

Quarterly Reporting Template for US/INL Funded Projects

Period covered by the report: 1 January 2015-31 March 2015

1. Context	
Project/Sub-programme Number	
Title	Strengthening Institutional Capacities in the Penal Chain and Access to Justice in Sri Lanka
Duration (years/months)	3 Years
Starting Date	23 September 2013
Location(s) *	National and Sub-National
Responsible Office:	
UNODC Regional / Country or Thematic Programme Outcome to which this programme/project directly contributes *	
Executing Agency	UNDP
Government Implementing Agency/Partners *	<p><u>2013 and 2014</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministry of National Languages and Social Integration ▪ Ministry of Justice ▪ Ministry of Prisons Reform and Rehabilitation ▪ Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs <p><u>Since January 2015</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministry of Public Administration, Local Government and Democratic Governance (<i>including</i> National Languages and Social Integration division) ▪ Ministry of Justice (<i>including</i> department of Prison Reforms and Rehabilitation) ▪ Ministry of Women's Affairs
UNODC Overall Budget	USD\$ 705,000
Donor(s)	US-INL through UNDP-Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (formerly Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery)

1.1 Summary of quarterly Achievements against set targets /Project Summary

The first quarter of 2015 has been eventful for Sri Lanka, with the Presidential elections held on January 8th, where most observers predicted the then incumbent, President Mahinda Rajapaksa, to win. However the opposition candidate, Maithripala Sirisena, was elected as the new President having contested the election on a platform to, *inter alia*, abolish the Executive Presidency, address corruption, and reinstate good governance and the rule of law. President Sirisena appointed his Cabinet of Ministers on 12 January with plans to implement key promises in his election manifesto which were incorporated in a 100 Day Work Programme. In doing so, the previous Cabinet of more than 80 Ministries was reduced to 40 Cabinet Ministries and 8 State Ministries which has meant drastic changes to the Ministry portfolios of implementing partners whereby the Ministry of National Languages and Social Integration is now absorbed as a division of the Ministry of Public Administration, and the Ministry of Justice has expanded its purview to include, among others, Prison Reforms and Rehabilitation. The changes in portfolios have also meant significant changes in leadership at all state institutions. Therefore, for the Project, much of the first quarter of 2015 was spent re-introducing and re-orienting Ministry officials on project outputs and work plans. In addition, during this phase, a majority of on-going projects and activities were placed on the back-burner in light of the change in context and alternative priorities specified in the President's 100-day programme and manifesto taking precedence over the project objectives and activities. The President has also announced early parliamentary elections to be held sometime in mid-2015, which could lead to further changes in the Cabinet. Despite political uncertainty until the outcome of Parliamentary elections, President Sirisena's Manifesto and 100 Day Work Programme potentially creates opportunities for engaging on macro-level policy, institutional and systems changes. There also appears to be signs of emerging political will to address longer-term governance, human rights, rule of law and reconciliation issues, including decreasing power of the executive.

Despite these challenges, implementation of activities continued during the reporting period. On the Access to Justice side, discussions were re-initiated with the Attorney General's Department with regard to the conducting a workshop to facilitate the identification of priority cases within the Department, following changes within the Department and work was taken forward with regards to non-judicial training in the Anuradhapura district. The process of consolidation and translation of two core pieces of legislation (Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure Act) was also completed and submitted to the Ministry. The Ministry of Justice has also selected the service providers that would conduct the Baseline Assessment on the Challenges in the Penal Chain and two thematic sub-committees were established under the aegis of the National Steering Committee on Justice. For the SGBV component, the process leading to the formulation of a multi-sectoral National Action Plan on GBV has commenced at the Ministry of Women's Affairs, which hired two consultants to lead the process who has finalized the Concept Note. The next quarter will see the setting up of the technical teams and the drafting of sector specific action plans on GBV. Advocacy materials on laws, policies which were produced in the form of a Resource Note Book, DVDs containing short documentaries on different forms of GBV, brochure containing information on police desks, ministry units and GBV health desks are being distributed in this quarter to the field level officers and general public to build awareness on services available for SGBV victim survivors. The docu-drama produced on responding to SGBV largely through counselling in 2014 was broadcast on national television (over Rupavahini) on 8th March 2015, International Women's Day. The project also supported a legal aid clinic in Anuradhapura, which was held as part of the Women's Day programme of the Ministry to advocate for legal redress in situations of violence and other issues faced by women.

2.Planned and Unplanned Results Achieved

In the following sections, please use the tables provided to answer these questions:

- (1) List and describe all intended and unintended results from this quarter.
- (2) List any evidence that proves intended results were achieved.
- (3) What was the cause of any unintended results?
- (4) How was the evidence gathered?

2.1 Outcome(s) and outputs

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 1 – 2015
Outcome: Communities empowered and institutions strengthened to support local governance, access to justice, social integration, gender equality, and monitoring, promotion and protection of human rights in alignment with international treaties and obligations and in alignment to the constitution of Sri Lanka.				
<p>Activity Result 1: Reduced criminal justice delays through improved case management and pretrial procedural mechanisms between penal chain actors in 1 “area model”(1.1)</p> <p>Baselines: 1. # of backlog cases to be established during Year-1 2. # of priority cases identified in 1 area model penal chain to be established in Year-2</p> <p>Process indicators: 1. Case Management Committee established and in operation in 1 area model 2. Staff trained on use of case-management systems</p> <p>Output indicators: 1. % priority cases addressed in the area model penal chain 2. Increased efficiency in the criminal justice process</p>	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Case Management Committees have yet to be established 2. Not yet started <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Process of identifying cases has been initiated. One-day forum to be held in Q2 to determine criteria. Meanwhile, decision made to expedite narcotics related cases 2. To be determined through project evaluations. 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting minutes, participant attendance lists 2. Training attendance lists, training agendas/curricula <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reports, case tracking formats 2. Project reviews (mid-term, endline) 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delays in obtaining required approvals to establish committees. The project is seeking alternative options. 2. System has yet to be established, due to reason above. <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The slightly delayed, the process is moving forward 	<p><i>USD 1,232.72 (Cash Advance released for Q1-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 20,351.33 (Total Expenditure Recorded to date)</i></p>

