



BOTSWANA UN JOINT PROGRAMMES ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND GEDER-BASED VIOLENCE

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT -2016



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1. INTRODUCTION

This serves as the final annual progress report (2016) for the Botswana UN Joint Programmes on Gender Based Violence and Gender Mainstreaming, implemented from 2015 to 2016. The Joint Gender Programme (JGP) in 2016 engaged nine implementing partners (IPs). The implementing partners per programme area were as follows:

Gender Based Violence (GBV)		Gender Mainstreaming	
a)	Gender Affairs Department (GeAD)	a)	Gender Affairs Department (GeAD)
b)	Gender Links (GL)	b)	Gender Links (GL)
c)	Kagisano Society Women's Shelter (KSWS)	c)	Botswana Council of Churches (BCC)
d)	Men & Boys for Gender Equality (MBGE)	d)	Men & Boys for Gender Equality (MBGE)
e)	Stepping Stones International (SSI)		
f)	Legal Aid Botswana		
g)	Gender Perspectives		
h)	THC Foundation		
i)	Ministry of Health and Wellness		

The 2016 JGP work plans were developed through a prioritization exercise that linked the selection of key actions with the available financial and technical resources. The JGP Technical Working Group (TWG) prioritized activities in line with key outputs for the two programmes. By end of 2016, an evaluation of the 2-year JGP was conducted to highlight the programme progress, challenges, lessons and recommendations that will guide the next steps in implementing a JGP in Botswana.

2. JGP ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS & STRUCTURES

The 2016 implementation of the JGP continued with the use of the Parallel funding modality by Agencies that have made a financial contribution to the two work plans (UNFPA, UNDP, & UNICEF). Where Agencies shared implementing partners there was joint monitoring and engagement with IPs. UNFPA continued to serve as the Managing Agent for the JGP, further provided technical support to all implementing partners supported by the JGP, consolidated the annual narrative and financial report, and facilitated the evaluation of the 2-year Programme.

The JGP implementation by IPs was monitored through two of the UNDAF Results Groups; Children Youth and Women Empowerment (CYWE) and the Governance & Human Rights Promotions (GHRP). Coordination of the JGP at UN level was through the JGP Technical Working Group (JGP TWG) that convened on a quarterly basis and as required for technical engagements.

3. 2016 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Joint Gender Programmes have strengthened and harmonized UN support to gender interventions in Botswana. The joint work plans provided an opportunity for coordinated support to Government and CSO partners. They facilitated joint identification of priorities for UN support, working together with Gender Affairs Department representing Government and all implementing partners. Key results under each programme area are reflected below.

A. Gender Mainstreaming

Outputs:

The Joint Programme on Gender Mainstreaming contributed to the following outputs:

UN JP Output 1.3. Advocacy conducted to ensure gender is a priority on the national development agenda

UN JP Output 3.2. Access for men and boys to quality services for SRH, HIV&AIDS and TB scaled up

UN JP Output 5.1. Government policies, planning and programming are gender mainstreamed

UN JP Output 5.2. Gender transformation strategies in tribal administrations adopted

Key results under this Programme were as follows:

- a. Advocacy and Policy Engagement:** Different initiatives were conducted in 2016 to strengthen advocacy for gender equality and women empowerment.
- The Government was supported in successfully disseminating the 2015 National Policy on Gender & Development to key national stakeholders and in launching the National Gender Commission which is a key structure in the implementation of the Policy. To support the implementation of this Policy, the Government was in addition supported to develop the National Gender Strategy, the National Operational Plan for the Policy and the Advocacy and Social Mobilisation Strategy.
 - Gender and GBV issues were mainstreamed in both the NDP 11 and Vision 2036 through the UN support. The UN fully participated in the drafting of the NDP11 and convening gender stakeholders for input in the Vision 2036.
 - The Government of Botswana was supported to successfully host the SADC Ministers of Gender meeting in June 2016 where the 2008 SADC Protocol on Gender and Development was revised. The UN agencies fully participated in the meeting as observers (UNFPA, UNDP & UN Women). The Revised SADC Gender & Development Protocol was adopted by the SADC Ministers in Sept 2016 and Botswana is yet to sign the revised Protocol.

