

# ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



In 2011, the UN Trust Fund supported programmes in the following countries:

## **SOUTH ASIA**

**AFGHANISTAN**  
**BANGLADESH**  
**INDIA**  
**NEPAL**  
**PAKISTAN**  
**SRI LANKA**

## **EAST AND SOUTH EAST ASIA**

**CAMBODIA**  
**CHINA**  
**INDONESIA**  
**MALAYSIA**  
**PHILIPPINES**  
**THAILAND**  
**VIET NAM**

## **THE PACIFIC**

**COOK ISLANDS**  
**MALDIVES**  
**MARSHALL ISLANDS**  
**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**  
**SAMOA**  
**SOLOMON ISLANDS**  
**TONGA**  
**TUVALU**  
**VANUATU**

## **WHAT IS THE UN TRUST FUND?**

The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) is the only multilateral grant-making mechanism exclusively devoted to supporting local and national efforts to end violence against women and girls. Since its establishment by the UN General Assembly in 1996, the UN Trust Fund has delivered more than US\$ 78 million to support 339 vital initiatives in 127 countries and territories. By the end of 2011, the UN Trust Fund had an active portfolio of 96 active grants, covering 86 countries, with a total value of over US\$ 61 million.

## **HOW WIDESPREAD IS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC?<sup>1</sup>**

- Over 31 million girls in South Asia are forced to marry before the age of 18.
- 2 in 3 women in Papua New Guinea have experienced physical and sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner.
- In Samoa, 41% of ever-partnered women experienced physical violence at the hands of an intimate partner.

## **WHAT IS THE UN TRUST FUND DOING TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THIS REGION?**

The UN Trust Fund is currently investing more than US\$ 15.5 million to address violence against women and girls in Asia and the Pacific, accounting for the second largest share of its portfolio, nearly 26% of its active grants. These investments are supporting local and national initiatives aimed at transforming the day-to-day lives of women and girls throughout the region. The following provides a snapshot of the UN Trust Fund-supported programmes in Asia and the Pacific that are preventing violence against women and girls by addressing its root causes, delivering critical services to survivors, and strengthening the capacity of state institutions to effectively respond to these crimes:

### **Providing Critical Services to Survivors**

- In **China**, the Beijing Cultural Development Centre for Rural Women is providing a child-centered and participatory sex education programme to rural

girls who have been “left behind” while their parents pursue work in urban centers. Working in 3 pilot sites in Hubei Province, the programme is building the knowledge and protective assets of these girls around violence. The grantee is also creating a community safety networks to support these girls who are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse within their communities during their parents’ absence.

- In **Indonesia**, a UN Country Team lead by UNFPA is creating four “violence free villages,” reaching more than 1,000 women and children violence survivors through the creation of a community watch system and an early detection, reporting and referral mechanism. The initiative is breaking ground through improved data-collection and the development of district-level action plans against violence, while significantly enhancing the quality and accessibility of support services for women and girls at the grass-roots level.

### **Improving the Legislative Response to Violence**

- In six **Pacific Island Countries**, the Pacific Regional Rights Resource Team is strengthening a network of civil society and government advocates to improve the legislative framework on violence against women through the provision of timely and individual technical assistance to key women’s organizations and ministries. The programme played a key role in influencing Pacific Forum Leaders to include gender-based violence as a shared priority for the region and to call on governments to deepen their political commitment to addressing the issue at the national level.

### **Building the Capacity of First Responders**

- In the **Marshall Islands**, Women United Together is building the capacity of one hundred first responders (sixty police officers and forty healthcare providers) to assist survivors of violence and developing model response protocols for these officials, incorporating best practices from the Pacific region. The grantee is working closely with the ministries of health, justice, and internal affairs to strengthen the State’s legislation and protocols on domestic violence.

<sup>1</sup> Information excerpted from World Health Organization (WHO) publications, Demographic Health Surveys, and from the UN Women website.