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 1 – 2015
<p>Activity Result 2: Increased coordinated legal aid service delivery for vulnerable and marginalized populations, including through the establishment of referral mechanisms at sub-national level (2.2)</p> <p>Baselines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> No formal referral system in place between ADR mechanisms, paralegal service providers, legal aid service providers and justice and security institutions No recognition of paralegals as formal legal aid service providers. Absence of standardized training and accreditation for paralegals. Many recommendations of the 2010 LAC capacity assessment have not been implemented # of LAC capacity assessment recommendations not implemented to be determined in year-1 <p>Process indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Formal referral system established between ADR mechanisms, paralegal service providers, legal aid service providers and justice and security institutions <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Para legals formally recognized as legal aid service providers Standardized training and accreditation system for para-legals established # of recommendations of the 2010 LAC capacity assessment implemented 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Formal referral system has yet to be established <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Paralegals have yet to be identified Training and accreditation system has yet to be developed Implementation of recommendations are on-going 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Case tracking formats, meeting minutes, reports, case studies <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> List of official recognized paralegals from relevant authority, copies of recognition document Training manuals and curricula documents, accreditation policy document Reports 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The project was able to influence the Legal Aid Commission to prioritize the development of a Legal Aid Policy. Once the policy is developed, it would provide guidance on referral systems and appointment of paralegals <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting development of Legal Aid Policy As above Ongoing 	<p><i>USD 2,292.13 (Cash Advance released for Q1-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 29,074.16 (Total Recorded Expenditure to date)</i></p>

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 1 – 2015
<p>Activity Result 3: Capacities of law enforcement and judicial institutions strengthened to efficiently handle SGBV cases and ensure equal access to legal and judicial protection for SGBV victims (3.3)</p> <p>Baselines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No National Action Plan on SGBV. Comprehensive and current data on prevalence of SGBV not available. Domestic violence law adopted but some gaps remain. There is no operational referral system of SGBV from mediation boards to the penal chain. # of cases filed under Domestic Violence Act of 2003 to be determined by baseline study conducted in year-1. <p>Process indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation to combat violence against women reviewed by mandated institutions. <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> National action plan on SGBV formulated. # of activities implemented from the National Action Plan on SGBV. % increase in the number of domestic violence complaints referred by the Mediation Boards to the penal chain (as a proxy for the operationalization of the system). 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development of National Framework and National Action Plan on GBV has been initiated, this includes a consultative process across various sectors, where relevant legislation would be reviewed <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Process of developing the NAP is ongoing NAP is in the process of being developed To be determined 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Documentation and reports <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Final draft of NAP Reports, case studies Case tracking formats, reports, case studies 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Process is ongoing <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Process is on-going Process is on-going TBD 	<p><i>USD 27,846.68 (Cash Advance released for Q1-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 18,215.99 (Total Expenditure Recorded to date)</i></p>
<p>Activity Result 4:</p> <p>Improved institutional capacities for efficiency and effectiveness of the justice sector at national level, including strategic planning and cross-sectoral management skills for the formulation and implementation of policies, laws and plans (4.2)</p>	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Victims and Witness Protection Act was passed in Feb 2015. At least 01 introductory discussion was initiated through the Legal Aid Commission as 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion minutes, participants list <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Official notification of establishment of unit, 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> This activity is on-going <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Priorities of Ministry has shifted immediately following the Jan 2015 elections. 	<p><i>USD 15,999.93 (Cash Advance released for Q1-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 60,095.14 (Total Expenditure Recorded to date)</i></p>

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 1 – 2015 <i>date)</i>
<p>Baselines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No language unit in the MOJ to formulate and coordinate implementation of a language plan for the justice sector, including recommendations by the Speedy Trial Committee. 2. Lack of consolidated legislation and translations in both official languages of Evidence Ordinance, Penal Code, Judicature Act, Criminal Procedure Code and Civil Procedure Code. 3. Limited awareness amongst lawyers of the latest international and regional developments in criminal justice and public law (Constitutional and Administrative) 4. The draft Bill on Assistance and Protection to Victims of Crime and Witnesses was tabled in June 2008. The Supreme Court of Sri Lanka in its Special Determination 1/2008, SCM 02.04.2008, suggested changes to the draft law of which many were incorporated by the Ministry of Justice into an “Amended Version” issued on 28 July 2009. <p>Process indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. # of dialogue/advocacy events between the criminal justice system stakeholders on passage of the Protection of Victims and Witness Bill <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Languages Unit established in the MoJ to formulate and coordinate implementation of a language plan for the justice sector 2. # of key pieces of legislation consolidated and translated into both official languages 3. Draft amendments to Criminal Procedure Code prepared to decrease case delays and remand population 	<p>part of a sensitization programme for Police officers.</p> <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language Unit has yet to be established 2. 02 pieces of legislation have been translated (Penal Code & Criminal Procedure Code) 3. On-going 	<p>draft of language plan, evidence of implementation of language plan (reports, photos, case studies)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Copies of translated legislation, reports/case studies of how translated documents have been used 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. This activity if on-going. 3. This activity if on-going. 	

Outcomes and Outputs Planned Results (US term)	Progress against identified performance indicators Achieved Results (US term)	Means of Verification Evidence and Data Collection (US term)	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 1 – 2015
			Total 2014 (Excluding PSC)	127,736.62
			PSC	46,121.00
			Total Expenditure (Including PSC)	173,857.62
			Total Cash Advance released in Q1-2015	47,371.46

2.2 Unplanned Results

Unplanned Result	Cause of result
N/A	N/A

3. Progress against Implementation Plan

3.1 Progress this quarter

During the reporting period a cash advance of **USD 47,371.46** was released to the project implementing partners for on-going activities. Overall, the final expenditure recorded for the year of 2014 implementation is USD 127,736.62 whilst Project Support Costs (PSC) charged for the year was USD 46,121.00.