- The national gender sector was mobilized to discuss the draft SADC Protocol on Gender & Development as an advocacy action to consolidate Botswana position for the SADC Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Gender Affairs and Women's Affairs, and to facilitate signature of the Protocol by the Government of Botswana. In addition, 53 Stakeholders were updated on the provisions of the revised Gender Protocol after its adoption by SADC Ministers.
 - A national Gender Summit, officiated by the Minister of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs, was held to promote gender mainstreaming efforts by stakeholders and councils in the country. Over 150 participants attended the summit and 60 presentations in six categories were made by stakeholders to profile initiatives geared towards promoting gender equality and addressing GBV. The summit also launched three publications by Gender Links (*2016 "I" Stories, 2016 Regional SADC Gender Protocol Barometer and the 2015 Gender and Media Progress Study*).
 - 20 religious leaders endorsed key actions for the church to address policy and structural issues that obstruct gender transformation. This followed a heads of Churches forum that included leaders of different denominations and Christian institutions.
 - The Gender Committees in the 15 local councils were strengthened to implement gender actions in their councils through capacity building sessions and technical support in developing gender action plans.
 - Gender was mainstreamed in the new UNDAF (UN Sustainable Development Framework 2017-2021 - UNSDF) through a gender review of the country analysis and of the draft UNSDF. A Gender Scorecard Plus was used to conduct the gender reviews and to facilitate Agency-level gender assessments that were conducted to support agencies to improve focus of their work on gender equality and women's empowerment.
- b. Knowledge and Evidence:** Key knowledge and evidence materials were produced in 2016 to contribute to evidence-based gender policy and programme work in Botswana:
- Gender Links was supported to publicize the 2016 Regional SADC Gender Barometer that documented the overall regional and country level efforts in implementation of the 2008 SADC Gender Protocol. The organization was also supported to disseminate the 2015 Gender and Media Progress Study Report which documented Botswana media efforts in coverage of gender, gender based violence, and HIV and AIDS related issues in the media.
 - To improve access to gender information for purposes of informing policy and programme design, the Gender Affairs Department worked with UNFPA to create an online database of key gender documents under the Botswana

Government website, within the Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs page. The database will continue to be uploaded with documents on an ongoing basis.

- c. **Men and boys were mobilized as partners** in prevention of GBV and in promoting gender equality and positive sexual and reproductive health outcomes. Engagement with men and boys achieved through radio and television; 48 different topics on GBV, sexual reproductive health, masculinity, intergenerational sex, absent fathers were covered. Radio jingles were aired for continued education. An average of eight calls and



Radio discussion with men & boys - MBGE

20-25 phone messages were received per radio show on a weekly basis. The highlights of the radio dialogues were shared during the weekly BTV breakfast show. Social media was used to reach out to men and boys, with about 6,000 followers on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Following the media engagement with men & boys, MBGE provided counseling services to men who followed up after radio discussions.

- In efforts to strengthen men's access to sexual and reproductive health, a research was undertaken in Kgatlang to establish the barriers to accessing health services by men and boys. The finding will support Ministry of Health and Wellness in improving access to services by men.

- d. **Capacity building** on Gender Mainstreaming: A gender mainstreaming workshop for media personnel was conducted as part of the Gender Links national gender summit to stimulate media coverage of gender issues by media and promote gender-sensitive reporting.

B. GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Outputs:

The Joint Programme on Gender Mainstreaming contributed to the followed outputs:

UN JP Output 1.3. Enhanced participation in advocacy efforts to achieve the National Action Plan to end GBV's four goals

UN JP Output 1.4. Capacity on protocol and service standards for supporting survivors of GBV built

