHR.
- **Partnership, coordination, and integration of all players is key:** All implementing partners and agencies must plan and work using an integrated format, working together in a spirit of partnership, along with UN agencies and the Government of Malawi. Coordination and integration will be required in data collection and analysis and use, creating an enabling environment for claim holders and duty bearers to communicate and understand each other and make informed decisions on positive social norms and practices on gender equality and women’s and girls’ SRHR.

(ii) Interpersonal communication: This pillar will include interpersonal communication interventions in combination with edutainment to strengthen and improve social interaction and networks to influence the adoption and maintenance of positive behaviours and practices. Awareness about comprehensive SRHR information, education, and services will be scaled up at all levels, targeting the communities, influential leaders such as community and religious leaders and initiation counsellors, as well as women and girls themselves. Specific attention will be paid to enhancing legal literacy, for both duty bearers and rights holders, to strengthen preventative measures to end VAWG.

(iii) Community engagement

Traditional leaders, their spouses, and other cultural gatekeepers will be consciously engaged through various platforms to ensure that the needs of marginalized groups are safeguarded and prioritized.

- Scaling up from GEWE initiatives, community vibrancy on SRHR, HP, and SGBV will be strengthened through community structures and groups such as mothers’ groups, community action groups, community parliaments, and village savings and loans groups. The Spotlight Initiative will take the child marriage debate to a higher level and create a social movement of traditional authorities in the six districts to devise strategies to act against child marriage and



eliminate harmful traditional practices.⁵¹ To ensure full participation, community activities will ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities, and communications will use language to deconstruct stigma towards marginalized groups to understand the different needs.

- **To curb religious norms that are harmful**, religious leaders will be targeted to address intersectional forms of violence while also partaking in integrated activities that bring together duty bearers and rights holders to appreciate the various issues marginalized groups face. UN will provide grants to media institutions and civil society organisations to implement C4D activities aimed at changing negative social norms.

(iv) Engaging with men and boys

The cultural acceptance of sexuality, particularly male sexuality, in a deeply male-dominant and patriarchal culture continues to engender a culture of violence that victimizes women and children, particularly the girl child. Although small changes are notable, traditional customs and stereotypes are still deeply entrenched in Malawian society. As such, violence against women and girls is still a fundamental issue of concern in Malawi. Evidence suggests that 42 percent of ever-married women have experienced spousal violence. According to the Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2015–2016, 24 percent of ever-married women have experienced at least three types of specified marital control behaviours by their husbands. In contrast, 29 percent have never experienced any marital control behaviours by their husbands. According to the MDHS, the most common type of spousal violence is emotional violence (30 percent), followed by physical violence (26 percent), and sexual violence (19 percent).

- The Spotlight Initiative will also scale up **promotion of positive masculinities for male engagement** on EVAWG and SRHR, including through implementation of the male engagement operational guide. Another component for boys known as ‘boys’ transformation’, which aims to make boys ‘champions of change’ in ending GBV, will be included. This seeks to promote non-violent behaviour and gender equality among girls and boys, while challenging accepted gender norms and expectations.
- Male initiatives on combating GBV and HP (and promoting SRHR) as well as any other issues that impinge on women’s rights will be enhanced. The male networks will provide first point of contact to the women, girls, and fellow men on GBV cases, and will especially help action groups in facilitating access to justice for women and girls.
- Disseminating and orienting men and boys will be done through the HeForShe manual, previously developed under the JPGE, and the HeForShe Barbershop toolbox, which will be jointly launched by the MoGCDSW and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST). In addition, sensitization of male judges, magistrates, and policemen on gender norms will form part of the intervention on attitude change, particularly on gender biases related to intimate partner violence and marital rape prevalent in the courtroom and VSU units.
- **Men and women** will be engaged in transforming social norms to end violence and ensure the consideration of tribal, class, disability, and gender disparities. Targeted interventions with perpetrators of violence will be undertaken to ensure they are engaged with positive masculinity activities to reintegrate them into society and reduce the risk of recidivism.
- **Documentation of social norms: at district and national levels**, the programme will document emerging social norms that require a review of the legal and policy framework to tackle them, and identify and work with champions at national and community levels to change social norms and improve service delivery in relation to tackling SGBV and HP.

To build on existing initiatives and strengthen government systems for sustainability, the programme will partner with District Councils and existing CSOs, especially local NGOs and community-based structures working on SGBV and SRHR. UN will call for proposals and provide grants to civil society

⁵¹ SASA! Approach.



organisation and encourage strong collaboration with the government structures and communities to ensure sustainability of the initiatives on changing negative social norms.

Interventions will be informed by women's and girl's experiences in the community and experts in the field of VAWG. The cultural appropriateness of the strategies will be maintained by engaging local organizations and individuals – both men and women – who have knowledge of both the context and the outcomes of past interventions in the district. Further, the programme will support existing coordination mechanisms to avoid duplication of efforts and will reach out to and include marginalized groups, including PWDs, persons with albinism, FSWs, LGBTI persons, and elderly and widowed women.

Outcome 4: Quality Services

Women and girls who experience violence, including SGBV/HP, use available, accessible, acceptable, and quality essential services, including those for long-term recovery from violence

The core focus will be reaching the furthest behind first with integrated SRHR, HIV, and VAWG services in a multi-sectoral manner, using the essential services package in the six districts. Through the Spotlight Initiative, girls and women at risk of violence will be able to access quality, integrated essential services that include SRH, justice, prosecution, and psychosocial support in line with international human rights standards and guidelines. Special focus will be on strengthening the provision of the essential services package and on awareness raising to create demand for women and girls so that they are informed and empowered to exercise their rights. Furthermore, service providers' capacity will be built to deliver the essential services package. It is expected that women and girls who experience violence and HP will increase use of the services and recover from violence, while perpetrators will be prosecuted and punished, with underlying barriers to women's and girls' access to services addressed.

To achieve this outcome, the following activities will be implemented:

- Review, adapt, and/or develop national guidelines, directory, integrated scorecard, curricula, training manuals, and tools on an integrated quality essential services package on SRHR and VAWG for women, adolescent girls, and at-risk groups/key populations.
- Support the scale up of integrated quality SRHR and SGBV essential services for women and girl survivors facing intersecting forms of discrimination, including strengthening of referral mechanisms.
- Support the provision of integrated SRHR and SGBV services in VAWG response, targeting the marginalized and most at-risk women and girls.
- Systematic professional development for frontline service providers (police, social welfare, justice, health).
- Capacity building in SRHR for institutions (training colleges), frontline service providers, and community volunteers (child protection officers, social welfare assistance, community development assistants, SRHR/safe motherhood committee members, community midwives, health surveillance assistance, and community policing), and civil society organizations, focusing on the ability to respond to survivors of VAWG and provide quality essential services in accordance with global standards, guidelines, and tools.
- Intensify demand creation for SRHR, voluntary family planning, post-abortion care, and SGBV services by adolescent girls, women, and marginalized key populations.
- Legal aid activities, including mobile courts (and their rehabilitation).
- Establish safe spaces for survivors of SGBV and refurbishment of VSUs to provide emergency accommodation and services (including counselling and psychosocial support).
- Scaling up and institutionalizing the operational guidelines for male engagement for SGBV/HP, SRHR, HIV, and gender equality issues, using the same male engagement group formed/strengthened in Pillar 3.

The Spotlight Initiative will support the localization and roll-out of global standards and guidance for essential services at the local level; strengthening the provision of coordinated, multi-sectoral, and quality essential services for VAWG survivors; standardizing the referral pathway so that there is a clear



structure to follow for delivery of an integrated essential services package in a gender-sensitive and non-discriminatory manner.

Systematic professional development will be undertaken for frontline service providers to ensure quality service provision, with a focus on those extension workers that visit households and interact with women and girls that are most left behind and are exposed to intersecting forms of discrimination. Professional development and capacity-building interventions will aim to enhance quick, affordable services for women and girls and key populations (LGBTI persons, FSWs, and women and girls living with albinism or disabilities) in a non-discriminatory manner and prevent, screen, treat, and refer women and girls who are at risk of or are experiencing violence.

To move away from 'business as usual' and ensure impact and sustainability, capacity development will be informed by prior capacity assessment and include a component of mentorship and on-the-job training. Monitoring and evaluation of capacity development interventions will be in-built. With the high prevalence rate of HIV among girls, HIV issues will be integrated into the provision of SRHR and SGBV services to ensure the comprehensive provision of post-rape care, including post-exposure prophylaxis, HIV testing and counselling, life skills-based CSE, and provision of contraceptives, including condoms, for dual protection.

Need-based advocacy will be undertaken, targeting women, girls, men, boys, and the community to increase their capacities and awareness to demand SRHR/SGBV services and collectively respond to violence. This will be coupled with community dialogues with men and women groups to improve knowledge levels, attitudes, and behaviour regarding SGBV/HP, HIV, and SRHR. Community dialogues conducted under Pillar 3 will also be used to understand drivers of violence, collectively establish mitigating strategies, and assess and understand women's and girls' SRHR and health-seeking behaviours so that the Spotlight response is geared towards appropriate interventions for women and girls. Use of modern technology, such as mobile phones and helplines to report SGBV, to reach out to those left behind will also be employed.

Remoteness and long travel distances, which prevent access to quality integrated SRHR and SGBV services, will be addressed through integrated mobile and outreach service provision, including legal aid on SGBV. This will include the use of mobile courts to reach the *farthest* hard-to-reach communities, women, girls, and PWDs through the district council, village mediators, paralegals, and CBOs working with PWDs, and those facing other intersecting forms of violence, as well as strengthening the work of women lawyers, magistrates, female police officers, and grass-roots justice advocates. To transcend the gender barriers of survivors' silence and to break through stigma and barriers to reporting, the Spotlight Initiative will also engage with women's rights defenders to maintain a survivor-friendly and survivor-centred approach. Recognizing the informal nature of the rural setting where the majority of the population lives, the Spotlight Initiative will also engage women village mediators who are trained local human rights advocates and are individuals who identify with the cultural setting they operate in. These village mediators will be further trained on SGBV and will provide a primary entry point in the identification of SGBV cases, in collaboration with paralegals, the community police forum, and VSUs. SGBV, VAWG, and HP cases that need legal assistance (prosecution, legal education, referral) will be referred to Spotlight Initiative-supported lawyers. Specialized lawyers and judges will be mandated to work on sexual offences.

The village mediators will also be trained to document SGBV cases in their localities and will be supported to engage village development committees, area development committees, and the council to ensure that SGBV issues and interventions are integrated into the planning and programming of local structures.

The Spotlight Initiative will also invest in those community structures mandated to receive cases of SGBV/HP, namely community VSUs and police VSUs. A rapid assessment of the material needs of existing structures will be undertaken in target districts, and the necessary supplies procured. Supplies will also be procured to facilitate the psychosocial recovery and care of adolescent and young girls. Another strategy will be refurbishing service provision points, health facilities for integrated SGBV



services, and traditional courts so that they provide a survivor-friendly environment that includes a special court room, accessible ramps, and water and sanitation facilities.

The Spotlight Initiative will further enhance access to HIV prevention, testing, and counselling; post-abortion care services, and contraceptives for eligible sexually active adolescents and young women, including those left far behind (LGBTI persons, PWDs, and persons with albinism, etc). Communities will be empowered to effectively establish risk-pooling initiatives to support poor/at-risk women and adolescent girls to access an essential package of services. Men and boys will be engaged as partners to facilitate girls' and women's access to SRHR and the whole integrated package of services.

In addition to ensuring that no one is left behind, there will be a focus on identifying hard-to-reach and at-risk women and girls, including those with disabilities, through conducting an assessment of the main gaps and barriers that are faced by the most left behind populations, including those with disabilities and albinism, those living with HIV, LGBTI persons, young mothers, adolescents, and youth living in poverty; strengthening and scaling up existing services to be more accessible to women and girls with disabilities; and strengthening community facility linkages for integrated support to ensure that they are reached by life skills programmes that build their health, social, and economic assets.

The initiative will also ensure that women and adolescent girls, including those marginalized and excluded, are equipped with entrepreneurship skills and have access to small grants to engage in economic activities. This will enhance increased knowledge of and access to accompaniment/support initiatives, including longer-term recovery services. This will be coupled with appropriate community information and education tailored to their needs, ensuring that they are aware of their rights and the range of services available. Spotlight will also strengthen the integration of SGBV/HP into SRHR response (midwifery trainings, family planning service provision, and other maternal health service provision) to ensure that they provide integrated services on SGBV/HP and SRHR to women and girls with disabilities in a non-discriminatory manner. Training of sign language teachers will be done to reach out to those with hearing and speaking disabilities.

The initiative will provide technical and financial support to government ministries and non-governmental institutions that directly or indirectly work on provision of essential, quality GBV services to women and girls. The financial support will employ a direct implementation financing modality, especially for government institutions and for CSOs – a call for proposal will be effected for those with expertise and programming experience in SGBV, SRHR, HP, and VAWG, including advocacy work in Spotlight thematic areas, and the modality of funding shall be direct cash transfers for those that will succeed to be operating in the six targeted districts.

UNFPA will work with the Ministry of Gender, the Ministry of Health, the police, the judiciary, and the CSO Spotlight Team to support CSOs and women's movements working in the target districts, especially at the community level, in the provision of quality services for GBV survivors and ensuring their rehabilitation back into the communities. Emphasis will also be on reaching out to the communities, women, and girls to create demand for GBV services. To strengthen more community outreach and to leave no one behind, UNFPA will recruit United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) for district and community-level operations; in addition, the programme will procure vehicles, motorbikes, and pushbikes to ensure reaching the last mile with services on SGBV and SRHR. The UNVs will also contribute to capacitating the government officers, CSOs, and CBOs in the provision of integrated essential services for GBV, as well as managing activities and funds, including reporting on results. This will ensure sustainability and ownership of the GBV essential package initiatives introduced by the Spotlight Initiative.

Outcome 5: Data

Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programme

To achieve this outcome, the following activities will be implemented:



- Establish an observatory hub in an identified institution for sustainable monitoring of trends and patterns of VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR for evidence-based planning and decision making.
- Build the capacity of service providers (police services, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Gender, Judiciary, CSOs, Malawi Human Rights Commission, etc.) to conduct forensic investigations and use intersectoral data, standard protocols, and ethical procedures.
- Review, standardize, and harmonize inclusive and participatory data collection tools, methodologies, and reporting registries and systems for data management on VAWG in line with international human rights standards, linking to the national- and district-level database (including disaggregated data by age, disability, and HIV status, including women aged 49+).
- Build the capacity of the districts to collect and manage data and use databases on SGBV, HP, and SRHR.
- Roll out and strengthen the GBV information management system in the six districts and at the central level.
- Support real-time monitoring through mobile technology on SGBV, SRHR, and HP, including through national identity cards as a tracking system for SGBV/HP cases.
- Establish an integrated tracking system for SGBV and HP cases within the justice system.
- Assess, monitor, and advocate for the registration of children below 16 to ensure that all children are registered to prevent child marriages.

The scope and scale of this outcome will be two-fold. First, the Spotlight Initiative will aim to establish an Observatory Hub that will act as an SRHR and SGBV/HP data repository. The national hub will be supported to map existing data management systems, review and harmonize web-based data management systems in the selected six districts, and establish an integrated information-sharing system between the hub and sectoral/district-level management information systems, as well as private companies' human resource databases. This will be used to monitor trends and patterns of VAWG and SGBV/HP in the targeted districts. The hub will have a statistical focus, including trend analysis, building on an existing partnership between the hub-hosting institution (most likely the National Statistical Office) and the UN. Support institutions (e.g. Malawi Human Rights Commission, police, courts, justice, prisons) will have the function of managing and monitoring cases for early response. In the data system within the hub, adequate provision will be included in the ethical protocols and procedures to ensure compliance with international standards for safety and anonymity, national research ethics, and social services requirements. The harmonization of SGBV, SRHR, and HP data collection tools and management systems will allow for real-time and spatial monitoring of the transformation or non-transformation of HP practices and their impact on levels of SGBV and HP incidents. Under Outcome 3, in phase 1, baseline data will be collected on SRHR, SGBV, and HP, thus providing information against indicators, which will be monitored over the period of the Spotlight programme. In the subsequent phase, the programme will collect qualitative data that will inform the status of HP and other factors contributing to SGBV and SRHR. The programme will also partner with the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC), the Office of the Ombudsman, the Malawi Police Service, and other justice service providers to share with the National Observatory Hub their datasets on SGBV and HP cases for the hub to harmonize and analyse for evidence generation.

The hub will be the implementing partner that will be identified through a competitive bidding process. Based on a contractual agreement, a grant will be given to the hub for its operations and activities. To ensure that the hub has the requisite technical capacity, the programme will recruit a data expert with strong competencies in information technology and data collection, analysis, and management. The data expert will provide technical assistance through the mentoring programme for sectoral and district-level data management staff.

The programme will support a mentorship programme to develop the capabilities of government personnel at national and local levels, women's rights advocates, independent researchers, MHRC, police officers, and personnel from selected CSOs in collecting, analysing, and reporting on prevalence and/or incidence data, including qualitative data on VAWG, including SGBV/HP, in line with international and regional standards. It is expected that experts working at the Observatory Hub will be among the key technical personnel involved in the mentorship programmes on data collection, analysis, and reporting through technical partnerships that will be established under the Spotlight Initiative.



The Observatory Hub will be supported to develop or adapt and contextualize methods and standards at the national level to produce prevalence and/or incidence data on VAWG, including SGBV and HP. The Spotlight Initiative will also support the harmonization of tools, methodologies, protocols, and systems for collecting disaggregated data on prevalence and incidents of VAWG, including SGBV and HP, in line with international and regional standards.

Building on the existing ethical guidelines, a revised version will be developed to respond to Spotlight needs for data collection, sharing, and reporting and guide any VAWG data collection processes. The guidelines will include confidentiality and safety provisions for each sector, how data should be de-identified to protect women's private information, and under which security conditions data must be stored. Likewise, it will be determined what data can be shared and with which institutions, as well as how it should be shared. The guidelines will also determine ethical principles to inform training for all of those involved at every stage of data collection, processing, and dissemination.

Secondly, the Spotlight Initiative will strengthen the existing data systems, ensuring that various forms of SGBV, HP, and obstacles to women and girls' SRHR are reported on a regular basis at country and district levels. The initiative will support existing data collection systems; administrative data interoperability; and independent research on specific topics to fill information gaps. For any specific research that would be required in the course of programme implementation, the Observatory Hub will be commissioning the research through sub-contracting. To ensure the interoperability of various sets of data being collected, SGBV/HP and SRHR data collection tools will be harmonized, and community, district, and national data collectors oriented on their use.

Capacity assessments of various institutions collecting and analysing SRHR, SGBV, and HP data will be conducted to identify entry points for strengthening the data generation and reporting systems. A capacity-building plan for the stakeholders will be developed and implemented in the first year of programme implementation. The hub will collaborate with academic and other research institutions to implement the capacity-building plan. The plan will aim to ensure the quality of the data collection tools, orientation materials, data analysis models, and reports. The training institutions will be sub-contracted to provide continuous training of VAWG, HP, SRHR and SGBV data management staff for refresher trainings and in case of staff turnover. To ensure sustainability, the NSO will be capacitated to institutionalize VAWG, SGBV, HP, and SRHR data collection and analysis in all key sectors relevant to the Spotlight focus areas, both at national and local levels. This institutionalization will be done in collaboration with the UN Data Programme that will be up and running during the same period the Spotlight Initiative will be implemented.

In the first phase, the Spotlight Initiative will support the strengthening of the SGBV information management system at both national and district levels, including mentoring of sector-based gender officers, M&E officers, and district development planning officers in data collection, entry, analysis, management, and reporting. Where needed, software and hardware will be procured following a proper capacity assessment. Subsequently, a GBV information management system will be operationalized in the six districts and linkages ensured with other SGBV, HP, and SRHR data management platforms, including 'Kuwala Knowledge Management Platform', SGBV, HP, and SRHR case reporting and management technologies, and other SGBV case management systems. Officers from enforcement bodies will be trained to conduct forensic investigations and track VAWG cases using unique identifiers to ensure that perpetrators and victims are monitored and managed within international standards.

This outcome primarily targets SGBV, HP, and SRHR data collectors at community, district, and sectoral levels. At the national level, the targets are the NSO; the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability, and Social Welfare; MHRC; Malawi Police Service, the Ministry of Labour, Youth, and Human Development; and the Ministry of Local Government. At the local level, the targets will be the six selected district councils; community police structures, including Victims Support Units; and CSOs that work closely with local councils in the areas of SGBV, HP, SRHR, and access to justice (i.e. the Paralegal Services Institute). The primary beneficiary population includes women and girls aged 15 and above, including those with HIV and disability living in local communities in the six districts (among whom changes in socio-economic status are expected). The secondary beneficiary population segments are traditional leaders, duty bearers, political leaders, statisticians, and professionals in the identified key sectors who will be capacitated to provide their services using inclusive and gender- and



human rights–responsive approaches based on evidence produced with data disaggregated by age, sex, and geographic location. Partnerships will be built through MOUs that the UN Resident Coordinator will enter into with the identified partner (governmental or non-governmental organization). The responsible partners will be identified through two methodologies. First, the Spotlight Initiative will conduct a mapping of stakeholders in SGBV, HP, and SRHR data collection and management. This will be followed by capacity and harmonized cash transfer assessments of identified potential government partners to determine technical and financial management capacity gaps.

For NGOs, the Spotlight Initiative will first conduct an open competition to select NGOs that the programme can partner with in the area of data management. The identified NGOs will then undergo a capacity assessment that will seek to identify technical and financial management capacity gaps. The selected non-governmental organizations will then enter into an MOU with either the Resident Coordinator or the Government of Malawi, through which a grant will be transferred to the NGO. For public institutions (i.e. NSO, police, MHRC, Ministry of Gender, local councils), different financing modalities will be used. Partners that are responsible parties for the implementation of activities under the Gender Joint Work Plan (i.e. Ministry of Gender) will be supported under direct implementation arrangements whereby UNDP will make direct payments for activity costs unless the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) assessment report graduates the ministry from a high-risk institution to a medium-risk one. Malawi Human Rights Commission will be receiving direct cash transfers through a UN Joint Human Rights Work Plan. UNDP is partnering with the Malawi Police Service on setting up an early warning and early response system to violence, which includes gender-based violence. Through this partnership, UNDP will make direct cash transfers to them to ensure quality and regular conflict/violence data collection and analysis for early warning and early response.

For local councils, depending on HACT and capacity assessment results, UNDP will enter into MOUs to allow for direct cash transfers. For councils that are rated high risk in HACT assessment reports, UNDP will provide direct payments for any interventions such councils would conduct. Capacity building of all these institutions will include mentoring individual officers, procurement of hardware and software, supporting south-south cooperation, and recruitment of local UNVs to supplement the technical assistance provided by the programme..

Outcome 6: Civil Society Organizations/Women’s Movement

Women's and girls' rights groups, autonomous social movements, and relevant CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and SRHR

The scope of this outcome is to enhance all women’s, youth, and other CSOs capacity to participate and contribute to the implementation and monitoring of SGBV/HP, SRHR, and HIV interventions at different levels. The scope will extend to formal and informal platforms representing marginalized population groups such as refugees, women with disabilities, persons with albinism, teenage mothers, survivors of SGBV, and the elderly. The primary target groups are women’s organizations, human rights defenders, CBOs, youth organizations, and marginalized groups at both national and district levels. It is also expected that the Spotlight Initiative will work with perpetrators of SGBV/HP through existing networks of men and boys at the community and national level.

To achieve the above-mentioned outcome, the following activities will be implemented:

- Map civil society organizations, women’s groups, youth organizations, groups representing marginalized populations, and those working on VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR.
- Support the fostering of a national women’s and girls’ movement that will provide oversight to interventions on ending VAWG, promoting SRHR, and eliminating HP.
- Strengthen technical capacities for CSOs and women’s and youth organizations related to gender-responsive budgeting, monitoring, and developing tools to consolidate their role as watchdogs on women’s and girls’ rights.



- Strengthen technical capacities for the CSNRG on monitoring VAWG and SRHR/HP cases, judgements, and enforcement of related laws.
- Provide capacity development support for groups representing marginalized populations, including FSWs, LGBTI persons, PWDs, PWAs, women and girls living with HIV/AIDS, and other marginalized groups, to develop and implement operational plans on eliminating discrimination and SGBV/HP and promoting SRHR.
- Support capacity development of CSOs, women's and girls' organizations, and groups representing marginalized populations through increased financial and technical support on contributing (monitoring and reporting) to treaty body mechanisms.
- Strengthen coordination and partnerships at national and local levels among government, CSOs, women parliamentarians, and development partners towards building synergies, collective advocacy, and joint interventions, including monitoring programmes on ending VAWG, promoting SRHR, and eliminating HP.
- Strengthen women's, adolescent girls', and youth associations' capacity to advocate for the development and implementation of laws, policies, and programmes to end SGBV and child marriage.
- Support the development of community scorecards, opinion polls, grievance and redress structures, and other social accountability mechanisms for SGBV/HP- and SRHR-related reporting and monitoring.

The focus of support will be on advocacy initiatives, strengthening coordination structures, and building the capacity of women's organizations to create an enabling environment for a national women's movement to emerge. The Spotlight Initiative will focus on mobilizing partners at the national and community level around a common goal. It will emphasize collective efficacy and empowerment to create this enabling environment. The Spotlight Initiative partners will work through dialogue, coalition building, group/organizational activities, advocacy and campaigns to end SGBV/HP, capacity building, leadership initiatives, and treaty body monitoring and reporting. Pillar 6 will target banking institutions, microfinance institutions (to enhance loan accessibility for survivors of SGBV), mobile operators (to assist in the development of reporting platforms), and the media (for sensitization and advocacy), including working with technology hubs.

To do what is outlined above, the Spotlight Initiative will form the CSNRG, constituting 15 CSOs. Support will be given to CSOs and their networks to map out capacity needs and gaps. A multi-stakeholder approach is envisaged, with a community of practice for knowledge sharing and inclusion of marginalized groups that are left behind and not recognized in national networks.

The Spotlight Initiative seeks to work with regional and local human rights networks, including those with a specific focus (and proven track record) on intersectionality such as PWDs, LGBTI persons, migrants and refugees, teenage mothers, and minority groups. To complement this, formal and informal networks will also be strengthened to provide for a more inclusive and diverse legal environment. These networks will be capacitated to write independent reports (including gender analysis self-reporting tools for community women's groups as an innovation towards enhanced accountability, self-assessment, and improved monitoring and evaluation) as well as monitor and implement the key recommendations provided.

1. Existing national networks (NGO Gender Coordinating Network, National Trafficking Network, Girls Not Brides, Association of Persons with Albinism, Girls Empowerment Network Malawi, Youth Network, Federation of Disability Organizations in Malawi, among others) provide an entry point for community-based organizations that have membership in the national networks, and these will be targeted in the six districts. In ensuring that CSO groups that represent marginalized groups are not left behind, it is expected that basket-funding mechanisms need to be increased to create more opportunities for funding. In order to ensure cost effectiveness and strengthen CSO capacity and presence under the Spotlight Initiative and within Malawi, this pillar will provide support to CSOs through grants, calls for proposals, and targeted and focused support to organizations working on intersectionality, including LGBTI persons,



HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities, female genital mutilation, early child marriage, etc. This includes those organizations that have a strong grass-roots presence, innovation, and demonstrated results in the specific areas but may not have the capacity to submit strong proposals. Efforts will be made to build the capacities of such organizations to ensure compliance to procedures and accountability.

III. Governance

Overall oversight and accountability

National Coordination

Deliberate effort has been made to avoid creating new parallel structures; instead, it was agreed to use existing government coordination and governance structures. This, among other things, ensures sustainability, reinforces government ownership, and allows for local capacity to be strengthened.