Current Progress (please indicate)							
On track		Slightly delayed	X	Delayed		Ahead of plan	

Activity Result 1: Reduced criminal justice delays through improved case management and pretrial procedural mechanisms between penal chain actors in 1 “area model”

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

One of the key results expected from this Project is the improved coordination and cooperation amongst actors along the penal chain to clear the backlog of selected types of cases, but a challenge faced here was to decide which categories to prioritize. While the Project has initiated a process to work out criteria for prioritizing cases, having understood that this would take some time, it was agreed with the Attorney General’s Department to work on expediting narcotics cases with immediate effect. This is expected to speed up the trial or release of many detainees currently languishing in prison, with the allocation of several lawyers to sift through the existing backlog over the next quarter. Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below:

Case Prioritization within the Attorney General’s Department (AGD)

Following a series of discussion with the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General’s Department to conduct a one-day forum amongst key personnel from within the justice sector to define criteria for selection of priority cases to be processed within its criminal division. The Project finally obtained the approvals necessary from the Solicitor General to hold the Forum during the first week of May 2015.

The AGD agreed to submit a comprehensive report following the Forum on the criteria developed to determine criteria for priority cases based on severity of the case and/or the length of delaying of minor crimes. The report would contain recommendations for establishing a fast-track mechanism to expedite such cases which could be used as a guide, as well as a monitoring tool.

The AGD also raised concerns over the escalating backlog of narcotics cases within its criminal division. In the interest of expediting case flow in relation to narcotics cases, the Project will be supporting the Department to secure the services of six (6) fiat counsel who will be specifically tasked with reviewing and clearing the backlog of 1191 narcotics cases within a period of one year. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Justice and the AG’s Department is currently being finalised after which the fiat counsel are expected to commence work in May 2015.

Area Model Case-Flow Management (CFM) Committee (Batticaloa)

The case flow management committee is a district level representation of the CFM Sub-committee under the National Steering Committee on Justice. It would consist of key actors in the criminal justice system at district level such as police, as well as state prosecution (AGD). In bringing together these various key players that work on the penal chain regularly, it is expected that they would be able to coordinate better and quickly identify and address ‘bottle-necks’ in cases which prevent them from progressing through the courts and criminal justice system.

The Project continued to liaise with the senior officials from the Police, State Prosecution (AGD), the Prison and the Legal Aid Commission in Batticaloa while awaiting a response from the Judicial Services Commission (JSC) to its request to nominate the Magistrate as the Chair of the CFM Committees within the area models. Following submission of several official requests through the Ministry of Justice (in the

months of September, November, December 2014 and January 2015), the request was officially rejected in January with no proper justification.

The Project and Ministry officials feel that any efforts to strengthen CFM effectively must involve the Courts and the JSC. Given its pivotal role within the Penal Chain, and also the recent changes in leadership at these key state institutions, the Ministry is re-initiating communication with the JSC on the proposed plan to strengthen CFM and in order to secure the approval to move forward with the activity. However, should this request be denied once again, the Ministry would establish the Committees with the support of the Police, State Counsel, the Judicial Medical Officer and the Prisons.

National Case Flow Management Committee

Following up on decisions taken at the previous sitting of the National CFM Committee, a series of discussions were held between the Ministry and Committee members during the reporting period on the proposed institutional capacity assessment within the penal chain institutions which would support the relevant institutions at national level such as AGD and Govt. Analyst's Dept. to identify causes of delay within each institution. The Ministry assumed responsibility, and is currently in the process of developing the relevant research tools for the assessment, and identifying research organization to conduct the study. It is expected that the study will be conducted in May 2015.

Baseline Assessment on the Challenges in the Penal Chain

Despite selection of and training given to legal researchers to conduct the assessment, the Project experienced significant challenges in moving forward in light of the political developments/changes post-January 2015. The main challenge being considerable delays in liaising with the relevant authorities following the multiple changes in the heads of institutions post-January and the lack of cooperation from the Judicial Services Commission to conduct the proposed study at the High Courts of Anuradhapura.

However, following detailed requests through the Ministry including details on objectives and merits of the study and proposed research tools, the JSC suggested that there would be no objection for the study to be conducted through the Sri Lanka Judges Institute (SLJI), who would also be able to access the district High Courts. Therefore, a meeting will be held with the SLJI in early April and the proposal for the study will be submitted for review.

Electronic Case-Tracking

A specific sub-committee on 'Electronic Case-Tracking' functioning under the aegis of the National Steering Committee was established and the initial sitting of the Sub Committee was held in conjunction with the Committee on Case Flow Management last quarter. One to one meetings were held with the Police, State Prosecution, Prisons and the Legal Aid Commission in order to map out their specific concerns, and the Ministry began the process for identifying an external consultant to develop the database. However, during an internal UNDP project review meeting during the first quarter of 2015 for planned activities for 2015, a decision was made to temporarily halt this activity due to alternative priority activities within the Ministry and the Attorney General's Department in the aftermath of the January 2015 Presidential elections such as passage of Laws and key amendments to the Constitution. For the Electronic Case Tracking database to be developed and fully functioning, extensive discussion and agreement would be required by key actors, and acceptance on use of the database is essential. Therefore, with the current shifts in leadership within these institutions and other priority activities taking precedence, it was agreed to review this activity once again following the upcoming General Elections in mid-2015.

Activity Result 2: Increased coordinated legal aid service delivery for vulnerable and marginalized populations, including through the establishment of referral mechanisms at sub-national level

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

Agreement was reached amongst key actors on the conceptualization of legal aid within a human rights framework. The project was able to influence the Legal Aid Commission as the major player in the organization of legal aid services in the country, to prioritize the development of a Legal Aid Policy, for more effective and equitable access to legal assistance. The policy will be finalized under the guidance of an Advisory Committee consisting of senior government, academic and non-government experts in the second quarter. Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below:

Pro-bono Legal Aid

Following the Junior National Law Conference held at the end of 2014 in which more than 300 junior lawyers participated and the topic of provision of pro-bono legal aid was discussed extensively, junior lawyers were encouraged to engage in pro-bono work. At the conclusion of the event, contacts details of junior lawyers willing to undertake legal aid cases was compiled and shared with the Legal Aid Commission. This is being followed-up by the Junior Bar Association and the Project is also providing further support to identify other lawyers island-wide willing to provide pro-bono legal aid.

