



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, INNOVATION, GENDER RELATIONS AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**REPORT ON ESSENTIAL SERVICES PACKAGE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS
SUBJECTED TO VIOLENCE IN SAINT LUCIA**

LIST OF ACRONYMS

A and E	Accident and Emergency Department
CID	Criminal Investigation Department
CRT	Community Response Team
DGR	Division of Gender Relations
DHS	Division of Human Services
DPP	Director of Public Prosecutions
FC	Family Court
GBV	Gender Based Violence
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
VAW	Violence Against Women
VAWG	Violence against Women and Girls
VPT	Vulnerable Persons Team
WSC	Women Support Centre

INTRODUCTION

The Essential Services Package (ESP) represents the core elements of a multi-sectoral and coordinated response to violence against women and girls (VAWG) which underpin the delivery of services within the health, justice and policing and social service sectors. It also highlights the role of coordination and governance of coordination to effective service delivery (UNFPA et al 2015). The ESP framework is guided by a number of core principles, common characteristics and foundational elements which guide the delivery of services in these sectors.

Principles:

The framework adopts a rights-based and victim centered approach, with a focus on advancing gender equality and women's empowerment, an emphasis on victim safety and culturally appropriate and sensitive interventions.

Common characteristics:

The quality and effectiveness of services is based on the following common characteristics: availability, accessibility, adaptability, appropriateness, prioritization of safety, informed consent and confidentiality, effective communication, as well as, the development of linkages with other sectors and agencies through referral and coordination.

Foundational elements:

The foundational elements include comprehensive legislation and legal framework, governance and accountability, gender sensitive policies and practices, monitoring and evaluation.

This report provides an overview of essential services delivery in Saint Lucia, highlighting existing services, gaps in service provision and delivery as well as, required actions for the development and delivery of an effective essential services package.

HEALTH SECTOR

The provision of health services to victims of violence against women and girls (VAWG) constitutes a major component of an essential services package. Women’s health problems are often caused or aggravated by violence and women who experience violence are more likely to seek medical care (UNWomen et al. 2015). Health care services provided for victims of violence against women in Saint Lucia, meet many of the criteria for the provision of basic services as outlined in the essential services package. The six essential services and actions which constitute the core elements of the ESP in health are all addressed by the health care sector in Saint Lucia with varying levels of adequacy.

The following report presents the existing essential services, identified gaps and required action for improved service delivery in the health sector.

Essential Services Package – Health Services Sector

Essential services and actions	Existing services	Gaps	Required action
Identification of women victims of IPV	<p>Healthcare providers do not systematically ask about exposure to violence.</p> <p>Identification of victims is mainly through patient disclosure.</p> <p>Universal screening is not practiced</p>	<p>Inadequate information available to victims on GBVAW</p> <p>Inadequate information available to health care professionals on available support services</p>	<p>Training and sensitization programs for all medical personnel involved in the provision of care to victims of violence against women.</p> <p>Increased access to information and educational (IEC) material at medical facilities</p>
First line support	<p>First line support to victims is human rights based</p> <p>Focus is on physical well being</p>	<p>Care is not woman centered</p> <p>Patient emotional and psychological wellbeing is not prioritized</p>	<p>Clarification of protocol regarding mandatory reporting</p> <p>Training and sensitization programs for all</p>

	<p>Mandatory reporting is not practiced save in cases involving minors. Matters involving adults are reported to law enforcement only at the victim's request</p> <p>Psycho-social support for victims who are identified as victims of VAWG is provided for through referral to medical support staff such as counsellor and social worker</p> <p>Other support service agencies include the WSC, the Crisis Center</p> <p>Support to girl victims is provided through the Division of Human Services</p>	<p>Some ambiguity exists regarding mandatory reporting for victims between ages of 16 and 18 years of age</p>	<p>medical personnel involved in provision of care to victims of violence against women and girls.</p> <p>Review, formalizing and documentation of protocol and procedures as well as referral systems and processes</p>
Care of injuries and urgent medical care	<p>Physical examination and provision of emergency treatment provided to victims</p>		
Sexual assault and exam	<p>Emergency contraception is systematically provided to all victims of sexual</p>	<p>Current infrastructure and high demands on the health services do not allow for</p>	<p>There is urgent need for establishment or allocation of a dedicated space for the delivery of</p>