The Spotlight Initiative in Malawi will be governed by a **National Steering Committee (NSC)**, co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Chief Secretary. The Head of the EU Delegation will be a key member of the NSC and play a key role in the national leadership and coordination of the Spotlight Initiative. The NSC will consist of senior personnel of all parties to the joint intervention with a similar level of decision-making authority: the head of the EU Delegation; heads of recipient agencies (UN Women, UNDP, UNICEF, and UNFPA); MoGCDSW; Ministry of Health; MoEST; Ministry of Labour, Youth, Sports, and Manpower Development; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development; Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security; MoJCA; Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and Development (MoFEPD); the judiciary; and CSO representatives nominated by the Civil Society National Reference Group (ensuring 20% of civil society representation in this Committee). Other stakeholders, including large donors in the field of EAWG, community representatives, and organizations implementing similar programmes, may be invited to participate to ensure synergies among the programmes on a needs-related basis.

The NSC is the highest level of national coordination at the political level. It stipulates national-level strategic policy direction and mobilizes resources for VAWG/SGBV/SRHR/HP and prevention and response. The committee is aligned with the priorities and dynamics of the country, reflecting the initiative's principles of inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, consensus-based decisions, and country participation and ownership.

The role of the NSC is to oversee the overall project implementation, provide strategic direction, review and decide on the recommendations made by the Gender Sector Working Group (GSWG) on changes related to the project implementation or document, and share information on policy and legal decisions affecting SGBV/HP response in Malawi. The NSC will meet bi-annually. The NSC will guide and oversee the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative specifically by:

- Ensuring strong communication on and coordination of the Spotlight Initiative at the country level and supporting participatory implementation of the country-level programme, in alignment with national priorities outlined in the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) III, sector plans and policies, the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2019–2023, and the EU Strategic Plan for Malawi.
- Approving annual work plans, reviewing output-level results, and adjusting implementation arrangements as needed.
- Reviewing and approving periodic and annual joint programme narrative reports submitted by the Spotlight Coordinator and GSWG on behalf of the recipient agencies.
- Approving programmatic and budgetary revisions (up to 25 percent of the total value of budget) within the limits of the approved programme document by the Operational Steering Committee.



- Reviewing risk management strategies and ensuring that the programme is proactively managing and mitigating risk.
- Managing stakeholder relationships and ensuring coordination and synergies between the Spotlight Initiative and other programmes on VAWG and HP in Malawi.

Gender Sector Working Group

The Gender Sector Working Group consists of six technical working groups working on different aspects of gender. Considering the cross-sectoral nature of the Spotlight Initiative, this Sector Working Group was selected as the technical advisory body to the NSC and consists of members from key line ministries, as well as civil society.

The group serves as a dialogue structure for the Spotlight Initiative to discuss and address issues affecting the most marginalized groups facing intersecting and multiple discrimination, SGBV/HP, and more broadly issues of gender as a cross-cutting concern within the various sectors.

The group meets on a *quarterly basis* and will report to the NSC on a bi-annual basis. It is co-chaired by the PS of the MoGCDSW and UN Women as entities mandated to coordinate VAWG and SGBV/HP prevention and response initiatives in Malawi. The GSWG, which is an existing structure, was chosen to strengthen national-level coordination and oversight on issues of gender and SGBV/HP. Based on progress reports, it is the responsibility of the GSWG to recommend changes in the project implementation or project document. It will be the mandate of the GSWG to propose changes affecting the budget of the project document to the NSC and otherwise provide reports and advice as requested. The GSWG will meet quarterly; additional meetings can be called when required.

Furthermore, in line with the requirements of the Spotlight Initiative and embedded in the SDGs, it is mandatory that 20 percent CSO representation should be secured in this group and throughout the coordination structure.

The Spotlight Initiative, being a partnership initiative between the UN and the EU, is required to have adequate representation of the EU Delegation across all the governance structures. Therefore, the EU Delegation will constitute part of the GSWG, where technical aspects of the initiative are addressed and key recommendations for the NSC's endorsement will be developed.

Through the **Civil Society National Reference Group**, CSOs will be brought in as members of the various coordination structures, but also as implementing partners. To avoid potential conflicts of interest, CSO representatives in the working groups and/or steering committees will be required to recuse themselves from meetings that relate to the CSO s/he represents.

Civil Society National Reference Group (CSNRG)

In alignment with the principle of national ownership embedded in the SDGs and the SDGs' guiding principle of 'leave no one behind – reach the furthest first', national and local CSOs, among others, will be prioritized in the membership of the Civil Society National Reference Group to ensure that most marginalized women and girls facing intersecting discrimination are reached with a comprehensive prevention response, including access to justice and SRHR services.

Addressing multiple and intersecting discriminations suffered by marginalized women and girls calls for an approach that is multi-pronged, involving stakeholders with various comparative advantages. The various dimensions of SGBV/HP and intersectionality call for responses that provide services relating to health, legal, psychosocial, economic, and cultural aspects respectively. Thus the need to bring on board a wide range of stakeholders to respond in a synergistic manner.

CSOs in the context of Malawi include human rights organizations, children's rights groups, women's rights groups, faith-based organizations (FBOs) and networks, youth groups, neighbourhood associations, CBOs, and SGBV survivor groups and networks.



The Role of the Interim CSNRG⁵²

The interim CSNRG is in place, and members include those working in the areas of health, legal services, education, women's economic empowerment, LGBTI issues, human rights, etc. The interim group is set up to ensure the inclusion of the voices of CSOs already involved in the initial stages of the Malawi Spotlight Initiative Country Programme formulation. Representatives of the interim CSNRG are invited to all planning meetings and are part of the group that reviews the draft Country Programme Document.

At this stage, the interim group is tasked to initiate the process of putting together the formal CSNRG; this has begun with consultation meetings to agree on the terms of reference and selection criteria for joining the formal CSNRG.

The Role of the CSNRG

The CSNRG will serve as a policy advocacy network and a common advocacy platform for action. The reference group will work towards achieving the ultimate goal of the Spotlight Initiative, which is a life free of violence for women and girls through concrete contributions. As part of mobilizing support for Spotlight, the main networks and organizations of women's movements and youth and men's leadership bodies in Malawi will be included in the conceptual leadership, development, and implementation.

CSNRG will promote the ownership of the initiative by national partners and will work together with the NSC, the GSWG, and the Joint Programme Implementation Team to roll out the Spotlight Initiative. Some key roles that the CSNRG is going to play, especially in relation to the governance structure, include the following:

- Facilitating coordination among the various CSOs and other key stakeholders' activities to come up with common strategies to work on SGBV/HP and specifically on intersecting discriminations that marginalized women and girls face in the country, with links to both regional and global levels.
- Mobilizing CSOs and initiating and organizing consultations with women's organizations and networks at the initial stages of developing Malawi-specific implementation plans as key rights holders, stakeholders, and experts in the field of SGBV and VAWG.
- Promoting coherence and consistency among national, regional, and global messages of the Spotlight Initiative in relation to its objectives, taking into account national initiatives from government and civil society.
- Influencing lines of action at the national level to accomplish the six Spotlight Initiative outcomes, outputs, and benchmarks as defined in the Malawi Spotlight Initiative Country Programme Document, bearing in mind existing initiatives and according to specific national needs, including as identified, through statistical data, national and regional multi-stakeholder consultations, and available official information.
- Making use of CSNRG representation at the various levels of the Malawi Spotlight Initiative governance structure, ensuring that lead civil society partners, including women's groups, are brought in as partners and subcontracted as agents for the implementation of components of the initiative
- Operating under the umbrella of the Malawi Spotlight Initiative, the CSNRG will promote a voice for the voiceless through advocacy, access to resources through partnerships, and results through strategic multi-sectoral cooperation
- **Close partnerships with women's movements.** Building new constituencies for gender equality can only succeed by strengthening relations with women's movements and recognizing their pioneering and sustaining role in bringing public attention to gender-based discrimination. The Spotlight Initiative must deepen its collaboration with women's movements to ensure its wide ownership.

⁵² Upon receiving the analysis of the interim CSNRG from the secretariat in the coming month, discussions will be held with the interim group in order to use it to inform the process of how the formal Civil Society National Reference Group is constituted and include this information in a future iteration of the Country Programme Document.



- **Women-centred and rights-based approach for gender equality.** GBV is rooted in unequal power relations and systemic discrimination and is wielded as an instrument of control over women's agency and sexuality.⁵³ A rights-based approach must therefore strike at the root of VAWG by confronting the legitimization of violence through disempowering structures of power. Most importantly, women must be central to determining solutions and be empowered economically, politically, and in other ways to take full responsibility in the process of change. Women survivors must have a strong voice in the Spotlight Initiative, not merely to offer testimony, but also as success stories who have transcended victimhood.
- **Engaging with FBOs/religious groups.** The initiative will engage religious and faith-based groups by building on their influence over attitudes and behaviour and their strong presence in humanitarian and relief work, as well as their structure, which reaches the grassroots level, including support to women and girls victimized by violence, HIV/AIDS, etc. The involvement of religious groups is, however, complicated by the perceived role of religion in reinforcing patriarchal values, which underpin historical discrimination against women and prevail in many cultures in the region. Spotlight will work with religious groups not only to reach out to their constituencies, but also to advocate within the institutions to encourage the progressive interpretation of religious texts in support of GEWE through intra- and inter-faith dialogue:
 - (i) Supporting change towards gender equality in structures influenced by religious groups.
 - (ii) Reaching out and recruiting religious leaders in the campaign against VAWG.
 - (iii) Promoting gender awareness in education institutions run by the religious groups.
 - (iv) Mobilizing resources of religious organizations for protective services and empowerment (crisis centres, counselling and rehabilitation centres, women's studies institutes).
 - (v) Supporting gender studies in the formation of women religious leaders and priests.
 - (vi) Engaging only with groups who affirm the universal principles of human rights, commit to end VAWG, and recognize its roots in gender inequality in societies.

District Coordination

The political governance of the programme will be by the **District Council**, which is the highest policymaking body at the district level, comprising ward councillors (elected members), traditional leaders (chiefs), Members of Parliament, and representatives of special interest groups. The DC meets on a quarterly basis and will be responsible for providing policy and overall leadership and coordinating the identification, planning, and implementation of programme activities.

The **District Executive Committee (DEC)**, which is a technical advisory body to the DC, will guide the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative in line with existing government plans, policies, and strategies on VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR. The DEC will also assist in the identification, prioritization, and preliminary feasibility studies of the community needs and project proposals, undertake technical appraisal of development proposals and provide a forum for reflection on and monitoring of progress and challenges regarding the implementation of the initiative. The DEC comprises the District Commissioner (chairperson), the Director of Planning and Development (secretary), heads of all devolved sectors, and representatives of NGOs in the area. The committee can also co-opt some members where required. The DEC meets quarterly and reports to the DC during its quarterly meetings. The initiative will be implemented through the Development Service Committee, which reports directly to the DEC.

The **Gender Technical Working Group (GTWG)**, a subcommittee of the DEC, will monitor progress towards district-specific achievement of the Spotlight Initiative Joint Programme objectives. The committee will also share information on policy and legal decisions affecting VAWG and SGBV/HP prevention, including SRHR and responses at the district level. The GTWG meets quarterly and is chaired by the Director of Planning and Development, while the District Gender and Development Office

⁵³ Ending Violence Against Women: From Words to Action, Secretary-General's In-depth Study on Violence Against Women, October 2006

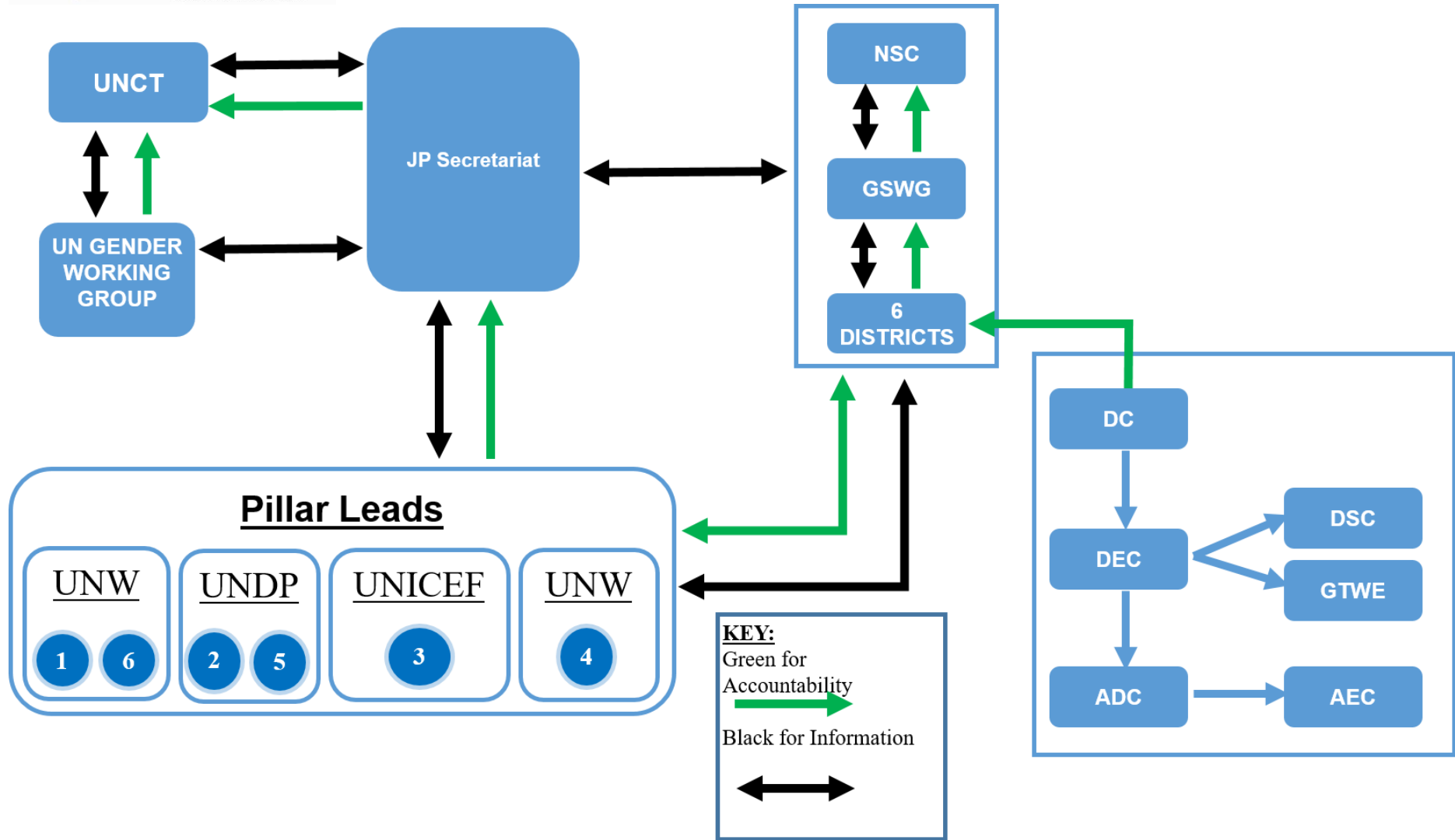


will be Secretariat. The Spotlight programme will have a district coordinator in each district who will have the overall responsibility for the day-to-day activities of the Spotlight Initiative.

At the community level, the **Area Development Committee (ADC)** will be an entry point for the Spotlight Initiative at the traditional authority level, and its roles will include assisting in the identification and prioritization of community needs, facilitating the mobilization of communities in support of the activities, and supervising, monitoring, and evaluating the implementation of projects at the traditional authority level. In terms of representation, the ADC comprises VDC Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons, VDC secretaries, religious leaders, representatives of youth and women's groups in the area, representatives from the business community, and the chairperson of the Area Executive Committee. The Area Executive Committee, a technical committee that plays an advisory role to the ADV, shall be responsible for advising the ADC on all aspects of needs assessment and project identification in the Spotlight Initiative.



MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION STRUCTURE





Accountability

The Spotlight Initiative is set up to enhance the UN's cohesion, leadership, and accountability, leading to national coordination and transformational impact at the country level in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. To ensure coherence, the UN Resident Coordinator co-chairs the NSC on behalf of the recipient agencies. Decisions are taken by consensus, with the Resident Coordinator having the final decision if the group is unable to reach a majority vote.

The Spotlight Initiative will ensure accountability through inter-locking mechanisms at national, district, and village levels, as indicated in the governance structure.

The Resident Coordinator provides overall oversight of the implementation of the Spotlight Initiative Joint Programme in Malawi and ensures that technical expertise from the most relevant UN agencies is leveraged in an impartial and inclusive manner, with a focus on achieving results for women and girls. The Spotlight Initiative is aligned with the UNDAF 2019–2023, a new generation UNDAF positioned as the systemwide approach to Malawi's development challenges. With the framework's focus on the root causes of Malawi's development challenges, violence against women and girls plays a key role as a cross-cutting issue in the UNDAF and is outlined in a separate outcome on gender equality. In line with the UNDAF, the Spotlight Initiative will uphold the principles of a human rights-based approach, including the principles of transparency, accountability, participation, and inclusion, as well the principle of leaving no one behind, which is embedded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and is a transformational principle in the Malawi UNDAF.

The programme implementation will benefit from the substantive contribution of the recipient UN organizations' technical advisers based in Malawi, who will play an important role in the establishment of links with similar UN and other projects in Africa and other regions in the world.

The Spotlight Initiative Joint Programme will provide narrative reports on results achieved, lessons learned, and the contributions made by the programme. It will present monitoring reports to the steering committee twice a year, which will include updated work and monitoring plans. It will also produce annual monitoring reports and a final evaluation report. Evaluation quality will be according to the UN Evaluation Group and EU rules. Ongoing monitoring and results management will take place in line with UN standards, the Spotlight Initiative terms of reference, and Guidance for Joint Programme Formulation.

Joint Programme Secretariat

As the SDG flagship programme, the Spotlight Initiative requires an efficient governance structure that ensures accountability to government, the targeted population, the UN, and, in this case, the EU. Furthermore, the governance structure needs to respond to the specific context, country programme strategy, capacities, and expertise in the country.

In the context of the UN Development System reform agenda, the configuration of the programme management model rests under the leadership, guidance, and decision-making authority of the Resident Coordinator. Accordingly, at a meeting the RC initiated of the heads of agencies (the four RUNOs), potential strengths and weaknesses of various programme management structures were discussed, particularly in terms of accountability. The following decisions were reached.

- ✓ To have a hybrid Joint Programme Secretariat (JPS) that will draw capacity from the relevant government offices and UN agencies.
- ✓ The hybrid JPS will have the following broad roles and responsibilities:



- **Program oversight and coordination:** bringing all of the pieces of the programme under the JPS will ensure, among other things, consolidating reports according to timelines; promoting agencies' leadership to advance programme elements; convening the National Steering Committee; and overseeing implementation schedules, delivery, and budgets, as articulated in the Country Programme Document.
- **Technical coherence:** while each pillar lead will ensure technical coherence for pillars they are in charge of, the technical coherence within the JPS will play the role of ensuring that the programme being rolled out is well aligned with the Theory of Change, ensuring that all the pieces of the Spotlight Initiative are of high-quality, aligning activities with the UNDAF and the results matrix, adhering to known best practices, and supporting innovation.
- ✓ The JPS, in order to deliver on the above broad roles and responsibilities, will have the following key positions filled: joint programme coordinator, policy coherence specialist, communication officer, M&E officers and admin/finance support staff. Consistent with the principle of ensuring empowerment of local staff, with the exception of the programme coordinator at P4 level, all three positions will be filled with local staff. In tapping into government strength and access to local coordination structures, which is key for M&E, the plan is to fill the M&E position by a qualified person from the relevant ministry.
- ✓ UN Women's lead role as the agency that provides technical coherence will be assured through the recruitment of policy coherence specialist. UN Women will be fully in charge of the recruitment which among others entails drafting ToRs in consultation with the relevant stakeholders (the four RUNOs, the RC, EU and relevant Government Ministries).

The Policy Coherence Specialist will be full time staff for the Secretariat directly reporting to the Joint Program Coordinator with dotted reporting lines to UN Women Malawi Country Representative. Costs associated with the policy coherence such as salary and benefits will be based on 70% contribution drawn from the JP allocations (PMC) and 30% contribution from UN Women's Spotlight PMC allocations for hiring personnel.

IV. Implementing agencies and partners

All four RUNOS have programmatic and financial accountability for the EU funding that is channelled to them to implement the six pillars as follows:

- UN Women – Pillars 1 and 6
- UNDP – Pillars 2 and 5
- UNICEF – Pillar 3
- UNFPA – Pillar 4

Programme implementation agencies will ensure that programme interventions are of high-quality, appropriately financed, and on track to meet targets. The programme delivery is supported by adequate programme management allocations of 18 percent for the country programme, which is allocated to each implementing agency in such a way that it is commensurate with the agencies' share of the country programme budget.

Implementing agencies are encouraged inasmuch as it is feasible to avoid duplication of programmatic activities such as communication and M&E, which fall under the JPS and which will be carried out in an organized and well-coordinated manner (rather than a fragmented approach). In addition, support activities such as finance and administration tasks can be doubled up and integrated into existing individual implementing agencies' operations.

Utilizing the individual implementing agency PMC allocations, the projected capacity includes a programme officer and a programme assistant.



Recipient UN Organizations:

In Malawi, four UN Agencies have been selected as Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs): UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women, and UNFPA, all of which are participating agencies in the Joint Annual Work Plan on Gender and Human Rights with the MoGCDSW. The criteria used for selecting these RUNOs are as follows:

- Their mandate
- The technical expertise already in Malawi
- Capacities and physical presence in-country and on the ground
- Past, current, and planned programmes in Malawi on addressing violence against women and girls and harmful practices
- Cost effectiveness of interventions

Annual Programme delivery (USD)	Number of staff working on VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR	Justification for selection
UNICEF – UNICEF will lead Outcome 3, while contributing to Outcomes 4 and 5.		
\$63,424,097	Five people: Programme Officer (one protection – justice/legal; one case management; one girls’ education; and one communication for development specialist)	<p>According to the Annex on the common chapter in the 2018-2021 strategic plans of the three core agencies and UNICEF, “Working together to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda”, UNICEF has a collaborative advantage in programmes to overcome gender discriminatory roles, expectations and practices. This includes efforts to address discriminatory policies as well as the socialization processes and narratives that define gendered roles and practices, supporting girls and boys from early childhood through adolescence to adopt and shape more equitable gender norms and behaviours. It also includes prevention and protection services to address harmful practices, as well as implementation of integrated interpersonal and media-based behaviour and social change platforms. This Annex also outlines UNICEF’s advantage in strengthen child protection systems for prevention and response services to address violence against children and increase the capacity of communities and families to protection children.</p> <p>In Malawi, UNICEF has supported the Government of Malawi to establish and strengthen structures and systems to prevent and respond to SGBV and all forms of violence against children, including HP. UNICEF is the UN lead agency and co-chair of the country’s Protection Cluster, which aims to prevent and respond to SGBV during humanitarian emergencies. UNICEF also leads efforts in Malawi to advance girls’ education, especially for the most marginalized. UNICEF has also done work on research on harmful cultural practices, which would be critical in dealing with social norms.</p>
UNDP – UNDP will lead Outcomes 2 and 5, while contributing to Outcome 1 and 4		
\$54,236,443	Eight people (one expert on data, governance, gender, SRHR, HP; one expert on access to justice; one expert on human rights and role of Parliament; two experts on M&E; one expert on	According to the Annex on the common chapter in the 2018-2021 strategic plans of the three core agencies and UNICEF, “Working together to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda”, UNDP’s collaborative advantage lies within tackling impunity for sexual and gender-based violent crimes; improve access to justice, legal aid and service delivery for women and girls; and community-level prevention to raise awareness and mobilize men and boys as advocates for change.



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	local governance and reforms; two experts on economic development)	<p>In Malawi UNDP has been supporting national development planning processes and localization of these and the global development agenda. UNDP has also been supporting government and academic institutions to mainstream gender, HIV, and disability into their plans and programmes. Further, UNDP has supported the translation and dissemination of gender-related laws to enforcement bodies.</p> <p>UNDP leads UNDAF Pillar 1 on more accountable and effective institutions. UNDP's leadership in the Spotlight Initiative's outcomes on institutions and data will add value to the Delivering as One efforts that UNDP is already leading within the UNCT.</p>
UN Women – UN Women will lead Outcomes 1 and 6, while contributing to Outcomes 2, 3, 4, 5		
\$6,500,000	Five experts (one programme management specialist, one EAWG specialist, one EAWG associate, one advocacy officer, one HIV and GBV officer), additionally supported by six other functions within the organization, which include one advocacy and communications person, one monitoring and evaluation specialist, one operations manager, one ICT expert, one human resources person, and one finance associate	<p>According to the Annex on the common chapter in the 2018-2021 strategic plans of the three core agencies and UNICEF, "Working together to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda", UN Women's collaborative advantage lies in ensuring national and local plans, strategies, policies and budgets are gender-responsive, and to build institutional capacity at all levels to address discrimination in laws and policies. It also includes ensuring justice institutions are accessible to and deliver for women and girls in all contexts; make stakeholders better able to prevent VAWG and deliver essential services; ensure cities have safe and empowering public spaces; address harmful practices; and repeal discriminatory legislation and norms that impede women's access to SRH services.</p> <p>UN Women in Malawi coordinates and leads on gender equality and the delivering of outcomes for girls and women, at both national and grass-roots levels. It will use its coordination mandate to bring the UN system together for coherent efforts to end violence against women. UN Women has supported the Government of Malawi to strengthen the gender machinery.</p> <p>UN Women chairs the Gender Technical Working Group, is co-chair of the Gender and Human Rights Technical Working Group of the UNDAF, co-chairs the GSWG, and is secretariat to the Donor Group on Gender and Human Rights.</p> <p>UN Women has also conducted several research studies on women's empowerment, HIV and AIDS, social norms, and gender, which inform UN Women's work on gender and social norms.</p> <p>UN Women works with diverse CSOs, chiefs, women, and youth in various campaigns, i.e. the HeForShe initiative.</p>
UNFPA – UNFPA will lead on Outcome 4, while contributing to Outcomes 2, 3 and 5.		
\$5,238,646.67	9 people (one GBV analyst, one international expert on integrated service delivery, one finance associate, and six	<p>According to the Annex on the common chapter in the 2018-2021 strategic plans of the three core agencies and UNICEF, "Working together to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda", UNFPA's collaborative advantage lies strongly in sexual and reproductive health rights, including strengthened policy, legal and accountability frameworks to advance gender</p>



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	<p>district UNVs in focus districts).</p>	<p>equality and empower women and girls to exercise their reproductive rights and to be protected from violence and harmful practices; increasing multisectoral capacity to prevent and address GBV with a focus on advocacy, data, health and health systems, psychosocial support, and coordination; improving access to information and services for SRH and reproductive rights for those furthest behind; improving capacities of the health workforce; forecast, procure, distribute and track the delivery of sexual and reproductive health commodities; and putting in place accountability mechanisms for SRH and reproductive rights.</p> <p>In Malawi UNFPA works in policy advocacy, capacity building, knowledge management, and service provision, targeting remote populations.</p> <p>UNFPA will bring its expertise in SRHR, SGBV, ending child marriage, and good practices/achievements from the GEWE programme (2012–2016) to the Spotlight Initiative. UNFPA will provide leadership in ensuring that SRHR remains the focus initiative for Africa, will work with other agencies to promote increased availability and use of integrated sexual and reproductive health services, will support efforts to address the underlying gender norms and barriers girls and women face, and will ensure the availability of GBV data to inform programming.</p> <p>UNFPA puts emphasis on institutionalizing and scaling up the work with men and boys, ensuring they are brought on as allies to promote women's and girls' rights and engaged as stakeholders and beneficiaries of gender equality and SRHR.</p>
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Implementing Partners

The Spotlight Initiative in Malawi will have a range of implementing partners, including local CSOs, government institutions, line ministries, academia, the media and the private sector. To ensure competitive process Implementing partners will be identified through a competitive bidding process. Below is an overview of the various types of IPs, their role and experience, and the operational modality of which they will be engaged.