Sensitization Programme for the Police on Victim & Witness Protection

The need for victim and witness protection laws was repeatedly flagged at various international and national fora and the enactment of the Assistance and Protection to Victims of Crimes and Witnesses Act was viewed as a key development within the field of criminal justice. One of the reasons for the case flow delays within the criminal justice system was the reluctance on the part of victims and witnesses to testify in the absence of a protection mechanism.

Cognizant of the significant role of the Police within the penal chain in relation to the protection of victims and witnesses, the Project supported the Legal Aid Commission to conduct a one-day sensitization programme for one hundred police officers in March 2015. The officers represented the Crimes, Criminal Investigation, and Women and Children's divisions of the Police. Given that the police are their first point of contact, and are tasked with a number of key responsibilities as per the newly enacted bill, the Project supported sessions on a) treatment of victims and witnesses b) psychological impact of crime on victims/witnesses and c) securing the support of victims/witnesses to conduct successful prosecutions. The session experts included Mr Palitha Fernando, former Attorney General, a consultant forensic psychiatrist and the deputy solicitor general. This was a first time introductory session, and was presented as part of a larger workshop for Police officers. The Project is in the process of identifying further opportunities to sensitize law-enforcement and key stakeholders on the penal chain on this topic. Further awareness activities are planned for the second and third quarters of 2015.

Legal Assistance to Prisoners

Discussions with the Legal Aid Commission continued in the reporting quarter with the Commission agreeing to extend their prison outreach beyond supporting bail applications as was done in the previous year 2014. The Commission undertook to carry out an assessment of the legal needs of the prisoners in the Anuradhapura district (area model) to scope out the type of support needed as well as to gauge the number of prisoners seeking legal aid support. Following extensive discussions it was decided that the support will be extended to the pre-trial detainees within the three area model districts of Anuradhapura, Batticaloa, and Ratnapura, and the Welikada prison in Colombo and/or the with detainees in the women detention centre Methsevena throughout 2015.

National Policy on Legal Aid

The Concept document and the Terms of Reference of the Stakeholder Committee were shared with the Chairman, Legal Aid Commission and communications continued with the Commission to secure its buy in on the initiative. Given that the Committee will be chaired by the Chairman of the LAC, the concept document and the Terms of Reference had to be cleared by the Commission. Upon finalizing the same, the Ministry of Justice intends to support the LAC to call for the first meeting of the Stakeholder Committee in May 2015. The Project experienced significant delays in organizing the inaugural meeting of the Committee in light of the developments post-election which saw a repositioning of competing priorities. However, the Project remains hopeful that the Committee will be convened no sooner the Court resumes its functions after the vacation during the Sinhala/Tamil new year celebrations in April.

Activity Result 3: Capacities of law enforcement and judicial institutions strengthened to efficiently handle SGBV cases and ensure equal access to legal and judicial protection for SGBV victims

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

The compilation of a resource notebook with essential information on the international framework and national laws and policies regarding GBV, as well as agreements reached with the Ministry of Women's Affairs on developing a multi-sectoral Action Plan to combat GBV, are significant contributions to strengthening capacity in this respect. The resource notebook will be disseminated widely amongst

frontline officials working on GBV.

Furthermore, during the first quarter of 2015, the Ministry, with support of the Project, initiated a coordinated effort for the development of the National Framework and National Action Plan on GBV. These documents, to be developed through a detailed consultative process across key relevant sectors, will form the main reference point for guidance on response to GBV in the country. The concept note for the process has been finalized and the technical committees to develop sectoral plans to form the overall GBV Action Plan will be established and begin work in the second quarter. Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below:

National Framework and National Action Plan (NAP) on GBV:

Two reputed national Consultants with international experience, Dr. Lakshman Senanayake and Ms. Sriyani Perera, were recruited by the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MWA) (initially for a 6 month period) to commence work on the national policy framework and National Action Plan (NAP) on GBV. The NAP will be developed through a consultative process where representatives from relevant government ministries, UN agencies and leading civil society organizations will be invited to form thematic technical groups, each of which will be responsible for developing sector specific action plans for response to gender based violence.

The Consultants have developed the concept note and have finalized the thematic sectors which will include (1) Prevention and Response to GBV through Education; (2) Health Response to GBV; (3) Economic advancement and prevention /response to GBV; (4) Protection and Law enforcement; (5) Justice and Law Reform; (5)Media and GBV; and (6) Disaster management and prevention/response to GBV. Wherever action plans or guide already exist (e.g. the Health Sector), these will be absorbed into the overall NAP. The Ministry is now in the process of requesting relevant lead Ministries to appoint technical leads for each thematic group as well as representatives to attend the Steering Committee which will be formed to guide the process. Representatives from relevant government ministries, UN agencies that are engaged in the above sectors as well as leading civil society organizations (NGOs/ INGOs) will be invited to be part of the thematic groups. An attempt will be made to keep each technical team to about 8 representatives who will be formulating the sector specific policy and plan.

In the next quarter thematic groups will be established and a wider consultation of the NAP process will commence led by all sector leads. The drafting of sector specific plans on GBV will also commence simultaneously, with the first draft of the plan expected during the fourth quarter of the year.