	<p>violence</p> <p>HIV post-exposure and post exposure prophylaxis for STIs also provided to victims.</p> <p>Administration of rape kits carried out by a medical doctor</p>	<p>provision of care to victims of violence against women in a setting to ensure privacy and victim confidentiality.</p>	<p>medical services to victims of VAWG.</p> <p>There is need for the allocation of this space to be taken into account within the context of the current transition to the new OKEU hospital</p> <p>Recommendation for change of legislation and policies to allow for administration of rape kits by nursing staff</p> <p>Provision of forensic examination training for nursing staff</p>
Mental health assessment and care	<p>Mental health assessment and care are provided for through a referral system to hospital counsellor and social worker. Where patients exhibit severe symptoms cases are referred to the Wellness Centre.</p>	<p>Provision of mental health assessment to victims of VAWG is not a direct service provided by the medical health care facilities</p> <p>Unclear protocol and guidelines regarding mental health assessment and care</p>	<p>Review and formalizing of health care protocol and procedures in relation to mental health care</p>
Documentation (medico-legal)	<p>Documentation of patient injuries completed documentation of patient injuries and other relevant information are documented on</p>	<p>Medical professionals are generally unaware of the legal system and the nature of court proceedings</p> <p>Inadequate</p>	<p>Specific training in medico-legal aspects of violence against women for medical personnel of the accident and emergency department and staff</p>

	<p>specified forms for the purposes of investigation and prosecution</p> <p>Set protocol for the collection of forensic evidence by healthcare professionals.</p> <p>Procedure conducted in the presence of a law enforcement officer</p> <p>Collected specimen is turned over to the police officer for transfer to the forensic laboratory.</p>	<p>preparation of medical personnel for testifying in trial processes.</p>	<p>of other health care facilities who may need to serve as witnesses in the prosecution of cases of violence against women.</p>
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JUSTICE AND POLICING

A quality police and justice response is crucial in ensuring that relevant laws which address violence against women and girls meet international standards and are enforced; keep women and girls safe from violence, including from reoccurrence of further violence; hold perpetrators accountable; and provide for effective reparations for victims and survivors. Justice systems and all actors within the system must be accountable for ensuring that they deliver on their obligations (UNWomen et al. 2015:6). The level of effectiveness of the justice and policing sector in Saint Lucia in delivering on this mandate is mixed.

The following report presents the existing essential services, identified gaps and required action for improved service delivery in the justice and policing sector.

Essential Services Package - Justice and Policing

Essential services and actions	Existing services	Gaps	Required action
Prevention	<p>Data collection is conducted and statistics are available to inform prevention initiatives</p> <p>Advocacy efforts to encourage reporting on VAW are mainly addressed by the NGOs and CSOs.</p> <p>Some advocacy is also done by the Division of Gender Relations through the WSC in respect of intimate partner violence</p>	<p>Inadequate processing and use of information to inform prevention initiatives</p> <p>The justice and policing sector does not adopt an approach which focuses on prevention of VAWG</p> <p>Promotion and support for initiatives to end VAWG and increase women's equality are lacking within this sector</p> <p>Support for efforts to raise awareness and advocate against violence against women and girls is inadequate</p>	<p>Adoption of a coordinated approach to prevention of VAWG</p> <p>Promotion of legal services available to victims of VAWG</p> <p>Strengthen data processing, analysis and sharing of information with partners</p>
Initial Contact	<p>Availability of justice and policing services to all persons regardless of their socio-economic status</p> <p>Victims of VAWG can access services at various levels in</p>	<p>In remote rural communities, services are less readily available and accessible.</p> <p>Psycho-social needs of victims not adequately addressed</p>	<p>Sensitization sessions for law enforcement on VAWG</p> <p>Training on VAWG as part of general law enforcement training</p>