UN JP Output 1.5. National interest in GBV research established

UN JP Output 3.2. GBV community referral structures and systems established

UN JP Output 5.1. Community based initiatives implemented for GBV prevention

UN JP Output 5.2. Access to safe spaces for survivors of GBV expanded

UN JP Output 5.4. Community based male involvement programmes scaled up

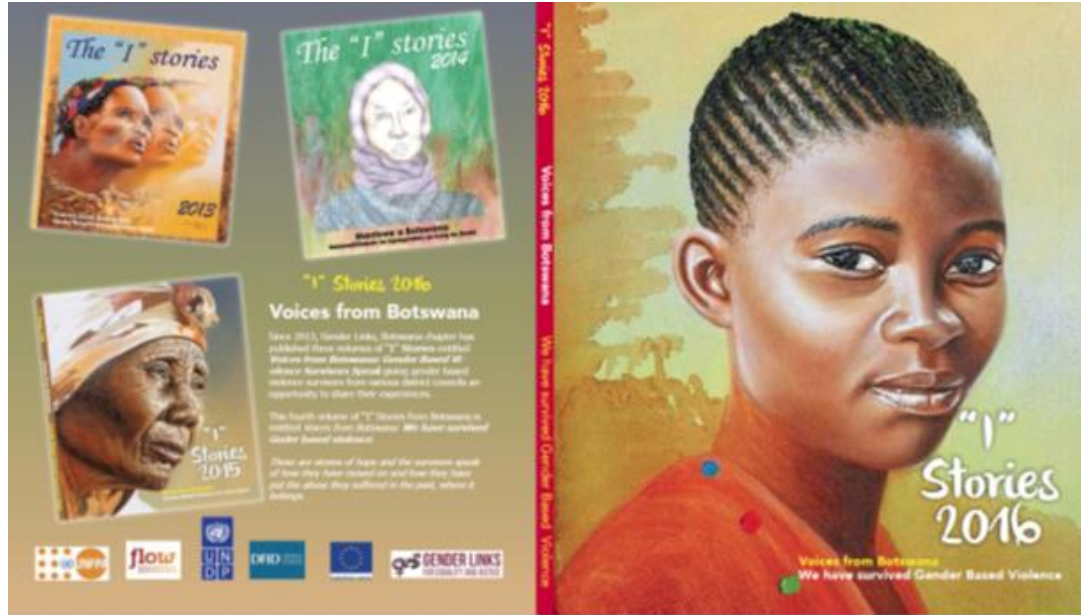
Key results under this Programme were as follows:

a. Policy and advocacy level engagement: For advocacy on GBV and policy and law reform for effective response to GBV, key results were noted as follows:

- To strengthen advocacy on GBV at local level, the Joint Programme built the capacity of 53 (31 females & 22 males) councilors from across the country as GBV champions through a GBV training. The champions comprise of council chairpersons and chairs of various council committees. The champions drew action plans for their councils to conduct community activities on GBV prevention. The champions implemented some of their planned actions during the 16 Days Campaign in their different council localities.
- To contribute to the domestication of CEDAW, a consultant was recruited to start drafting of relevant legislation to align the Botswana law to the provisions of the CEDAW for effective response and prevention of violence against women and girls. The CEDAW domestication process will continue in 2017.

b. Generation of Knowledge and Evidence: Knowledge products on GBV were generated to provide evidence and raise awareness on GBV:

- To support effective implementation by stakeholders of the National GBV Research Agenda developed in 2015, key ethical issues and methodologies for researching GBV were documented. In addition researchers and GBV stakeholders were trained on researching GBV.
- The “I” Stories from 131 women survivors of GBV in 10 districts were documented and published to put a human face to GBV in Botswana, show survivorship after abuse and to promote speaking out against GBV. These women were provided with life skills training on starting their own businesses and generating income.

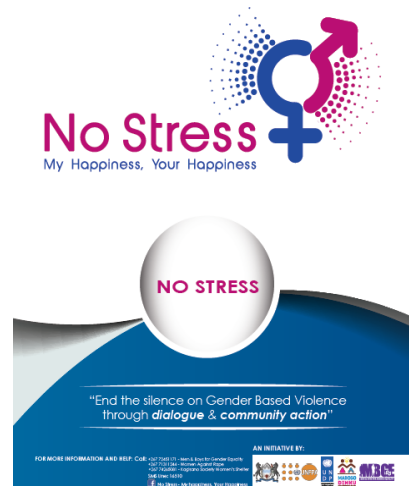


“I” Stories 2016 publication – Gender Links

- Technical support was provided to the Gender Affairs Department for preparation of the national GBV Prevalence Study scheduled for 2017. The sample size (10253: 5542 females & 4711 males), study tools and proposal for the study were finalized and the permit to conduct the study was granted by the Human Research Development Council in the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

c. **Community based Initiatives:** The focus of the GBV community based initiatives was on public education and creating community dialogue platforms to address GBV, continuing from the first year of programme implementation. Communities were mobilized to promote zero tolerance for GBV through the different campaign strategies as follows:

- A national campaign on GBV, titled: “**No Stress**” with a tagline “**My Happiness, Your Happiness**” was developed under the UN Joint Programme on GBV. The campaign is aimed at addressing the silence surrounding GBV issues in the country through promotion of community dialogue and action on GBV beyond the 16 Days Campaign. It has targeted messages for men & boys, women & girls, youth, and the general community. Radio jingles and television adverts were produced and aired to promote the campaign. A Facebook page, managed by MBGE has been opened to continue dialogue on GBV through social media. The campaign is



promoted for implementation by all stakeholders including government, CSOs, faith based and community based organisations.

- Commemoration of the International Women’s and Men’s Days and the 16 Days of Activism on Violence against Women campaign raised awareness on GBV and gender equality around the country. The national commemorations showcased partnerships between government, local authorities, the UN, NGOs, FBOs and other stakeholders and promoted greater engagement of young people on issues of GBV. At the end of the 16 Days campaign, the Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs together with the Gender Commission committed to support continued action to address GBV beyond the 16 Days Campaign through launching the **No-Stress** national GBV campaign. This was done during a media & stakeholder brief session held to reflect on achievements, challenges and map strategies for addressing GBV in Botswana. In addition, there were combined advocacy efforts by the UN during the 16 Days Campaign; including joint activities targeted at mobilizing UN staff on GBV issues.

- To promote gender transformation among youth, 20 schools (11 secondary schools, 8 primary schools and one college) were reached in the Kgatleng District and facilitated development of a school *10-Point Agenda* for creating gender sensitive and safer schools. Each school, working with the students and teachers, identified 10 key issues to do to make their schools



a safer space for girls and boys. As part of this initiative, 405 peer educators were identified as school champions and trained on Gender, types and effects of GBV, GBV services and mechanisms for reporting abuse, and on GBV prevention activities (e.g. Red Card campaign). The 20 10-Point Agendas (one-per school) have also been used to advocate for local council support for GBV prevention and response in schools.

- Botswana Council of Churches hosted a campaign against violence linked to the *Thursday in Black* initiative adopted from the World Council of Churches. The campaign mobilized 100 of the church community to advocate for zero tolerance towards rape against women and girls and other sexual abuse. The *Thursday in Black* initiative exhibits a simple gesture to wear black in solidarity with those bearing invisible scars of violence. The initiative is an outcome of the 2015 Tamar

Campaign that symbolizes the burial of violence and rape. In addition, a national prayer against GBV was held, bringing together over 200 people from across the different denominations.

- A community based GBV prevention and mitigation project was implemented in the Tswapong North (Lerala & Maunatlala) from 2015 to 2016, resulting in the development of a Field Manual for the Prevention and Mitigation of GBV. The field manual provides guidance to GBV facilitators and champions at community level as they raise awareness on GBV among their communities. The field manual will be shared with other stakeholders doing community GBV prevention initiatives.



Community meeting (Kgotla) to discuss GBV response in Maunatlala village – Gender Perspectives