The National Framework and National Action Plan on GBV is considered a priority by both the Ministry of Women's Affairs, as well as the current Government as indicated in the Presidents' 100 Day Work Programme (2015) "*New laws will be put in place to prevent abuse of women, abuse of children and sexual harassment of women; and measures taken to ensure that women and children can live without fear in Sri Lanka with responsibility undertaken to enforce the laws effectively*". Therefore, the Project has allocated 30,000 USD of existing resources previously allocated to other activities to facilitate this endeavour. Details are provided below –

- From the allocated 30,000 USD for addressing bottle-necks in particular rape cases existing at the Attorney General (AG)'s Department, 13,000 USD is allocated to the development of the GBV-NAP. The main reason for this is that the NAP is seen as addressing these same problems within a more holistic framework. Furthermore, these similar bottle-necks are also being addressed through the Access to Justice component of this project through the AG's department.
- Of the 22,500 USD allocated for support to collection of gender disaggregated data related to GBV, 7,000 USD is allocated to the formulation of the GBV-NAP. It was determined that the Ministry is already working with agencies such as UNFPA and the Government Census department to collect gender disaggregated data on various topics. Therefore the Project will only support the Ministry to organize and enter data into their *e-women* database, as mentioned in further detail below.
- Of the 20,000 USD allocated for the mapping and development of curriculum and training modules on SGBV for law enforcement officers, 10,000 USD is allocated to the formulation and organizing of technical committees for the GBV-NAP. A training manual developed by the Sri Lanka Police in collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office on Responding to SGBV was handed over to Inspector General of Police in April 2015. As mentioned in further detail below, the project will now utilize this manual to develop and roll-out trainings for law-enforcement officers in the districts.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Referral System

In order to facilitate the process of strengthening the referral system to respond to and prevent SGBV, the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MWA) mapped out the referral system for women and children. Building on the process started in 2014, the Ministry plans to hold district level multi-sectoral referral meetings/symposiums in the other 2 area models, Anuradhapura and Ratnapura districts in the next quarter. The referral symposium will bring together participants from the Police Women & Child Desks, MWA's Women and Child Development Units, GBV Hospital Desks, Mediation Boards, Judicial Medical Officer, Civil society groups, police training school officials, shelter staff, and district committee representatives among others. The referral model developed by the Ministry and UNDP will be shared at this meeting for feedback and adaptation to the local context. An initial mapping of divisional level referral will also be undertaken at the symposiums. Follow-up to issues raised at the Batticaloa referral meeting are also being addressed in this quarter as well as in the next quarter. Next steps for this year would see the initiation of divisional level referral meetings at the Ministry's Child and Women Development Units in the divisions or at Women and Children's Desks in the police divisions in all 3 area models.

Advocating for implementation, review, amendment and introduction of legislation/ policies to combat violence against women

The National Committee on Women (NCW) takes the lead in the Ministry to advocate for the implementation, review and amendment of laws and policies that affect women, and policies that combat violence against women. The participation of the Chairperson, NCW at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 59/Beijing +20 in New York was essential for further interventions with the MWA. Hence to facilitate participation at this very important fora where gender equality, human rights policies and post-2015 sustainable development goals would be discussed, partial support towards the participation of Mrs. Swarna Sumanasekara – Chairperson NCW was provided on the request of the Ministry. Shortly after the conference, Ministry-wide briefing sessions on the outcomes following CSW 59/ Beijing +20 were held with concrete action plans developed as a follow-up. Two such meeting were held and Chaired by the Secretary-MWA in order to identify further where the MWA is able to affect change to enhance equality of women and combat VAW as a human rights violation along the 12 critical areas.

As advocacy on laws and policies protecting women, support was also extended to organizing of legal clinics held in Anuradhapura on 7th April in commemoration of International Women's Day. While hundreds of men and women participated in the event and sought basic information, more than 10 women sought legal advice related to GBV at these sessions and were referred to the Legal Aid Commission for follow-up and action. This strengthened the MWA role in advocating for legal redress in situations of VAW.

Raising Awareness to combat violence against women - Develop (Audio visual / print) & disseminate materials related to combat violence against women

A resource note book containing information on laws, policies, CEDAW guidelines, local helpline numbers which was designed and printed as a joint initiative of the Forum against GBV, is currently being distributed at to all officers of the Ministry's Women and Child Development Units and the Police-Women and Child Desks at divisional level.

A brochure with the contact numbers of the Police, W&C desks and hospital desks which was printed in Sinhala, was translated into Tamil and will be printed in Tamil shortly. This initiative supports materials related to combatting VAW and will support initiatives to strengthen the SGBV-referral system.

A TV production on the need for positive action within the family to overcome GBV and other related issues was developed by the National Committee on Women and produced by the Rupavahini Corporation under UNDP-SELAJSI support. Rupavahini Corporation broadcast this docu-drama on national television on 8th March 2015 as part of the Ministry's awareness raising on International Women's Day. Following the broadcast, the Women's Development Officer (WDO) of Colombo district who was featured in the docu-drama received numerous inquiries on SGBV, reporting that they had received information through the broadcast. Inquiries received were referred to various WDOs in the relevant districts for follow-up and action. This docu-drama will be made available on DVD to be used for advocacy programmes against violence against women at divisional level which will take place through the Ministry's Women and Child Development Units.

Support collection of gender disaggregated data on crime and identify measures to address priority issues on violence against women

Printing support was provided to a publication on gender disaggregated data titled “Sri Lanka Women in Progress” which consists of demographic data on women as well as data on the different aspects of violence against women. The initiative was undertaken by the Department of Census and Statistics on the request of the MWA. The first publication of this nature was undertaken about 5 years ago.

The MWA initiated a process to collect data on widows as well as Female Headed Households (FHH) in Sri Lanka, given their vulnerability to GBV as well as other situations. At present the MWA has 30,000 filled data forms on widows and FHH with the MWA data entry unit at division level to be entered to an *e-women* database. The *e-women* database is a web-based system introduced by the Ministry of Women’s Affairs in an effort to compile and access data related to women that were collected through various efforts in recent years. These include data collected for the SAARC Gender Information Base, data on conflict affected women and women entrepreneurs. At present, the database only contains information on conflict-affected widows and FHH.

Furthermore, as part of this initiative a pilot project on integrating GBV data into this system commenced in 2012/13, initiated by National Council of Women with technical support from the University of Colombo. Further to the formulation of the GBV data collection format, the University also developed the GBV database which is integrated to the *e-women* information system. Training on data collection with the new GBV-specific formats is on-going and will be supported by this Project through 2015-2016, along with pilot data-entry of GBV data into the *e-women* database in SELAJSI area models.