	<p>the policing sector:</p> <p>VPU provides daytime services to victims</p> <p>At the community level services are also available at the community police stations</p> <p>24-hour services is provided through the Criminal Investigation Department</p> <p>Adequate levels of responsiveness to VAWG by specialized agencies such as the VPU and the Family Court</p> <p>Staff of VPU have received some level of training and are sensitized to the issues of VAW.</p> <p>Victims' medical (physiological) needs are adequately addressed</p> <p>Some psychosocial support provided by the Family court</p>		<p>Need for specialist training to allow for effective functioning of the Vulnerable Persons Unit as a specialist agency</p>
<p>Assessment and investigation</p>	<p>Some level of priority is given to the investigation of cases of VAW to the extent that the</p>	<p>Inadequate resources</p>	<p>Capacity building of VPU: Review and identification of material and human</p>

	<p>investigation of cases of VAW by the law enforcement is handled by the VPU a specialist agency on matters relating to VAWG, particularly sexual violence</p> <p>The family court provides victims quick access to the courts for obtaining protection orders and other legal protections.</p>		resource needs
Pre-trial processes	<p>Some collaboration but no formal system of coordination.</p> <p>Primary responsibility for initiating prosecution lies with the Office of the DPP who has responsibility for the prosecution of all matters.</p> <p>Investigation is conducted by the VPU and transferred to the DPP for prosecution.</p> <p>Victim centered and empowerment and rights based approach by VPU</p> <p>No evidenced of forced mediation,</p>	<p>Lack of a coordinated approach to criminal, civil, family law and administrative law:</p> <p>Errors on the part of investigating officers identified as contributing to further delays in prosecution</p> <p>Extremely slow pace of justice (average 10 years trial period)</p> <p>Major concern regarding leniency in matters of VAW and inconsistency of sentencing in matters of VAW</p> <p>Prioritization of cases: no evidence that cases of VAW</p>	Capacity building for law enforcement officers

	<p>alternative dispute resolution in cases of VAWG by public sector agencies</p>	<p>are given priority over other matters.</p> <p>No evidence of special considerations for victims who are suspected or accused of criminal behavior</p>	
<p>Trial processes</p>	<p>Family court provides a safe space for victims of DV and an environment within which they can feel safe to fully express themselves</p> <p>Special provisions are made for minors.</p> <p>The family court provides some measure of privacy and confidentiality due to the specialized nature of the court.</p>	<p>No evidence or indication of special considerations for victims who have been charged with criminal offenses</p> <p>Other courtroom facilities do not make special provisions for the creation of safe spaces for victims of VAWG.</p>	<p>Provision of victim friendly spaces for women and girls during the trial process</p>
<p>Perpetrator accountability and reparation</p>	<p>Perpetrator accountability in cases of guilty verdict: once found guilty perpetrators are held accountable in accordance with existing legislation</p> <p>Victim reparation does not appear to</p>	<p>Sentencing procedures, specifically, broad discretionary powers of the judiciary, remain a challenge in ensuring perpetrators are held fully accountable.</p>	<p>Review of sentencing policies and procedures to examine concerns regarding perpetrator accountability and victim reparations</p>

	<p>be a major component of the trial processes in cases of VAW</p> <p>Court rulings do not usually include reparations to victims.</p>	<p>A perceived tendency towards leniency on the part of the judiciary is seen as a denial of justice and a major hindrance to prevention efforts.</p> <p>Lack of information: victims are usually not informed or empowered or do not possess the resources necessary to pursue reparations through the civil court.</p>	
Post trial processes	<p>Interventions that prevent re-offending and focus on victims: individual and group counselling services are provided for perpetrators of DV provided by the Family Court. Some intervention is provided to perpetrators by probation services.</p>	<p>Mandatory counselling or other rehabilitation interventions are not systematic.</p> <p>Insufficient resources limit scope and consistency of such interventions.</p> <p>Post trial support to victims largely non-existent.</p>	
Safety and protection	<p>Interim Protection orders issued by the family court allow for urgent victim protection.</p> <p>Referral for safe housing (short term and medium-term</p>	<p>Lack of a formal coordination mechanism for provision of support.</p> <p>Difficulty in enforcement of protection orders by</p>	<p>Development of a coordinated approach to safety and protection</p> <p>Standardization and formalization of referral systems</p>