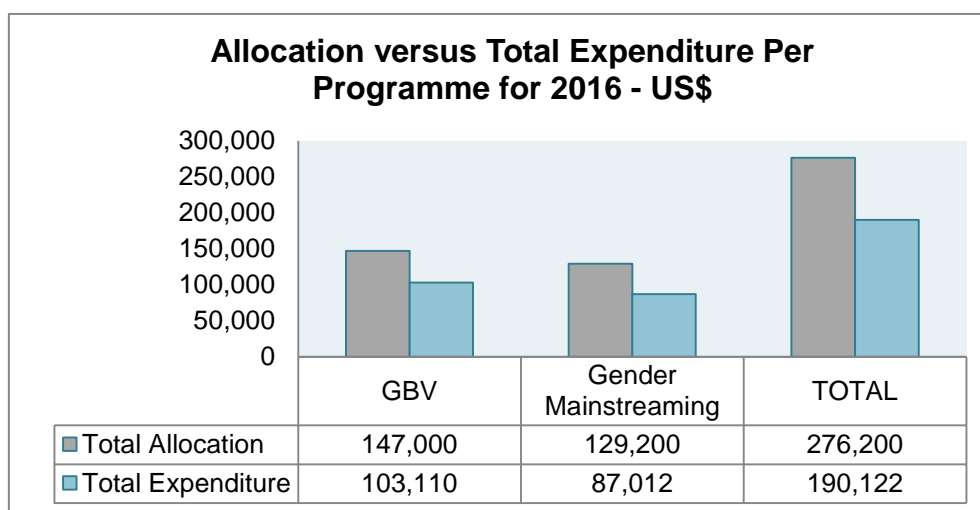
- Legal education for the general public was strengthened through a weekly radio program (*The Law Explained*) on RB2 run by the Legal Aid Botswana. The programmes focused on what the law provides for in relation to GBV and other domestic issues.
- d. Capacity building:** The Joint Programme on GBV coordinated a number of capacity building initiatives on GBV, mainly targeted towards CSO partners:
- Media personnel from 7 media agencies, including gender partners from 3 NGOs who frequent the media on GBV issues, were trained by UNFPA on GBV and gender-sensitive reporting of GBV cases as a way to address societal norms that perpetuate inequalities and GBV. Media monitoring conducted by Gender Links reflected an increase in media coverage of gender related issues such as GBV, with other media programmes specifically designed to address GBV.

- Following the development of the GBV Research Agenda in 2015, CSOs were in 2016 trained on recommended methodologies & approaches for researching on GBV to promote research on GBV and support effective implementation of the GBV research agenda. The training focused mainly on ethical requirements for GBV research.
 - UNFPA conducted an assessment and documented what works in prevention of GBV to support development and implementation of effective prevention initiatives in the country. As a follow-up of this, CSOs were capacitated on recommended GBV prevention approaches and interventions.
 - The GBV referral system went live in August 2016 in the villages of Maun/Shorobe and Mochudi/Artesia after a long process of establishing its operational framework. The referral process is aided by a mobile phone, service directories and standard operating procedures (SOPs) developed for key service providers. In addition, an Operations Research Study was conducted in the 4 pilot implementation sites (the intervention areas) and the non-intervention sites (Gumare, Tsau, Kanye and Ranaka). In addition, to support effective response to GBV by the Customary Courts and the NGOs as service providers, step-by-step flow charts were developed for these two sectors to improve quality of care for GBV victims; this is in addition to the SOPs developed for Botswana Police Service, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and Ministry of Education in 2015.
 - A total of 225 health care workers and facility-based social workers were trained in five (5) districts on the clinical management of GBV, with support by WHO and other partners.
 - The MoHw has committed to adapting the WHO Handbook for health workers on Responding to Intimate Partner Violence after their participation together with Attorney General Chambers in a workshop organized by WHO on harmonization of laws, pregnancy prevention and management of sexual assault survivors in Zambia.
- e. Access to safe spaces for survivors of GBV:** Access to GBV services and information was expanded through a GBV SMS-line (16510) run by Kagisano Society Women’s Shelter that aims to provide GBV education, counselling and referral services for GBV victims and the general public.