Following the pilot-testing phase the system will be reviewed to incorporate any defects/ overlap. Once this phase is complete the Ministry intends to incorporate all national GBV data into the *e-women* information system as a future goal. This fills the long felt need of having a centralized database containing GBV information. The database would enable greater discussion and debate on policy formulation and programming where gaps exist to address GBV in Sri Lanka.

CEDAW Reporting

The work undertaken by the Technical Team (consisting of 12 experts) and one lead technical expert with reference to the 8th Periodic State party CEDAW report is now complete and is at present undergoing the final review by the MWA and Ministry of External Affairs. The report was submitted by the Ministry of External Affairs to the CEDAW committee in April 2015.

Support the mapping and development, if required, of curriculum, training modules and training techniques on SGBV for all justice sector institutions and actors

The project hopes to roll-out the training manual on Response to SGBV developed by the Sri Lanka Police in collaboration with UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, Sri Lanka. The manual was officially handed over to the Inspector General of Police during the first week of April. This manual is already being rolled-out at the Police College in Kalutara for new recruits. The SELAJSI will focus on strengthening the capacity of in-service officers, particularly those attached to the police Women and Children’s desks in the 3 area models in 2015. Doing so will re-inforce the Project’s effort to strengthen the referral mechanism for response to SGBV.

Furthermore, follow-up has begun with the 6 police officers from Batticaloa who commenced following the course on counselling in mid-2014 conducted by the National Institute of Social Development (NISD) through its Batticaloa centre. Another 34 police officers are enrolled at the Anuradhapura and Colombo centres. The duration of the course is 21 months. The total number of police officers following the course is 40. The gender breakdown of officers as per the area models is as follows: In Batticaloa 5 female and 1 male officer, in Ratnapura 7 female officers, in Anuradhapura 7 female officers and 5 male officers, and from Colombo 12 female officers and 3 male officers.

Capacity Assessments

The MWA, with the financial and technical support of the Project conducted the capacity assessment (covering knowledge, skills, perception on gender equality etc.) in all three area models in October and November 2014. The assessment was undertaken by MWA with the support of the Technical Coordinator and identified the specific additional Divisional Secretariat level needs of the Women and Child

Development Units of the MWA in the 3 area models as well as the key SGBV issues in these Divisions. The capacity assessment report is in the process of being finalized and serves as a pre-test to assess the knowledge and perception of the field officers.

Over 60 field officers of the MWA from the Anuradhapura district underwent training on the newly developed training module (a four-day training on knowledge and skills related to gender and child rights) of the MWA and delivered by the Sri Lanka Foundation. This training initiative was financially supported by the Project, addressing a critically identified capacity development needs. The Ministry is currently awaiting the submission of the pre and post training completion assessment from this first batch which completed the training programme.

Activity Result 4:

Improved institutional capacities for efficiency and effectiveness of the justice sector at national level, including strategic planning and cross-sectoral management skills for the formulation and implementation of policies, laws and plans

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

The project aim of equal access to justice was taken further with the final review of the consolidation of the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure Act and of the translation of those two major pieces of legislation into Sinhala and Tamil. These will be printed and disseminated in the next quarter. Through the next phase of the programme to strengthen the capacity of the Legal Draftsman's Department to draft laws in a clearer and less archaic form, the project continued its work towards a legal system and in particular towards legislation which is more easily accessible to the ordinary person. Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below

Translation and Consolidation of Core Legislation (Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure)

The Project continued the consolidation of the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure Act in Sinhala and Tamil languages, in order to meet the critical need for consolidated legislation within the justice sector in all three languages. These two pieces of key legislation were identified as priority given the Project's focus on strengthening access to justice within the criminal justice sector. During the reporting period, the translated and consolidated legislation was reviewed and cross-checked in order to ensure consistency. Upon completion, all copies (hard/soft copies) were submitted to the Ministry of Justice. The Project is presently engaging in discussions with the Government Printer in order to secure the quotations for printing the same. Once printed, based on the requests received by the Ministry, the consolidated copies of the two legislation in local languages will be distributed among district and division based offices of the Police, State Prosecution, Judiciary, Legal Aid Commission, and Prisons. In order to ensure that the process is government-driven, the Ministry is securing the services of the Government Printer and has been offered special concessionary rates. A tentative quotation was sent by the Government Printer on 31st March 2015.

Legal Draftsman's Department

The project continued to support the Legal Draftsman's Department (LDD) to carry out specialised training on drafting legislation in the English Language for its junior and senior legal draftsmen. The Department completed the preliminary stage of three-month training with the British Council and is in the process of finalising the subsequent modules of the intermediary coursework.

Conference on Penal Sanctions

Following a series of technical and budgetary discussions between the Additional Solicitor General and the Secretary of Ministry of Justice during the months of January and February 2015, it was decided that the Conference would be held as a National Forum and not a South-Asian Regional Forum. The primary reason for the change being the significant cost associated with a SAARC regional conference. The overall structure of the conference will remain the same, and key international experts in the field of sentencing will be invited to support the Government in its endeavour to develop the national sentencing policy. The Forum will serve as a foundational platform at which the key sentencing guidelines that would be incorporated within the policy will be developed.

The Ministry is currently engaged in scheduling the dates for the conference and is awaiting confirmation of senior officials from key institutions within the justice sector.

3.2 Staffing, management and coordination arrangements

The four Technical Coordinators based at each of the Implementing Partner Ministries, continued to work on the Project, providing essential technical and coordination support. The Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) for the SELAJSI Programme also came on board in mid-December 2014 and has since been involved in undertaking consultations with the Implementing Partners and other key partner entities, in order to best support the Programme in 2015. While based at the office of the National Languages and Social Integration Division of the Ministry of Public Administration, the CTA spends time at all IP Ministries and is involved in key meetings. The UNDP-Programme Analyst assumed new responsibilities within the organization and a new Programme Analyst was recruited and has been working on the SELAJSI programme since February 2015. The Project Implementation Units within each Ministry continued to be in place and continue to support project activities during the reporting period.