Group	Specific IP	Role/experience	Operational modality	Activity contributions
Government	MoGCDSW	Promoting gender equality and protect the welfare of Malawian women, men, girls and boys to become self-reliant and active participants and beneficiaries of the national development agenda.	DIM	
	MoLGRD	Promote and develop local governance and participatory democracy by creating an environment conducive for socio-economic development and stability.	DIM	



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	MoH	Emergency Medical Services, Including Hospitals and Post-Rape-Care Clinics	DIM	
	MoHA (Police)	Rapid Rescue for Victims/Survivors, Hotlines	DIM	
	MoEST	The education sector is to be a catalyst for socio-economic development, industrial growth and instrument for empowering the poor, the weak and voiceless. Ensuring better access and equity, relevance and quality, and good governance and management in all institutions from basic education to higher education.	DIM	
	MoJCA	MoJCA contributes to the promotion of constitutional principles relating to integrity, transparency and accountability that underpin achievement of national development goals. Secondly, it provides services that facilitate progressive social and economic transformation of the people of Malawi through implementation of programmes that promote access to justice and upholding rule of law. Thirdly, the Ministry also derives its mandate from statutes and subordinate legislation that establishes some of the departments that are under its direct supervision.	DIM	
	MoFEPD	Planning		
Civil Society	To be identified	Legal aid; emergency medical services including hospitals and post-rape-care clinics; psychosocial support; rapid rescue for victims/survivors; shelters; and, hotlines. Community-based awareness and mobilization; training and capacity building; creation of networks; advocacy; and national advocacy campaigns	Grants and DIM	
Academia	Centre for Social Research	Research,		
Private Sector	Airtel/TNM			U-Report



V. Partnerships

Process of Developing the Country Programme Document

The process of developing the Malawi Country Programme Document has seen the continuous participation of both technical and high-level representatives from the four recipient UN organizations, the EU Delegation, the interim CSNRG, the government, and the private sector. The process was kick-started by a joint UN-EU meeting with technical and high-level representatives to discuss the road map and the way forward. This meeting was quickly followed by a technical workshop with representatives from the UN, the EU, the government, and the interim CSNRG to discuss the road map and start developing the results matrix. A high-level meeting followed this workshop with representatives from the same groups as well as the private sector to discuss the outcomes of the technical workshop and endorse the road map. It was chaired by the Principal Secretary for the MoGCDSW together with the Chief Director of the Office of the President and Cabinet. The CS-IRG selected two members to attend the high-level meeting on their behalf, and the UN and EU were both present at both technical and high level.

Following this initial round of consultations, there have been several meetings and working sessions where all stakeholders have been present. Refer to Annex 1: Multi-stakeholder Engagement for a record of all stakeholders engaged in the consultations and meetings. For the smaller working groups and technical meetings, the team has had a consistent focal person from the MoGCDSW, a focal person from the MoLGRD, a focal person from the EU Delegation, and two representatives from the interim CSNRG. The Ministry focal persons have provided insights into existing structures and communication with other Government partners, including setting up the logistics of the district consultations. The EU has been crucial in providing lessons learned from previous programmes in Malawi on what works, and what does not work. This has particularly shaped the Malawi CPD's prevention and services pillar.

When setting up the Interim CSNRG, we ensured that a wide as possible spectra of groups were represented in the meeting hosted in the EU Delegation premises. A matrix was created listing all the pillars vertically, and a number of groups horizontally (youth, CBOs, INGOs, National NGOs, LGBTI, Disability, Women's empowerment, health, education). We then brought together a wide range of CSOs and had them map themselves and others into which group and which pillar they belonged. In this way it was ensured that a wide range of CSOs were included in the Interim CSNRG.

In order to ensure that the programme is responding to the needs of the women and girls left furthest behind, a multi-stakeholder team undertook consultations in nine districts. Representatives from the UN, the EU, the government, and civil society jointly visited all three regions of the country to find out what structures are in place and which partners are on the ground, and to ensure that the draft results matrix and proposed activities are responding to real needs for those left furthest behind.

Strategy to engage partners during the implementation phase

In Malawi, the local EU Delegation has been a key partner in terms of setting up of the initiative. They have been key in organizing consultations, sharing lessons learned from previous programmes in the country and in the development of the Programme Document itself. Continuing to strengthen and maintaining the partnership with the EU throughout programme implementation will be important for the Spotlight in Malawi. The EU Delegation will also play a key role in engaging other partners and donors to enhance the scope and ambition of the Spotlight in Malawi. The EU will also have a seat both in the Steering Committee and in the technical team.

The CSNRG will be the UN's eyes on the ground. A detailed overview of meeting frequency and participants in the governance mechanisms can be found under the governance section in this CPD. In terms of implementation, it will be important to involve actors widely beyond the usual stakeholders. The interim CSNRG will be crucial in this regard. Civil society will not only be key partners in terms of planning, but they will also be the implementing partners on the ground through grants and direct implementation. National and local NGOs/CSOs will be prioritized, both as implementing partners and as direct beneficiaries under the Pillars, and especially Pillar 6. It will be crucial to engage with



marginalized groups, an overview of which is detailed under Section VIII (Intersectionality). The focus in Malawi will be on groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, such as women and girls living with albinism, child marriage survivors, and women and girls with disabilities. These groups in the selected districts will be empowered to demand their rights and their position in their communities.

As the majority of efforts in the Spotlight Initiative will be at the district level, the initiative will ensure critical engagement with local government structures to ensure alignment to their priorities so as not to cause parallel structures or overlap with other partners. The MoLGRD is hence a crucial partner going forwards with implementation of the Spotlight Initiative. It is also crucial to engage various ministries, considering the multi-sectoral nature of the Spotlight Initiative. The MoGCDSW will be a key partner, both in terms of implementation, strategic planning, and governance of the SI, but also in terms of engaging with the various ministries and bringing them together around this Initiative. The Ministry of Finance, through its department of Economic Planning & Development will also be key, as they are the planning unit and also the signatory to the UNDAF 2019-2023 to which the Spotlight aligns.

In the Spotlight Initiative, there will also be a focus on engaging the not so traditional partners. UNICEF will be continuing their work with the private sector through their partnership with TNM and Airtel to expand the use of U-Report to capture perceptions on issues of VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR. The Observatory Hub set up under Pillar 5 will engage academia to monitor the VAWG and SGBV/HP situation in the country. The media will also be engaged, as stipulated in the communications and visibility strategy (see Annex 2). Their role will be dual in terms of 1) reporting on issues of VAWG, SGBV/HP; and 2) in terms of advocacy and awareness raising. The UN in Malawi has recently started engaging with the larger media houses on responsible and accurate reporting on the SDGs, so the Spotlight will complement this effort.

Based on their geographic location and initiatives in Malawi, UNESCO, UNAIDS and UNHCR have been identified as associated agencies to the Spotlight Initiative, most specifically in pillars 3 and 4. Their costs associated with the Spotlight will be covered by the four RUNOs directly with no transfers issued directly to associated agencies.

Malawi's largest refugee camp, Dzaleka, hosts around 35,000 refugees from the region and is located in one of the Spotlight Districts, Dowa, hence UNHCR will be a key partner in this district. SGBV is a big issue within and around the camp, hence UNHCR will be particularly engaged in interventions in prevention and services, particularly outputs 3.2 and 4.2, assisting the RUNOs in reaching out to this population of the district. Specifically, UNHCR will be a key partner in mobilising women and girls, men and boys on SGBV, HP and social norms awareness campaigns and ensuring that women and girls within the camps are well protected from SGBV. UNESCO has a strong programme on GBV prevention and response in learning institutions as such Spotlight will build on existing efforts to ensure that learning institutions are free of SGBV/SRHR/HP.

UNAIDS has a small but critical operation in Malawi, as the HIV rate in the country is one of the highest in the region, and young women and girls are disproportionately affected. UNAIDS will therefore be a key partner in the prevention pillar based on their work on awareness raising and SRHR campaigns.

UNESCO, while not a resident agency, has a strong education and vocational training component in Malawi through the Skills and Technical Education Programme (STEP) funded by the EU, hence they will be a key partner in pillars 3 and 4 as well. STEP has a specific objective on promoting equitable and gender-balanced access to TEVET, which will complement the SI in Malawi's efforts to retain girls in school and empowerment efforts. STEP is present in 5 of the 6 Spotlight districts (excluding Nsanje) but has also nationwide initiatives.

VI. Outcome framework

Programme's Results Matrix (Table 1): Please refer table 1



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VII. Intersectional Approach to discrimination

Central to this country programme is to address multiple and intersectional forms discrimination that at-risk groups face; thus, the focus is on addressing root causes and intersections between VAWG, SGBV/HP, HIV, and SRHR to inform transformative programming. Stigma and discrimination – prejudice, negative attitudes, abuse, and maltreatment directed at marginalized groups, among others – is a major contributing factor that hinders access to services by these groups, denies their constitutional rights, and enables many other forms of discrimination.

Through the implementation of the six mutually reinforcing outcomes, the intent is to address the adverse effects of multiple and compounded forms of discrimination that marginalized groups here in Malawi face. Consistent with the ‘leaving no one behind’ principles of the SDGs, deliberate effort is made to target Malawi’s most marginalized populations: women with disabilities, including those with albinism, FSW, LGBTI persons, adolescent girls, young mothers (teenage pregnancy), survivors of child marriage, women and girls living with HIV, HP survivors, and women in refugee camps.

Through a participatory process, effort was made to include the views and perceptions of groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination by seeking their inputs directly and/or through the comprehensive situation analysis which is part of this Country Programme Document. Furthermore, the programme will continue to benefit from the inputs and guidance of the marginalized by having them be a part of the NSC, the national-level technical steering committee, and the district-level coordination mechanisms.

Most efforts that have been employed in assisting on issues of VAWG, SGBV/HP, HIV, and SRHR have followed formal structures, in so doing making it difficult for victims to come out in the open to report their cases. More ways of encouraging reporting of the cases will have to be incorporated, including those that involve such informal structures as village mediators, who prioritize confidentiality in their services and easily win the confidence of the communities. Such structures would benefit from expertise from a gender expert and would work hand in hand with village structures and VSUs to ensure that identified cases get the necessary legal support.

Table on intersectional approaches and intersecting discrimination (ps: prepared with information available at this stage, however, further analysis will be conducted during the inception phase)

Relevant “at risk” groups	Outcome areas where specific approaches are required	Key challenges for inclusion	Indicative approaches and methodologies for inclusion	Total numbers disaggregated by women, girls, men and boys when possible
Disability (deaf, blind, physical and motor disabilities)	Outcome area 1	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized their rights</p> <p>Limited verbal or written participation due to low literacy levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reform of specific laws containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HP that prevent women and girls from exercising their rights, especially women and girls facing intersecting discrimination ✓ Ensure communication to participants (invitations etc) is done through a disability network (FEDOMA) ✓ All documentation to ensure copies of brail ✓ Ensure availability of sign language facilitators 	



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		Lack of skills by justice service providers in forensic investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Consultation meetings/training /orientations and advocacy to ensure accessibility for wheelchairs (ramps, elevators etc) ✓ Ensure adequate toilet facilities for mobility and safety ✓ Capacity building through South-South Cooperation with Zambia Institute of Forensic Investigations. 	
	Outcome 3&4	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized their rights</p> <p>Exclusion of marginalized persons from decision making structures and process</p> <p>Discriminatory attitudes of service providers</p> <p>Inadequate knowledge on the available justice services</p> <p>Long distance to justice institutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure availability of sign language facilitators ✓ Service areas to ensure accessibility for wheelchairs (ramps, elevators etc) ✓ Ensure adequate toilet facilities for mobility and safety ✓ Interventions to reach the farthest behind should include ensuring ✓ Capacity building of service providers on Disability rights ✓ Provision of mobile court and village mediation services to SGBV Victims and perpetrators. 	
<i>People with Albinism</i>		<p>The existence of discriminatory provisions regarding HP and VAWG</p> <p>Limited verbal or written participation due to low literacy levels⁵⁴</p> <p>Visibility of documents due to impaired eye sight</p> <p>Lack of protection of persons with albinism</p> <p>Cultural beliefs about the power of organs of persons with albinism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reform of specific laws containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HP that prevent women and girls from exercising their rights, especially women and girls facing intersecting discrimination ✓ Participation of Persons with Albinism will be identified through the Association of Persons with Albinism (APAM). APAM will assist is further analysis of individual capacities and recommend needs based approaches ✓ All documentation to include accessible copies with large bold font ✓ Ensure any events/activities which include PWA have sun protective measures (tents, sunscreen, hats for PWAs) 	Out of 100 target groups over 10% will be PWAs

⁵⁴ It has been documented that PWA are at high risk in regards to literacy



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		put them at high risk of abuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Data collection to map where these beliefs are in target districts and develop strategies for protecting persons with albinism in local communities. 	
	Outcome 2	<p>Weak institutions and structures that don't integrate VAWG, SGBV and HP</p> <p>Limited knowledge on the available services for survivors of SGBV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mentorship of member of the committees and local government structures to integrate VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR in existing institutional programs including setting up a robust monitoring and feedback mechanism. ✓ Intensify creation of awareness on the available services for the survivors of SGBV using various media channels and community mobilisation campaigns 	
	Outcome 3&4	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized their rights</p> <p>Exclusion of marginalized persons from decision making structures and process</p> <p>Lack of materials and supplies for their protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthening Chiefs forum and other school-based structures to monitor implementation of SGBV/HP and SRHR laws, policies, programmes, services, including for those most marginalized and excluded ✓ Support the equitable inclusiveness of marginalized groups in all decision-making structures, mechanisms and forums ✓ Ensure communication to raise awareness of service provision and accessibility points is communicated in a user-friendly way. Design of communication tools must include PWA ✓ Procurement of materials and supplies for People living with albinism 	
		Girls and boys facing violence in their homes and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Scaling up awareness on comprehensive sexual and reproductive health rights information, education and services at all levels, targeting the communities, influential leaders such as community, religious and initiation counsellors, for adolescents that are in and out of school, with a focus on marginalized and excluded children, adolescents, and youth ✓ Ensure communities come up with strategic preventive measures to protect adolescent girls and boys with albinism and other disabilities ✓ Ensure communication to raise awareness of service provision and accessibility points is communicated in a user-friendly way. Design of communication tools must include PWA 	



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Partner with Office of Ombudsman to ensure that Hospital Ombudsman placed in district hospitals or community level clinics address issues of SGBV and SRHR services. 	
	Outcome 4	Marginalized groups facing intersecting problems that deny them access to productive resources among others	<p>Social economic safety nets for marginalized and excluded children and adolescents including those with disabilities (albinism), those living with HIV, those withdrawn from child marriages and unions to stay in school (such access to scholarship learning packages and top-up of the social cash transfer education bonus, National Girls Trust Funds, and school-based funds)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure communication to raise awareness of service provision and accessibility points is communicated in a user-friendly way. Design of communication tools must include PWA 	
	Outcome 4	The absence of accessible, acceptable and quality essential services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Undertake assessment of the main gaps and barriers that marginalized and excluded populations including those with disabilities and albinism, living with HIV, LGBTI, young mothers, adolescents and youth living in poverty ✓ Strengthen SGBV referral system and follow up mechanism that includes a multi-sectoral response which coordinates the services by all relevant service providers ✓ Strengthen integration of SGBV/HP into SRHR response i.e. midwifery trainings, family planning service provision, other service providers in maternal health ✓ Harmonize and strengthen referral system pathways. 	
	Outcome 4	Weak capacity of service providers to provide integrated services on SGBV/HP, and SRHR in a non-discriminatory manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enhance quick and affordable services to women, girls, children and key populations (LGBTI, FSWs, women and girls with albinism, and other disabilities), in a non-discriminatory manner, and detect, treat, and refer women and girls who are at risk of or experiencing violence; ✓ Systematic professional development of frontline service providers to ensure quality service provision, with a focus on those extension workers that visit households and interact with the most vulnerable and marginalized women and girls 	



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support implementation of Guidelines on Strengthening GBV and SRHR Services for Women and Young People with 	
<i>LGBTI</i>	Outcome 1	<p>The existence of discriminatory provisions regarding HP and VAWG</p> <p>Weak institutions and structures that don't integrate VAWG, SGBV and HP</p> <p>LGBTI community less likely to be visibly active due to LGBTI oppression and illegal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reform of specific laws containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HP that prevent women and girls from exercising their rights, especially women and girls facing intersecting discrimination ✓ Ensure safety mechanism and privacy issues are taken into consideration when consulting LGBTI community ✓ Establishment of a joint partnership with RUNOs to ensure participation is conducted safely ✓ Ensure that various groups of people are included in the decision-making structures at community levels (representative from various groups like LGBT, CSW, out of school adolescent girls, adolescent girls with disability, adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages, widows, women living with HIV among others). 	
	Outcome 4	<p>The absence of accessible, acceptable and quality essential services</p> <p>Weak capacity of service providers to provide integrated services on SGBV/HP, and SRHR in a non-discriminatory manner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure safety mechanism and privacy issues are taken into consideration when consulting LGBTI community ✓ Establishment of a joint partnership with RUNOs to ensure participation is conducted safely ✓ Strategize with service providers on how to include LGBTI community ✓ Work CSOs to reach out to LGBTI community 	
	Outcome 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enhance quick and affordable services to women, girls, children and key populations (LGBTI, FSWs, women and girls with albinism, and other disabilities), in a non-discriminatory manner, and detect, treat, and refer women and girls who are at risk of or experiencing violence; ✓ Support implementation of Guidelines on Strengthening GBV and SRHR Services for Women and Young People with Disabilities ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	



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	Outcome 5	Absence of quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG, including SGBV/HP hindering effective response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review, standardization and harmonization of data collection tools, methodologies, and reporting registries and systems for data management on VAWG in line with international human rights standards, linking to the national and district level database (including disaggregated data for women 49+ years); ✓ Integrated data management system to address the current fragmented approach. ✓ Ensure Observatory hub produces quality reports that inform policy makers on areas that need policy review or legal reforms. ✓ Disseminate findings of the Zurich research on harmful practices 	
<i>Victims and Survivors of child marriage</i>	Outcome 1&2	Ambiguity regarding the age of marriage for both girls and boys, raising the minimum age from 15 to 18 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Build on current work underway by the UN to harmonize legislation in line with the Constitutional amendment, which removed ambiguity regarding the age of marriage for both girls and boys, raising the minimum age from 15 to 18 years ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	
	Outcome 1	<p>Gaps in the justice sector as concerns to SGBV and HP related cases</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring And distance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Integration of specialized content on SGBV and HP laws and procedure into existing justice sector capacity building interventions ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	
	Outcome 2&3	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized women and girls their rights</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthening Chiefs forum to monitor implementation of SGBV/HP and SRHR laws, policies, programmes, services, including for those most marginalized and excluded ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues ✓ Ensure adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those that are readmitted back to school are supported with scholarship to continue with their education. ✓ Ensure parents and guardians of adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those with children due to teen pregnancy are mobilised to support 	



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		<p>their girls with child caring. Where Community Based Child Care centres exist ensure that these structures are used to support these girls and those in functional literacy programme with child care services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure that adolescent girls with children especially those that cannot be integrated in formal schooling participate in functional literacy programme and livelihood activities 	
Outcome 3	<p>Poor understanding of the linkages between HP, early pregnancy and child marriage</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Build upon existing and forthcoming research on HP, including with the University of Zurich, to better understand links between HP, early pregnancy, and child marriage ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	
Outcome 3	<p>Culture that supports child marriage because of which girls are forced to dropout from school</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p> <p>Low literacy levels due to school drop outs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Scaling up engagement with traditional and religious leaders, FBOs to promote positive norms on gender-equality, violence prevention and ending child marriage, including implementation of a model framework for bylaws by traditional leaders to 1) reduce VAWG and 2) ensure school re-enrolment of girls withdrawn from marriage ✓ Ensure adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those that are readmitted back to school are supported with scholarship to continue with their education. ✓ Ensure parents and guardians of adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those with children due to teen pregnancy are mobilised to support their girls with child caring. Where Community Based Child Care centres exist ensure that these structures are used to support these girls and those in functional literacy programme with child care services. ✓ Ensure that adolescent girls with children especially those that cannot be integrated in formal schooling participate in functional literacy programme and livelihood activities ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supporting higher learning institutions to integrate Gender, SGBV, SRHR and HP into their administrative and academic programs including the curricula. 	
	Outcome 3	<p>Marginalized groups facing intersecting problems that deny them access to productive resources among others</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p> <p>Low literacy levels due to school drop outs</p> <p>Low economic status of women</p> <p>Lack of access to information on SRHR, SGBV and HP linkages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social economic safety nets for marginalized and excluded children and adolescents including those with disabilities (albinism), those living with HIV, those withdrawn from child marriages and unions to stay in school (such access to scholarship learning packages and top-up of the social cash transfer education bonus, National Girls Trust Funds, and school-based funds) ✓ Mobilise adolescent girls that cannot be integrated in formal school to enrol in functional literacy programme ✓ Support adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages with scholarship programme to continue with their education. ✓ Provide accommodation for girls in community day secondary schools to keep girls in schools (reduce vulnerability due to long distance and increase high learning time) ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues ✓ Support adolescent girls in functional literacy programme with entrepreneurship and livelihood skills ✓ Support women in planning and management of their economic activities through linking them to financial service providers and business management support institutions. 	
<i>Female sex workers</i>	Outcome 1	<p>The existence of discriminatory provisions regarding HP and VAWG</p> <p>FSW unable to be directly involved due to discriminatory provisions in the law in regard to sex work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure safety procedures and privacy is integrated when engaging and working with FSW ✓ Ensure FSW interventions hold regards to FSW in urban and rural settings, as visibility in town settings maybe easier that in rural villages Transactional sex should also be considered. 	
	Outcome 2	Weak Human Rights Institutions to address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support Human Rights Institutions to advocate for the protection of sex workers 	



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		issues faced by female sex workers.	and investigation of SGBV cases of female sex workers and prosecution of perpetrators.	
	Outcome 4	<p>Weak capacity of service providers to provide integrated services on SGBV/HP, and SRHR in a non-discriminatory manner</p> <p>Discriminatory behaviour by service providers Sexual exploitation by service providers due to the stigma against FSW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enhance quick and affordable services to women, girls, children and key populations (LGBTI, FSWs, women and girls with albinism, and other disabilities), in a non-discriminatory manner, and detect, treat, and refer women and girls who are at risk of or experiencing violence; ✓ Support implementation of Guidelines on Strengthening GBV and SRHR Services for Women and Young People with Disabilities ✓ Ensure awareness raising is done on human rights of FSW and ensure all necessary staff is trained ✓ Comprehensive SEA training and code of conduct integrated ✓ Complaints mechanisms must be in place 	
	Outcome 5	Absence of quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG, including SGBV/HP hindering effective response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review, standardization and harmonization of data collection tools, methodologies, and reporting registries and systems for data management on VAWG in line with international human rights standards, linking to the national and district level database (including disaggregated data for women 49+ years); ✓ Integrated data management system to address the current fragmented approach. ✓ Strengthen FSW Case Management including investigation and documentation. 	
<i>SGBV and HP survivors</i>	Outcome 1 &3&4	<p>The lack of access to justice for marginalized groups and mishandling of cases reported to the customary system which may not adequately protect the rights of women and girls, including their SRHR</p> <p>Victims fear of visibility/testimony as seen in the Aniva Case (Nsanje)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support public interest litigation on discriminatory provisions in related SGBV and HP laws. Strengthen community-based complaints mechanisms (CBCM) to ensure cases are reported to the formal justice system rather than the customary system which may not adequately protect the rights of women and girls, including their SRHR ✓ Ensure women and girls who are victims feel safe and secure from community pressure. ✓ Support identification of SGBV cases, referrals and prosecution of SGBV cases including mediation of simpler cases. 	



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Establish a perpetrator tracking system using unique identifier system. 	
	Outcome 2	Weak institutions and structures that don't integrate VAWG, SGBV and HP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mentorship of member of the committees and local government structures to integrate VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR in existing institutional programs including setting up a robust monitoring and feedback system ✓ Networking among human rights institutions to ensure a harmonized referral system for SGBV survivors to access justice and other services including psycho-socio and reproductive health services. 	
	Outcome 5	Absence of quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG, including SGBV/HP hindering effective response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review, standardization and harmonization of data collection tools, methodologies, and reporting registries and systems for data management on VAWG in line with international human rights standards, linking to the national and district level database (including disaggregated data for women 49+ years); ✓ Integrated data management system to address the current fragmented approach. 	
<i>Teenage pregnancy</i>	Outcome 3	Poor understanding of the linkages between HP, early pregnancy and child marriage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Build upon existing and forthcoming research on HP, including with the University of Zurich, to better understand links between HP, early pregnancy, and child marriage. Adolescent girls in and out of school will be targeted for age appropriate sexual reproductive health rights information, with a major focus on dangers of early pregnancy for adolescent girls and the unborn child, and practical life skills knowledge 	
<i>Refugee and Migrant women</i>	Outcome 1,2, 3, 4	Refugee women are unlikely to be the target population and are vulnerable to SGBV within the Refugee Camps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure that legislative and policy processes capture SGBV, SRHR and HP concerns as documented with UNHCR and UNWomen ✓ Service providers awareness on refugee issues and stigma towards them is addressed ✓ Ensure that community mobilisation campaigns in Dowa District reach out to refugee women and adolescent girls directly and men and boys indirectly. Deliberate efforts will made to target adolescent girls out of school with functional literacy initiatives 	



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthen the local structures supporting refugees in the target districts to integrate SGBV, HP and SRHR in their plans and programs. 	
<i>Disability (deaf, blind, physical and motor disabilities)</i>	Outcome area 1	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized their rights</p> <p>Limited verbal or written participation due to low literacy levels</p> <p>Lack of skills by justice service providers in forensic investigations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reform of specific laws containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HP that prevent women and girls from exercising their rights, especially women and girls facing intersecting discrimination ✓ Ensure communication to participants (invitations etc) is done through a disability network (FEDOMA) ✓ All documentation to ensure copies of brail ✓ Ensure availability of sign language facilitators ✓ Consultation meetings/training /orientations and advocacy to ensure accessibility for wheelchairs (ramps, elevators etc) ✓ Ensure adequate toilet facilities for mobility and safety ✓ Capacity building through South-South Cooperation with Zambia Institute of Forensic Investigations. 	
	Outcome 3&4	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized their rights</p> <p>Exclusion of marginalized persons from decision making structures and process</p> <p>Inadequate knowledge on the available justice services</p> <p>Long distance to justice institutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure availability of sign language facilitators ✓ Service areas to ensure accessibility for wheelchairs (ramps, elevators etc) ✓ Ensure adequate toilet facilities for mobility and safety ✓ Interventions to reach the farthest behind should include ensuring ✓ Provision of mobile court and village mediation services to SGBV Victims and perpetrators. ✓ Capacity building of service providers on Disability rights 	



		Discriminatory attitudes of service providers		
<i>People with Albinism</i>		<p>The existence of discriminatory provisions regarding HP and VAWG</p> <p>Limited verbal or written participation due to low literacy levels⁵⁵</p> <p>Visibility of documents due to impaired eye sight</p> <p>Lack of protection of persons with albinism</p> <p>Cultural beliefs about the power of organs of persons with albinism put them at high risk of abuse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reform of specific laws containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HP that prevent women and girls from exercising their rights, especially women and girls facing intersecting discrimination ✓ Participation of Persons with Albinism will be identified through the Association of Persons with Albinism (APAM). APAM will assist in further analysis of individual capacities and recommend needs based approaches ✓ All documentation to include accessible copies with large bold font ✓ Ensure any events/activities which include PWA have sun protective measures (tents, sunscreen, hats for PWAs) ✓ Data collection to map where these beliefs are in target districts and develop strategies for protecting persons with albinism in local communities. 	It that out of 100 target groups over 10% will be PWAs
	Outcome 2	<p>Weak institutions and structures that don't integrate VAWG, SGBV and HP</p> <p>Limited knowledge on the available services for survivors of SGBV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mentorship of member of the committees and local government structures to integrate VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR in existing institutional programs including setting up a robust monitoring and feedback mechanism. 	