## SPOTLIGHT ON CAMBODIA

The UN Trust Fund is currently investing over US\$ 2.8 million in vital initiatives throughout Cambodia that are empowering youth as “change agents”, engaging men and boys in prevention, tackling sexual harassment in the workplace, and creating models of community-based sexual violence prevention.

With a grant from the UN Trust Fund, *CARE Cambodia* is undertaking a catalytic initiative to protect women workers in the beer industry by strengthening laws and policies around sexual harassment and workplace violence, sensitizing male beer-hall patrons, and empowering women beer promoters. *Youth Star Cambodia* is enlisting the volunteer services of university graduates to create spaces for young people in rural communities to have meaningful peer discussions on values, sexual rights, and intimate relationships and facilitates wider community conversations about domestic violence. The programme has transformed the way in which men and women interact in villages and towns across the country through the creation of “zero tolerance communities.”

With support of the UN Trust Fund, *Social Services of Cambodia* is creating a community-based response model that allows survivors of sexual violence to receive the critical services they need while remaining close to their support networks. The programme trains local social service providers to respond more effectively to cases of sexual violence while ensuring that each survivor is assigned a social worker to accompany her throughout the recovery process. While *Gender and Development Cambodia* is studying Khmer masculinity and its relationship to domestic violence and using these findings to design more effective strategies and interventions to address violent behavior.

### THE UN TRUST FUND'S CURRENT INVESTMENTS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC:

#### EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA:

US\$ 7,446,300

#### SOUTH ASIA:

US\$ 4,588,788

#### THE PACIFIC:

US\$ 1,937,776

### TOTAL INVESTMENT SINCE 1996:

US\$ 18.6 MILLION, 20% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS, 24% OF THE TOTAL GRANT AMOUNT AWARDED

### ACTIVE GRANTS IN 2011:

25 PROJECTS FOR A TOTAL VALUE OF US\$ 15.5 MILLION IN 20 COUNTRIES.

### NEW GRANT AWARDS IN 2011:

6 GRANTS – IN 8 COUNTRIES – FOR A TOTAL VALUE OF US\$ 4.2 MILLION.

- In **Nepal**, UN Women, UNICEF, and UNFPA are joining forces to build the capacity of district-level government and service providers to implement a comprehensive set of services for survivors. The programme has developed and trained a rigorous four-month psycho-social counseling training course for community-level social mobilizers, which has dramatically improved the quality of care provided to survivors of violence.

### WHO ARE THE UN TRUST FUND'S NEW PARTNERS IN THIS REGION?

In 2011, the UN Trust Fund awarded US\$ 4.2 million in new grants to 6 initiatives in Asia and the Pacific.

The following programmes are expected to reach over 200,000 people across the region between 2011 and 2014:

- In **Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Sri Lanka**, CARAM India will empower migrant domestic workers to counter violence by raising awareness of their legal rights, providing pre-departure support, and up-scaling the number and quality of services for survivors of violence. Grant amount: US\$ 992,740
- In **India**, Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT) will address violence against sex workers by expanding an innovative pilot programme to empower sex

workers and train partners and brothel owners to recognize and address violence.

Grant amount: US\$ 999,999

- In **Indonesia**, Rifka Annisa will pilot a unique programme to engage religious courts and their judges as key partners in ending domestic violence and transforming harmful cultural stereotypes fuelling abuse. Grant amount: US\$ 994,765
- In **Samoa**, the Samoa Victim Support Group will conduct transformative and comprehensive training with community leaders, traditional elders, and survivors of violence in rural Samoa to transform abusive family structures. Grant amount: US\$ 120,000
- In **Cambodia**, the Victims Support Section of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia will secure successful prosecutions of forced marriage and other gender-based crimes under the Khmer Rouge by empowering survivors to participate actively in legal proceedings. Grant amount: US\$ 628,501
- In **India and Bangladesh**, the Fair Wear Foundation will eliminate harassment and violence in export factories by leveraging the influence of European client companies and empowering workers to form anti-harassment committees. Grant amount: US\$ 471,000

For more information and to donate to the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, please contact:

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