The CTA, four Technical Coordinators and Programme Analyst meet on a monthly basis to share progress, exchange ideas and, where possible, coordinate activities. The first SELAJSI Programme Board meeting (PBM) for 2015 was held on March 31st. Given the appointment of new Cabinet Ministries, shifts in Ministry portfolios and changes in Ministry leadership following the January-2015 Presidential elections, this was the first SELAJSI-PBM for most project directors. Therefore, the meeting included and overview of the overall SELAJSI programme, in addition to the progress updates.

4. Any significant issues, problems or challenges (internal and external) encountered and action taken or required.

4.1 Key issues, problems and challenges

Summarise key issues, problems or challenges that the project has encountered in the reporting quarter, why these occurred, and what has been done, or needs to be done, to address such problems / issues. Highlight the key management actions that need to be taken to help ensure project benefits are maximized and sustained. Do you foresee any challenges in the next quarter?

Summarize any major evaluation or project steering committee/ tripartite meeting findings on the project (from the reporting quarter) – if available, annex relevant minutes. Complete below table in solution-oriented fashion, if applicable

The SELAJSI Programme Board Meeting was held on 31st March 2015. Given the appointment of new Cabinet Ministries, shifts in Ministry portfolios and changes in Ministry leadership following the January-2015 Presidential elections, this was the first SELAJSI-PBM for most project directors. Therefore, the meeting included and overview of the overall SELAJSI programme, in addition to the progress updates. Draft minutes of this meeting is provided as an annex to this report, which are pending meeting Co-Chair approval.

Issue, problem or challenge	Steps taken to resolve issue	Status of issue (i.e. resolved, unresolved)	Additional measures to be taken if unresolved
Challenge of conducting the baseline/casefile study on the challenges within the penal chain – Delay in securing the necessary approvals and the confidentiality of the information on the case status etc. -The need to conduct the assessment during the period of Court Vacation (i.e. December)	Letters of request were re-submitted elaborating on the proposed research tool, institutional profiles, and the objective. Guidance was sought from the JSC on how best to revisit the research tool/strategy.	<u>Unresolved (delayed)</u> Lack of approval for the subsequent letters of request communicated to the Ministry in the third week of March 2015	The Ministry of Justice held a preliminary discussion with the Judges Institute on the possibility of conducting the study with the Institute's support. Awaiting a response. If favorable, the study will be conducted utilizing the research tool that has
Changes to the Judiciary, Judicial Services Commission post the 8 th January 2015			

Issue, problem or challenge	Steps taken to resolve issue	Status of issue (i.e. resolved, unresolved)	Additional measures to be taken if unresolved
Presidential Elections.			already been designed for the purpose.
<p>Area-model Case Flow Management Committees Securing the necessary approval from the Judicial Services Commission to engage the Magistrates within the area models.</p> <p>Delays anticipated in securing approvals due to the current political context within which the attention of the relevant institutions have been veered towards other competing priorities.</p>	<p>Requests for approvals from the JSC were re-submitted well in advance cognizant of the delays associated with securing approvals.</p> <p>Discussions were held between the secretary/Justice and the newly appointed Chief Justice on the importance of the initiative</p>	<p>Delayed Awaiting response from the JSC to the letter of request re-submitted to the newly appointed Chief Justice</p> <p>It is unlikely that the Police will be able to appoint committee members who would remain throughout the year given the current political context. Especially in light of the forthcoming general elections</p>	Awaiting the JSC response, failing which, the Ministry of Justice intends to establish the committees with the support of the Police, State Prosecution, Judicial Medical Officer, and Prison.
<p>Delays anticipated in securing approvals due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that are expected to/that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election and ahead of the forthcoming General Electio.</p> <p>-Changes anticipated within the ministerial portfolios - possible revamping of priorities post General Elections</p>	<p>Identifying activities and interventions that can be implemented without requiring such approvals. (i.e. focus on land mediation, legal aid policy etc.)</p>		
<p>Establishment of the Research Unit Delays anticipated in securing approvals for cadre recruitment etc. from the Department of Management Services of the Ministry of Finance.</p> <p>Political, administrative and institutional changes to anticipated post the January 2015 Presidential Elections</p>			
<p>Support collection of gender disaggregated data on crime and identify measures to address priority issues on violence against women</p>	<p>MWA has been requested to hold a meeting on taking this forward with NCW & the data unit at MWA as well as with UNFPA and UNDP teams.</p>	<p>To be determined in the next quarter</p>	
<p>Need to initiate discussions to identify & address service delivery gaps within the Attorney General's Department and the judicial system on SGBV/ rape cases.</p>	<p>Preliminary meeting held with UN teams from UNICEF & UNDP and other experts that are able to shed light on the way forward.</p>	<p>To be determined</p>	

4.2 Continued relevance or proposed course-corrections

The relevance and quality of the project design needs to be reviewed on an ongoing basis, given likely changes in operating context, policies, partner needs, etc. Also – some (original) project documents may need to be revised because they turn out to be of inadequate quality (e.g. vague or overambitious objectives, outcomes, indicators, etc). This is a part of risk analysis and management.

If outcomes, outputs, activities or inputs need to be modified in light of any significant changes in the operating environment or through lessons learned during implementation, these should be noted in this section. Proposals for re-design should also be described, and if necessary a project revision document prepared and submitted.

Since the Presidential elections of January 2015, the previous Cabinet of more than 80 Ministries was reduced to 40 Cabinet Ministries and 8 State Ministries which has meant drastic changes to the Ministry portfolios of implementing partners whereby the Ministry of National Languages and Social Integration is now absorbed as a division of the Ministry of Public Administration, and the Ministry of Justice has expanded its purview to include, among others, Prison Reforms and Rehabilitation. The changes in portfolios have also meant significant changes in leadership at all state institutions. Therefore, for the Project, much of the first quarter of 2015 was spent re-introducing and re-orienting Ministry officials on project outputs and work plans.

The President has also announced early parliamentary elections to be held sometime in mid-2015, which could lead to further changes in the Cabinet. Despite political uncertainty until the outcome of Parliamentary elections, President Sirisena’s Manifesto and 100 Day Work Programme potentially creates opportunities for engaging on macro-level policy, institutional and systems changes. There also appears to be signs of emerging political will to address longer-term governance, human rights, rule of law and reconciliation issues, including decreasing power of the executive.