4. 2016 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS AND PROGRESS

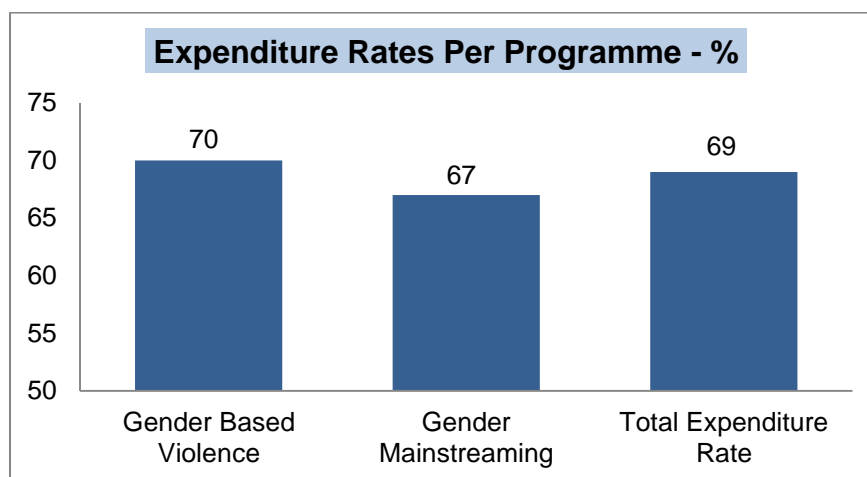
The total funds allocated to the JGP in 2016 were **US\$276, 200**; with US\$147, 000 for the Gender Based Violence component and US\$129, 200 for the Gender Mainstreaming component. Off this amount, US\$190, 122 was expended. See **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: 2016 Financial Commitments & Expenditures per Programme



The overall expenditure rate for the JGP in 2016 was **69%** with the actual expenditure being at **US\$190, 122**. The expenditure rate for the Joint Programme on GBV is at 70% and that of the Gender Mainstreaming programme is at 67%. **Figure 2** below reflects expenditure rates per programme.

Figure 2: 2016 Expenditures Rates per Programme



Figures 3 and 4 present the budget allocations and related expenditures for each programme component per Agency.

Figure 3: 2016 Budget Allocations and Expenditures per Agency - GBV

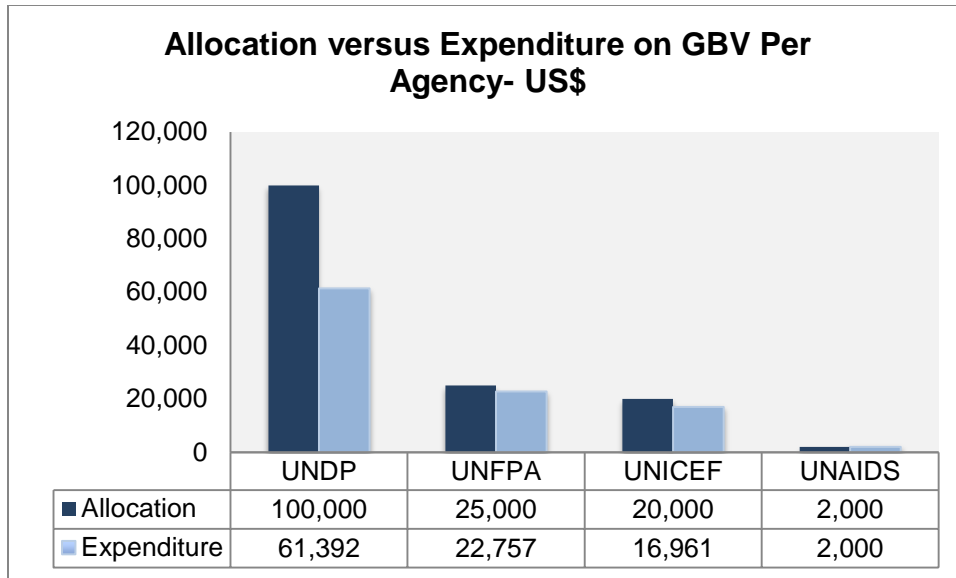
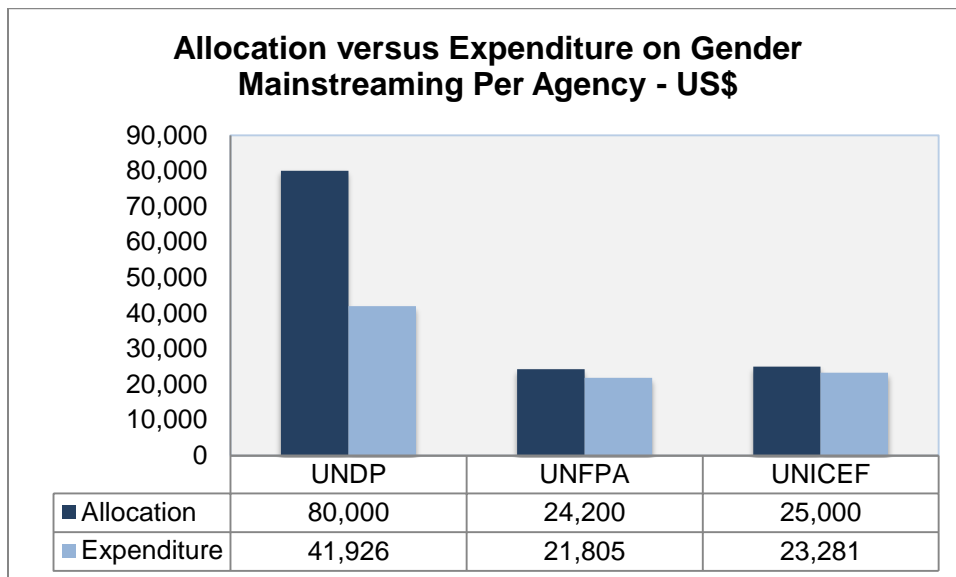