	<p>basis) provided for through the WSC.</p> <p>Risk assessment conducted by Family Court, WSC via hotline</p> <p>Safety planning conducted by WSC and Family Court</p> <p>Both agencies prioritize safety concerns in all decisions</p> <p>Some level of coordinated protection and support services (eg. WSC and Family Court.</p>	<p>law enforcement (insufficient sensitization of officers along with socio-cultural influences are major contributors) leading to victim withdrawal of applications</p> <p>Lack of a facility for female youth in need of protection remains a major concern and needs to be addressed</p> <p>Lack of such a facility results in of young female victims being housed at detention facilities which exposes them to increased risk of revictimization and violence</p>	<p>Establishment of a residential facility for girls</p>
<p>Assistance and protection</p>	<p>Investigating officer main point of contact and source of information to victims</p> <p>Office of the DPP provides legal services to victims who are unable to seek private legal services</p> <p>Victim and witness</p>	<p>Inadequate support to victims</p>	<p>Need to build capacity of officers to effectively manage the communication process</p> <p>There is need to review existing referral systems with a view to formalize referral</p>

	support services: Referrals to healthcare facilities and are made where necessary and to social support agencies for safe housing and psycho-social support.		procedures and protocols
Communication and information	Investigating officer main point of contact for communication	Lack of coordination between investigation and prosecution regarding communication with victims Largely inadequate and uncoordinated communication processes often results in gaps in information to victims concerning their matters	Need for a coordinated approach to communication Identification of clear lines of responsibility for communication with clients Development of clear protocol and guidelines for communication
Justice sector coordination	Collaboration between law enforcement and DPP office within the framework of prosecution of matters.	Absence of formal mechanism for justice and policing sector coordination.	Establishment of formal and clear guidelines for coordination of intervention among agencies.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Provision of quality social services constitutes a vital component of a coordinated multi-sectoral response to violence against women and girls. It includes the provision of quality social services to women and girls to promote and support their rights, safety and wellbeing (UNWomen et al 2015). Essential services by the social services sector include crisis information and counselling, safe accommodations and support towards economic recovery and independence.

The following report presents the existing essential services, identified gaps and required action for improved service delivery in the justice and policing sector.

Essential Services Package - Social Services

Essential services and actions	Existing services	Gaps	Required action
Crisis information	Crisis information is available and provided to clients by agencies that work directly with victims of VAWG (WSC, Crisis Centre)	Crisis information is not widely available and easily accessible	Greater accessibility to crisis information
Crisis counselling	Crisis counselling is provided for Victims of VAW only by the agencies that are trained to do so. Most of the social institutions provide general counselling. The St Lucia Crisis centre and the Women's Support Centre are the two main social agencies interviewed with trained personnel in the area of crisis	Crisis counselling not available at most agencies.	Capacity building for social service workers in crisis counselling

	counselling.		
Help lines	<p>The WSC has a 24-hour hotline for victims of VAW which is free of charge.</p> <p>All staff members at the Centre are trained to answer the hotline according to well-established protocols. The Centre receives the assistance of the police whenever needed.</p> <p>Clients can telephone all the other agencies during their working hours, but the calls are not free. These agencies all have qualified persons to answer their phones and make the appropriate referrals on behalf of victims of VAW.</p> <p>The department of Human Services has a hotline for child abuse but it only operates during working hours.</p> <p>There is also a suicide hotline that victims can access. This line is manned on a twenty four hour basis.</p>		
Safe accommodations	The WSC provides safe accommodation to victims of VAW	Safe housing is only provided by the Women's Shelter	Ongoing capacity building for WSC staff and volunteers