⁵⁵ It has been documented that PWA are at high risk in regards to literacy



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Intensify creation of awareness on the available services for the survivors of SGBV using various media channels and community mobilisation campaigns 	
Outcome 3&4	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized their rights</p> <p>Exclusion of marginalized persons from decision making structures and process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthening Chiefs forum and other school-based structures to monitor implementation of SGBV/HP and SRHR laws, policies, programmes, services, including for those most marginalized and excluded ✓ Support the equitable inclusiveness of marginalized groups in all decision-making structures, mechanisms and forums ✓ Ensure communication to raise awareness of service provision and accessibility points is communicated in a user-friendly way. Design of communication tools must include PWA 	
	Girls and boys facing violence in their homes and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Scaling up awareness on comprehensive sexual and reproductive health rights information, education and services at all levels, targeting the communities, influential leaders such as community, religious and initiation counsellors, for adolescents that are in and out of school, with a focus on marginalized and excluded children, adolescents, and youth ✓ Ensure communities come up with strategic preventive measures to protect adolescent girls and boys with albinism and other disabilities ✓ Ensure communication to raise awareness of service provision and accessibility points is communicated in a user-friendly way. Design of communication tools must include PWA ✓ Partner with Office of Ombudsman to ensure that Hospital Ombudsman placed in district hospitals or community level clinics address issues of SGBV and SRHR services. 	
Outcome 4	Marginalized groups facing intersecting problems that deny them access to productive resources among others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social economic safety nets for marginalized and excluded children and adolescents including those with disabilities (albinism), those living with HIV, those withdrawn from child marriages and unions to stay in school (such access to scholarship learning packages and top-up of the social cash transfer education bonus, National Girls Trust Funds, and school-based funds) 	



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure communication to raise awareness of service provision and accessibility points is communicated in a user-friendly way. Design of communication tools must include PWA 	
	Outcome 4	The absence of accessible, acceptable and quality essential services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Undertake assessment of the main gaps and barriers that marginalized and excluded populations including those with disabilities and albinism, living with HIV, LGBTI, young mothers, adolescents and youth living in poverty ✓ Strengthen SGBV referral system and follow up mechanism that includes a multi-sectoral response which coordinates the services by all relevant service providers ✓ Strengthen integration of SGBV/HP into SRHR response i.e. midwifery trainings, family planning service provision, other service providers in maternal health ✓ Harmonize and strengthen referral system pathways. 	
	Outcome 4	Weak capacity of service providers to provide integrated services on SGBV/HP, and SRHR in a non-discriminatory manner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enhance quick and affordable services to women, girls, children and key populations (LGBTI, FSWs, women and girls with albinism, and other disabilities), in a non-discriminatory manner, and detect, treat, and refer women and girls who are at risk of or experiencing violence; ✓ Support implementation of Guidelines on Strengthening GBV and SRHR Services for Women and Young People with 	
LGBTI	Outcome 1	<p>The existence of discriminatory provisions regarding HP and VAWG</p> <p>Weak institutions and structures that don't integrate VAWG, SGBV and HP</p> <p>LGBTI community less likely to be visibly active due to LGBTI oppression and illegal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reform of specific laws containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HP that prevent women and girls from exercising their rights, especially women and girls facing intersecting discrimination ✓ Ensure safety mechanism and privacy issues are taken into consideration when consulting LGBTI community ✓ Establishment of a joint partnership with RUNOs to ensure participation is conducted safely ✓ Ensure that various groups of people are included in the decision-making structures at community levels (representative from various groups like LGBT, CSW, out of school adolescent girls, adolescent girls 	



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			with disability, adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages, widows, women living with HIV among others.	
	Outcome 4	<p>The absence of accessible, acceptable and quality essential services</p> <p><i>Weak capacity of service providers to provide integrated services in a non-discriminatory manner</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure safety mechanism and privacy issues are taken into consideration when consulting LGBTI community ✓ Establishment of a joint partnership with RUNOs to ensure participation is conducted safely ✓ Strategize with service providers on how to include LGBTI community 	
	Outcome 4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enhance quick and affordable services to women, girls, children and key populations (LGBTI, FSWs, women and girls with albinism, and other disabilities), in a non-discriminatory manner, and detect, treat, and refer women and girls who are at risk of or experiencing violence; ✓ Support implementation of Guidelines on Strengthening GBV and SRHR Services for Women and Young People with Disabilities ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	
	Outcome 5	Absence of quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG, including SGBV/HP hindering effective response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review, standardization and harmonization of data collection tools, methodologies, and reporting registries and systems for data management on VAWG in line with international human rights standards, linking to the national and district level database (including disaggregated data for women 49+ years); ✓ Integrated data management system to address the current fragmented approach. ✓ Ensure Observatory hub produces quality reports that inform policy makers on areas that need policy review or legal reforms. ✓ Disseminate findings of the Zurich research on harmful practices 	
<i>Victims and Survivors of child marriage</i>	Outcome 1&2	Ambiguity regarding the age of marriage for both girls and boys, raising the minimum age from 15 to 18 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Build on current work underway by the UN to harmonize legislation in line with the Constitutional amendment, which removed ambiguity regarding the age of marriage for both girls and boys, raising the minimum age from 15 to 18 years 	



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	
Outcome 1	<p>Gaps in the justice sector as concerns to SGBV and HP related cases</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring And distance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Integration of specialized content on SGBV and HP laws and procedure into existing justice sector capacity building interventions ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	
Outcome 2&3	<p>Informal justice sector, cultural norms and values denying the marginalized women and girls their rights</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthening Chiefs forum to monitor implementation of SGBV/HP and SRHR laws, policies, programmes, services, including for those most marginalized and excluded ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues ✓ Ensure adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those that are readmitted back to school are supported with scholarship to continue with their education. ✓ Ensure parents and guardians of adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those with children due to teen pregnancy are mobilised to support their girls with child caring. Where Community Based Child Care centres exist ensure that these structures are used to support these girls and those in functional literacy programme with child care services. ✓ Ensure that adolescent girls with children especially those that cannot be integrated in formal schooling participate in functional literacy programme and livelihood activities 	
Outcome 3	<p>Poor understanding of the linkages between HP, early pregnancy and child marriage</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Build upon existing and forthcoming research on HP, including with the University of Zurich, to better understand links between HP, early pregnancy, and child marriage ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues 	



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<p>Outcome 3</p>	<p>Culture that supports child marriage because of which girls are forced to dropout from school</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p> <p>Low literacy levels due to school drop outs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Scaling up engagement with traditional and religious leaders, FBOs to promote positive norms on gender-equality, violence prevention and ending child marriage, including implementation of a model framework for bylaws by traditional leaders to 1) reduce VAWG and 2) ensure school re-enrolment of girls withdrawn from marriage ✓ Ensure adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those that are readmitted back to school are supported with scholarship to continue with their education. ✓ Ensure parents and guardians of adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages and those with children due to teen pregnancy are mobilised to support their girls with child caring. Where Community Based Child Care centres exist ensure that these structures are used to support these girls and those in functional literacy programme with child care services. ✓ Ensure that adolescent girls with children especially those that cannot be integrated in formal schooling participate in functional literacy programme and livelihood activities ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues ✓ Supporting higher learning institutions to integrate Gender, SGBV, SRHR and HP into their administrative and academic programs including the curricula. 	
<p>Outcome 3</p>	<p>Marginalized groups facing intersecting problems that deny them access to productive resources among others</p> <p>Exclusion of girls in activities due to child caring</p> <p>Low literacy levels due to school drop outs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Social economic safety nets for marginalized and excluded children and adolescents including those with disabilities (albinism), those living with HIV, those withdrawn from child marriages and unions to stay in school (such access to scholarship learning packages and top-up of the social cash transfer education bonus, National Girls Trust Funds, and school-based funds) ✓ Mobilise adolescent girls that cannot be integrated in formal school to enrol in functional literacy programme 	



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		Low economic status of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support adolescent girls withdrawn from child marriages with scholarship programme to continue with their education. ✓ Provide accommodation for girls in community day secondary schools to keep girls in schools (reduce vulnerability due to long distance and increase high learning time) ✓ Ensure outreach programs are delivered at appropriate times and locations due to mobility issues ✓ Support adolescent girls in functional literacy programme with entrepreneurship and livelihood skills ✓ Support women in planning and management of their economic activities through linking them to financial service providers and business management support institutions. 	
<i>Female sex workers</i>	Outcome 1	<p>The existence of discriminatory provisions regarding HP and VAWG</p> <p>FSW unable to be directly involved due to discriminatory provisions in the law in regard to sex work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure safety procedures and privacy is integrated when engaging and working with FSW ✓ Ensure FSW interventions hold regards to FSW in urban and rural settings, as visibility in town settings maybe easier that in rural villages Transactional sex should also be considered. 	
	Outcome 2	Weak Human Rights Institutions to address issues faced by female sex workers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support Human Rights Institutions to advocate for the protection of sex workers and investigation of SGBV cases of female sex workers and prosecution of perpetrators. 	
	Outcome 4	<p>Weak capacity of service providers to provide integrated services on SGBV/HP, and SRHR in a non-discriminatory manner</p> <p>Discriminatory behaviour by service providers Sexual exploitation by service providers due to the stigma against FSW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Enhance quick and affordable services to women, girls, children and key populations (LGBTI, FSWs, women and girls with albinism, and other disabilities), in a non-discriminatory manner, and detect, treat, and refer women and girls who are at risk of or experiencing violence; ✓ Support implementation of Guidelines on Strengthening GBV and SRHR Services for Women and Young People with Disabilities ✓ Ensure awareness raising is done on human rights of FSW and ensure all necessary staff is trained 	



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comprehensive SEA training and code of conduct integrated ✓ Complaints mechanisms must be in place 	
	Outcome 5	Absence of quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG, including SGBV/HP hindering effective response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review, standardization and harmonization of data collection tools, methodologies, and reporting registries and systems for data management on VAWG in line with international human rights standards, linking to the national and district level database (including disaggregated data for women 49+ years); ✓ Integrated data management system to address the current fragmented approach. ✓ Strengthen FSW Case Management including investigation and documentation. 	
<i>SGBV and HP survivors</i>	Outcome 1 & 3&4	<p>The lack of access to justice for marginalized groups and mishandling of cases reported to the customary system which may not adequately protect the rights of women and girls, including their SRHR</p> <p>Victims fear of visibility/testimony as seen in the Aniva Case (Nsanje)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Support public interest litigation on discriminatory provisions in related SGBV and HP laws. Strengthen community-based complaints mechanisms (CBCM) to ensure cases are reported to the formal justice system rather than the customary system which may not adequately protect the rights of women and girls, including their SRHR ✓ Ensure women and girls who are victims feel safe and secure from community pressure. ✓ Support identification of SGBV cases, referrals and prosecution of SGBV cases including mediation of simpler cases. ✓ Establish a perpetrator tracking system using unique identifier system. 	
	Outcome 2	Weak institutions and structures that don't integrate VAWG, SGBV and HP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mentorship of member of the committees and local government structures to integrate VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR in existing institutional programs including setting up a robust monitoring and feedback system ✓ Networking among human rights institutions to ensure a harmonized referral system for SGBV survivors to access justice and other services including psycho-socio and reproductive health services. 	



	Outcome 5	Absence of quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG, including SGBV/HP hindering effective response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review, standardization and harmonization of data collection tools, methodologies, and reporting registries and systems for data management on VAWG in line with international human rights standards, linking to the national and district level database (including disaggregated data for women 49+ years); ✓ Integrated data management system to address the current fragmented approach. 	
<i>Teenage pregnancy</i>	Outcome 3	Poor understanding of the linkages between HP, early pregnancy and child marriage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Build upon existing and forthcoming research on HP, including with the University of Zurich, to better understand links between HP, early pregnancy, and child marriage. Adolescent girls in and out of school will be targeted for age appropriate sexual reproductive health rights information, with a major focus on dangers of early pregnancy for adolescent girls and the unborn child, and practical life skills knowledge 	
<i>Refugee and Migrant women</i>	Outcome 1,2, 3, 4	Refugee women are unlikely to be the target population and are vulnerable to SGBV within the Refugee Camps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure that legislative and policy processes capture SGBV, SRHR and HP concerns as documented with UNHCR and UNWomen ✓ Service providers awareness on refugee issues and stigma towards them is addressed ✓ Ensure that community mobilisation campaigns in Dowa District reach out to refugee women and adolescent girls directly and men and boys indirectly. Deliberate efforts will made to target adolescent girls out of school with functional literacy initiatives ✓ Strengthen the local structures supporting refugees in the target districts to integrate SGBV, HP and SRHR in their plans and programs. 	

VIII. Risk Management (Table 2)

Refer to Table 2

IX. Consistency and Alignment with other programmes



Malawi has a good overall framework for ending violence against women and girls. The UNDAF 2019–2023 has a specific outcome on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, an outcome on integrated quality health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS, education, and protection services, and an outcome on comprehensive sexual and reproductive health rights. The UNDAF is aligned to the MGDS III (2017–2022), where gender is mainstreamed throughout, and has an ‘Other Development Area’ specifically on gender. Gender is a founding principle for the EU, and, in keeping with the SDGs, the gender action plan for EU external actions (GAP 2, 2016–2020) sets concrete targets in three thematic areas: (i) ensuring girls’ and women’s physical and psychological integrity; (ii) promoting the economic and social rights/empowerment of girls and women; and (iii) strengthening girls’ and women’s voice and participation.

The Spotlight Initiative programme will build on a range of ongoing and past initiatives, including GEWE Programme, the JPGE 1 and 2, the Joint Programme on SRHR, HIV/AIDS, and SGBV Linkages, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (PMNCH), the Skills and Technical Education Programme (STEP), Improving Secondary Education in Malawi (ISEM), the Chilungamo (Justice and Accountability) Programme, Comprehensive Sexuality Education and Family Planning for Protection and Empowerment of Adolescents and Women in Malawi, Young Women in Active Politics (YAP), and the Gender-based Violence Management Information System. An overview of these programmes’ duration, partners, location, and monetary size is found in the table below.



Key Donor(s)	Implementing org.	Location	Description	Complements Spotlight	Link to Spotlight Pillars
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) Programme – 2012-2016 – US\$ 12 million					
EU	UNFPA	Dedza, Chiradzulu, Mchinji, Salima, Dowa, Chikwawa, Chitipa, Karonga, Nkhatabay, Mzimba, Machinga, Mangochi, Nsanje	Support Government's commitment to reduce gender inequalities between men, women, girls and boys in accessing productive resources and development opportunities as well as promoting decision making to contribute positively to the acceleration and attainment of Millennium Development Goals.	The programme has institutionalized community structures through a comprehensive approach in reaching men and women, the youth, and most marginalised women and adolescent girls. The main activities of the programme include institutional capacity building of the national gender machinery, sectoral gender mainstreaming in the target sectors/Institutions, promotion of gender equality and equity among men, women and youth through economic, social and legal empowerment and addressing social-cultural practices and behaviours that predispose men and women to HP, SGBV, SRHR violations and HIV. Spotlight will use and learn from the direct mechanisms for implementation (government departments) and CSOs.	The overall purpose of GEWE on promoting gender equality through the support of state and nonstate institutions cuts across all the six pillars.
Joint Programme on Girls Education (JPGE) I: Improving access and quality education for girls in Malawi – 2014-2017 – US\$ 19 million					
Royal Norwegian Embassy	WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA	Dedza, Mangochi, Salima	Implemented over a period of three years (2014-2017) with the aim of improving access, quality and relevance of education for girls, through addressing key known	The fundamental premise of this proposal was that there are multiple threats to girls' education and without a comprehensive approach which simultaneously addresses key known threats such as poor food and nutrition, inadequate protection, poor quality schooling, violations of girls'	Linked to Pillar 3 & 4



			threats to girls' education. Such as poor food and nutrition, inadequate protection against sexual and physical violence, poor quality schooling, harmful social and traditional practices and violations of girls' sexual and reproductive rights.	sexual and reproductive rights, girls will avoid one threat only to succumb to another.	
Joint Programme on Girls Education (JPGE) II: Poverty reduction through education and basic life skills – 2017-2021 – US\$ 15 million					
Royal Norwegian Embassy	WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA	Dedza, Mangochi, Salima	The programme envisions reducing poverty through improving quality education and basic life skills for in and out of school adolescent girls in three districts of Mangochi, Salima and Dedza	JPGE II programme is strengthening and consolidating the gains made in JPGE I through providing a holistic and human rights-based programme using the 'whole-of-school approach'. Other than addressing education, nutrition and ASRH concerns of adolescents in a holistic manner; it also addressing other concerns such as social position, gender equality and gender-based violence as well as assistance in developing life skills.	Pillars 3 & 4
Joint Programme on SRHR, HIV/AIDS, and SGBV Linkages – 2018-2021 – US\$ 3 million					
SIDA	UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO	Mangochi, Nkhatabay, Mulanje	Brings together the collective and combined strengths of four UN agencies to provide catalytic support to the government, civil society and	The program, as the Spotlight, intends to scale up the provision of quality integrated SRHR/HIV and SGBV services to reduce unintended pregnancies, STIs and HIV, maternal and neonatal mortality and SGBV amongst all people, but with a focus on adolescent girls, young people and	This initiative is linked to Pillar 4, as it will strengthen the link between communities and health facilities by improving access to multi sectoral services at community level including women who



			communities in Malawi to scale up quality integrated SRHR/HIV and SGBV services.	key populations. The program aims at creating an enabling legal and policy environment, scale up the provision of client centred quality assured integrated and sustainable services, empower communities to adopt protective and promotive behaviours and document the lessons learnt. This programme will complement the Spotlight in Nkhatabay.	experience SGBV Services will include HIV testing, psychosocial counselling, post abortion care. Will also strengthen the systems through capacity strengthening of the providers in both SGBV and SRHR services. It will also strengthen referral of SGBV cases in the community, this will be through community sensitization which will increase demand creation.
Skills and Technical Education Programme (STEP) – 2016-2020 - €32 million					
EU	UNESCO	Nationwide and in selected districts: Blantyre, Dowa, Mulanje, Lilongwe, Dedza, Mchinji, Salima, Balaka, Mwanza, Chikwawa, Zomba, Machinga, Mangochi, Rumphi, Mzuzu, Nkhata Bay, Mzimba, Kasungu, Likoma, Ntchisi, Thyolo, Karonga	STEP is an initiative that empowers youth, enhances job creation, and increases access to skills development opportunities.	STEP has a specific objective on promoting equitable and gender-balanced access to TEVET, which will complement the SI in Malawi's efforts to retain girls in school and empowerment efforts.	Pillars 3 and 4
Improving Secondary Education in Malawi (ISEM) – 2016-2020 - €36 million					
EU		Nationwide and selected districts: Karonga, Mzima, Mzuzu, Nkhata Bay, Kasungu, Ntchisi, Dowa, Lilongwe, Mangochi, Zomba, Phalombe, Ntcheu, Neno, Balaka, Blantyre,	The objective of this programme is to empower Malawi's education sector and its capacity to satisfy the economy's need for educated youth	The project has a special focus on girls and supports their access, retention and completion of secondary education, which in Malawi has shown to be key in preventing girls from early pregnancies,	Pillar 3



		Chiradzulu, Thyolo, Mchinji, Chikwawa, Salima, Dedza	throughout expansion and improvement of equitable and gender-balanced secondary education.	marriages and made them less vulnerable to violence.	
Chilungamo (Justice and Accountability) Programme – 2017-2021 - €48 million					
EU	UNDP	Nationwide	The project provides cost-effective efficient and inclusive approaches to increasing access to justice by the poor and vulnerable groups, especially women and children through paralegal and mediation services	Village Mediation Programme engages more women mediators to tackle cases that are mostly brought by women. 55% of cases resolved in 2018 were brought by women.	Pillar 4
Comprehensive Sexuality Education and Family Planning for Protection and Empowerment of Adolescents and Women in Malawi – 2015-2020 - €6 million					
EU		Rumphi, Ntchisi, Mwanza, Neno, Nkhatabay			
Systems Strengthening for Orphans and Vulnerable Children – 2017-2018 – US\$ 1.2 million					



USAID	UNICEF	Blantyre, Mangochi, Zomba	Lilongwe, Machinga,	Deliver age-appropriate services to vulnerable children and adolescents and prevent and respond to all forms of violence and the impact of HIV/AIDS	The initiative is strengthening the social welfare workforce (professional and para-professional) mandated to respond to cases of GBV, child abuse and neglect, including through support to institutions delivering tertiary education in social work. The initiative is also strengthening the national case management system to assess and respond to vulnerabilities and violence.	Pillar 4
Gender-Based Violence Management Information System – 2014-ongoing						
	UNFPA	Dedza, Chiradzulu, Mchinji, Salima, Dowa, Chikwawa, Chitipa, Karonga, Nkhata Bay, Mzimba, Machinga, Mangochi, Nsanje		The GBVMIS is designed to provide real time incidences of GBV across the 28 districts of the country	The GBVMIS is modelled along the national GBV Reporting Registers which were rolled out across the country in 2011 with support from UNFPA. The GBVMIS which is designed to automate raw data that districts had been collecting will be a very useful tool to build on in strengthening GBV data in the spotlight initiative.	Pillar 5 will work directly on this system.
Private Sector Development Programme – 2013-2019 – US\$ 26 million						
RNE, DFID, KFW	UNDP, IFAD	Nationwide		The Malawi Innovation Challenge Fund was established and operational to increase inclusiveness and competitiveness of value chains in agriculture and manufacturing	The project ensures that the beneficiary farmers/households across have 40% women. This is a must. This is complimenting the SI as it is a direct programme that empowers women economically in a more sustainable way as they are embedded within the supply chains of existing and well-established	Pillars 3 & 4



			The MICF looks for social returns that embed smallholder farmers including women in business supply chains through sustainable productive investments made and targeted social impact in terms of job creation and livelihood improvements by the Private Sector	businesses whose products have both national and international markets.	
Malawi Electoral Cycle Support (MECS) project (VAWP) – 2017-2019 – US\$7,598,880					
	UN Women, UNDP	Nationwide and selected districts: Mzimba, Karonga, Dedza, Salima, Mangochi, and Mulanje.	MECS focuses on complementary aspects of a democratic process such as Election management, Political Party Development and Women's political participation to foster integrated dialogue, coordinated advocacy and consensus around key electoral elements	Women's political empowerment throughout the electoral cycle is strengthened. Activities implemented aim at enhancing women's capacities to compete for elected positions. The ultimate aim is to have women ably represented in political decision-making positions so that issues of SGBV/HP/SRHR that require the attention of highly level decision making are given the required support	This is linked with Pillar 2 on strengthening national and subnational institutions



X. Monitoring and Evaluation

A comprehensive monitoring, evaluation, and learning system will be designed to track delivery of programme results and support learning for continuous improvement of the programme design. Participatory monitoring, evaluation, and learning techniques will be integrated into the overall programme M&E system to ensure that all key stakeholders, particularly grass-roots communities, actively participate in the monitoring process for joint decision making and learning. The M&E methodology will be designed in line with the principles of gender and “Leaving No One Behind” by generating evidence on who is being left behind so that key stakeholders can use such evidence to understand why some people are being left behind, agree on actions to be taken and by who. Gender disaggregated data focusing on different levels of vulnerability, marginalization and exclusion will be reflected in indicators, baselines, targets and progress data in order to show disparities and provide evidence on who is being left behind. A full time M&E Specialist will be recruited to coordinate day to day M&E activities of the programme and will act as a link between M&E focal persons from all RUNOs.

A baseline study will be commissioned at the beginning of the programme to gather baseline data for both outcome- and programme-level specific indicators. Document reviews/expert analysis will be used to extract and compile baseline data from existing sources such as MDHS, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), and other available administrative records from police, courts, schools, hospitals, etc. Additionally, a representative survey will be undertaken in targeted communities and with service providers of VAWG to gather baseline data from sources that are not readily available. UN agencies, government institutions, VAWG service providers, CSOs, women’s rights groups, and targeted communities will be mainly responsible for the collection and analysis of routine programme-level monitoring data. All programme indicators will be defined in line with regional and global standards to facilitate comparability with other participating countries. Additionally, standard data collection tools will be introduced to ensure the collection of reliable and accurate data. EU, key Government ministries and CSOs will participate in various monitoring activities including joint quarterly monitoring visits and reviews to provide oversight on effective implementation of the programme and delivery of anticipated results.

Since UN agencies do not directly implement activities, our monitoring, evaluation and reporting will primarily be based on three key sources and these are (i) national level studies such as the Demographic Surveys and reports produced by the NSO ii) verified and validated reports submitted by implementing partners and project stakeholders such as the MoGCDSW and (iii) Programme specific data collected from documents/costed plans/consultant reports/registers/capacity assessments produced with support from the project. Routine quantitative monitoring data will be enriched with periodic qualitative research to gather more information as to why certain changes are occurring. Formative research will also be undertaken to understand the needs of specific groups in order to identify interventions to address their needs. An external independent evaluation will be commissioned at mid- and end-line, using a quasi-experimental design to document the success of the programme by comparing participating and non-participating districts and communities.

The M&E system will collect and analyze data on the following key results (i) laws and policies that are adequately respond to rights of all women and girls and in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies recommendations (ii) capacity of parliamentarians and staff of human rights institutions to advocate for, draft new and or/ strengthened existing legislation and or policies on VAWG (iii) coordination and oversight mechanisms at national and district levels for addressing VAWG (iv) changes in harmful norms, attitudes and behaviours (v) cases of VAWG, including SGBV/HP, reported to the police (vi) capacities to regularly collect data related to VAWG, including SGBV/HP and (vii)



capacity of national women's and girls' networks and relevant CSOs to network and jointly advocate for GEWE and ending VAWG.

XI. Innovation

Measuring the impact of innovation is key to appreciating the change and transformation resulting from interventions. The Spotlight Initiative will have indicators for measuring the impact of innovation that is built around the ultimate goal of achieving a life free of violence for women and girls in the intervention districts, and eventually in all of Malawi. The innovation should be for both the programme side of the initiative and also operations.

Innovation related to programme

The programme will generate innovation and motivate actors and target population of marginalized facing multiple and intersecting discrimination through a deliberate effort to explore new avenues by employing various tools such as:

- Calls for concepts on innovation
- Organizing talent competition on specific topics, as well as focus group discussions, targeting the most marginalized and those facing intersecting discrimination to participate in these competitions
- Organizing field tests of the most promising concepts to confirm the scalability and feasibility of the innovation
- Developing a model of the field-tested innovation to further improve on it and bring it to scale
- Scaling up best practices, both those identified through monitoring and evaluation and those that conform to the Spotlight Malawi theory of change

In the context of Malawi, the Spotlight Initiative will innovate to promote the core guiding principles of 'leave no one behind' and 'reach the furthest first'. It will help intensify visibility, outreach, and roles in mobilizing multiple key stakeholders and strategic audiences to address VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR.