Figure 4: 2016 Budget Allocations and Expenditures per Agency – Gender Mainstreaming



In addition, four agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and UN Women) contributed \$3,000 each towards the cost for evaluating the JGP (\$12,000).

Expenditures by Implementing Partners

The expenditures for the implementing partners are reflected per programme areas in Figures 5 and 6 below. The Gender Affairs Department registered the lowest implementation rates for all the programme components.

Figure 5: Expenditure Rates by Implementing Partners – Gender Based Violence

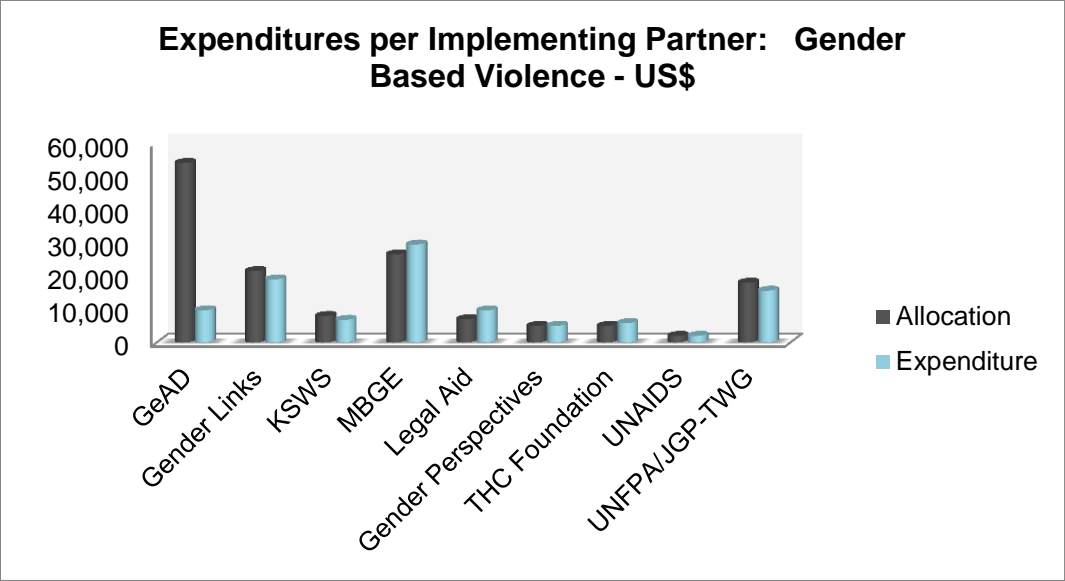
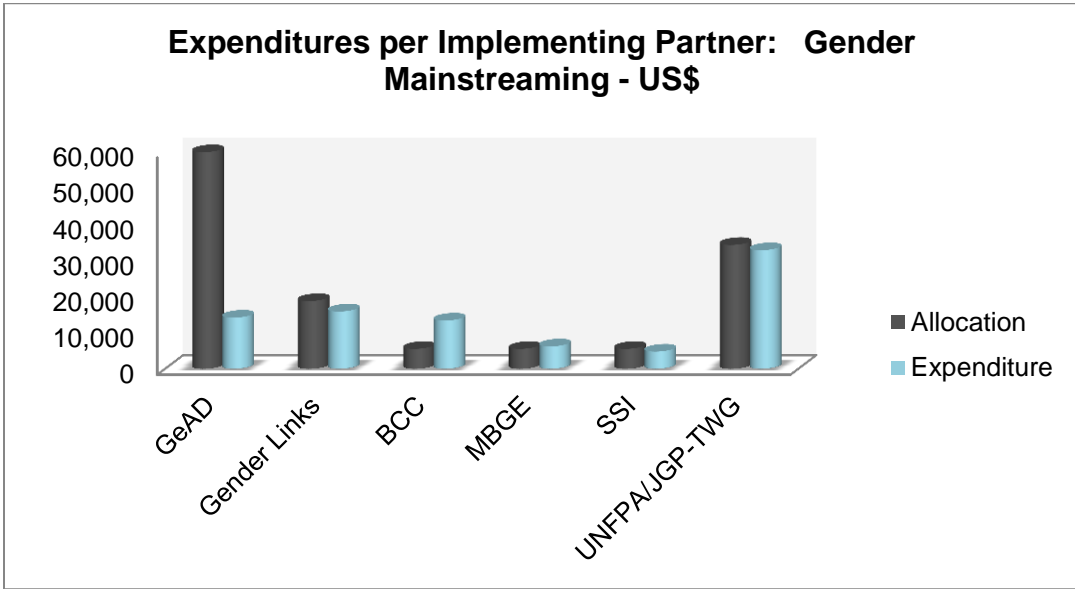