	<p>and their children.</p> <p>Other agencies refer clients who need safe housing to the centre</p> <p>Safe housing is also provided to minors through the DHS at the New Beginnings Transit Home</p>	<p>Upton Gardens Girls' Centre is nonresidential and as such no place of shelter for adolescent girls especially girls between the ages of 16-18</p>	<p>Advocacy for residential programme for teenage girls in need of care and protection</p>
<p>Material and financial aid</p>	<p>Clients' material needs are met at the WSC whilst they are housed there.</p> <p>The institution support to victims as well as their children.</p> <p>The Crisis Centre provides clients with food, clothing and household supplies.</p> <p>The Social Welfare Department will also assist victims in crisis with both material and financial aid however aid is not specific to victims of GBVAW</p>	<p>Limited material and financial aid provided for VAWG victims.</p>	<p>Development of MOUs with key agencies to secure support for victims</p>
<p>Creation, recovery, replacement of identity documents</p>	<p>All agencies will refer victims of VAWG to the police for replacement of documents</p> <p>The WSC and the</p>	<p>Services not always provided free of charge</p>	<p>Development of MOUs with concerned Ministries, agencies to facilitate creation, recovery and</p>

	Division of Human Services provide assistance.		replacement of documents free of charge
Legal and rights information, advice and representation	<p>The agencies that work with victims of VAW will inform victims of their rights. For legal representation, the agencies will refer victims to the Family Court, the Legal aid office or the police.</p> <p>Protection and occupational orders can be obtained from the Family Court</p> <p>Police is responsible for investigating and pressing charges.</p>	<p>Inadequate legal and rights information available to victims</p> <p>Generally women are not aware of their rights</p>	<p>Publication of information on legal and rights information</p> <p>Sensitization sessions on legal and other rights for service providers</p>
Psycho-social support and counselling	<p>All the social agencies provide counselling to their clients and personnel are trained to do so.</p> <p>Specific interventions are provided for victims by the crisis Centre, the Family Court and The women's shelter.</p> <p>The Crisis Centre provides training for VAW victims in the areas of parenting, stress and anger</p>	<p>Inadequate psycho-social support to victims</p> <p>Counselling specific to VAW victims only provided by two agencies (WSC and Crisis Centre).</p> <p>The Crisis Centre which is one of the agencies providing that service, only has one counsellor for two days of the week.</p>	<p>Capacity building of social service agencies to increase psycho-social support to victims</p>

	<p>management, interpersonal skills, individual and group counselling.</p> <p>The women's shelter makes it mandatory for clients to undergo Domestic Violence counselling and also provides individual and group counseling</p> <p>Services to girls are provided by the DHS</p>		
Women centered support	<p>The Women's shelter is specific to providing support for women and children and all their interventions are women-centered. The Crisis Centre is family oriented and works with perpetrators as well.</p> <p>Victims are treated with no discrimination. All agencies respect the rights of women whether they serve the whole family or women alone.</p>	Only one shelter for safe accommodation	Ongoing training for staff of WSC and volunteers
Children services for any child affected by violence	Division of Human Services is the child protection agency responsible for care	Inadequate psycho-social support staff	Capacity building for effective delivery of services to child victims

	<p>and protection of children.</p> <p>The agency provides child friendly services to victims and safe housing to children who are victims of domestic abuse through their foster care programme or the children's home.</p> <p>Special programmes for child victims are ongoing at the WSC.</p> <p>Human Services provides counselling for children who are victims.</p> <p>Counselling staff is trained.</p>		
<p>Community information, education and community outreach</p>	<p>Community response teams established in several communities across the island</p> <p>Some agencies go out to different establishments to educate the staff in the area of domestic violence.</p> <p>Planned Parenthood has a good outreach programme in sexual and reproductive health however they do not</p>	<p>Inadequate access to information at the community level</p> <p>Public awareness campaigns are sporadic</p>	<p>Development of public awareness strategy to allow for sustained and on-going sensitization programmes</p> <p>Re-establishment of CRTs and capacity building programmes for effective operations of teams</p> <p>Development of terms of reference and guidelines for operation of CRTs Facilitate regular</p>

	address DV.		meetings of CRTs for coordination of action
Assistance towards economic independence, recovery and autonomy	Support provided by the WSC Clients are assisted with housing needs, with referrals to the St Lucia Social Development fund (SSDF) Referrals are also made to the National Skills Development (NSDC) Centre for training the victims in a skill for employment.	Very limited assistance provided to victims of VAWG towards economic recovery and independence Initiatives remain largely adhoc	Development of a structured programme for assistance to victims eg. Establishment of MOUs with key ministries and agencies

COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE OF COORDINATION

Coordination and governance of coordination are fundamental to the development of an effective multi-sectoral response to violence against women. Coordination is beneficial for victims, service providers and the wider community (UNWomen et al. 2015). A coordinated response results in increased safety, greater access to information and quality services (Ibid.).

