

PREVENTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE INITIATIVE

Stigma Workshops

*Can you help contribute to alleviate Stigma
and Sexual Violence in conflict?*

Outlined in this flyer is but a small sample of some of the recommendations made by survivors, practitioners and civil society groups in conflict affected countries who recently participated in Stigma workshops delivered by the UK government, UN agencies or NGOs. Member States, International organisations and civil society are invited to use the reports being published for each workshop to see if there any recommendations which fit with their respective aims in addressing the stigma of Conflict-related Sexual Violence.

To date, nine out of thirteen stigma workshops have taken place so far this year. To view full reports and recommendations of these workshops, please visit the PSVI website:
@ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/preventing-sexual-violence-initiative>

Some of these recommendations include:

South Sudan - 1 workshop in Juba and 7 focus group discussions (FGD) in Wau, Malakal PoC, Equatorial Region, Pakwu, Bor, Juba and Langba held in May 2017.

- Addressing the gaps in justice and legal service - Capacity building and security for Human rights defenders to ably collect Sexual Violence and Conflict evidence.
- Raising awareness and importance of education - School-based counselling and awareness raising on educational activities on sexual violence.

Nepal - 3 workshops in Pokhara, Kathmandu and Kapilvastu held in August 2017.

- Addressing social taboos and lack of protection - Work with Mainstream and Alternative Local Media to create awareness against sexual violence stigma and to create pressure to strengthen accountability.
- Combat legal barriers to justice - Appointment of a focal person to deal with conflict related sexual violence in the judicial committee.

Sudan - 1 workshop in Khartoum held in August 2017.

- Protect women in conflict areas - Create policies and legislation including enforcement of laws relating to protection of women.

Sri Lanka - 1 workshop in Colombo held in August 2017.

- Educating health care professionals - Awareness programmes for frontline medical staff and establishing a special mental health unit for women in general hospital.

Colombia - 3 workshops in Medellin, Bogota and Popayan between July and September 2017.

- Empower victims - Implementing workshops which focus on the victims so that they can become aware of the laws and guidelines that protect them in the different institutions.

Burundi - 1 workshop in Bujumbura in August 2017.

- Introduce DNA tests - Resource and train police in DNA testing so that a broader range of admissible evidence is introduced to rape cases.

CAR - 1 workshop in Bangui in August 2017.

- Ensure wider availability of support services for survivors - Provide mobile clinics/ interventions for survivors in rural areas.
- Strengthen the capacity of the legal system - Provide training to local police officers and other first responders.

Mali - 1 workshop Mopti and 4 focus group discussions (FGD) in August 2017.

- Strengthen religious and community leader's knowledge of national and international texts - through community level meetings, debates and [training] workshops.
- Address the application of laws against sexual violence - Launch local advocacy campaigns for the Ministries of Justice and Education.

Kosovo - 1 workshop in Pristina in September 2017.

- Action from the media - The national media to contribute documentaries, interviews, editorials etc. to fight sexual violence stigma and create a public awareness.

The findings of further workshops will be uploaded shortly after they have take place. We hope by giving you a flavour of some of the recommendations and a fuller report on our website it will help you in your quest to alleviate stigma and sexual violence in the conflict affected countries.

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