A few innovative measures will also be employed to ensure the involvement of the private sector. This will entail advocacy to integrate the response to GBV into performance contracts.

The innovative ideas in this document are developed based on major initiatives underway; other ambitious and catalytic proposals which the Spotlight Initiative Interagency Working Group reflected on; and those that build on leading civil society campaigns and initiatives that can bring important impetus, synergies, and partnerships to the initiative.

(i) Near real-time monitoring, research and iterative programming

During 2018, UNICEF has partnered with the University of Zurich on a pioneering national survey on harmful practices. Findings from this survey will inform programming for the Spotlight Initiative and follow-up research undertaken to better understand the socio-economic and cultural drivers. U-Report – a new mobile-based platform designed for young people to have their voices heard on issues that affect them – will be utilized to periodically measure knowledge and attitudes towards issues integral to the Spotlight Initiative.

The Spotlight Initiative will enhance near real-time data collection and national information management systems. This will include routine administrative data UNICEF currently supports collected through mobile phone (SMS) reporting (currently received from frontline Community Child Protection Workers and Police VSUs). Efforts will be made to extend near-real time reporting to the judiciary and to harmonize reporting from one-stop centres, as well as anti-SGBV interventions in community-based security initiatives in the targeted districts. Support to enhance operationalization of the government's integrated information management system (including Child Protection and GBV modules) will also be prioritized.



(ii) Reaching the ‘furthest behind first’ and women’s and girls’ empowerment

Multi-sectoral coordination in the provision of quality essential services for VAWG survivors facilitates access to medical, psychosocial, rehabilitation, reintegration, and legal services in a coordinated manner. However, to improve access to formal justice, particularly for victims of VAWG in hard-to-reach areas, the Spotlight Initiative will integrate mobile courts as part of the essential services to strengthen stakeholders’ efforts to end violence against women and girls. Experience has shown that, though most VAWG cases are reported to police and consequently referred to courts, very few are concluded in the formal justice system due to several factors. Most rural areas have no formal courts, and in areas where courts exist, they are poorly resourced and not mandated to handle a range of cases, including defilement and rape cases. The long distance to formal courts normally based at district headquarters poses a great challenge to most women and young girls, given the unbearable financial costs. As a result, most cases are characterized by multiple adjournments due to low turnout of victims and witnesses, a development that ultimately exerts pressure on women to withdraw their cases.

Another challenge with the formal structures is that they do not provide an environment that is conducive to victims reporting cases. This applies even at the chiefs’ courts where cases are heard in public. To make reporting easier, village mediators that have proven to be useful under the access to justice programme will be utilized to ensure that more victims report their cases. The accessibility of village mediators who are selected within the community also helps to solve the distance challenges. Paralegals who work hand in hand with village mediators will screen the cases and recommend for prosecution.

(iii) Creation of mentorships and young women leaders through safe spaces in the communities

Many adolescent girls in Malawi lack information about contraceptives and their right to exercise full control over their bodies. This is reflected in the low contraceptive prevalence rate of 14 percent among adolescents aged 15 to 19. It also reflects in the high rate of teenage pregnancy, currently at 29 percent in the same age group. Entrenched social and gender-based norms influence adolescents’ and young people’s sexual and reproductive health and rights and their level of empowerment. These also lead to discrimination and marginalization of girls and young women. It is believed that the empowerment of adolescent girls and young women begins with having control over and agency of their own bodies.

While the issues of violence against women and VAWG share similarities, root causes, and common pathways, the realities and needs of women and girls at various stages of their lives differ, and so should the responses and programmes that support them. The mentoring in safe spaces is especially important in assuring that girls are not left behind, particularly adolescent girls who are missed by child protection services, justice systems, and VAWG responses oriented towards adults. The safe spaces will ensure that responses and prevention measures for VAWG are tailored to also address the specific needs and experiences of young women and adolescent girls. Through a holistic and integrated human rights–based approach, and the creation of safe spaces within the communities, the Spotlight Initiative can reverse this situation and restore reproductive justice among adolescent girls and young women. At the heart of its human rights–based approach in the creation of safe spaces is mentorship.

Mentors will be trained to address and discuss issues such as SRH and rights, citizenship, participation, life skills, negotiation, decision making, leadership, participation, and confidence. This knowledge helps girls advocate for themselves and each other. Evidence has shown that the supportive presence of a mentor is transformative for the empowerment and personal development of adolescent girls and young women. Mentors shall be carefully selected and trained to guide girls and young women, including marginalized girls and young women with disabilities, through these sessions. In addition, the mentors’ training shall aim at transforming secondary school girls into change agents in their communities.

(iv) Youth and community participation and engagement



Despite the alarming levels of SGBV committed against adolescent girls and young women, with potentially life-long consequences, there is an equally alarming gap in responses and services tailored to and focused on this age group. Targeting prevention among young people, especially adolescent girls and boys in the 10 to 19 age range, is considered by experts as one of the most strategic investments for gender equality and EVAWG. In the same way, the Spotlight Initiative aspires to achieve major shifts and catalyse change by mobilizing men on a larger scale; targeted efforts within this age group is expected to make a significant contribution by 2022.

(v) Increasing women’s agency through participation in sustainable energy

The Spotlight Initiative will implement an economic empowerment programme, which aims to support women to become more involved in the design and use of equipment and tools and to engender delivery mechanisms. A few years back, UN Women, in partnership with Barefoot College in India, trained illiterate older women from select African countries as solar engineers, who then provided their communities with access to electricity. As evidenced by the project’s end-line survey, the programme had a profound indirect impact on women’s agency and influence in their respective communities.

Such innovative initiatives will make sustainable and affordable power supply systems available for lighting homes, schools, streets, clinics, and information/communication centres. They can also facilitate the introduction of a series of labour-saving appliances, both productive and leisure-related, of interest to girls, women, children, men, and boys. The Spotlight Initiative can build on UN Women’s experience to train rural women from the six Spotlight districts to conduct solar installations.

(vi) Improving access and availability of the Internet and connectivity to marginalized rural women and girls

Many rural areas across Africa have not been able to leverage the benefits of the Internet, due to the lack of Internet connectivity, high costs, or inadequate speeds to run applications. There is ample evidence to show that communities benefit from improved or newly established connectivity. Research shows that the Internet can empower women by providing them with an opportunity to connect with people outside their communities. Networking ensures relevancy for women to continue using the Internet. Internet use provides long-term benefits around empowerment⁵⁶, such as increased confidence, external validation, and expression. Social networking allows women to enlarge their communities and to retain their old ones. The Internet also provides a platform for the marginalized to make their voices heard – to express their viewpoints, share their experiences, and engage in global conversations.

According to a recent survey of the World Pulse global community, 62 percent reported finding a new sense of confidence, 56 percent have been inspired to take action to create change within their community, and 18 percent have connected to funding or fellowships. However, it is also a well-documented fact that availability of the Internet in and of itself will not be sufficient to attract users (in this case marginalized women and girls). Therefore, Spotlight Malawi will be deliberate in creating value for the marginalized women and girls, primarily by organizing digital literacy training courses and putting in place tailored content and peer networks to increase its relevance for the marginalized. The digital literacy will be modelled after successful initiatives in Africa such as ‘Intel she will connect’, which among others applies an ‘each one teaches five’ model where women work with their peers to help them get connected. This will help scale the process of digital literacy through an informal process as well.

vii. Utilization of simple tools (technology or otherwise) to gather first-hand feedback from survivors of violence regarding services

⁵⁶ Empowerment connotes a variety of ideas including self-confidence, autonomy, and the capacity to alter the structures that govern one’s situation (A. Malhotra and R. S. Schuler, 2005).



Access to services for survivors is a complex matter, and this is due to a number of factors affecting smooth delivery. At times the problem is not unavailability of services, but rather the attitude of service providers, which is negative towards clients. More initiatives are required to tackle a culture in which VAWG is seen as a private, family matter, and not as a criminal one, as this forms the basis for some of the abusive and demeaning attitudes towards, for instance, women reporting their intimate partners for violence. Police, as one of the entry points for survivors, are often found not to be courteous and respectful to women reporting violence. Particular challenges are noted: a lack of support from the chain of command to take violence against women and girls seriously; a refusal to work with CSOs on individual cases or on longer-term issues of capacity building; and, an absence of officers on the ground who understand the issue's complexity. Similar abusive behaviour is witnessed from health service providers – for instance, those working in maternity wards having negative attitudes about teenage girls with induced abortion-related challenges. One way to tackle this problem in a very objective way could be by gathering end user feedback through simple technologies such as those widely observed at airports and immigration checkpoints – a stand with smiley and angry face buttons.

viii. Increased efficiency through shared operations

The Spotlight Initiative in Malawi will increase efficiencies and value for money through harmonized operations embedded in the delivery mechanism. A hybrid Joint Program Secretariat ideally embedded in government office space will host five staff members drawn from the UN and government and these are; the JP coordinator, Policy coherence specialist (UN Women), M&E specialist (Government staff on leave of absence bases), communications specialist, and Admin/Finance support staff. Hosting the team in government is intended to accelerate implementation and quickly identify and address any gaps in implementation. Joint offices will also be piloted at district level.

viii. Private sector thematic partnership to ending VAWG and HP

To spur concrete action and position elimination of violence against women and girls and that of HP at the center of the agenda, Spotlight Malawi will engage local leaders across the private sectors. Borrowing the concept from the UN Women HeForShe campaign a group of leaders will be identified as *Spotlight Thematic Champions*. They will be designated a focus area as outlined in the **Malawi Spotlight Initiative Country Program Document**, and actively leverage their unique resources, networks and specialized skills to drive for the concrete change that are fundamental to ending VAWG and HP.

Spotlight Malawi Initiative will engage a broad range of private sector stakeholders such as the media, the business sector and others, to unlock the potential and leverage the resources of the private sector in the fight against VAWG and HP. It will tap into media, business, and financial hubs across the country for private sector support. The involvement can range from developing positive initiatives such as employment-based codes of conduct and zero tolerance policies to distributing awareness-raising materials to employees and clients to providing technical assistance to other organizations on recruiting men and boys as change agents and advocates of gender equality. The broad roles and responsibilities of the private sector potentially will include the following;

- Co-financing through public-private partnerships including Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives
- Support roll out of policies e.g. employee related policies such as anti-sexual harassment policies at the work places
- Corporate social responsibility plans, from resource mobilization to awareness raising.
- Recruitment of Private Sector Champions in support of the Spotlight Initiatives⁵⁷

⁵⁷ Borrowing ideas from the HeForShe campaign on how to recruit male champions in support of gender equality and empowerment of women



XII. Knowledge Management

Spotlight Initiative Malawi recognizes that knowledge is both a key output, as it will deliver to its beneficiaries, and a key resource that the initiative needs in order to deliver its results. Both learning and sharing are key. The Spotlight Initiative will use knowledge more effectively to improve on the mechanisms employed to achieve set goals, as well as to ensure greater impact in its development outcomes, as captured in the multi-year Country Programme Document 2018–2022.

Spotlight Initiative Malawi will use and share with others knowledge it will generate by applying the strategies below, among others :

- a) Knowledge informs the theories of change upon which results-based management depends. Among the strategies to capture knowledge will be organizing mid-term reviews to assess the effectiveness of the programme (i.e. progress achieved towards the achievement of expected outcomes and results under Phase I of the Spotlight Initiative) and contributing to knowledge generation and strengthened results-based management. Similarly, knowledge captured from the evaluation of the programme at the end of Phase 1 will also be used as the basis to inform Phase 2 and will be widely shared as a best practice within the south-south framework and other networks.
- b) Spotlight Initiative Malawi is designed in such a way that it reaches women and girls facing multiple and intersecting discrimination in communities with poor development indicators. The governance structure, which builds on existing structures, has networks that reach the village level, which is what is needed to bring services close to the target population. However, work at the community level requires a large investment of staff, time, and resources over a relatively long-time period. Local NGOs, CBOs, and service providers often have extremely weak capacity, and time and resources are required to build their knowledge and capacity – whether on women’s rights, multiple and intersecting discrimination, SGBV, leadership, project management, budgeting, report writing, etc. There is no doubt that while key milestones can be made in two years (Phase 1), several more years of funding and effort will be required to ensure the impacts are replicable and sustainable. To address such challenges, the Spotlight knowledge management strategy will look into possible alternatives to transfer the knowledge learned elsewhere (other Spotlight countries in Africa, but also through south-south collaboration) from those working on similar Spotlight pillars. This approach, among others, will involve transference of specialist knowledge and skills.
- c) As part of the knowledge management strategy, Spotlight Initiative Malawi will go beyond simply bringing organizations together or managing efforts to ensuring the meaningful involvement of key partners such as academia, civil society, and others to facilitate research and share information and resources.

Spotlight Initiative Malawi will use external knowledge to expand the initiative’s perspective beyond the internal view, build on partners’ capacity, and respond to client demand for knowledge management advisory and policy services, while also using internal knowledge management to support the Spotlight Initiative’s flow of substantive expertise and operational efficiency.

Encompassing all six outcomes, the Spotlight Initiative’s knowledge management will be grounded in evidence-driven learning, based on innovative and rigorous data collection, analysis of experiences, and robust evidence of what works and what does not work to inform iterative programming. The Spotlight Initiative’s knowledge management strategy will be developed upon approval of the Country Programme Document, reflecting, among others, the following outcomes:

1. Standardization in GBV/VAWG terminology, data collection tools, and incident classification; and uniformity in how and what data is collected
2. Routine administrative data on VAWG is collected from frontline service delivery sites, analysed, and disseminated (including to the public) on a regular basis
3. Modules on intimate partner and other forms of violence are integrated into national prevalence surveys
4. Sociocultural research is carried out to analyse how such factors contribute to VAWG



5. Interventions to end VAWG are routinely monitored and evaluated with findings shared with the sector
6. A national-level research 'observatory hub' is established to develop, apply, and disseminate knowledge for the prevention of VAWG

Indicative activities could include the following:

- a) Facilitating the transfer of knowledge and lessons learned from spotlight interventions across the UN system.
- b) Contributing to the development and maintenance of global, regional, and national knowledge networks/practice.
- c) Production of knowledge products for internal and external audiences on progress impacting the lives of women and girls.
- d) In Phase 1, Spotlight Malawi will support and or undertake research in the following areas: on gendered realities, with a focus on masculinities and SGBV in the intervention districts; on multiple intersecting discriminations in the intervention districts; and on power dynamics at the community level, including on gate keepers and their impact on the empowerment of women and girls
- e) Establishment of enhanced access to generated knowledge and statistics on SGBV relating to the women and girls in the intervention districts:
 - i. An effective monitoring framework in place to track the Malawi Spotlight Initiative results
 - ii. Guidelines, tools, and resources on monitoring (including on key indicators of progress) of the Spotlight Initiative are accessible to RUNOs and other key partners
 - iii. National repository of information with emphasis on the Spotlight framework and events in Malawi established
 - iv. Emerging good practices and lessons learned on Spotlight Malawi documented in a set of knowledge products

XIII. Communications and Visibility

A communications and visibility strategy has been developed to support implementation of the Spotlight Initiative in Malawi (see Annex 2). The communications and visibility strategy has four overall objectives:

1. To raise awareness on issues of violence against women and girls with a focus on cultural norms, attitudes, services, policies, laws and prevalence in Malawi
2. To illustrate and promote the impact and results of Spotlight-supported interventions
3. To provide communications for development support to strengthen Spotlight Initiative's programme design and implementation
4. To ensure visibility for the Spotlight Initiative, the donor (EU) and partners

Part of the aim of the communication strategy is to highlight the success of the programme across different deliverables during the four years. This will include a press strategy through which press releases, hard news articles, human interest stories, and special targeted media content will be published in the media in Malawi and beyond. The plan also includes a social media strategy through which communications and visibility objectives will be achieved. This will include publishing of regular updates about the Spotlight Initiative, as well as infographics with key advocacy messages on Facebook and Twitter.

To instigate change for EVAWG, the communications and visibility strategy will also utilize some of the social behavioural change communication tools such as the Most Significant Change Stories, Theatre for a Change, Information Education Communication (IEC) materials, community mobilization/events, and educational programmes on national and community radio stations to advocate for positive social change around the Spotlight Initiative programmatic issues.



All communications and visibility of the Spotlight Initiative in Malawi and beyond will be aligned with the Spotlight Initiative's Global Communications and Visibility Plan and implemented by the UN Resident Coordinator's Office and engaging recipient UN organizations (UN Women, UNICEF, UNDP, and UNFPA) to ensure the visibility of the Spotlight Initiative and raise awareness about how the programme fights against SGBV and HP in the region.

EU branding will be streamlined across all communication activities, with the EU logo included on all communication products such as banners, reports and documents. News stories will also acknowledge EU support to the Spotlight Initiative. All radio or television communication materials will have the EU acknowledged as the donor of the Spotlight Initiative. Media interview opportunities featuring EU representatives will also be created through events and missions/ visits so that the EU officials are identified with the project. Advocacy messages will align with EU's ethical standards.

XIV. Annexes

**TABLE 1 – PROGRAMME’S RESULTS MATRIX**

Refer to the detailed guidance on filling in this matrix in the Country Programme Development Guidance document, under the Monitoring and Evaluation section. This matrix should cover the full Country Programme scope as reflected in the Work Plan (Table 3 A).

Spotlight Initiative - Results Matrix

		Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means Verification of	Frequency of reporting	Responsible
Outcome 1: 1. Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are in place and translated into plans							
		Laws and policies on VAWG, including SGBV/HP, adequately respond to the rights of all women and girls, including exercise/access to SRHR, are evidence-based and in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies’ recommendations ⁵⁸	No adequately respond to rights of all women and girls and in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies recommendations	5 laws and 2 policies adequately respond to rights of all women and girls and in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies recommendations	Copies of the Laws	Annual	All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers
		National and/or sub-national evidence-based, costed action plans and M&E frameworks on ending VAWG, including SGBV/HP, that respond to the rights of all women and girls developed in a participatory manner are in place.		1 National costed plan and M&E framework 6 district costed plans and M&E framework	Costed Action Plans and M&E frameworks	Annual	All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers

⁵⁸ Progress towards international standards will be measured through an analysis of specific components (“degree to which”) as described in the Methodological Notes



Output1: National partners (including formal and informal and justice sector workforce) have strengthened evidence-based knowledge and capacities to assess gaps and strengthen existing legislations on ending VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and/or on gender equality and non-discrimination (SGBV, SRHR and early marriage) that respond to the rights of groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and are in line with international HR standards and treaty bodies' recommendations

1	1.1	1.1.1	(Indicator 1.1.1) Number of draft revised laws and policies on SGBV/HP, SRHR, and on gender equality and non-discrimination harmonized and aligned with international HR standards and respond to the rights of women and girls, particularly those facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination	Draft 5 laws and 2 policies reviewed which are not aligned to international standards	Draft 5 laws and 2 policies reviewed which are aligned to international standards	Review Reports submitted by Consultants	Annual	UN Women
		1.1.2	(Indicator 1.1.5) Number of parliamentarians and staff of human rights institutions with strengthened capacities to advocate for, draft new and or/ strengthened existing legislation and or policies on VAWG including SGBV/HP and or gender equality and non-discrimination including promotion of women and girls SRHR and implement the same	0 ⁵⁹	100 Parliamentarians 200 staff of human rights institutions	Revised or draft Legislation by Parliamentarians and staff from human rights Institutions	Annual	UN Women
		1.1.3	(Indicator 1.1.6 b) Number of strategic litigations filed by women rights advocates to protect SGBV, SRHR and Early Marriage	0	2 (1 case in each year)	Court Files	Annual	UN Women

Output 1.2: National and/or sub-national partners are better able to develop and cost evidence-based national and/or sub-national action plans on ending VAWG, including SGBV/HP, in line with international HR standards with M&E frameworks, and responding to the needs and priorities of groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination

1	1.2	1.2.2	(indicator 1.2.2) Number of key government decision makers at national and district levels with strengthened capacities to draft and cost action plans on ending VAWG, including SGBV/HP and the promotion of women and	National and District level decision makers do not specifically draft and cost action plans on	20 National level decision makers 120 (30 in each district)	Action Plans and Budgets on ending VAWG, SGBV/HP and promoting SRHR	Annual	UNW/UNFPA
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⁵⁹ disaggregated according to Disability, Sex, districts.



			girls' SRHR, and accompanying M&E frameworks	ending VAWG, SGBV/HP ⁶⁰				
1	1.2	1.2.3	(indicator 1.2.3) Number of women's rights advocates ⁶¹ with strengthened capacities to draft and cost action plans on VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and the promotion of women and girls' SRHR, and accompanying M&E frameworks	Women Rights Advocates do not specifically draft and cost action plans on ending VAWG, SGBV/HP ⁶²	120 (30 in each district)	Action Plans and Budgets on ending VAWG, SGBV/HP and promoting SRHR	Annual	UNW/UNFPA
1	1.2	1,2.4	Number of draft evidence-based national and/or sub-national action plans on ending VAWG, including SGBV/HP and promoting women and girls' SRHR developed that respond to the rights of groups facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination with M&E frameworks and proposed budgets	No Draft national plan NO draft district plans	1 Draft national plan 6 draft district plans	Draft Action Plans and M&E frameworks	Annual	All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers

⁶⁰ Disaggregated according to disability, Sex, Age, districts and Urban and Rural

⁶¹ Including those from groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination

⁶² Disaggregated according to disability, Sex, Age, districts and Urban and Rural



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 and harmful practices, including in other sectors									
		2.1	(Indicator 2.2) Malawi allocates x% or more of national budgets to the prevention and elimination of all forms of VAWG, including SGBV/HP	TBD	TBD	Ministry of Gender; Ministry of Finance	of	Annually	UNDP
		2.2	(Indicator 2.3) VAWG, including SGBV/HP, is integrated in 5 other sectors (health, education, justice, security, culture) development plans that are evidence-based and in line with globally agreed standards	No	Yes	Project Progress Reports, Ministry of Gender	of	Annually	UNDP
Output 2.1: Key officials at national and/or sub-national levels in all relevant institutions ⁶³ are better able to develop and deliver evidence-based programmes that prevent and respond to VAWG, including SGBV/HP, especially for those groups of women and girls facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, including in other sectors									
2	2.1	2.1.1	(Indicator 2.1.3) Number of strategies, plans and programmes of other relevant sectors that integrate efforts to end VAWG, including SGBV/HP and promote	0	5	Project Progress Report, Ministry of Gender	of	Annually	UNDP/UNW

⁶³ E.g. justice, statistics, police, health, community based, etc.



			women and girls' SRHR, developed in line with international HR standards						
		2.1.2	Indicator 2.1.6) Number of key government officials trained on human rights and gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours towards women and girls, including for those groups facing intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination	0	400	Project progress reports, Ministry of Gender	of	Annually	UNDP
2	2.1	2.1.3	(Indicator 2.1.8) Number of key government officials with strengthened capacities to integrate efforts to end VAWG, including SGBV/HP and the promotion of women and girls' SRHR into the development plans of other sectors	0	30	Project progress reports, Ministry of Gender	of	Annually	UNDP
2	2.1	2.1.4	(Indicator 2.1.9) Number of women's rights advocates ⁶⁴ with strengthened capacities to support the integration of ending VAWG,	0	35	Annual project progress reports, Ministry of Gender	of	Annually	UNDP

⁶⁴ Including those from groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination



			including SGBV/HP, and the promotion of women and girls' SRHR, into the development plans of other sectors.					
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	2.2.1	(Indicator 2.2.1) Proportion of supported multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms established at the highest level and/or strengthened composed of relevant stakeholders, with a clear mandate and governance structure and with annual work plans	0%	70%	District Council reports	Annually	UNDP
		2.2.2	(Indicator 2.2.2) Proportion of national and sub-national multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms that include representatives of groups facing intersecting forms of discrimination	0%	70%	Project Progress Reports, Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP
		2.2.3	(Indicator 2.2.4) Number of annual meetings of national and/or sub-national multi-	1	4	Project Progress Reports,	Annually	UNDP



stakeholder coordination mechanisms

Ministry of Gender

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, including SGBV/HP, and promote women and girls' SRHR

2	2.3	2.3.1	(Indicator 2.3.1) Proportion of dedicated and multi-sectoral programmes developed that include proposed allocations of funds to end VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and to promote women and girls' SRHR.	0	25%	Project Progress Reports, Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP
		2.3.2	(Indicator 2.3.3) Number of key government officials with greater knowledge, capacities and tools on gender-responsive budgeting to end VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and to promote women and girls' SRHR	0	102	Project Progress Reports, Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP
		2.3.3	(Indicator 2.3.4) Number of women's rights advocates ⁶⁵ with greater knowledge and capacities on gender-responsive budgeting to end VAWG, including	0	70	Project Progress Reports, Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP

⁶⁵ Including those from groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination



SGBV/HP, and to promote women and girls' SRHR.