The recent establishment by the Division of Gender Relations of a coordination committee involving key stakeholders is a critical step in advancing the coordination of essential services to victims of violence against women. A strategic approach and the engagement of all stakeholders will contribute to an effective coordinated response to VAWG in the interest of victims.

The following report presents the existing essential services, identified gaps and required action for improved service delivery in the justice and policing sector.

Essential Services Package - Coordination and governance of coordination

Essential services and actions	Existing services	Gaps	Required action
Law and policy making	<p>Legal provisions for prosecution of VAW are largely adequate and for the most part are of international standard.</p> <p>National plan of action outlines policies and strategic direction for coordination of services.</p> <p>Establishment of a coordinating committee.</p>	<p>No integration of signed, ratified statutory instruments into domestic law</p> <p>Gaps in coverage or access to justice under the DV act for some groups remain.</p> <p>Lack of implementation of NPA</p>	<p>Advocacy for integration of conventions into local legislation</p> <p>Pursuit of current legislative reform processes</p> <p>Implementation of the NPA</p>
2- Appropriation and allocation of resources	<p>Some collaboration among relevant stakeholders and policy making entities at the national level</p> <p>Funding of operations of the Division of Gender Relations division is provided through the national budget</p> <p>Some funding assistance provided for operations of NGOs</p> <p>Additional support provided through the assistance of regional and international Organisations</p>	<p>Inadequate financial and human resources for the effective coordination and governance of coordination of services for VAWG</p>	<p>Reassessment of human and financial resources necessary for the effective functioning of the Division of Gender Relations</p>
Standard setting for establishment	<p>Establishment of community response</p>	<p>CRTs not fully operational</p>	<p>Review of the current structure of</p>

of local level coordination	teams (CRTs) in various communities throughout the island		CRTs to identify challenges in local coordination and service delivery Development of a strategic approach to the establishment of community response teams which outlines structure, composition and roles and responsibilities
Inclusive approaches to coordinated responses:	DGR ensures representativity of all stakeholders. Participation of community-based organizations and civil society organizations is critical to ensure effective coordination at the local level.	Lack of an established and comprehensive list of service providers	Cataloguing of all agencies involved in working with victims of VAWG to reflect recently established entities and identify exact nature of service delivery
Facilitate capacity development of policy makers and other decision makers on coordinated responses	Coordination committee in place to assist DGR	Inadequate sensitization of policy makers	Capacity building for policy makers including provision of orientation and training for members of coordinating committee as well as key stakeholders
6 – Monitoring and Evaluation	Data collected and available at the agency level - Some monitoring and evaluation done at agency level	Inadequate sharing of information and reporting on success stories	Development of standards for monitoring and evaluation of coordination efforts at national and community levels Development of a structured approach to data collection

**BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES
PACKAGE FOR VAWG**

HEALTH

Essential Service Objectives and outcomes	BUDGET ITEMS Objective: Proposed actions and activities	Target group	Estimated Cost
<p>Identification of survivors of intimate partner violence:</p> <p>Ensure written information on intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual assault available at healthcare facilities</p> <p>Facilitate identification of women suffering intimate partner violence</p>	<p>Development and printing of IEC materials on GBVAWG and available services</p> <p>Review and documentation of referral processes: Production of booklet on available services and referral processes</p>	<p>General public and healthcare workers</p> <p>Health care personnel A and E staff, first responders, community health workers</p>	<p>\$12 000</p>
<p>First line support: Women-centered care</p> <p>Mandatory reporting</p>	<p>Identification and allocation of a space reserved for care to victims of GBVAW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refurbishment and equipment 	<p>A and E Department</p>	<p>\$2000</p>
	<p>Training sensitization workshops on responding to victims of GBVAW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training workshops for medical personnel (4 sessions) 	<p>Health care personnel A and E staff, first responders, community health workers</p>	<p>\$11, 870</p>
Sexual assault	Documentation of existing protocol	Medical	\$3000