The SELAJSI programme as a whole is being reviewed in light of the current context and emerging priorities and needs of the new Government, and may have minor modifications in programme approach. However, within the existing SELAJSI programme, a number of activities, such as the development of a National Action Plan on Gender Based Violence, align closely with the new Government’s interests. Emerging interests, such the implementation of the recently passed Victims and Witness Protection Act, also align well to the existing SELAJSI framework, and the Programme in in the process of identifying ways to support relevant initiatives. Any proposal for programme re-design or revision may be submitted in the next quarter.

5. Work plan for next quarter

- (1) What parts of the program do you expect to implement in the next quarter?

Outcome/Output <i>Result Area (US term)</i>	Relevant Outcome/ Output Indicator(s)	Perceived Challenges for Next Quarter?
Activity Result 1: Reduced criminal justice delays through improved case management and pretrial procedural mechanisms between penal chain actors in 1 “area model”(1.1)		Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election. Multiple changes within the political administrative and structural context anticipated following the forthcoming General Election.
Obtain clarity regarding the reasons for JSC disapproval to proceed with select activities		

and explore alternate strategies for securing approval/moving forward with the activities.		
Baseline assessment work to be taken forward within a pilot area with the support of the Judges Institute		
MoU to be signed between the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General's Department to expedite narcotics cases within the Department		
Workshop on the identification of priority cases held and the criteria for priority cases identified		
Activity Result 2: Increased coordinated legal aid service delivery for vulnerable and marginalized populations, including through the establishment of referral mechanisms at sub-national level (2.2)		Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election. Further delay, lack of clarity anticipated both ahead and post General Election 2015.
Committee to develop the National Policy on Legal Aid operational		
Provision of legal aid for prisoners- Extension of support beyond filing bail applications		
Support the establishment and operation of Special Land Mediation Boards in selected districts		
Activity Result 3: Strengthen the capacity of MWA to lead the development of a National Framework and National Action Plan on eliminating SGBV: Secretaries meeting to get all sectors on board the process of formulating the NAP on GBV. Technical leads & technical teams setup and a wider consultation of the NAP process will commence led by all sector leads. The drafting of sector specific plans on GBV will also commence in the next two quarters.		The changes in the political climate in Sri Lanka may cause delays, especially if Ministries are changed after the next election.
Advocate for Review of Policies / laws on SGBV – -Briefing meetings on Beijing +20/ CSW59 and the post 2015 SDGs (within MWA) -Follow-up activities of the implementation of the anti-Sexual Harassment Policy at the workplace. To be undertaken within the Ministry by setting-up a committee to address complaints, as well as setting up such committees in the other ministries. - Discussions on the implementation of the NAP on Women - Initiate discussions on the adoption of Shelter guidelines, given that the MWA is setting up several shelters for victim survivors of GBV - Amendments to Vagrants Ordinance (support joint initiatives of the Forum against GBV)		
Strengthening the referral system of SGBV:		

<p>Remaining two multi-sectoral symposiums to be conducted in Anuradhapura and Ratnapura districts on strengthening of the referral system at divisional level between the Child and Women Development Units and the Police Women and Children's Desks, other service providers (legal aid, counselling). Will also commence (where possible) divisional level meetings in Batticaloa district as a follow-up to the district level meeting held in 2014.</p>		
<p>Develop (Audio visual / print) & disseminate materials related to combat violence against women (on implementation of laws, review/ amendment of legislation and new laws - -Dissemination of the DVDs copied, resource notebook and brochure useful to strengthen the referral system. - develop, design & print brochure in Tamil to strengthen referral system. - Continue discussions to initiate possible audio-visual /print materials on SGBV and related issues.</p>		
<p>Support collection of gender disaggregated data on crime and identify measures to address priority issues on violence against women - Continue support towards (5 months) the data entry function of the 30,000 forms received on female headed households (FHH)/ widows, being a group vulnerable to VAW. The estimated number of forms which are yet to be received from the divisions amount to over 700,000 forms island-wide, which too will also have to be entered into the e-women database. - Discussions to be initiated to take forward the GBV data collection component of the e-women database</p>		<p>Delays may be experienced in finalizing the GBV datasheet due to coordination issues within the Ministry.</p>
<p>Capacities of law enforcement and judicial institutions strengthened to efficiently handle SGBV cases and ensure equal access to legal and judicial protection for SGBV victims (3.3) - Discussion to be held between the MWA and the IGP and director of training, Director Women and Children's police desks to take initiative forward. - Roll-out of SGBV manual developed by UN RC's office for in-service law enforcement officers attached to the police women and children desks (pilot in one area model / head office at Pagoda)</p>		<p>Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that are expected to/that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election.</p>
<p>Identify & address service delivery gaps within the Attorney General's Department and the judicial system on SGBV/ rape cases. Attempting to initiate discussion to take this forward</p>		<p>Best entry points to be determined as this involves different institutions and processes.</p>
<p>Activity Result 4: Improved institutional capacities for efficiency and effectiveness of the justice</p>		<p>Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political,</p>

<p>sector at national level, including strategic planning and cross-sectoral management skills for the formulation and implementation of policies, laws and plans (4.2)</p>		<p>institutional and administrative changes that are have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election.</p> <p>Multiple changes within the political administrative and structural context anticipated following the forthcoming General Election.</p>
<p>Obtain clarity regarding the reasons for JSC disapproval to proceed with select activities and explore alternate strategies for securing approval/moving forward with the activities.</p>		
<p>Continue to conduct the training programme on drafting in the English language for the LDD.</p>		
<p>Undertake required preparatory work and conduct the pre-conference round table on penal sanctions</p>		
<p>Conduct preliminary discussions on the establishment of the Research Unit at the Ministry of Justice</p>		
<p>Continuation of the thematic sub-committees</p>		
<p>Printing of the consolidated penal code and criminal procedure code</p>		
<p>Conduct preliminary discussions on the implementation of the newly enacted victim and witness protection legislation</p>		