Outcome 3: Gender equitable social norms, attitudes and behaviour change at community and individual levels to prevent violence against women and girls and harmful practices and promote women and girls' SRHR

Indicator 3.2 Percentage of people who think it is justifiable to subject a woman or girl to child marriage

All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers

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	3.1.1	(Indicator 3.1.2) Number of young women and girls, young men and boys who participate in in and out of school programmes that promote gender-equitable norms, attitudes and behaviours and exercise of rights, including reproductive rights ⁶⁶	10080	24000	Programme reports	Annually	UNICEF, UNFPA
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Output 3.2 Community advocacy platforms are established/strengthened to develop strategies and programmes,⁶⁷ 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

⁶⁶ Including peer-to-peer, promoting gender transformative and human rights'-based attitudes/beliefs, respectful and equitable relationships and the expression and exercise of their rights, including reproductive rights

⁶⁷ Including informing parenting skills around gender socialization through early childhood development programmes



3	3.2	3.2.1	(Indicator 3.2.2) Number of people reached by campaigns challenging harmful social norms and gender stereotyping	1,957,210	3,575,000	Programme reports	Annually	UNICEF
		3.2.2	(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	40	Community action plans and programme reports	Annually	UNICEF
		3.2.3	(Indicator 3.2.6) Number of networks of men and boys developed and/or strengthened to advocate against VAWG including SGBV/HP and stand for promoting gender equitable values and behaviours, including on women and girls' SRHR.	0	30 boys and 30 men TA level network	Youth Network membership records from District Youth Office/District Community Development Office	Annual	UNW
Outcome 4: Women and girls who experience violence, including SGBV/HP, use available, accessible, acceptable, and quality essential services including for long term recovery from violence.								
			Proportion of women, including those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, who report experiencing physical or sexual violence within the past 12 months who seek help.	Nkhata Bay (38.7%), Mzimba (36.2%), Dowa (35.9%), Ntchisi (32.4%), Machinga (34.4%), Nsanje (28.9%)	At least 60% in all 5 target districts	Demographic Health Survey	Every 5 years	All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers



			Number of cases of VAWG, including SGBV/HP, reported to the police, b. proportions of VAWG cases reported to the police that are brought to court, c. proportions of VAWG cases reported to the police within the past 12 months referred to courts that resulted in convictions of perpetrators.	Baseline data to be available by December 2018 through the Spotlight pre-funding programme	Target to be established by January 2019 once baseline data is available	Police case registers and court cases registers	Annual	All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers
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 VAWG, including SGBV/HP, especially those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination								
4	4.1	4.1.1	(Indicator 4.1.3) National guidelines, manuals, curricula, protocols, directories and tools developed/adapted that are in line with the guidance and tools for essential services on SRHR and VAWG for women, adolescent girls and marginalised groups/ key populations.	5 non-revised guidelines (SRHR Guidelines, OSC Guidelines, VSU Guidelines and ESP Guidelines); 0 Referral protocol, 2 non-revised curricula (midwifery and police); 0 district GBV services directories; 0 ESP score card.	5 revised guidelines (SRHR Guidelines, OSC Guidelines, VSU Guidelines and ESP Guidelines); 1 Referral protocol, 2 revised curricula (midwifery and police); 6 district GBV services directories; 1 ESP score card.	Printed or draft copies of the revised national guidelines, copies of revised training curricula, developed protocols and GBV services directories.	Annual	UNFPA



4	4.1	4.1.2	(Indicator 4.1.6) Number of government service providers who have increased knowledge and capacities to better integrate SRHRV and SGBV services in VAWG response—into SRH health, education and migration services	0	360	Pre and post capacity assessment studies	Annual	UNFPA
			Number of women and girls with access to programmes developed to integrate VAWG, including SGBV/HP, response into SRH	0	10800	Mentorship session records; health facility records	Annual	UNFPA
4	4.1	4.1.3	(Indicator 4.1.4) Number of service providers, frontline, and community volunteers (child protection officers, social welfare assistants, Community development assistants, SRHR/Safe motherhood Committee members, Community midwives, health surveillance assistance and community police who have increased knowledge and capacities to deliver quality and coordinated essential	0	360	Pre and post capacity assessment studies	Annual	UNFPA



			services-to women and girls' victims/survivors of VAWG including SGBV/HP					
Output 4.2: All women and girls survivors of VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and their families are informed and can access integrated essential services including longer term recovery services and opportunities								
4	4.2	4.2.1	(Indicator 4.2.1) Number of girls and survivors of VAWG including SGBV/HP that have increased knowledge of and access to quality essential services.	0	24000	Girls safe spaces service awareness audits	Annual	UNFPA
			(Indicator 4.2.1) Number of girls and survivors of VAWG including SGBV/HP that access quality essential services.	0	6000	Service delivery records from health facilities, police, courts and other service providers	Annual	UNFPA



Outcome 5: Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programme								
			Indicator 5.1 Globally comparable data on the prevalence (and incidence, where appropriate) of VAWG, including SGBV/HP exists and is collected over time	No	Yes	National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP
		5.2	(Indicator 5.3) Malawi has statistics related to VAWG, including SGBV/HP, incidence and prevalence are disaggregated by sex, age, disability and geographic location	No	Yes	NSO, Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP
Output 5.1: Key partners, including relevant statistical officers, service providers in the different branches of government⁶⁸ and women's rights advocates have strengthened capacities to regularly collect data related to VAWG, including SGBV/HP, in line with international and regional standards to inform laws, policies and programmes								
5	5.1	5.1.1	(Indicator 5.1.1) Number of National Statistical Offices that have developed/adapted and contextualized methods and standards at national level to produce prevalence and/or incidence data on VAWG, including SGBV/HP	0	1	Project Progress Report, NSO	Annually	UNDP
		5.1.2	(Indicator 5.1.3) Number of National Statistical Officers who have enhanced capacities to produce data on the prevalence of VAWG including SGBV/HP, and incidence where appropriate	0	10	Project Progress Report. NSO and Ministry of Gender reports	Annually	UNDP
		5.1.3	(Indicator 5.1.4) Number of government personnel, including service providers, from different sectors who have enhanced capacities to collect prevalence and/or incidence data, including qualitative data, on VAWG including SGBV/HP in line with international and regional standards	1	4	Project Progress Reports, NSO	Annually	UNDP

⁶⁸ Statistics offices, justice, security and health sector



		5.1.4	Indicator 5.1.5 Number of women's rights advocates with strengthened capacities to collect prevalence and/or incidence data, including qualitative data, on VAWG including SGBV/HP	0	20	Project Progress Report Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP
Output 5.2: Quality prevalence and/or incidence data on VAWG, including SGBV/HP, 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	5.2.1	(Indicator 5.2.1) Number of knowledge products developed and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders to inform evidence-based decision making	0	1	Project progress reports, National Statistical Office	Annually	UNDP/UNICEF
		5.2.2	(Indicator 5.2.3) Number of government personnel, including service providers, from different sectors with strengthened capacities on analysis and dissemination of prevalence and/or incidence data on VAWG, including SGBV/HP	0	25	Project progress reports, Ministry of Gender	Annually	UNDP
		5.2.2	(Indicator 5.2.4) Number of women's rights advocates with strengthened capacities on analysis and dissemination of prevalence and/or incidence data on VAWG including SGBV/HP	0	10	Project Progress Reports, Ministry of Gender	Annual	UNDP
Outcome 6: Women's and girls' rights groups, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and SRHR								
			Indicator 6.1 Women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements and relevant CSOs, ⁶⁹ increase their coordinated efforts to jointly advocate on ending VAWG, including SGBV/HP and promoting SRHR	No coordinated efforts by CSOs, Women rights groups, CBOs, HeforShe	2 National level coordination events per year	National and District Coordination Plans	Annual	All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers

⁶⁹ Including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization



				champions on ending VAWG	24 district level coordination events per year (4 in each district per year)			
			Indicator 6.2 Increased use of social accountability mechanisms by civil society in order to monitor and engage in efforts to end VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and promote women and girls' SRHR	No programmes using social accountability to monitor, protect human rights defenders, women journalists and service providers	80% of CSO funded programmes	Programme documents (Proposals and budgets)	Annual	All Spotlight stakeholders and implementers
<p>Output 6.1 Girls, boys, 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, including SGBV/HP, and promoting SRHR, with relevant stakeholders at sub-national, national, regional and global levels</p>								
6	6.1	6.1.1	(Indicator 6.1.4) Number of National women's and girls' networks and relevant CSOs with strengthened capacities to network, partner and jointly advocate for progress on ending VAWG including SGBV/HP and on the promotion of women and girls SRHR at local, national, regional and global levels.	⁷⁰	6 district-based networks. 120 (20 in each District)	Reports, Field Monitoring Visits	Annual	UN Women

⁷⁰ Disaggregated according to disability, and Urban and Rural



6	6.1	6.1.2	(6.1.2) Number of official dialogues with relevant government authorities with the meaningful participation of women's rights groups and relevant CSOs, including representatives of groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination	0 ⁷¹	2 National level official dialogue sessions 12 district based official dialogue sessions	Reports, Field Monitoring Visits	Annual	UN Women
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, including SGBV/HP, SRHR, and GEWE more broadly								
6	6.2	6.2.1	Indicator 6.2.1 Number of supported women's right groups and relevant CSOs using the appropriate accountability mechanisms ⁷² for advocacy	0 ⁷³	60 Women Rights groups, and 120 CSOs	Copies of operational plans, Field Monitoring Reports	Annual	UN Women

⁷¹ Disaggregated according to disability, and Urban and Rural

⁷² E.g. the CEDAW, UPR shadow reports, and social accountability mechanisms such as social audits, citizen report cards, etc.

⁷³ Disaggregated according to disability, Sex, districts and Urban and Rural



TABLE 2 - PROGRAMME RISK MANAGEMENT MATRIX

Risks	Risk Level: Very high High Medium Low	Likelihood: Almost Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1	Impact: Extreme - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1	Mitigating measures	Responsible Unit/Person
Contextual risks					
Political instability in the face of elections	High	3	5	Ensure dialogue with multiple stakeholders throughout the programme to enhance the resilience from shocks related to political instability. Ensure safety and security of programme beneficiaries by working closely with civil society to mitigate possible breakdown of service provision	UNDP
Deeply entrenched harmful and inequitable social norms resistant to change	High	4	4	Develop and implement evidence-based intervention models, campaigns, strategies and programmes based on an organic model (at the individual, interpersonal, community, societal levels) and factoring short, medium, and long-term results that aim at changing harmful/discriminatory social norms	UNICEF
Women and girls lack, and/or have limited access to, sexual and reproductive health services	High	4	4	Strengthen and/or develop VAWG/HP prevention and care services that are rolled into sexual and reproductive health services.	UNFPA
High turnover within institutions and service providers	Medium	3	2	Develop training materials and capacity development initiatives that can be easily applied on a rolling basis. Work with relevant actors to assess reasons for high turnover and address challenges in context of the initiative.	UNFPA
Programmatic risks					
General lack of access to modern technologies reduce	Low	2	2	Discuss possible options with government authorities at the outset to ensure alternative data collection and dissemination	UNDP



the scope for information sharing, including data availability and use				in cases where the capacity and/or technology are not available. Chart needs from the start in order to acquire necessary technologies from the outset.	
National partners have limited capacities to apply knowledge	Medium	2	3	Develop accompanying capacity development strategies through participation of civil society and all national partners.	UNFPA
Services not available after initiatives end due to lack of resources	High	3	4	In collaboration with government, develop a feasible financing strategy with conditions that secure a financial sustainability plan from the outset, and ensure ownership through civil society engagement.	UNFPA
Acquired capacity and knowledge is not translated into transformative action	Medium	2	4	Undertake an assessment to understand why knowledge is not translated into action, and work closely with national stakeholders to address the issues.	UN Women
Lack of technical and financial resources to improve service delivery	Medium	2	2	Diversify funding sources to fill cost gaps. Ensure financing and sustainability strategy is in place from the outset.	UNFPA
Institutional risks					
National stakeholders are not willing to support CSOs	Medium	2	4	Engage national stakeholders from the outset and facilitate ongoing forums and spaces for dialogue and advocacy on the importance and benefits of supporting women's rights and civil society organizations and advocates.	UN Women
Shrinking space for civil society action and advocacy, and growing hostility towards women's rights defenders	High	3	4	Ensure there is space for meaningful participation of civil society. Foster bridges between governments and policymakers for better engagement and dialogue with civil society on the development, monitoring and evaluation of programmes.	UN Women
Political statements are not translated into action, or there is a lack of political will	High	3	3	Foster ongoing dialogue with various sector and contacts within the government, ensuring that VAWG/HP features in political agendas at the national and local levels, and there are multiple entry points and allies within government.	UN Women



Legislation not implemented due to lack of capacity and/or budget allocations	High	3	3	Diversify funding sources to fill cost gaps, ensure financing and sustainability strategy from outset; focus on developing national capacities throughout the process.	UN Women
Weak institutional and governance structures inhibit data collection on VAWG/HP	High	4	4	Advocate with government stakeholders to demonstrate the importance and benefits of having strengthened data on VAWG/HP. Work closely to develop capacities on data collection, analysis and use.	UNDP
Lack of resources/funds allocated to the production of data on VAWG/HP	Medium	2	3	Collaborate with national partners to leverage additional resources and provide technical assistance and guidance on how national funds can be used to address VAWG/HP data needs.	UNDP
Weak support to national statistical offices, lack of funding and technical skills resulting from frequent rotation of personnel or insufficient human resources reduce ability to produce and publish VAWG/HP data	High	3	4	Diversify funding sources to fill cost gaps and ensure financing and sustainability strategy from the outset. Prioritize developing capacities of national statistical offices.	UNDP
Fiduciary risks					
Disbursement of resources to small stakeholders (CSOs) and national IPs have the potential to provide incentives for diversionary activities.	Low	2	2	Funding to the grassroots level CSOs under Outcome 6 will be operationalized through the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, which will be used to channel the resources to grass-root level CSOs, based on the open and transparent process. Channelling funding to the national institutions will be done using UN Agency systems for partnerships and capacity building.	UN Women
Assumptions:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No major change in the political situation in the country ✓ There is significant national commitment including through dedication of domestic resources to ensure sustainability and long-term impact of the programme and overall efforts. 					



TABLE 3: BUDGETS – see excel document attached.

Once finalised, the following tables will be incorporated to this document.

Table 3 A – WORK PLAN

Table 3 B – BUDGET BY UNDG CATEGORY

Table 3 C – BUDGET BY OUTCOME

Table 3 D – ADVANCE PRE-FUNING



ANNEX 1: Multi-stakeholder engagement in the Country Programme development process

Consultation 1: Kick-off meeting with UN and EU – 27 June 18

Key recommendations: The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the draft roadmap and allocate responsibilities for the development of the Country Programme Document. A few recommendations were made: considering that the country envelope is smaller than expected we need to start mobilizing additional resources; include a technical person from the EU in the Core Team; hold a workshop and a high-level validation meeting with all key stakeholders asap, convened by the Chief Secretary of the Office of the President and Cabinet; before this workshop, Core Team to draft a results matrix that can be discussed; present CPO in PMT meeting to see how non-recipient agencies want to contribute; and finally, we need to think about how the political compact on ending violence against women and girls will look like.

Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
UN RC	Maria Jose Torres	UN Resident Coordinator	UN	27 June 2018
UN Women	Clara Anyangwe	Representative	UN	27 June 2018
EU Delegation	Fernando Trabada		EU	27 June 2018
EU Delegation	Judith Chirwa	Gender, education	EU	27 June 2018
UN RCO	Johanne Fremstad	Coordination	UN	27 June 2018
UN RCO	Lisbeth Mjoes	Head of RCO	UN	27 June 2018
UN Women	Francis Matita	M&E	UN	27 June 2018
UNICEF	Johannes Wedenig	Representative	UN	27 June 2018
UNICEF	Afroz Kaviani Johnson	Chief Child protection	UN	27 June 2018
UNDP	Agnes Chimbiri	Governance	UN	27 June 2018
UNFPA	Dorothy Nyasulu	Assistant representative	UN	27 June 2018
UNFPA	Beatrice Kumwenda	SRHR	UN	27 June 2018
UN Women	Pamela Mkwamba	Gender	UN	27 June 2018

Consultation 2: Multi-stakeholder technical workshop – 5 July 2018

Key recommendations: The purpose of this workshop was to discuss the draft results matrix as well as endorse the roadmap for the way forward. A few comments were made: in Outcome 1 we should not restrict the harmonization and amendment of laws to the 8 identified in the CPO but widen the scope to all 28 pieces of legislation that have negative connotations for a child for example. It was also recommended to include the newly established Government women



economic empowerment fund under Outcome 3. It was also emphasized that we need to ensure the Outcomes are interconnected and multi-sectoral. A general notion was that we need to have disaggregated indicators as much as possible.

Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
Ivy Foundation	Sammie MacJessie - Director	Lesbian, bisexual & gender, non-c)	CSO	5 July 18
Plan International	Catherine Ball – Business Development Manager	Gender transformative child protection	CSO	5 July 18
Plan International	Mada Chimwenje	Gender transformative child protection & SRHR	CSO	5 July 18
UNFPA	Cliff Phiri	M&E	UN	5 July 18
Ministry of Education	Albert Saka	Girls education	Government	5 July 18
UNDP	Agnes Chimbiri	Governance	UN	5 July 18
Ministry of Civic Education	Maurice Mulenga	Civic Education	Government	5 July 18
Girls Not Brides	Weston Msowoya – national coordinator	Girls education, gender	CSO	5 July 18
Ministry of Civic Education	Janenose Kantikana – CCDO	Community development	Government	5 July 18
Malawi Police	Patricia Njawili – Victim Support	Women and girls GBV survivors	Government	5 July 18
HREP Malawi	Maziko Matemba	Health	CSO	5 July 18
NGO Board	J. Mhone	NGO Coordination	CSO	5 July 18
UNFPA	Dorothy Nyasulu – assistant rep		UN	5 July 18
NGO GCN	Aubrey Chagwaka		CSO	5 July 18
UNICEF	Christobel Chikwana		UN	5 July 18
UNFPA	Beatrice Kumwenda		UN	5 July 18
UN Women	Francis Matita	M&E	UN	5 July 18
Ministry of Education/DSHWHA	Victor Mhoni	GBV	Government	5 July 18
Ministry of Civic Education	Mhlaklo Jere	GBV	Government	5 July 18



UN Women	Josephine Mpango	EVAW	UN	5 July 18
CARE	Rose Tchwenko	Prevention, services, data	CSO	5 July 18
UN RCO	Johanne Fremstad	Coordination	UN	5 July 18
UN RCO	Lisbeth Mjoes – Head of Office	Coordination	UN	5 July 18
UN Women	Habiba Osman	EVAW	UN	5 July 18
NABW	Barbara Banda	Strategy	CSO	5 July 18
UN Women	Pamela Mkwamba	Program	UN	5 July 18
UN Women	Khwima Mwasinga	EVAW	UN	5 July 18
Ministry of Gender	Mccallum M. Sibande – Director of Administration	Gender	Government	5 July 18
SAT	Linly Dumuka	Program	CSO	5 July 2018



Consultation 3: High-level multi-stakeholder meeting – 9 July 2018

Key recommendations: The purpose of this meeting was to validate what came out of consultation 2, the technical workshop. The following recommendations were made: need to re-think the geographic distribution of our efforts to ensure we are reaching the ones furthest behind, no matter where they are; economic empowerment must come out much stronger in the CPD; we need to make sure we capture all forms of violence, not just physical; it is easier for the police to enforce the penal code which has clear sentences outlined than other pieces of legislation (like the Gender Equality Act, etc.), hence there is a need for guidelines to assist investigators in enforcing and understanding these laws; and lastly each agency and government entity should nominate a technical person who will be involved in the CPD formulation to avoid turnover.

Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
UNFPA	Dorothy Nyasulu – assistant representative	Spotlight technical team	UN	9 July 2018
UNDP	Agnes Chimbiri – portfolio manager, Governance	Spotlight technical team	UN	9 July 2018
UNICEF	Johannes Wedenig - Representative	Representative	UN	9 July 2018
UN Women	Clara Anyangwe – Representative	Representative	UN	9 July 2018
MoGCDSW	Richard Chakhame	Planning	Government	9 July 2018
UN Women	Habiba Osman – EAW specialist	EAW	UN	9 July 2018
UNFPA	Beatrice Kumwenda	Gender/GBV	UN	9 July 2018
UN Women	Pamela Mkwamba – Program specialist	Gender	UN	9 July 2018
UN RCO	Johanne Fremstad – Coordination Specialist	Coordination	UN	9 July 2018
MoGCDSW	Alice Mkandawire, Deputy Director Gender Affairs	Gender	Government	9 July 2018
EP&D	Mararet Milimo	Economic planning	Government	9 July 2018
MoGCDSW	Esmie Kainja, Principal Secretary	Gender	Government	9 July 2018
MoGCDSW	Ahmad M. Mmadi	Coordination	Government	9 July 2018
MCCCI	Chancellor Kafera Panjira	Private voice/oversight	Private Sector	9 July 2018
UNICEF	Afroz Kaviani Johnson – Chief Child Protection	Child Protection	UN	9 July 2018
Police	Alexander Ngwa – child protection officer	Child Protection	Government	9 July 2018
MoLYSMD	Edward Zombe	Youth	Government	9 July 2018
MoGCDSW	Yolam Chiwanda	Social work	Government	9 July 2018
NGO Board	Voice Mhone – NGO coordinator	NGO coordination	Government?	9 July 2018
Girls not Brides	Weston Msowoya	Child marriage	CSO	9 July 2018
SRHR Africa Trust (SAT)	Linly Dumuka	Youth work (SRHR)	CSO	9 July 2018



MoD	Dr. L. D. Mtengawo	PA	Government	9 July 2018
Ministry of Civic Education, Culture and Comm. Development	Ivy Luhanga, Principal Secretary	Civic Education	Government	9 July 2018
EU Delegation	Judith Chirwa, Spotlight team member	Development aid, social sectors	EU Delegation	9 July 2018
EU Delegation	Fernando Trabada, Team Leader		EU Delegation	9 July 2018
MoGCDSW	James Ali	Policy making	Government	9 July 2018
OPC	R. L. Chiluzi – Chief Director	Chief Director	Government	9 July 2018
MoEST	Albert Saka, JPGE coordinator	Coordination	Government	9 July 2018



Consultation 4: Theory of Change Workshop – 16 July 18

Key recommendations: The purpose of the meeting was to, with help from the mission from New York (Leyla Sharafi), go through the global, regional and national theory of change and really flash out what should be included under each outcome. The participants then went through the draft results matrix to ensure it is aligned to the theory of change.

Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
Girls not Brides	Weston Mswoya	Child marriage, girls education	CSO	16-17 July 2018
UNFPA	Dorothy Nyasulu	SI Core Team	UN	16-17 July 2018
UNDP	Agnes Chimbiri	SI Core Team	UN	16-17 July 2018
UNFPA	Beatrice Kumwenda	SI Core Team	UN	16-17 July 2018
UNDP	Yamikani Chitete	SI Core Team	UN	16-17 July 2018
MoGCDSW	Andrew Nkhoma	Child protection	Government	16-17 July 2018
MoGCDSW	Joseph Kaleo	GBV and women's rights	Government	16-17 July 2018
UNFPA	Cliff Phiri	M&E	UN	16-17 July 2018
UNICEF	Christobel Chakwana	Gender mainstreaming	UN	16-17 July 2018
UN Women	Habiba Osman	GBV specialist	UN	16-17 July 2018
UNICEF	Afrooz Kaviani Johnson	Child Protection	UN	16-17 July 2018
EU Delegation	Judith Chirwa	Education and gender	EU Delegation	16-17 July 2018
SAT	Linly Dumuka	Youth SRHR	CSO	16-17 July 2018
Spotlight/UNFPA	Leyla Sharafi	Gender	UN	16-17 July 2018
UN RCO	Johanne Fremstad	Coordination	UN	16-17 July 2018
UN RCO	Lisbeth Mjoes	Head of RCO	UN	16-17 July 2018

Consultation 5: District consultations in 9 districts (Mzimba, Karonga, Nkhata Bay, Ntchisi, Dowa, Ntcheu, Machinga, Nsanje, and Mulanje) – 23-27 July 18

Key recommendations: It was generally found that there is a dire need for the Spotlight Initiative across the country. The cases of VAWG, SGBV/HP are rampant in the districts consulted. It was also found that structures are generally in place, but they are not functioning due to a lack of resources, hence there is not as much a need to establish structures, but to strengthen and make operational the existing ones. It was also found that there is a lack of awareness of



laws and policies, structures in place, how to access the justice system and what to do if you are a victim of VAWG, SGBV/HP. Additionally, if you do find out where to go the coordination among the different services is lacking, the attitudes of service providers is discriminating and there is a lack of resources in these facilities as well. Data was also mentioned as a big issue, with no harmonized data collection tools, no coordination among entities collecting data, etc. (Note that the below participants are the members of the teams that did the consultations. The participants consulted include district M&E officers, district social welfare officers, district education managers, district health officers, district youth officers, district gender officers, officers in charge (police), district magistrate, district AIDS coordinator, as well as community members).

Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
UNICEF	Christobel Chakwana		UN	23-27 July 18
SAT	Linly Dumuka	Youth, SRHR	CSO	23-27 July 18
Ministry of Gender	Joseph Kaleo Phiri		Government	23-27 July 18
UNDP	Yamikani Matemvu		UN	23-27 July 18
UN Women	Limbani Msiska		UN	23-27 July 18
UN Women	Habiba Osman		UN	23-27 July 18
Girls not Brides	Weston Msowoya		CSO	23-27 July 18
UNDP	David Nkuni		UN	23-27 July 18
UNFPA	Beatrice Kumwenda		UN	23-27 July 18
UNFPA	Dorothy Nyasulu		UN	23-27 July 18
EU Delegation	Judith Chirwa		EU	23-27 July 18
Health Rights	Maziko Matemba		CSO	23-27 July 18
UNDP	Agnes Chimbiri		UN	23-27 July 18
UNICEF	Martin Nkuna		UN	23-27 July 18
Ministry of Gender	Ahmad M'madi		Government	23-27 July 18

Consultation 6: Multi-stakeholder meeting on key elements of the draft SI CPD – 17 August 18

Key recommendations: Key technical stakeholders from UN, EU, Government and Civil Society were called to a meeting to discuss some key elements of the Spotlight Initiative draft country programme, including the governance structure, the proposed activities and the proposed districts. The participants generally agreed that the proposed activities and districts are appropriate, and a few edits were suggested to the activities, as well as some recommendations to merge overlapping activities and tighten the focus. Regarding the governance structure it was suggested to align them as much as possible to existing structures as to not create parallel structures. A follow-up meeting the next week will be held to go more in detail on the Governance Structure.



Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
MoGCDSW	Joseph Kalelo	GBV and Women's Rights	Government	17 August 18
Plan International	Catherine Ball	Gender, SRHR, education	CSO	17 August 18
GENET	Tadaia Vanessa Boti	Women empowerment	CSO	17 August 18
Plan International	McDonald Mumbo	GBV and Girls rights	CSO	17 August 18
Spotlight Initiative Selection Committee	Rose Sakala	Selection committee for the global reference group	CSO	17 August 18
UNFPA	Cliff Phiri	M&E	UN	17 August 18
NGO Board	Voice Mhone	CSO data	Government	17 August 18
Ivy Foundation	Sammie MacJessie	LGBTI	CSO	17 August 18
Department of Economic Planning and Development	Chikondi Phiri	Development Planning	Government	17 August 18
UN RCO	Johannes Fremstad	Coordination	UN	17 August 18
UNDP	Ainur Absemetova	Gender Specialist	UN	17 August 18
OHCHR/RCO	Neal Gilmore	Human rights/gender	UN	17 August 18
UN Women	Habiba Osman	EVAW/SGBV	UN	17 August 18
UNICEF	Christobel Chikwana	Gender specialist	UN	17 August 18
EU Delegation	Judith Chirwa	Gender/education	EU Delegation	17 August 18
MoGCDSW	Mishcell Mdambo	Social welfare	Government	17 August 18
MoGCDSW	Fred Simwaka	Gender	Government	17 August 18
UNICEF	Johannes Wedenig	RC a.i.	UN	17 August 18
AGYW Secretariat (Ministry of Labor)	Oge Okeke	Data analyst, tech advisory and coordination	Government	17 August 18
DIWODE	Segere Kasasi	Executive Director	CSO	17 August 18
DIWODE	Regina Jonathan	Assistant	CSO	17 August 18
FEDOMA	Virginia Masuweta Nyalo	Financial manager	CSO	17 August 18
Judiciary	Shyreen Yona	Law/judicial	Government	17 August 18
MoEST	Victor Mhoni	School health and nutrition + gender	Government	17 August 18
MHRC	Victor Khwima	Gender directorate	Government	17 August 18



NGOGCN	Helen Makukula	Gender	CSO	17 August 18
UNFPA	Grace Hiwa	SRHR	UN	17 August 18
NGOGCN	Aubrey Chaguka	Gender	CSO	17 August 18
Police	Maclean Muguntha	Police	Government	17 August 18
CCYD/GNB	Wilfred Finyain	SRHR/Gender	CSO	17 August 18
GWB/Focus	Kossam Munthali	SRHR/Gender	CSO	17 August 18
NGOGCN	Joseph Njala	Gender	CSO	17 August 18
UNESCO	Jessie Kazembe	CSE & SRH	UN	17 August 18

Consultation 7: High-level meeting to discuss the proposed Governance Structure – **20 August 2018**

Key recommendations: A high-level meeting was convened between the Principal Secretaries of Gender and Local Government, the Police IG and the UN HoAs to discuss the proposed governance structure and ensure that the Initiative aligns with existing structures. The Principal Secretary of Local Government expressed appreciation that the UN came as One to discuss these matters, and appreciation that the initiative aims to align with existing structures. The key points that came out of the meeting is that structures exist at all levels to accommodate this initiative's governance, but where such structures are perhaps not sufficiently responding to the SI's needs, there are freedoms to create such. For example, the District Executive Committees can have sub-committees, and where such don't exist on gender issues, they can be created. It was agreed to 1) gather a technical team consisting of Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Local Government and the UN the following day to go into detail on how the governance structures will look like at all levels, and 2) the MoG to review the proposed districts.

Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
MoGCDSW	Dr Esmie Kainja	Principal Secretary for Gender	Government	20 August 18
MoGCDSW	McKnight Kalanda	Director for Child Affairs	Government	20 August 18



MoLGRD	Kiswel Dakamau	Principal Secretary for Local Government	Government	20 August 18
MOLGRD	Walusungu Kayira	Deputy Director for Planning	Government	20 August 18
UNICEF	Johannes Wedenig	Representative	UN	20 August 18
UN Women	Clara Anyangwe	Representative	UN	20 August 18
UN RCO	Kebedech Ambaye	Spotlight Coordinator	UN	20 August 18
UN RCO	Johanne Fremstad	Coordination	UN	20 August 18
UNDP	Claire Medina	Representative	UN	20 August 18
UNDP	Agnes Chimbiri	Governance	UN	20 August 18
UNFPA	Dorothy Nyasulu	Assistant representative	UN	20 August 18
NGO Board	Voice Mhone	Director	Government	20 August 18
Malawi Police Services	Rodney Jose	Inspector General	Government	20 August 18
Malawi Police Services		Community Policing	Government	20 August 18

Consultation 8: Technical Meeting to work on the Governance Structure – 21 August 2018

Key recommendations: A technical team with members from the UN, the Ministry of Gender, the Ministry of Local Government, Malawi Police Services, and the Judiciary met to discuss the setup of the governance arrangements of the SI. It was proposed in the meeting to use existing structures at both the technical national level (GBV TWG) and at the district level (the ADCs and DECAs). These structures should have the required representation (key line ministries and CSOs, and at the national level the UN as well). For the National high-level steering committee, no structure currently exist that can accommodate this level of intersectionality, so this require further attention. The MoGCDSW and the MoLGRD together with the UN then draw up an appropriate structure and reporting line for the SI.

Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
MoGCDSW	Joseph Kalelo	GBV and Gender	Government	21 August 18
AGYW Secretariat (Ministry of Labor)	Oge Okeke	Data analyst, tech advisory and coordination	Government	21 August 18
UN RCO	Johanne Fremstad	Coordination	UN	21 August 18
UN RCO	Kebedech Ambaye	Spotlight Coordinator	UN	21 August 18
MOLGRD	Walusungu Kayira	Deputy Director for Planning	Government	21 August 18



MOGCDSW	Alice Mkandawire	Deputy Director of Gender Affairs	Government	21 August 18
UN Women	Pamela Mkwamba	Deputy Representative	UN	21 August 18
UN Women	Habiba Osman	EVAW/SGBV	UN	21 August 18
UN Women	Almas Araru	EVAW	UN	21 August 18
UNFPA	Dorothy Nyasulu	Assistant Representative	UN	21 August 18
UNFPA	Beatrice Kumwenda	SRH Specialist	UN	21 August 18
UNICEF	Christobel Chikwana	Gender specialist	UN	21 August 18
UNICEF	Malla Mabone	Child protection	UN	21 August 18
MoGCDSW	Fred Simwaka	Chief Gender & Development Officer	Government	21 August 18
Ministry of Justice	Eunice Ndingo	Senior State Advocate	Government	21 August 18
MoGCDSW	Chifundo Nanchukwa	Chief Social Welfare Officer	Government	21 August 18
MoGCDSW	Misheck Mdambo	Social Welfare	Government	21 August 18
Malawi Police	Patricia Njawili	VSU coordinator	Government	21 August 18
MoCECCD	Ronald Phiri	Chief Community Development Officer	Government	21 August 18
Malawi Police	Felix Cassim	Gender Officer	Government	21 August 18
MoGCDSW	Ahmad Mmadi	Economist	Government	21 August 18
MoGCDSW	Peter Yelesani	Chief Gender and Development Officer	Government	21 August 18
MoGCDSW	Justin Hamela	Deputy Director of Child Affairs	Government	21 August 18

Consultation 9: High-level Meeting to discuss Governance Structure and arrangements – 10 October 2018

Key recommendations: The Heads of the RUNOs, the RC, the EU met with the PS of Gender, the PS of Local Government and the PS of Administration in the Office of the President and Cabinet. It was agreed to enhance communication between the UN and Government; it was agreed to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the various steering committees and implementation teams (including Government, including the Planning Director and the District Commissioner at the district level, and CSO's roles); Government's role as coordinator and implementer must be clarified; and finally, it was agreed to start mobilizing extra resources in order for the country to scale up to more districts within Phase I, as soon as the CPD is launched.



Name of organisation/agency	Name and title of representative	Area of focus of work	Type of organisation	Dates of consultations
MoGCDSW	Dr. Esmie Kainja	PS Gender	Government	10 October 18
MoLGRD	Mr. Kiswell Dakamau	PS Local Government	Government	10 October 18
OPC	Mr. Cliff Chiunda	PS Administration	Government	10 October 18
RCO	Maria Jose Torres	Resident Coordinator	UN	10 October 18
UNICEF	Johannes Wedenig	Representative	UN	10 October 18
UN Women	Clara Anyangwe	Representative	UN	10 October 18
UNDP	Claire Medina	Deputy Representative	UN	10 October 18
UNFPA	Masaki Watabe	Deputy Representative	UN	10 October 18
UNFPA	Won Young Hong	Representative	UN	10 October 18
RCO	Johanne Fremstad	Coordination Specialist	UN	10 October 18

XV. ANNEX 2: Communication and Visibility Plan

1. Background

Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread, persistent and devastating human rights violations in the world today. It is a major obstacle to the fulfilment of women's and girls' human rights and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. VAWG occurs worldwide, cutting across all generations, nationalities, communities and spheres of society, irrespective of age, ethnicity, disability, or other background.

The EU and the UN are embarking on a new multi-year programme, entitled Spotlight Initiative, focused on eliminating VAWG and harmful practices. The Spotlight Initiative will deploy targeted, large scale investments in a focused number of countries aimed at achieving significant impact in the lives of women and girls. Spotlight is intended to make visible a renewed investment in and commitment to gender equality, at a time when there has been a rollback of rights⁷⁴ and support. It also intends to provide a new model of partnership between the UN and EU and the resources for delivery on the SDGs in an integrated manner in line with respective mandates. The Initiative will focus on specific forms of VAWG - femicide; domestic and family violence; sexual and gender-based violence; harmful practices; and trafficking in human beings and sexual and economic (labour) exploitation – as an entry point to addressing broader and other forms of VAWG. It will also contribute to eliminating gender equality gaps and emphasize the principle of leaving no one behind. This effort is premised on, and aims to contribute to, implementation of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, and is in line with the EU Gender Action Plan.

An initial contribution of € 500 million is being committed by the EU, with other donors and partners being invited to join the initiative to broaden the reach and scope. The modality for the Initiative will be a UN fund, administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office and overseen by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. The Spotlight Initiative was officially launched on 20 September 2017 during the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly, with the highest levels of representation both from the UN and EU sides. Heads of State, EU Ambassadors, UN Heads of Agencies, UN Goodwill Ambassadors, civil society activists and survivors of violence also participated in the launch. Prior to the event, the UN Deputy Secretary-General signed an UN Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Fund.

2. Introduction

Alongside the Spotlight Initiative Country Programme document, a Communication and Visibility Strategy has been developed to support the overall communication and visibility of the project during its entire period of implementation.

The Communication and Visibility Strategy aims to influence attitudes and instigate positive change and increase visibility of the project work and its donor, the European Union. It will be implemented in the same five years period as the project. Among others, the communication strategy will highlight the success of the programme across the six pillars over the project's five years.

The strategy embraces various communication approaches including media relations and social advocacy. It also utilises some of the social behavioural change communication tools such as the Most Significant Change Stories, Theatre for a Change, IEC materials, community mobilisation events and educational programmes on national and community radio stations to advocate for positive social change around the Spotlight Initiative programmatic areas.

All communication and visibility efforts of the Spotlight Initiative in Malawi will be aligned with the Spotlight Initiative's global communication and visibility plan UN organisations (UN Women, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA) to ensure the visibility of the Spotlight Initiative, and raise awareness about how the project fights against VAWG including Harmful practices in the country.

⁷⁴ The Beijing Declaration And Platform For Action Turns 20. UN Women (2015)

The aim of this strategy is to raise awareness about the Spotlight Initiative, its work, achievements and the donor, and support positive social change to eliminate violence against women and girls.

3. Objectives

1.1 To raise awareness on issues of violence against women and girls with a focus on cultural norms, attitudes, services, policies, laws and prevalence in Malawi: by publicising data and supportive facts, creative messaging to key audiences, exhibiting thought leadership on violence against women and girls, media sensitisation and training.

Key indicator(s)

- i. Outcome Indicator 3.1: Percentage of people who think it is justifiable for a man to (subject) beat women, girls, wife, intimate partner (to violence), by sex and age;
- ii. Output Indicator 3.3.1 Number of news outlets that develop standards on ethical and gender-sensitive reporting
- iii. Output Indicator 3.3.4 Number of journalists better able to sensitively report on VAWG and GEWE more broadly.
- iv. Percentage of audience with accurate knowledge on the prevalence of violence against women and girls focusing on cultural norms, attitudes, services, policies and laws, and its prevalence in in Malawi

1.2 To illustrate and promote the impact and results of Spotlight-supported interventions: By finding, sharing and promoting the stories of women and girls whose lives have been positively transformed by Spotlight-supported interventions and also sharing stories of male advocates for ending violence against women and girls.

Key indicator(s)

1. Percentage of audience with accurate knowledge of the Spotlight Initiative
2. Percentage of audience with a positive perception of the Spotlight Initiative
3. Output Indicator 3.3.3: Number of new and other media stories/reports that sensitively report on VAWG and GEWE more broadly

1.3 To provide communications for development support to strengthen Spotlight Initiative's programme design and implementation: By influencing the design and delivery of behaviour-change and culture-shift activities, and campaigns.

Key indicator(s)

1. Output Indicator 3.2.2: Number of people reached by campaigns challenging harmful social norms and gender stereotyping
2. Output 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

1.4 To ensure visibility for the Spotlight Initiative, the donor (EU) and partners: By coordinating consistent and coherent branding, high-profile endorsements from social influencers, top-tier media placements, organizing publicity events and campaigns.

Key indicator(s)

1. Percentage growth of Spotlight audiences (segmented)
2. Percentage increase in Spotlight brand recognition

4. Focus areas and approces

To reach the goal of EVAWG, we can work through the following identified four interlinked strategies:

4.1 Advocacy

Working with traditional leaders and faith-based organizations will change acceptable practices related to VAWG in the private and public sphere including within the home, community, school and at churches and mosques. We will work with

chiefs, tradition initiators, religious leaders, teachers and use champions in these institutions to inspire and encourage others around to end VAWG and HP.

4.2 Enforcement and accountability

In cases of VAWG, they resort to go to family members, traditional and religious authorities first to seek help and then to the hospital or police. However, in most cases family members, traditional and religious authorities may not escalate the cases to the next level due to religious and entrenched traditional beliefs as well as fear of reprisals. Action is therefore not taken towards perpetrators of violence. In situations where cases have been reported to police, there are problems of victims suffering further violence, stigma and ridicule and problems accessing courts. For example, the woman or the girl must keep coming to court, which costs time and money, and have no legal representation leading to cases being dropped while in the course of this lose scarce resources - money and time. There seems laxity in accountability at different levels including the police, traditional leaders and other family members. There are also cases where survivors of violence frustrate because of the long drawn out legal process and decide to settle matters outside of court. Such settlements are especially common in cases of rape whereby parents drop court case in favour of receiving money as compensations from the perpetrator.

4.3 Awareness raising on rights and responsibilities

Women and girls are central to the Spotlight Initiative. It is informed by the rights-based approach which means ensuring that women and girls recognize and understand that no one has the right to violate them. They need to further recognize that any violation of such rights warrants some action towards the perpetrator and that they can further seek redress. Therefore, women and girls need to be empowered with information and knowledge about their rights in order to claim them but also to challenge common practices that encourage violence towards them.

4.4 Media engagement

To engage the national and community-based media as key stakeholders in raising awareness about the Spotlight Initiative as well as enhancing behavioural change communication. This will involve production of strategic media content and placements, extending to social media platforms.

4.5 Working in partnership

All UN Agencies taking part in the Spotlight Initiative will be working in partnership through coordinated key messaging to avoid duplication of communication and advocacy efforts. The Joint program secretariat's communication focal person will coordinate with the four RUNOs communication specialist as well as those in key Ministries and capacities at District level to ensure all communication and visibility activities under the Spotlight initiative are implemented according to schedule and are of high quality. Other partners who are working in similar projects outside the UN will also be engaged to ensure a coordinated approach in addressing common challenges.

5. Audience

This communication and visibility strategy provides ways to build relationships with key target audiences in order to create a VAWG free society.

Target Audience Segments

Policy Makers	Partners	Communities/ Public	Donor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Ministries of Gender, Justice, Home Affairs, Education, Health, Civic Education, Information, Local Government, • District Councils, councilors • Judiciary including the Chief Justice • Political parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survivors of VAWG including HP • Religious groups • Traditional leaders • District Councils • NGOs and CSOs • Media organisations • Private sector • Other UN Agencies • Law Commission and Law Society • Celebrities and influencers, musicians, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survivors of VAWG • Parents and guardians • Traditional leaders • Men and women • Girls and boys • Community based organisations • Community radios • Churches and mosques • Schools, teachers, heads • Community policing • Youth clubs, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU • UN Agencies

6. Messages

These messages are not only intended to be used verbatim, but to guide and inform how we communicate about the programme.

7.1. Overall Message

Different forms of VAWG persist, across all generations, communities and spheres of our societies, irrespective of age, ethnicity, education, disability or other background. It is one of the most widespread and devastating human rights violations in our world today and needs to stop to ensure that we create a society free of violence so that women and girls are able to fully enjoy their human rights!

7.2. Secondary Messages

7.2.1.Changing traditional beliefs about VAWG

This will target policymakers, partners, local communities (chiefs, men, women, etc) and the public.

- VAWG is not normal. It is wrong and harmful. It affects their physical and mental health and prevents them from fully participating in activities to develop themselves, their families and their communities
- You are a key player in ending VAWG. Join efforts with others to end all forms of VAWG/or Let's work together to end VAWG.
- VAWG may be happening in your family and community. You have a responsibility to find out and take action to end it.
- Do not be silent when you have experienced violence or you have seen someone who is experiencing some form of violence. Speak about it and take action to report to police or any community leader.

7.2.2.Enforcement and accountability

This will target policymakers, security institutions, chiefs, partners, local communities and the public.

- There needs to be a review of Malawi's laws to ensure that they prevent and respond to VAWG and HP
- There is need to invest in building and strengthening systems that protect women and girls from violence and hold perpetrators and authorities accountable.
- You have the responsibility to protect women and girls from any form of violence
- You have the responsibility to report all cases of VAWG to your local police or child protection officer and they have the responsibility to take action.

7.2.3.Awareness raising on rights and responsibilities

This will target policymakers, partners, communities, and the public

- Women and Girls have equal rights to men/boys/adults. This includes the right to living a life free of violence, protection from violence and right to seek care when violated.
- Violence is harmful to everyone including women and children
- VAWG is illegal, if it is happening in your community, you have a responsibility to report it
- Teach children about the dangers of VAWG

7. COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

Main activities that will take place during the period covered by the communication and visibility plan – 2019 to 2020

To raise awareness of VAWG with a focus on cultural norms, attitudes, services, policies, laws and its prevalence in Malawi: by publicising data and supportive facts, creative messaging to key audiences, exhibiting thought leadership on violence against women and girls, media sensitisation and training.

Key indicator(s)

- i. Outcome Indicator 3.1: Percentage of people who think it is justifiable for a man to (subject) beat women, girls, wife, intimate partner (to violence), by sex and age;
- ii. Output Indicator 3.3.1 Number of news outlets that develop standards on ethical and gender-sensitive reporting
- iii. Output Indicator 3.3.4 Number of journalists better able to sensitively report on VAWG and GEWE more broadly.
- iv. Percentage of audience with accurate knowledge on the prevalence of violence against women and girls focusing on cultural norms, attitudes, services, policies and laws, and its prevalence in in Malawi.

Activities	Indicators	Timeframe	Audience(s)	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translate Spotlight messages into local languages • Produce promotional materials with messages on gender-based violence. • Conduct awareness campaigns and events on eliminating VAWG including HP, utilising traditional, online and digital media. • Identify and engage champions, models, ambassadors to share their VAWG stories through multimedia platforms and events. 	Outcome Indicator 3.1: Percentage of people who think it is justifiable for a man to (subject) beat women, girls, wife, intimate partner (to violence), by sex and age.	2019/2020	Communities, Partners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitise editors on ethical reporting on gender-based violence issues, including community-based and national media outlets • Training and sensitisation of journalists on ethical reporting on gender-based violence issues, including community-based and national media outlets. • Training citizen journalists/ Reporters and champions on storytelling. 	Output Indicator 3.3.1 Number of news outlets that develop standards on ethical and gender-sensitive reporting. Output Indicator 3.3.4 Number of journalists better able to sensitively report on VAWG and GEWE more broadly.	2019/2020	Media	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct interactive panel discussions on radio/TV to promote behavioural change on VAWG. Produce special radio/TV programmes and jingles on the Spotlight Initiative Establishing media partnerships to intensify reporting on VAWG. 	<p>Outcome Indicator 3.1: Percentage of people who think it is justifiable for a man to (subject) beat women, girls, wife, intimate partner (to violence), by sex and age</p> <p>Output Indicator 3.3.4 Number of journalists better able to sensitively report on VAWG and GEWE more broadly.</p>	2019/2020	Communities, Media	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an electronic information repository centre for the Spotlight Initiative to be accessed by stakeholders including the public and media. 	Percentage of audience with accurate knowledge on the prevalence of violence against women and girls focusing on cultural norms, attitudes, services, policies and laws, and its prevalence in in Malawi.	2019/2020	Development Partners, UN, NGOs, Govt, Media, Communities	

To illustrate and promote the impact and results of Spotlight-supported interventions: By finding, sharing and promoting the stories of women and girls whose lives have been positively transformed by Spotlight-supported interventions and also sharing stories of male advocates for ending violence against women and girls.

Key indicator(s)

- i. Percentage of audience with accurate knowledge of the Spotlight Initiative
- ii. Percentage of audience with a positive perception of the Spotlight Initiative
- iii. Output Indicator 3.3.3: Number of new and other media stories/reports that sensitively report on VAWG and GEWE more broadly.

Activities	Indicators	Timeframe	Audience(s)	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researching, documenting and disseminating success stories from the field Design and produce simplified yearly reports of the Spotlight Initiative 	Percentage of audience with accurate knowledge of the Spotlight Initiative.	2019/2020	Communities, DPs, Govt, UN, Partners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce yearly multimedia products of success stories (videos, audio-visuals, leaflets etc.) Produce special programmes on radio/TV to promote the successes of Spotlight Initiative 	Percentage of audience with a positive perception of the Spotlight Initiative.	2019/2020	DPs, Govt, Communities, UN, Partners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct media tours to project sites for journalists to get human interest stories, 	Output Indicator 3.3.3: Number of new and other media stories/reports that sensitively report on VAWG and GEWE more broadly	2019/2020	Media, Communities, DPs, Govt, Partners	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce special results pull-outs and other creative media content for the print and online media • Training citizen journalists/ Reporters and champions on storytelling. 				
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To provide communications for development support to strengthen Spotlight Initiative's programme design and implementation: By influencing the design and delivery of behaviour-change and culture-shift activities, campaigns and initiatives.

Key indicator(s)

- i. Output Indicator 3.2.2: Number of people reached by campaigns challenging harmful social norms and gender stereotyping
- ii. Output 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

Activities	Indicators	Timeframe	Audience(s)	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce special radio/TV programmes and jingles on the Spotlight Initiative 	Output Indicator 3.2.2: Number of people reached by campaigns challenging harmful social norms and gender stereotyping	2019/2020	Communities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobbying Parliamentarians and Councillors and other community leaders for VAWG/ SGBV/ SRHR interventions, including community outreach activities 	Output 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	2019/2020	Community leaders, political leaders	

To ensure visibility for the Spotlight Initiative, its donor(EU) and partners: By coordinating consistent and coherent branding, high-profile endorsements from social influencers, top-tier media placements, organizing publicity events and campaigns.

Key indicator(s)

3. Percentage growth of Spotlight audiences (segmented)
4. Percentage increase in Spotlight brand recognition

Activities	Indicators	Timeframe	Audience(s)	Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize and facilitate field visits for EU, Government and UN agency 	Percentage growth of Spotlight audiences (segmented)	2019/2020		

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide communication support during project launch, report dissemination meetings, project visits, dissemination sessions, high profile meetings and field visit for programmes.	Percentage increase in Spotlight brand recognition	2019/2020		
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XVI. Expected outcomes

Outcomes expected through implementation of this Visibility and Communications Strategy include:

- A high level of awareness about the activities, impact and outcomes of the project is built among different groups of stakeholders;
- A positive image of EU and the UN as partners who closely and successfully work together to bring about an end to VAWG including HP;
- The improved coordination and knowledge-sharing of program materials, results and implementation process
- Increased participation in ending VAGW activities at national, district and household levels in Malawi.
- Higher investments in expanding and improving activities/services aimed at addressing VAWG

XVII. Evaluation/Monitoring

The programme will be monitored often and routinely. Some methods that will be employed are:

An Impact Log

A qualitative record compiled in-house to measure how the Initiative's communications have been received. The log will incorporate stakeholder feedback (e.g. an email, scanned letter, verbatim feedback extolling the virtues of partnership, etc.) and a list of media references indicating the reach of the communications products (e.g. direct reference or citation in newspaper articles, Internet, TV, speeches, etc.).

Level of Response

The level of response method may help establish, quantitatively, how target audiences react to the communications activities. For example, response to the events can be gauged by the ratio between the number of invitations and attendance at a press conference, seminar or any other public event; the number of press releases collected against the number of citations in mass media; etc. Another factor could be the number of requests for similar or additional activities of the same kind (e.g. trainings, workshops, discussion panels, radio programs conferences etc.).

Level of Interest

The level of interest method may be used to measure the growing or decreasing number of joint activities on different levels of cooperation (from community, district to regional and national level) and degree of participation in them by the local population. Additional methods could be added to the list during the next review of the Strategy.

XVIII. Implementation plan

This Visibility Strategy and accompanying visibility action matrix is proposed as a dynamic document and might be further reviewed and updated in the course of the implementation of the project. The visibility action matrix will be revised annually.

All communication and visibility of the Spotlight Initiative in Malawi and beyond will be aligned with the Spotlight Initiative's global communication.

ANNEX 3: THEORY OF CHANGE

Overall Goal: All women and girls live free from violence and harmful practices

Goal Impact statement: All women and girls, particularly the most vulnerable, live free from all forms of violence and harmful practices because of prevention strategies and strengthened multi-sectoral and partnership- based responses.

Outcome

Outcome 1: Legislative and policy frameworks, based on evidence and in line with international human rights standards, on all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices are in place and translated into plans

Outcome - Theory of Change

Outcome 1: Theory of Change (ToC): If (1) women and VAWG, including SGBV/HP/SRHR, experts are engaged in assessing, developing and implementing policies and legislation to eliminate VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and promote women and girls' SRHR (2) if the implementation of legislations and policies is monitored then (3) an enabling legislative and policy environment on VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and other forms of discrimination is in place and translated into plans, guaranteeing the rights of women and girls (including SRHR) because (4) effectively implemented legislative and policy frameworks address impunity and provide for coordinated action, including in the areas of prevention, services and data collection (5) laws and programmes that integrate ending VAW, including SGBV/HP, into SRH services are developed, implemented and monitored

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 and harmful practices, including in other sectors

Outcome 2: ToC - If (1) relevant decision-makers and stakeholders in all sectors of government are informed and mobilized to address VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and promote women and girls' SRHR; if (2) institutions at all levels and relevant stakeholders have strengthened capacity on ending VAWG, including SGBV/HP/SRHR; if (3) national and subnational bargaining processes are effective in overcoming the hurdles of collective action to address and prevent VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and promote women and girls' SRHR; if (4) adequate budgets are allocated; then (5) institutions will develop, coordinate and implement programmes that integrate the elimination of VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and other SDG targets into development planning processes, because (6) institutional change requires appropriate capacity, adequate funding as well as political engagement and leadership to sustainably address VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and promote women and girls' SRHR

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

Outcome 3: ToC - if (1) multiple strategies such as community mobilization, key stakeholders' engagement and education strategies are carried out in an integrated and coordinated manner based on a shared understanding and approach in line with international standards and evidence on preventing VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and promoting women and girls' SRHR then (2) favourable social norms, attitudes and behaviours will be promoted at community and individual level to prevent VAWG, including SGBV/HP, and to promote women and girls' SRHR because (3) multi-pronged prevention initiatives that mutually reinforce each other can effectively shift individual and socio-cultural norms including those affecting women's sexuality and reproduction

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

Outcome 4: ToC - If (1) service providers have the capacity to deliver essential services, including SRH services, and to prosecute perpetrators in line with international human rights standards and guidelines (2) if these services are made available and accessible to women and girls and if (3) women and girls are informed and empowered to exercise their rights to services (including SRHRs and access to justice) then (4) women and girls who experience VAWG, including SGBV/HP, will increase their use of services and recover from violence, while perpetrators will be prosecuted and punished because (5) underlying barriers to women and girls' access to services have been addressed

(6) including in relation to gender and socio-cultural norms affecting women's sexuality and reproduction

Outcome 5: Quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on different forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, collected, analysed and used in line with international standards to inform laws, policies and programmes

Outcome 5: ToC - If (1) Measurement and methodologies for VAWG, including SGBV/HP, data collection are improved and strengthened (including monitoring and reporting requirements for SDG target 5.2 indicators); (2) if the capacity of national institutions to collect disaggregated VAWG, including SGBV/HP, data in line with globally agreed standards is strengthened; and (3) if disaggregated data (including to extent possible on age, ethnicity, location, socio-economic status, disability) are made accessible and disseminated to be used by decision makers and civil society; (4) then laws, policies & programmes will be based on evidence and better able to respond to the specific context and realities of women and girls, including those most marginalized; (5) because they will be based on quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data

Outcome 6: Women's rights groups, autonomous social movements and CSOs, including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination/marginalization, more effectively influence and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP

Outcome 6: ToC - If (1) the knowledge, expertise & capacities of women's rights organisations, autonomous social movements & CSOs including those representing youth and groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination is drawn upon and strengthened, and (2) if the space for the above groups is free and conducive to their work, and if (3) multi-stakeholder partnerships and networks are established at local, national, regional & global level with the group mentioned above then (4) the groups mentioned above be able to influence, sustain, and advance progress on GEWE and VAWG, including SGBV/HP/SRHR, policies and programmes that respond to the needs of all women and girls, including those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, because (5) the activism of the group mentioned above is a crucial driver of progress on efforts to end VAWG/SGBV/HP and promote women and girls' SRHR.