exam and care Ensure provision of emergency contraception, HIV post-exposure prophylaxis and post exposure for STIs to all victims of sexual assault	and procedures for care and treatment of cases of sexual assault - Revision and formalizing of protocol and procedures - Documentation of protocol and procedures Forensic training for nurses	personnel Law enforcement representatives Social service representatives Nurses	\$12882
Mental health assessment and care: Provision of mental healthcare and basic psycho-social support to victims of GBVAWG	Training workshops for first line staff in conducting assessments for mental health problems as part of physical examination Development and documentation of protocol and referral processes in relation to mental health care	Healthcare workers And psycho-social support staff support Social worker, counsellor, Staff of the wellness centre	\$4275
Documentation : Comprehensive and accurate documentation Collection and documentation of forensic specimen Provision of written evidence and court attendance	Training in medico-legal aspects of GBVA (Legal system, court proceedings, writing statements): Training workshops for staff of accident and emergency department and other medical personnel Review, standardization and documentation of protocol and procedures for collection, documentation of forensic evidence	Medical personnel	\$4275
Total budget: \$50 302			

JUSTICE AND POLICING

Essential Services Objectives and outcomes	BUDGET ITEMS	TARGET GROUP	ESTIMATED COST
Prevention	<p>Development and coordination of a zero tolerance for GBVAW campaign</p> <p>Provision of information on legal services available to victims (development and printing of IEC material)</p>	Public	\$20 000
Initial Contact	Training sensitization workshops on responding to victims of GBVAW for law enforcement officers	Law enforcement	\$11 000
	<p>Strengthen capacity of VPU to deliver specialized services to victims of GBVAW:</p> <p>Specialized training workshops for officers of VPT</p> <p>Refurbishment of interview room to create a victim friendly space for meeting with victims</p>	Staff VPU	\$10 000 \$2000
Investigation	<p>Standardization and documentation of protocol and referral processes and procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings, documentation - Provision of equipment for interviewing purposes 	Law enforcement	\$1500 \$4000
Pre-trial and trial	Training workshop to		\$4500

processes	<p>enhance Development of Communication strategy for provision of information to victims</p> <p>Consultation with justice and policing stakeholders to address challenges in the delivery of services to victims of GBVAWG</p>		\$3500
Perpetrator accountability and reparations	<p>Revision of sentencing policy</p> <p>Provision of information to victims on available options to seek redress: development of IEC materials outlining options</p>		<p>\$1000</p> <p>\$4000</p>
Post trial processes: Strengthen enforcement of court orders	<p>Sensitization sessions for police officers on enforcement of protection orders</p> <p>Provision of mandatory intervention programmes for perpetrators of GBVAWG</p>		\$3000
Safety and protection	<p>Development of a coordinated approach to maintain victim safety and protection:</p> <p>Capacity building workshop in psycho-social aspects of VAWG (risk assessment, safety planning,)</p> <p>Provision of information to law enforcement on available services for victim protection (WSC, family court)</p>		\$4500
Support and assistance	<p>Development of a communication strategy</p> <p>Formalization and</p>		<p>\$6000</p> <p>\$1500</p>

	documentation of referral processes and systems (meetings, documentation)		
Communication			
Coordination among justice agencies	Development of a coordinated justice and policing response to prevention and prosecution of VAWG Establishment of high level coordination team comprises decision makers police, justice and judiciary)		
	Identification and allocation of a space reserved for care to victims of GBVAW Refurbishment and equipment		\$2000
			Total: \$78500

SOCIAL SERVICES

Essential services or actions			
Crisis information	Development and publication of IEC		
Crisis counselling	Training workshops in crisis counselling for social service agency workers	Counselling and social support staff	\$10 000
Help lines	Ongoing training for staff and volunteers of WSC and other support agencies		\$ 2500
Safe accommodations	Ongoing training for staff of WSC Provision of safe accommodations for girls who require care and protection		\$2500 (not costed)
Material and financial aid	Development of a MOUs with Social Welfare Services and other partners for provision of financial assistance to victims		\$500