Figure 5: Expenditure Rates by Implementing Partners – Gender Mainstreaming



5. MONITORING

Implementation of the JGPs was monitored under the DaO structures where IPs shared their progress updates. In addition, the quarterly meetings of the JGP TWG were held to monitor progress and discuss administration of the programme. Updates on the JGP were given at the UNCT and through the UNCT Plan quarterly updates. An annual progress review

meeting for the JGPs was held with participation of UN Agencies and the implementing partners.

6. CHALLENGES

The following have been identified as challenges:

- a. Community engagement activities on GBV prevention were conducted on a small scale, only covering a small portion of the identified communities due to limited financial support. This resulted in limited effects on the ground.
- b. Limited financial resources, particularly for the GBV programme within government, thus resulting in limited activities achieved.
- c. Inadequate joint resource mobilisation efforts for the JGP, particularly at UNCT level.

7. LESSONS LEARNT

The following have been identified as lessons learnt from implementation of the JGP in 2016:

- a. Identification of common messages to be used by all the JGP partners is important for strengthened advocacy and visibility of the programme.
- b. Continuous engagement with IPs for monitoring by agencies is important in addressing implementation challenges early on and for strengthening of results-focused reporting.
- c. Joint annual work plans facilitated coordinated gender support to Government and CSO partners through joint identification of priorities.
- d. Coherence and joint efforts by UN Agencies enhanced synergies and enabled the ability to do more with less for gender equality and women's empowerment.
- e. Increased ownership of gender equality initiatives by Government and other stakeholders was enhanced.
- f. There is need for high-level support and leadership for JGPs. Focused scope of the JGP can result in more impact.

ANNEX 1: Recommendations of the Joint Gender Programme Evaluation

Evaluation Area	Recommendations
Recommendation 1	A successor Joint Gender Programme should be developed
Recommendation 2	Invest in the delivery capacity of GeAD
Recommendation 3	Invest Adequately in Programme Design
Recommendation 4	Strengthen mutual accountability systems
Recommendation 5	Improve advocacy and communication
Recommendation 6	Stronger resource mobilisation