XIX. PHASE II ADDENDUM TO MALAWI COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

PHASE II PROPOSAL Malawi Country Programme

<p>Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs): UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women</p>
<p>Programme Partner(s): Line Ministries: Ministry of Gender Children, Disability and Social Welfare, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development Other Ministries: Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Youth Sports and Manpower Development, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. Associated Agencies: UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNHCR Key CSOs: GENET, NOYD, MACOHA, CRECCOM, NGO-GCN, Citizen Alliance, COIDA, WOJAM, FOCESSE, Female Sex Workers Association, NANES, Save the Children, NAPHAM, CAVWOC, FOYODE, Emanuel International, Malawi Human Rights Resource Center, Goal Malawi, Plan International/Malawi, AMREF, Action Aid, UJAMA, PACHI, Malawi Law Commission, NSO, MPS</p>
<p>Programme Description: The Spotlight Initiative Programme in Malawi will accelerate efforts towards elimination of violence against women and girls with an emphasis on most at risk groups, in line with the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB). The initiative envisions a comprehensive prevention strategy that addresses structural issues and linkages to SRHR, while ensuring quality and essential service delivery and creating an enabling environment for women and girls. In phase II mitigation of teenage pregnancies and child marriage will be mainstreamed across all pillars as an emerging priority- following the spike in violence against adolescent girls due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Malawi programme will build on best practices from phase I and apply key lessons learned. Innovations through practical application will further enhance efforts to capitalize on lessons learned and link to existing efforts to E-VaWG under the UN and other stakeholders. Programme delivery modalities will continue to be aligned to UN Reform principles, thus ensuring cohesive implementation- and resulting in a holistic response to the needs of women and girls. Phase II will continue covering all 6 pillar areas.</p>
<p>Programme Location (provinces or priority areas): Nationwide with a particular focus on six proposed districts (Mzimba, Nkhata Bay, Ntchisi, Dowa, Nsanje and Machinga), selected based on performance on key indicators, as well as presence of other programmes and UN organizations.</p>

List of Acronyms

ADC	Area Development Committee
C4D	Communication for Development
CS-NRG	Civil Society National Reference Group
CM	Child Marriage
CS	Civil Society Organisation
CVSU	Community Victim Support Unit
DEC	District Executive Committee
DDP	District Development Plan
E-VaWG	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls
EU	European Union
GAP	Grassroots Action Plan
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GBVMIS	Gender Based Violence Management Information System
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting
GRL	Gender Related Law
GTWG	Gender Technical Working Group
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HP	Harmful Practice
LGBTIQ	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex,
QueerLNOB	Leaving No One Behind
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MoGCDSW	Ministry Of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare
MoLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MPS	Malawi Police Service
NGO	Non-Profit Organisation
NCHE	National Council for Higher Education
NSO	National Statistical Office
RC	Resident Coordinator
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SI	Spotlight Initiative
SRH	Sexual Reproductive Health
SRHR:	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
TP	Teenage Pregnancy
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VaWG:	Violence Against Women and Girls

1. Context Update and Key Focus Areas

Major changes in the Malawian context as they relate to the protection of women and girls from violence can be almost entirely attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic. In particular, the closure of schools to prevent the transmission of the coronavirus caused a major spike in cases of rape/ defilement, teenage pregnancies and child marriages.

Between March and May 2020 alone, a single NGO operating a hotline reported an 18% increase in the number of child marriages (CMs) reported. Between April and September 2020, the Ministry of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare (MoGCDSW) recorded 13,000 child marriages, 40,000 teenage pregnancies (TPs) and shockingly high reports of rapes and sexual abuse of women, girls and boys. In December 2020, Malawi Police announced that recorded cases of rape in the country more than doubled since 2018, with young girls as the main victims. The National Statistics Office (NSO) added that the rate of sexual abuse cases was 35% higher in quarter 4 of the year than the same period in 2019. While not all teenage pregnancies can be attributed to violence, the steep rise in teenage pregnancies has magnified gaps in SRH service delivery.

The internal Mid-Term Assessment conducted last year illustrated how men and boys see the Spotlight Initiative (SI) as unfairly focusing on women and girls- irrespective of the Programme focus and Theory of Change. The SI will therefore scale up male engagement activities with an emphasis on sensitizing men and boys on the devastating effects of VaWG in Malawi. Male traditional and religious leaders are particularly important allies in this regard, especially in combatting child marriage.

Considering the interruption to a number of SI interventions due to Covid-19 restriction measures in 2020, the SI team is now on high alert to the possibility of disruptions to the Programme's implementation. As was necessary last year, the team is ready to rapidly and innovatively adapt delivery modalities of activities as needed in order to ensure steady implementation.

Plans to further strengthen the SI Communities of Practice (COPs) are underway, following the acknowledgement of these field-based coordination mechanisms as critical to ensuring programmatic cohesion. The COPs include local Government actors, all SI Implementing partners, SI district-based staff and at the village level- traditional and religious leaders.

The upsurge in cases of TPs and CMs has led the SI team to mainstream these new and emerging issues across all pillars and added emphasis on access to SRHR. Consequently, vulnerable adolescent girls will be prioritised for inclusion in SI activities- particularly under pillars 3 and 4. The SI's programme focus will furthermore

remain predominantly centered on prioritised districts, with added emphasis on rural and hard to reach areas- where women and girls are frequently left behind.

Based on the extensive Mid-Term Review conducted in 2020, the SI team plans to scale up those activities deemed to be most impactful and relevant to the needs of women and girls⁷⁵. The focus will remain predominantly on Prevention (pillar 3) and Services (pillar 4), in an effort to continue to transform harmful social norms, attitudes and behaviors- which have so far resulted in increased reporting of cases of violence. As such, integrated Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) service delivery remain critical, particularly for those facing intersecting forms of discrimination.

The work of all pillars remain vital to the E-VaWG, however. Pillar 1 will focus on raising awareness on Gender Related Laws (GRLs), while Pillar 2 will maintain its attention on strengthening institutional tools, structures and mechanisms to support all SI activities. The harmonised data collection planned under pillar 5 will avail quality and systematic data and information that will inform not only the SI's efforts to E-VaWG, but those of all stakeholders working in this area. Finally, pillar 6 will strengthen the women's movement and empower them to support the transformation of harmful social norms that perpetuate VaWG in their communities, while collectively holding duty bearers to account.

The MoCDSW and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MoLGRD) remain the 2 line Ministries for the SI. The technical leadership of the MoCDSW will guide the strategic delivery of results under the SI, while the MoLGRD will ensure the effective and harmonised implementation of the SI at district level. In line with the principles of UN Reform, the UN Resident Coordinator will continue to exercise leadership of the SI and will not only ensure cohesive delivery by all RUNOs and associated UN agencies, but also position the SI within the broader development landscape. The EU will similarly continue to be actively engaged in the SI- beyond the traditional donor-recipient relationship, and with particular emphasis on joint Communication for Development.

In line with the sustainability strategy (see chapter 3 of the proposal)), and the Grassroots Action Plan (GAP) the SI will seek ways to further engage grassroots actors in the implementation of the Programme, while building their capacity to E-VaWG. Traditional and Religious leaders will also be partnered with in pillars 2, 3, 4, and 6, while men and boys will be crucial allies throughout the Programme. The SI Media Network will be expanded to include other important media actors, with the expectation that the media will support large scale national sensitisation on VaWG. A number of Government and parastatal institutions will remain key partners in phase II, including the NSO, National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), Ministry of

⁷⁵ For more details please see the SI Malawi Scale Up Strategy:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_DJKCLnL32Zb-TChOqaw-robRz-qljbe/view?usp=sharing

Education, Parliament, Law Commission, Malawi Council for the Handicapped, the Civil Society National Reference Group, and many more.

2. Programme Strategies

In phase II the SI Malawi will build on the successes and lessons learned during years 1 and 2 of implementation, particularly as highlighted in the Mid-Term Assessment and the internal Mid-Term Review Process. In addition to the Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality), the Programme will also contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3 (Health), 4 (Education), 10 (Reduced Inequalities), 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), and 17 (Partnerships).

Pillar 1: Laws and Policies

The slow process of law reform (in any setting) led to the SI Malawi to carefully assess which laws and policies should be prioritised for reform. In 2020, Covid-19 further slowed the pace of reforms, as the multi-disciplinary Task Force established for this exercise struggled to meet. While members of this Task Force belonged to a number of key institutions⁷⁶, the team learned that other vital actors could have been more effectively engaged for the sake of greater ownership. The need to create strong linkages between the various institutions and stakeholders involved in this pillar's work has been an important lesson learned.

Under this outcome area, the SI Malawi will maintain its focus on the reform of prioritized laws and policies⁷⁷. Whilst in phase I the Programme developed a series of recommendations to strengthen these laws and policies towards the protection of women and girls from violence, phase II will focus on lobbying high-level stakeholders (in particular Parliament) to adopt the recommended reforms.

Having developed a series of tools in phase I to facilitate the implementation of GRLs in favour of women and girls, the Programme's attention will now shift to supporting the implementation of these tools while simultaneously building the capacity of key actors to correctly implement GRLs. Similarly, the SI will seek to raise awareness among community-based actors on the implications of these laws and their application on the ground. A fund will remain available to support strategic litigation on emblematic cases of VaWG that have the potential to transform the country's handling of such cases.

Interventions under the pillar include:

- Advocate for and support the reform of specific laws and policies containing discriminatory provisions regarding VAWG and HPs;

⁷⁶ Members of the Task Force include representatives from Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Law Commission, Malawi Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Gender Community Development and Social Welfare, Judiciary, Malawi Police Service, and Women Judges Association

⁷⁷ Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (2006, reviewed in 2015); the Penal Code; the Child Care, Protection and Justice Act (2010); the Gender Equality Act (2013); the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act, the SRHR Policy and the Child Policy.

- Support strategic public interest litigation on discriminatory provisions in related SGBV and HP laws through targeted institutions with the capacity to litigate strategically;
- Capacity building of community leaders (including Chiefs and religious leaders)- ministries, formal and informal legislators on policies and laws addressing SGBV/SRHR and CMs;
- Capacity building of community-based investigators from Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC) and Office of Ombudsman using investigators handbook and facilitators guide developed in phase 1;
- Development and dissemination of guidelines/regulations for sexual and gender-based violence, harmful practices offences in the Penal Code and the Gender Equality Act (IPs will be Ministry of Gender, Judiciary, Ministry of Justice and MHRC).

Pillar 2: Strengthening Institutions

Efforts under pillar 2 during phase I have made it clear that strong institutional capacities and mechanisms are essential for the successful implementation of all SI interventions. This is particularly true given the programmatic focus at district level. The role of Chiefs and religious institutions have also proven to be imperative support structures for the transformation of harmful social norms, and for facilitating case referrals. The incorporation of VaWG into district and village development plans furthermore ensured the prominence of VaWG on local development landscapes and the inclusion of corresponding budgets, thereby ensuring the sustainability of the SI's efforts. The development of a model gender policy for higher learning institutions has also been a strategic move to address the rising cases of sexual harassment, SGBV HP and SRHR issues in universities and colleges.

In phase II therefore, the SI will continue to work with both national and district authorities to effectively coordinate VaWG. Support to key coordination mechanisms will carry over into phase II, including the District Executive Committees (DECs), Gender Technical Working Groups (GTWGs), Area and Village Development Committees (ADCs and VDCs respectively). The SI will furthermore build capacity of those engaged in such mechanisms, including through mentorship and coaching modalities.

The integration of VaWG into national and district level development plans and strategies, and their effective implementation will similarly be scaled up in phase II. Similarly, the development and/or implementation of model Gender Policies with a focus on E-VaWG will be expanded and finalised in years 3 and 4- including for Higher Learning Institutions, Malawi Police Service (MPS), and the private sector.

Other key institutions benefitting from work under this pillar include Parliament and Chiefs Forums. The former will remain an important beneficiary of the SI in their role

as legislators on E-VaWG, while Chiefs Forums will be consolidated as a vital platform for the elimination of harmful cultural practices.

Interventions under this pillar include:

- Support implementation of gender model policy in High learning institutions and monitor/ document the process
- Support the review of Malawi Police Service 'Service standing orders' towards the elimination of sexual harassment in the workplace and the protection of SRHR for female officers
- Develop Gender and Sexual Harassment Policies for selected Private and Public Institutions
- Support district councils to effectively integrate VAWG, SGBV/HP and SRHR into district development plans, area development plans and village development action plans using tools designed in phase I, e.g. gender and disability mainstreaming.
- Support and strengthen coordination meetings at National, District and Community levels (GTWG, DEC, Full Council and ADC's) to effectively integrate VaWG in their work
- Strengthen VaWG social accountability mechanisms in each district.
- Strengthen chief's forums to monitor the implementation of SGBV/HP and SRHR laws, policies and support community-based responses to VaWG.
- Capacity building of parliamentarians, key local government officials in health, education, security, police, justice, culture and gender to have knowledge, capabilities and tools on gender- and responsive budgeting to ensure quality results, reporting, and adequate financing on VAWG, SGBV/HP, and SRHR.

Pillar 3: Prevention and Social Norms

The importance of transforming toxic masculinities emerged as an important lesson learned for this particular pillar, as harmful norms and attitudes cannot evolve as long as men and boys are not engaged as allies in the E-VaWG. Access to information and education- particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic, also proved to be central aspects in girls' empowerment and in combatting CM and TPs. While many school-based activities successfully raised awareness on VaWG, phase II also illustrated the importance of including secondary schools, particularly given the added vulnerability of adolescent girls to rape, CM and TP. Finally, the SI's collaboration with traditional and religious leaders has been effective in the elimination/ mitigation of Harmful Practices and should therefore be scaled up.

This outcome area will therefore be rolling out a Communication for Development (C4D) strategy, aimed at mass awareness raising and sensitisation on SGBV and HPs. The SI will work with a wide array of actors and existing platforms to this end, including mother groups, youth groups, the Media, the Police, religious and traditional leaders and more. The C4D strategy will furthermore make a concerted attempt to

leave no one behind by specifically addressing the needs of marginalized women and girls (women and girls with disabilities, living in hard to reach areas, key populations and women and girl refugees).

The empowerment of women and girls will continue into phase II, with an emphasis on adolescent girls (given their vulnerability to TPs and CMs). This will include mentorship programmes and improving their access to education. Based on the lessons learned, as well as the vulnerability of adolescent girls, school-based empowerment programmes will now be expanded to include secondary schools.

Interventions under this pillar include:

- Comprehensive sexuality education through gender transformative programmes and awareness raising on sexuality education and life skills.
- Scale up successful safe school's model including girls' empowerment and boy's transformation programmes, with added focus on secondary schools
- Support government with school bursary/scholarship programme for SGBV survivors
- Improve girls' hostels to ensure safety and thus access to education for girls,
- Scale up promotion of positive masculinities on EVAWG, HP and SRHR through the implementation and of the male engagement operational guide as well as mentorship sessions for boys.
- Multimedia campaign to reach all agents of change and beneficiaries with messages and calls for action on SGBV/HP, and SRHR to practice and adopt positive social norms.
- Interpersonal communication interventions
- Coordination and integration of UN led C4D interventions towards cohesive messaging on VaWG and strengthened, more impactful community mobilization processes
- Support weekly mentorship sessions and girls' protective networks on EVAWG, SGBV, SRHR and HPs

Pillar 4: Quality Services

Based on the experiences of phase I, this outcome area remains a major priority in the second phase of implementation. The Covid-19 Pandemic accentuated the difficulties of reaching vulnerable and marginalized communities, despite the classification of SGBV/ SRHR services as life-saving. The provision of transport to service providers proved invaluable, while linkages between Community Victim Support Units (CVSU) and schools allowed numerous cases of violence to be identified and referred to the relevant authorities. Moreover, the strong linkages between pillars 3 and 4 enabled the referral of numerous survivors identified through pillar 3 interventions to integrated services. The high demand for economic empowerment activities as a long-term recovery solution for survivors was widely

acknowledged, especially in the case of child marriage survivors- who typically resort to marriage as an escape from economic hardship.

This outcome area will center around scaling up integrated SGBV and SRHR services, with emphasis on marginalized populations: women and girls with disabilities, key populations, women and girl refugees and those in remote and hard to reach areas. Mobile service delivery will be expanded in phase II, as challenges around accessibility to quality and essential services became even more pronounced following the Covid-19 Pandemic. This includes the scale up of mobile courts to facilitate access to justice, which is a particular challenge in hard to reach communities. To mitigate adolescent girls' vulnerability to TPs and CMs, SRHR services will be scaled up⁷⁸ (including fistula repair, family planning, linkages to HIV-AIDS), as will economic empowerment activities to support the long-term recovery of survivors. In parallel, the Programme will seek to intensify help seeking behavior for SGBV and SRHR among women and girls by raising awareness and understanding on referral pathways.

Furthermore, the SI will strengthen the capacity of front-line service providers in all sectors to provide quality services, including for women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination. This will be done through trainings, mentorship, enhancement of training manuals/ curricula/ guidelines, and tools. Infrastructure of key service delivery points will be improved in line with a survivor centered approach, including courts and safe spaces.

Interventions under this pillar include:

- Review, disseminate and implement national guidelines, integrated scorecards, curricula, training manuals in line with integrated quality essential services package on SRHR and VAWG.
- Scale-up of integrated quality and essential SRHR and SGBV services for women and girls facing intersecting forms of discrimination, including strengthening of referral pathways.
- Systematic professional development for frontline service providers (police, social welfare, justice, health) to respond to survivors of VAWG and provide quality services in accordance with global standards.
- Intensify demand creation for SRHR, voluntary family planning, post abortion and SGBV services through mobile and integrated service provision to marginalized and hard to reach populations.
- Maintain safe spaces (CVSUs- established in phase I) for survivors of SGBV and provide emergency accommodation and services (including counselling and psycho-social support)
- Scale up legal aid services including mobile courts.
- Scale up of life skills development including entrepreneurship skills, startup capital, towards economic empowerment

⁷⁸ Scaling up involves the inclusion of additional survivors and the provision of such opportunities/ services in new areas of intervention previously not covered by the Programme

- Establish market groups and ensure viability of women's small-scale businesses by facilitating linkage to markets through cooperatives
- Facilitate Access to financial institutions including inputs and technical support.

Pillar 5: Data

During the first phase of implementation, the SI Malawi conducted a thorough mapping of the SGBV Information Management landscape, replete with a set of key recommendations to harmonise data collection on SGBV, HPs and SRHR. To date, the SI has employed a multi-pronged approach to collect quality data on VaWG and SRHR, which will be consolidated and streamlined during phase II. The absence of strong systems and processes for the collection of forensic evidence also emerged as a major bottleneck in access to justice for survivors.

In years 3 and 4, the SI will support the NSO to institute a national harmonised SGBV/ HP/ SRHR Information System. This will include rolling out data collection tools, establishing and strengthening Observatory Hubs at national and district level as repositories of information derived from all relevant systems (including GBVMIS and RapidPro), and information sharing agreements with key SGBV stakeholders.

Existing information systems being used by the Police, Judiciary and Health Sectors will similarly be strengthened, as key sources of information on SGBV/ HPs and SRHR. U-Report will continue to be used as a means to keeping track of communities' perspectives on VaWG, and fostering a dialogue on this issue at community level.

Efforts to strengthen forensic investigation of cases of sexual assault will be scaled up in phase II, with the Police and Judiciary as the primary targets. Equipment to facilitate these investigations will also be procured to allow Malawi to follow up on cases without having to send evidence to South Africa for processing.

Interventions under this pillar include:

- Develop data sharing protocols and monitoring the use of the protocols.
- Capacity development of national and district Stakeholders on harmonised data collection using the harmonized SGBV incidence data collection tool.
- Strengthen SGBV/SRHR/ HP Data Observatory Hubs at national and district levels, and linked to Kuwala platform
- Build capacity of service providers (Police, Health, Judiciary and Ministry of Justice) to conduct forensic investigations, forensic data analysis and interpretation.
- Strengthen GBVIMS in six districts and central level (synergies between Ministry of Gender and NSO at district level)
- Support Real time monitoring through mobile technology on SGBV, SRHR and HP – (Rapid Pro and U-Report) and facilitate dissemination and utilization of data

- Support scale up of integrated tracking systems for SGBV and HP cases within the justice system
- Production of knowledge products including data analysis reports and surveys on trends of SGBV, HP and SRHR to disseminate information on VaWG and facilitate effective data utilization

Pillar 6: Civil Society Organizations/ Women's Movement

The importance of grassroots actors in the E-VaWG in a sustained manner in communities was affirmed during phase I, despite observations of low capacity to implement VaWG programmes by several community-based partners. There is a clear need to foster greater cohesion among women's rights activists in communities, and the absence of strong platforms to amplify their voices was also an important lesson learned under this pillar. The CS-NRG has shown potential to support the SI's work during phase I, however a dedicated budget line for the group is essential if it is to succeed.

During phase II, therefore, this outcome area will seek to enhance the capacities of women's rights organisations and activists to successfully and cohesively contribute to the E-VaWG. Capacity building will focus on SRHR, Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB), GRLs, resource mobilization, advocacy (including the development of an advocacy strategy), and the effective utilization of scorecards and tools to drive the E-VaWG agenda at community and national levels.

Women's movement building will furthermore be facilitated by strengthening platforms like the district women's assemblies established in phase I- which allow women to come together and amplify their collective bargaining power. Networks of marginalised women and girls will also continue to be supported to ensure that intersecting forms of discrimination are adequately addressed; this includes sex workers, key populations and women and girls living with HIV-AIDS and women and girls with disabilities. An important network to be supported under this outcome area includes the CS-NRG, whose action plan will be aligned to efforts to E-VaWG by other CSOs.

Interventions under this pillar include:

- Support women's and girls' movement building through district women's assemblies to provide oversight to interventions on VAWG, SRHR.
- Support capacity development (GRLs, GRB, gender and VaWG concepts, resource mobilization and project development) of CSOs, women's, girls' and youth led organizations, marginalized populations including female sex workers, women and girls with disabilities to consolidate their role as watchdogs on women's and girls' rights

- Support the implementation of community scorecards, opinion polls, grievance and redress structures and other social accountability mechanism for SGBV/HP and SRHR related reporting and monitoring.
- Support the capacity development of CSOs, women's, girls' and youth led organisations and groups representing marginalized populations through increase financial and technical support on contributing to treaty body mechanisms and other women's rights monitoring bodies
- Support the Civil Society National Reference Group on monitoring VAWG and SRHR and HP cases, judgements and enforcement of laws.

3. Sustainability Strategy

Sustainability has been built in to the SI's specific interventions through various approaches. Firstly, a number of interventions were designed to be sustainable in and of themselves. For instance, several interventions will leave in place finalised products, and tools- such as amended laws and policies, various scorecards, gender and disability mainstreaming tools, harmonised data collection tools, model gender policies for tertiary institutions, and others.

A crucial aspect of the SI is furthermore all the institutional strengthening work ongoing under pillar 2. The mainstreaming of gender, disability and VaWG in district and village development plans has resulted in the sustainable inclusion of VaWG in local development plans- replete with gender responsive budgeting. These plans will be implemented for the next 3-5 years, and the enhanced capacity of district officials, as well as the availability of tools to ensure that plans are gender transformative and disability sensitive- should furthermore support the development of subsequent gender/ disability responsive plans.

Since its inception, the SI has endeavored to work with existing structures on the ground, rather than creating unsustainable parallel structure. In phase II the SI Malawi will ensure that all key coordination mechanisms and community-based structures related to E-VaWG are effective and functional and ready to be handed over to the authorities- both formal and informal. This includes local Gender Technical Working Groups, Chief's Forums, Data Observatory Hubs, Area and Village Development Committees, women's assemblies, and more.

Capacity Building is another essential component of the SI's sustainability, and is mainstreamed through all 6 pillars, with plans to scale up in phase II. The expectation is that the enhanced capacities of community and grassroots based actors, institutions, the media, and others, will remain in place long after the SI has phased out. This is particularly relevant for grassroots actors, who will be increasingly engaged during phase II. In some instances, capacity building efforts have been integrated into relevant institutions' teaching curriculum, for instance, the Essential Services Package and forensics trainings. In the case of community actors, it is expected that their increased understanding of how to identify, prevent and respond to VaWG will allow them to continue to support survivors to report violence and access services. The placing of district coordinators and GBV services officers in district authorities has furthermore enabled a continuous capacity building process for key district officials and community-based structures from the very start of the Programme.

As the SI approaches the end of phase II, the SI team plans to conduct consultations with communities, traditional leaders and other relevant stakeholders. At the

community level, these consultations will be an opportunity to alert community actors that the SI is phasing out and seek their inputs on how to operationalize the exit strategy in a way that does no harm, and that ensures the longevity of the SI's gains. At the institutional level, the consultations will allow the SI to support the transference of any outstanding processes to national and local institutions.

Finally, the SI Malawi anticipates the need to mobilise resources for some key interventions. In consultation with the relevant actors, a joint resource mobilization strategy will be developed and implemented under the RC's leadership. The strategy will not only seek to mobilise financial resources, but also identify opportunities to incorporate the continuation of the SI's good practices into other programmes and initiatives. Similarly, the SI will seek to build the capacity of women's organization and other key community actors to develop quality proposals and mobilise resources on their own.

XX. BUDGET SUMMARY

MALAWI Country Programme

A full detailed budget is available in Excel format

BUDGET BY UNDG CATEGORIES												
PHASE I + PHASE II COMBINED												
UNDG BUDGET CATEGORIES	UNDP		UNFPA		UNWOMEN		UNICEF		TOTAL USD			% by UNDG category
	Spotlight EU Contribution (USD)	RUNO Contrib. (USD)	Spotlight EU Contribution (USD)	RUNO Contrib. (USD)	Spotlight EU Contribution (USD)	RUNO Contrib. (USD)	Spotlight EU Contribution (USD)	RUNO Contrib. (USD)	Spotlight EU Contribution (USD)	RUNO Contrib. (USD)	Grand Total	%
1. Staff and other personnel	1,506,255	274,477	481,096	110,814	828,400	40,878	581,577	132,733	3,397,329	558,902	3,956,231	13%
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	165,185	-	568,404	40,000	172,501	-	120,000	-	1,026,090	40,000	1,066,090	4%
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation)	245,118	20,000	1,280,000	-	93,885	4,600	-	-	1,619,003	24,600	1,643,603	6%
4. Contractual services	1,701,425	163,000	248,500	-	1,024,908	-	1,918,598	19,985	4,893,432	182,985	5,076,417	18%
5. Travel	528,302	-	774,192	65,000	449,210	48,904	88,698	66,500	1,840,403	180,404	2,020,807	7%
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	1,770,179	127,523	3,242,129	145,000	4,030,463	38,260	2,762,216	97,720	11,804,988	408,503	12,213,491	44%
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	778,161	35,000	330,207	100,000	930,657	3,918	82,000	10,000	2,121,025	148,918	2,269,943	8%
Total Direct Costs	6,694,626	620,000	6,924,529	460,814	7,530,025	136,560	5,553,089	326,938	26,702,270	1,544,312	28,246,582	93%
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	468,624	-	484,717	-	527,102	-	388,716	-	1,869,159	-	1,869,159	7%
TOTAL Costs	7,163,250	620,000	7,409,246	460,814	8,057,127	136,560	5,941,806	326,938	28,571,429	1,544,312	30,115,740	100%

SUMMARY BY OUTCOME (EU funds only)

PHASE I + PHASE II COMBINED					
OUTCOME/PILLAR	UNDP	UNFPA	UNWOMEN	UNICEF	TOTAL USD
	Spotlight EU contribution (USD)	Spotlight EU contribution (USD)	Spotlight EU contribution (USD)	Spotlight EU contribution (USD)	Spotlight EU contribution (USD)
OUTCOME 1	86,002	-	1,110,977	-	1,196,978
OUTCOME 2	1,614,810	40,000	167,200	-	1,822,010
OUTCOME 3	557,346	1,477,000	559,131	3,487,469	6,080,946
OUTCOME 4	180,175	4,630,833	2,328,193	1,549,603	8,688,804
OUTCOME 5	1,711,330	110,000	156,079	148,000	2,125,409
OUTCOME 6	-	-	2,283,274	-	2,283,274
TOTAL PROGRAMME OUTCOME COSTS	4,149,662	6,257,833	6,604,854	5,185,072	22,197,422
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT COSTS	2,544,964	666,695	925,172	368,017	4,504,848
Total Direct Costs	6,694,626	6,924,529	7,530,025	5,553,089	26,702,270
8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%)	468,624	484,717	527,102	388,716	1,869,159
TOTAL Costs	7,163,250	7,409,246	8,057,127	5,941,806	28,571,429

XXI. Original Signed Cover Page

Malawi Country Programme Document