Creation, recovery, replacement of identity documents	Development of MOU between relevant Ministries and social support agencies to facilitate replacement of identity documents (meetings, development of MOU)		\$1000
Legal and rights information	Production of IEC materials on legal rights	public	\$2500
Psycho-social support and counselling	Capacity building of social service agencies to deliver quality services to victims: Training workshops for counseling and psycho-social support staff Provision of training opportunities to facilitate qualification of staff (eg. Through scholarships programmes)		\$12000
Women centered support	Sensitization sessions on women centered approach to VAWG	stakeholders	\$4500
Community information, education and outreach	Public Awareness and sensitization campaigns on GBVAW and available resources for victims: (development and printing of brochures, posters, leaflets)		\$10 000
Assistance towards economic independence, recovery and autonomy	Development of MOUs with Ministries and agencies for provision of economic recovery opportunities for victims eg. through job placement, adult education and training programs (meetings and establishment of MOUs)	Victims of GBVAW	\$1000
Total budget estimate:			\$46500

Coordination and governance of coordination

Essential services Objectives outcomes	BUDGET ITEMS		
Laws and policies that address violence against women	Review of National Action Plan	DGR	\$2000
	Development of a strategic framework for implementation	Members of coordination committee	
	Implementation of National Action Plan		\$5000
	Pursue legislative reform to address gaps in provision of legal services: (Meetings, consultations etc.)		\$10 000
	Capacity building of Gender Relations Division: Review of human resource and financial needs of the division Identification of training needs Training workshops		\$1500
	Development of framework and establishment of guidelines for the work of the coordination committee		\$2500
Quarterly meetings of coordination committee and other coordination activities (at least 2 meetings per quarter)			
Standard setting for establishment of local level coordination: Development of standards for local coordinated response and agency accountability	Development of standards and establishment of formal protocol or MOUs to guide coordination	DGR Coordination committee	\$2000
	Development of a mechanism for monitoring and evaluation		\$1500
	Development of common recording and reporting systems among stakeholders:	All agencies	\$12 500

Development of a system for recording and reporting of data	Capacity building workshops in data collection and documentation Provision of technical support for data analysis		
	Public Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sensitization and education campaigns on GBVAWG and available resources for victims - development and printing of brochures, posters, leaflets - radio and television infomercials 	General public	\$15000
	Data Collection and research Human resource – dedicated to coordination of data collection and research based at gender relations division <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity building workshops in data collection and documentation - Technical support for data analysis 	Service providers, decision makers	
	Monitoring and evaluation revision and strengthening of existing mechanisms for regulation of counselling and other psycho-social support services development of a framework for monitoring and evaluation meetings, consultations	Allied services Coordination committee DGR	\$8000
	Capacity building for coordination and governance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity building workshops for coordination committee 	Committee members	\$3000
	Quarterly meetings of coordination committee	Committee members	\$ 2500

Local level coordination and governance of coordination	Strengthening and Capacity building for Community response teams (CRTs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review or Development of policy framework and guidelines for the operation of CRTs - Training workshops for members of CRTs 	Coordination committee CRT members	\$ 4500
Total budget estimate: \$70 000			

Total Budget Estimate: \$245 302.00 USD

Concluding observations

The review of essential services in the health, justice/policing, and social service sectors, as well as coordination and governance, for victims of VAWG in Saint Lucia has allowed for the identification of a number of gaps in service provision and delivery. These gaps and the capacity to address them must also be placed within the context of broader challenges affecting both the health care and justice/policing sectors in Saint with obvious implications for action in VAWG.

Notwithstanding the identification of these gaps, which have guides the development of a package of essential services to meet the specific needs of victims of VAWG, the review has also highlighted major opportunities and a high level of commitment on the part of key stakeholders to address violence against women and girls in Saint Lucia.

A common definition of the problem and identification of the challenges that need to be addressed; ongoing legislative reform under the OECS family law reform initiative; tremendous interest in opportunities for training and capacity building across the board; a shared commitment to build upon existing collaboration for building strategic and sustainable partnerships and a willingness to formalize established protocols and referrals systems are among the opportunities identified for action in addressing VAWG.

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